



MND Tasmania News  
**January – February 2013**

MND Tasmania  
PO Box 379, SANDY BAY, 7006  
ABN: 21 877 144 292; Incorporation No: 01323C

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Email: [info@mndatas.asn.au](mailto:info@mndatas.asn.au)  
Website: [www.mndatas.asn.au](http://www.mndatas.asn.au)

**Patron**

Lady Sallie Ferrall

**Committee**

President: Joyce Schuringa  
Vice-President: Tim Hynes  
Treasurer: Dora Hugo  
Secretary: Michele Newton  
Public Officer: John Hughes OAM  
Northern Support Group: Mary Erickson  
Fundraising coordinator: Mary Erickson  
Libby Cohen

**Regional Advisor**

Jennene Arnel: [ra\\_tasmania@mnd.asn.au](mailto:ra_tasmania@mnd.asn.au)  
(note the underscore between ra and tasmania)  
or telephone 1800 806 632.

**Support**

Website: Shane Chugg

**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. MND Tasmania is a member of the Neuromuscular Alliance of Tasmania (NMAT).

**Support service**

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

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

The Regional Advisor provides home visits, needs-based support and assessment and refers members to appropriate support services.

**Freecall 1800 806 632**

This number is at the MND Victoria office. To assist the volunteer receptionist, please say that you are from Tasmania. If you wish to speak to a Committee member or to Jennene Arnel, you will be asked for your contact details. Your call will be returned by that person as soon as possible.

**New members**

We welcome new members M.&S. Davis (N), M.&H. Hill (NW), B.&R. Dwyer (S), D.Gale (NW), S.McCauley (N) and W.Roussakis (NW).

**Vale**

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of A.Knibbs, G.Cooper and W.Fitzpatrick.

**Donations**

Donations have been gratefully received from Donna Venn and her enthusiastic team of supporters, Brighton Council, Bridgewater and Friends Country Music Club Inc., M.Eldridge, S.Keogh, W.Minchin, and M.Viney.

Donna lives in Launceston and over \$1,700 in donations have been sent to MND Tasmania in memory of a friend who bravely fought MND and in response to Donna's brave action in having her head shaved!

**Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting is planned for **SUNDAY 3 MARCH 2013**.

All members and others who are supportive of people with MND in Tasmania are invited to attend.

**WHEN: Sunday 3 March at 1.30 pm**

**WHERE: Community Day Centre (past the Peacock building, opposite Statton building), Repatriation Centre, 90 Davey St., HOBART. (Access is at the end of Barrack St.)**

**Nominations for Committee:** The term of office for Committee members is one year. Committee members are nominated and elected at the AGM.

If you are unable to attend the AGM and would like to nominate or be nominated for a place on the Committee, please contact Joyce Schuringa at phone 1800 806 632 (message) or at [info@mndatas.asn.au](mailto:info@mndatas.asn.au)

**Renewal of membership**

We apologise for an error in the renewal of membership letters and forms sent for 2012-2013.

MND Victoria provides administrative support to MND Tasmania in a number of areas, including membership.

The renewal letters and forms were incorrectly sent on MND Victoria letterhead.

They have now been re-sent on the appropriate letterhead.

All Tasmanian members are automatically registered as members of MND Tasmania and donations and membership fees are allocated to MND Tasmania.

### **MND Week: 5 – 11 May 2013**

We have received authorization from Tasmania Police to conduct our Charitable Collection Day on Wednesday **8 May 2013**.

The success of our raising the profile of MND and raising funds in Tasmania associated with the annual Awareness Week depends on a team of volunteers. There are committed people who have faithfully worked hard to contribute to this cause every year. Please look for Mary Erickson's notes in the next MND Tasmania News in April for information on how you can help.

**Mary Erickson**  
**Northern Support Group Coordinator**

### **Regional Advisor's Report**

Happy New Year to everyone and best wishes for 2013.

As I write this column bushfires continue to rage across Tasmania, Victoria and New South Wales. My thoughts are particularly with our members in Tasmania and I hope all is well with you, your family and friends. I am pleased to advise that all our members with MND living in Tasmania are safe, with no direct impact on them by the fires.

At the same time, here in Melbourne, there is much activity and excitement with the Australian Open. Life goes on even in the midst of adversity. As humans we have the amazing, and sometimes puzzling, capacity to feel and experience both sadness and joy simultaneously. I am sure this must be a common experience for many of our families living with MND.

My next visit to Tasmania will be from 17 February – 1 March 2013. I look forward to visiting many of you over this period.

**Jennene Arnel**  
**MND Regional Advisor**

### **Kennedy's Disease**

Chris Symonds has written an article to inform fellow MND Association members and newsletter readers about people who have spinal bulbar atrophy, or more

commonly known as Kennedy's disease – a disease with similar symptoms to MND.

Due to the length of the article, it has been published in the Victorian newsletter. Please see page 7 of the *MNDNews*

### **Northern Support Group**

The contact person for this group is Mary Erickson who may be contacted on 1800 806 632 (message).

Meetings are held on the last Monday of each month at 11am – 1pm at:

the **Ravenswood Community Health Centre**  
**39 – 41 Lambert Street, Ravenswood** (Launceston)

**Dates:** February 25, March 25, April 29, May 27, June 24, July 29, August 26, September 30, October 28, November 25.

### **Christmas Party**

The Northern Support Group hosted our Annual Christmas Party on 26 November. It was a jolly occasion and the Ravenswood Community Centre was a suitable venue for our first party to be held there. Santa came along with gifts and the children had fun drawing all over the whiteboard wall.

Thanks to all who assisted with the cleaning up and especially to Ashleigh Erickson who did a great job in setting up.



**Mary Erickson**  
**Northern Support Group Coordinator**