

Ataxia UK **The Network**

The new branch guide is launched

At the 2006 conference we launched the new guide for branches. This guide was put together after consultation with branch chairs.

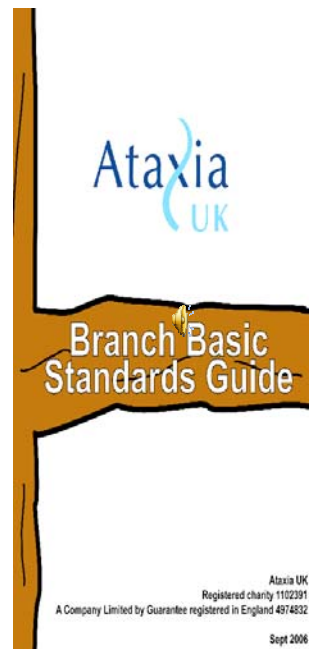
The main part of this new guide is the basic standards. These are what we will expect from a branch as a minimum, but branches can do much more than these basic standards if they wish.

We have done a similar guide for support groups.

In 2007 we will look at ensuring that all the network are working towards these standards.



Enjoying the conference food!



Special Interest

- The buddy scheme
- Branch Committee meeting
- Ataxia UK staff Christmas celebrations

WOWConference 2006

This year was my first conference and WOW what a conference it was. It was great to see so many of the people I had met whilst visiting and developing the network.

People were meeting up with friends they had met at previous conferences and making new friends.

The disco in the evening was very lively and it was great to see so many people dancing and enjoying themselves.

I especially found Julie Greenfield's presentation very informative and I learnt a little more about Ataxia.



The Buddy Scheme

This scheme is for new branches and groups who would benefit from the support of an experienced branch committee member or support group leader.

So far we have 5 experienced members on the list and I know some of these have been contacted already by the new branches/groups.

If you would like to offer your help or you feel your branch or support group would benefit from a 'buddy' please let me know.

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Branch Committees' Meeting

At the conference we had a meeting for branch committee members; what came out of this meeting was some established aims for future meetings which were;

- Communication amongst the network
- Platform to share ideas
- To understand the yearly objectives of Ataxia UK
- Support, socialising and sharing

Future meetings will be arranged in the New Year, watch this space for developments.

Staff Christmas Celebrations—good fun had by all!

