



MND Tasmania News  
May - June 2014

MND Tasmania  
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**Patron**

Lady Sallie Ferrall

**Board**

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

**Regional Advisor**

Leanne Conway: [lconway@mnd.asn.au](mailto:lconway@mnd.asn.au) or  
telephone 1800 806 632.

**Support**

Website: Shane Chugg

**Membership**

MND Tasmania is a member of MND Australia.  
Tim Hynes serves 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 who provides needs-  
based support and assessment, home visits and  
refers members to appropriate support services as  
required.

**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 Leanne Conway, you will  
be asked for your contact details. Your call will be  
returned by that person as soon as possible.

**New members**

We welcome those who have joined our Association  
during the past two months. Please feel free to  
contact our staff member Leanne Conway who is  
the MND Regional Advisor for Tasmania or any  
member of the MND Tasmania Board via the email  
address, website or telephone (message).

**Vale**

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of  
the late W.Batchelor and S.Rowbottom.

**Privacy Act 2014**

Following changes to Australian Privacy legislation  
in March, this newsletter will no longer publish the  
names of people unless we have received their  
authorization to do so.

**Donations**

Donations have been gratefully received from many  
sources including the Edenhope Race Club and the  
ACL Cricket Club, who held their Crash/Skeggs  
Memorial Day match last October.  
Donations have also been received in the memory  
of W.Cowell, L.Thomas, M. Clarke and B.Greenhill.

**MND Week: 4 – 10 May 2014**

Thank you to supporters who were busy promoting  
MND, and have been collecting donations during  
May. Donations have been gratefully received and  
receipts are still being processed. Any outstanding  
funds may be mailed to our Treasurer at our  
PO Box or deposited into our CBA account at  
06 7013 2800 5202. Please mark your name and  
address on the deposit comments or transaction  
description so that we can send you a receipt.

MND Week is celebrated nationally to raise awareness of the needs of people living with MND and their families. It is a time to acknowledge the MND community and people living with MND and to remember those who have passed away.

This year we have again received good coverage on SC TV. John Hughes did a wonderful job in enlisting the support of local media.

Our Button Day was on 7 May. Thank you to all of the volunteers who joined in collections and raising awareness on the streets and in shopping centres on that day and at other times during the week.

The Launceston Bunnings Sausage Sizzle was held on 10 May. Thank you to those who supported this venture.

At this stage I am still collating information on the people who were involved and the monies collected. A full report will be in the July - August MND Tasmania News.

*Mary Erickson*  
*Fundraising Coordinator*

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

I have to confess that I am finding this article rather difficult to write because at the time of writing, I am preparing for my visit, but by the time you read this, I will have already been.

As Regional Advisor, part of my role is to work with service providers and health professionals to ensure that people living with MND are receiving the best possible care. Each time I visit Tasmania, I try to meet with the health professionals who care for our clients. These meetings may be a catch up about clients or it may be delivering an information session to care facility staff who have never had a person living with MND in their care before. I feel it's really important for me to build and maintain these relationships so that everyone involved knows exactly what is going on.

During my May visit, I will make some new connections; I will meet with the Co-ordinators from 'The District Nurses' in both the North West and North and provide an information session for Disability and Community Services in Launceston. In the South, I will visit two community health services that provide support to our clients and meet with staff. I will also catch up with other health teams, and of course, a number of clients (which is always a pleasure for me). I will also catch up with some of the board members from MND Tasmania.

Dates for my next visit have not been finalised but it's likely to be mid-July. In the meantime please do

not hesitate to contact me should you need anything. My telephone number is 1800 806 632 and email is [lconway@mnd.asn.au](mailto:lconway@mnd.asn.au).  
Until next time,

*Leanne Conway*  
*MND Regional Advisor*

### **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:** June 30, July 28, August 25, September 29, October 27 and November 24.

*Mary Erickson*  
*Northern Support Group Coordinator*

### **Support**

Margaret Eldridge has raised thousands of dollars for research into MND since losing a friend to MND seven years ago. She also hosts morning teas for her Aqua Group friends, who donate funds in exchange for an individual copy of her jingle! Below is an excerpt from the 13 verse Aqua Christmas 2013 ditty for us all to enjoy!

My goodness this had been a rush,  
I've only just got home,  
But I still think of Aqua friends,  
No matter where I roam!

I've been in Laos, the country where  
I once did lots of teaching.  
I caught up with the ones I taught,  
The connections are far-reaching!

But now I'm back to join you all,  
My special Aqua friends,  
Although the pool we use is deep,  
We've never had the bends!

And now our annual Christmas do  
Has brought us to Wrest Point.  
It's good to see you in your clothes  
You've dressed up for this smart joint!

Merry Christmas to you all,  
And thanks from MND  
For all the money you donate  
And many thanks from me!