



## ANTIQUES FAIR 2012



On Sunday 12 February over 400 people came to Northwood House to browse at the annual Antiques Fair, which raised a record amount of money for the Motor Neurone Disease Association. The event was organised by Doreen and Jennie, two sisters whose mother died of the disease several years ago. Gloria Minghella generously agreed to be patron, and is hoping to organise a special musical event at Northwood House later this year in aid of the Association.

Despite the cold weather outside the House was 'warm and toasty', thanks to the extra heating system which the Trustees had installed in all the function rooms last year. The Fair was a great way for the Trustees to show off the extensive redecoration they have carried out since taking over after the Isle of Wight

Council withdrew from any involvement in the Trust 16 months ago.

Entrance was only £1.50 and children were free. Coffee and tea was available throughout the day and All About Catering were on hand providing light refreshments including soup, sandwiches, plain and toasted, and salads; and the bar was also open.

30 antiques stalls were set up throughout the House with a wide variety of items on offer enabling visitors to wander throughout the fine public rooms. There was something for everyone. Goods on offer ranged from furniture, jewellery, china and glassware to pictures, books, garden tools, embroidery and clocks – and even a delicious fudge stall!



All the stall holders were delighted to participate and many had said they had a very good day. Jennie and Doreen said, 'We are thrilled that the Fair was very successful for everyone. Sincere thanks to the Trustees in supporting the Charity and the great effort and time which Chris Buckett (House manager) and Advisor Philip Thwaites put in setting up tables for stalls, clearing away and helping to make the event such a success. We very much look forward to coming back again next year.'

The House is available for all types of events and has now over 40 weddings and receptions booked with full and excellent catering facilities available and a Community Hall for hire for meetings, exercise classes and various societies.