



MND Tasmania News

July - August 2010

MND Tasmania
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Patron

Lady Sallie Ferrall

Board

President: Tim Hynes
Vice-President: Joyce Schuringa
Treasurer: Dora Hugo
Secretary: Anna Nicholas
Northern Support Group: Mary Erickson
Kate Barnett
Denis Lyne
Public Officer: John Hughes OAM

Regional Advisor

Jennene Arnel: ra_tasmania@mnd.asn.au
(note the underscore between ra and tasmania)
or phone 1800 806 632.

Support

Correspondence secretary: Michele Newton
Fundraising coordinator: Anna Macpherson

Membership

MND Tasmania is a member of MND Australia with Tim Hynes serving on the MNDA Board. The MND Research Institute of Australia is part of MND Australia.

Support service

The MND Associations of Victoria and Tasmania work together to provide:

- Information and support by telephone on 1800 806 632, Monday-Friday, 9 am - 5 pm.
- Referral to Tasmanian health & support services.
- Information kits.
- Free membership of MND Victoria and MND Tasmania for people living with MND.
- MND Victoria Newsletter with MND Tasmania News insert for members living in Tasmania.

Vale

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of P.van der Pluym, I.Cron, L.Parsons, D.Billing, N.Turner and Jill Heazlewood.

Donations

Thank you to all the supporters who raised funds during MND Week. Donations were received from collectors including J.Hughes, A.Macpherson, S.Upchurch, M.Erickson, M.Viney and the Northern Support Group.

Donations have also been gratefully received from M.Eldridge, the Centrelink Staff Community Fund Hobart, D.J.Allen, I.Preston and the Aurora Community Fund. In addition, donations were received in the memory of P. van der Pluym, T.Davidson and D.Billing.

MND Week

Sunday 2 May – Saturday 8 May 2010

Thank you to supporters who were busy promoting MND and collecting donations during May. Any outstanding funds may be mailed to our Treasurer or deposited into our CBA account at 067-013 2800 5202. Please mark your name on the deposit comments or transaction description so we can send you a receipt.

Kate Barnett reports on a BBQ Fundraiser held on the Friday at Bunnings in Launceston: At 7am the outlook for the day seemed bleak with wind and rain but after a few phone calls it was decided to go ahead. Despite a slightly later mid-morning start, we were soon having people stop and wait in readiness for the first hot sausage. We enjoyed good local sausages bought fresh that morning!

Mary Erickson and Jemma together with Kate Barnett made a start with Harry Stafford and Marie Gurr soon joining us to help set up. Later in the morning Sallie Ferrall helped as the customer numbers increased and Guy also assisted over lunch. Francis Walker continued the teamwork and Harry was back later to help Mary and Jemma who had been there for the long haul all day! It was a good finale for our MND Week in the North and \$670 was banked, accounting for costs. Congratulations to all involved including Tim Hynes who assisted us with some insurance administration on the day.

Next year we are aiming to have the BBQ again but preferably in the week leading into MND Awareness Week and if possible on a Saturday to optimise our fundraising. This will precede Agfest and Mothers Day on the following weekend.

Stacey Dolliver describes her experience of working as a volunteer for MND Awareness Week: *I arrived at Northgate Shopping centre in Glenorchy at about 12 noon. I began to 'shake the tin' for donations. Simple phrases such as 'Help support motor neurone disease', 'MND week, raising awareness for motor neurone disease' were voiced across the shopping centre.*

A lot of people who donated money had been affected by MND in some way, although there were also many kind-hearted people who did not know what the 'cause' was, but supported it regardless. I was amazed at what I had raised in just the short time I was available to shake the tin. All in all, it was a very successful hour and a half of fundraising and the joy of knowing I was helping in a small way made me look forward to doing it again next year. I'm looking forward to next year and making it even bigger!

Fundraising

A Sausage Sizzle was held on Wednesday 14 July at Montrose Bay High School to raise awareness for MND. Students from the school assisted with the cooking and serving of the BBQ and a raffle raised funds for people with MND in Tasmania.

