



MND Tasmania News

May - June 2009

MND Tasmania
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Phone: 1800 806 632
Email: info@mndatas.asn.au
Website: www.mndatas.asn.au

Patron

Lady Sallie Ferrell

State Committee

President: Tim Hynes

Vice-President: Joyce Schuringa

Treasurer: Dora Hugo

Secretary: Anna Nicholas

Public Officer: John Hughes OAM

Northern Support Group: Mary Erickson

Southern Group: Anna Nicholas

Lyle Sydes

Kate Barnett

Regional Advisor

Jennene Arnel: ra_tasmania@mnd.asn.au (note the underscore between ra and tasmania)

Support service

The MND Associations of Victoria and Tasmania work together to improve support for people with MND. The service includes:

- Information and support by telephone on 1800 806 632 : Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm.
- Referral to Tasmanian support services.
- Information kits.
- Free membership of MND Victoria and MND Tasmania for people living with MND.
- Victorian Newsletter with Tasmanian News insert for members living in Tasmania.
- Telelink meetings for people with MND, carers and past carers.

Renewal of membership

Have you returned the Renewal of Membership form that was enclosed with the April-May

newsletter? People with the exception of those who have MND will no longer be sent newsletters if we have not received the form by July 1.

New Members

We welcome new member: B.Coad (S).

Vale

Our sympathy is with the family and friends of R.Coad, G.Surtees, L.Sharman and K.Brooks.

Regional Advisor's Report

In March I visited people living with MND and health professionals in the Southern Region of Tasmania. My visit coincided with the AGM and I was able to report on my first six months in the role of Regional Advisor Tasmania.

On 26 March we held an afternoon tea for people with MND and their friends and family. There were thirteen of us at the gathering, including two committee members from MND Tasmania. It was agreed that a similar gathering every couple of months would provide a welcome opportunity to meet others with similar life experiences.

Anna Nicholas from MND Tasmania is organizing future afternoon teas in Hobart. If you would like to attend please contact either Anna or me on 1800 806 632 (freecall).

My next visits to Tasmania are planned for mid-May (south) and July (north, northwest).

Jennene Arnel

Regional Advisor, Tasmania

Freecall 1800 806 632

Calls to this number go directly to the MND Victoria office. To assist the volunteer receptionist, when calling this number could you please identify at the outset that you are calling from Tasmania. You will then be put through to a staff member from MND Victoria to assist you with any general information about MND.

If you wish to speak to a specific person (eg. a committee member or Jennene Arnel), please say so and you will be asked for your name and phone number. Your details and any message will be forwarded immediately to the person you are seeking. Your call will be returned by that person asap.

If you wish to contact Jennene Arnel at any time please do so on 1800 806 632 or by email on ra_tasmania@mnd.asn.au

MND Week

Darryn is a member of MNDTas and he and his two sons were eloquent and very moving when they were featured on Today Tonight on Monday May 4. Thank you to supporters who were busy promoting MND and collecting donations during the first week of May. If you have not yet done so, please send cheques to the PO Box and if you make a direct deposit into the MNDTas account, please send the bank receipt with your name and address so that we can send you a receipt.

Donations

Donations have been gratefully received from D.J. Allen, the CWA, J.Higgins, D. &S. Couzins, M.Wilkie, E.Blokker, I.Cron, R.Sharman, F.& E. Hinds, T.&E.Hansson and in memory of K.Brooks.

Local contact with other people with MND

If you would like to be in touch with other people with MND in Tasmania and who live near you, please contact Jennene Arnel at MNDVictoria on 1800 806 632.

Northern Support Group

Mary Erickson is the contact person for this group. She may be contacted on 1800 806 632 (message). Meetings are held on the last Monday of each month at 11am at the John Grove Centre, Howick St., Launceston.

Southern afternoon tea

Anna Nicholas is the contact person for this group. She may be contacted on 1800 806 632 (message). The next afternoon tea is planned for Friday May 29, 1-3pm at the Community Based Support meeting room at 24 Sunderland St., Moonah.

Diary dates

Monday May 25, 11am: Northern Support Group meeting at John Grove Centre

Friday May 29, 1-3pm: Southern afternoon tea at the Community Based Support meeting room at 24 Sunderland St., Moonah.

Thursday June 18: Global MND/ALS Awareness Day

Tuesday June 23: MND National Conference, Sydney

Monday June 29, 11am: Northern Support Group meeting at John Grove Centre

Thursday July 2: deadline for July-August newsletter. Material to Editor, MNDTas at PO Box 379, SANDY BAY 7006 or email to info@mnd.asn.au

July: Jennene Arnel to visit members in the north and northwest.

History of MND Tasmania

John Hughes provided a copy of his Chairman's Annual Report of March 17 1996 which summarises the history of MNDTas up to that time. We have published excerpts in order to preserve our history and to encourage us as we read of those who have travelled this journey before us. This is the third and final instalment. Thank you John!

As I said in my last report, the next few years are going to be important to our Association as we need to place in some long term plans....As this year is our tenth anniversary since inception I am delighted that we can celebrate the event by hosting the National Conference here in Tasmania with a Health Professionals seminar during the Conference with guest speakers from interstate as well as overseas. My grateful thanks go to Vice Chairman Guy Barnett and Kate Barnett for their wonderful support in working out the agenda and guest speakers... making the event a reality. In conjunction with the MNDAA Conference... the following weekend sees the National Research Seminar with many high profile researchers from overseas attending. It will be wonderful publicity for our Association, the State and for MND with many spin offs as a result.

In conclusion I would like to thank most sincerely the continued support of our Patrons in Lady Green and Hon. Minister Roger Groom... Our Treasurer Malva Langford is retiring after many years of service to the Association... Our Secretary Jan Aspinall has been a tremendous boon...and PR/Fundraising Officer Bob Minchin has again excelled... I am delighted that Vice Chairman Guy Barnett will be taking over the reins of the Association, completing a cycle that was begun by his mother over ten years ago.