We would like to acknowledge the kind gesture of NW Tasmania artist Mr Victor Maloney in donating a piece of his art to the cause of MND. Entitled *ART PILOTS* it was inspired by his time of study under famous Australian artist Pro Hart who lived in Broken Hill and who died of MND. The painting was a finalist in the 2007 Bald Archy Prize and it depicts Pro Hart with Gough Whitlam.

MNDTasmania is seeking a volunteer to coordinate the organisation of a Spring raffle which will offer this painting as the first prize.

The raffle will be drawn at an MND Christmas Party to be held on 29 November 2010 in Launceston. Further details of the Christmas Party will be provided in the October and December editions of MND Tasmania News.

As with all community support endeavours, MNDTasmania is always seeking volunteers and fundraisers to enable the valuable work of support for people with MND to continue. If you would like to assist with this raffle, please contact us via our email address or leave a telephone message at 1800 806 632 for Anna Macpherson to return your call.

Anna Macpherson
Fundraising coordinator

HELP Needed

A volunteer is urgently needed to maintain and regularly update the MNDTasmania website. This person would need to have an interest in IT with a moderate level of competency to ensure that the content of the website is kept up to date and is displayed correctly.

The person would receive training, supervision and mentoring from the MNDTasmania Board.

We estimate that the time required would be on average up to 4 hours per month.

If you would be able to assist in this role, or if you know someone who may be suitable, would you please contact Jennene Arnel on 1800 806 632 or email Tim Hynes at info@mndatas.asn.au

For Sale

Please see the Victorian MND Newsletter (page 13) for detailed information about a Renault Kangoo for sale in Ulverstone.

Regional Advisor's Report

During the first week of May, I made a statewide visit to Tasmania visiting six people living with MND, including a newly diagnosed person, meeting with eleven health professionals and conducting an information session for a further group of health professionals.

In June, I visited the North/East and North West and visited four members with MND and conducted three separate information sessions to a total of 70 health professionals and volunteers. It is always gratifying participating in these sessions. Those attending are always keen to learn about MND and the ongoing service they provide to our members is always enhanced by the increased knowledge and skills acquired at the sessions.

The last week in July will be the time for my next visit to the South. In addition to visiting a number of members, I will be meeting with health professionals and the committee of MND Tasmania.

Planning for the MND Forum to be held in Hobart in October is well underway and we look forward to a strong attendance of health professionals from across the State. While designed primarily for health professionals, people living with MND and their families are of course most welcome to attend. For further information about the Forum, please contact Inez van Polanen on 1800 806 632 or me.

Jennene Arnel
MND Regional Advisor

Northern Support Group

The contact person for this group is Mary Erickson who may be contacted via 1800 806 632 (message). Meetings are held on the last Monday of each month at 11am – 1pm at the John L.Grove Centre, Howick Street, Launceston. The following dates have been booked: August 30, September 27, October 25.

MND Conference Opportunity, Practice and the Future Wednesday 13 October 2010 - Hobart

Following the success of the MND Conference held in Launceston in 2009, MNDVictoria and MNDTasmania have planned to host another conference in Tasmania this year. The Board of MNDTasmania is very grateful to the staff of MNDVictoria who have organized these events for the benefit of people in Tasmania who have MND, their families, friends and health service providers. This is a wonderful opportunity for those who need to update their knowledge and understanding of MND and also to provide a forum for networking and working together to influence and improve the services for people with MND in Tasmania.

The Conference is suitable for people with MND, their relatives and supporters, health professionals, case managers, community care providers, medical specialists and GP's, nurses, palliative care teams and volunteers who work with people with MND.

For more information, contact 1800 806 632 or email forumtas@mnd.asn.au . Registrations close on 29 September 2010.

Fundraising

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MNDTasmania is seeking a volunteer to coordinate the organisation of a Spring raffle which will offer this painting as the first prize (Value \$2500). The raffle will be drawn at a MND Christmas Party to be held on 29 November 2010 in Launceston. If you would like to assist with this raffle, please contact us via our email address or leave a telephone message at 1800 806 632 for Anna Macpherson to return your call.

MND Christmas Party

Organised by the MND Northern Support Group
This event is held at our Patrons home, Lady Sallie Ferrall.

Date: Monday 29 November 2010
Address: 3 Olive Street, Newstead 7250
Time: 11 am - 2 pm.

For further information, please contact us via our email address.

