



MND Tasmania News

May - June 2012

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

Please note that the Regional Advisor provides needs-based support 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 Jennene Arnel, you will be asked for your contact details. Your call will be returned by that person as soon as possible.

New member

We welcome new member A. Chhikara.

Vale

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of R. Durant.

Donations

Donations have been gratefully received in memory of L. Blackwood and from W. Burbury, M. Viney and R. Lambert.

MND Week: 6 - 12 May 2012

Thank you to supporters who were busy promoting MND and collecting donations during May. Donations have been gratefully received and receipts are still being processed. Any outstanding funds may be mailed to our Treasurer or deposited into our CBA account at 067-013 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 our **Button Day** was on 3 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.

The **Launceston Bunnings Sausage Sizzle** was held on 11 May. Thank you to those who supported this venture.

Mary Erickson

Fundraising Coordinator

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 John L.Grove Centre, Howick Street, Launceston. The following dates have been

booked: 25 June, 30 July, 27 August, 24 September, 29 October, November TBC.



Patron & Coordinator



Mary is 50!

Mary Erickson
Northern Support Group Coordinator

Regional Advisor's Report

As I write this article, I have just returned from a Statewide visit to Tasmania meeting people living with MND, carers and health professionals. This visit included running two information sessions for community and nursing home staff. I also met with the MND Tasmania Committee in Hobart.

The article in the last News about Derry Wessing on Bruny Island brought to mind happy memories of time spent on the Island with members and supporters. As a result, I made some enquiries and found that there is a very pleasant two bedroom ensuite cabin with excellent disability access available at the James Cook Caravan Park at Adventure Bay for \$100 - \$140 per night (depending on the season) for two people. If you would like further information, please contact me or ring the Park on 6293 1128.

My next visit to Tasmania is planned for July. I will be on annual leave from mid-May until Mid-June. All enquiries and requests for support during this time should be directed to Janette McDonald at MND Victoria (email jmcdonald@mnd.asn.au or telephone 1800 806 632).

Jennene Arnel
MND Tas Regional Advisor

Events

Judith Durham Concert

Derwent Entertainment Centre, Hobart on Thursday 5 July, 2012. If you are able to **assist** with collecting donations at the end of this concert, would you please contact Tim Hynes at the email address or telephone number at the top of page one. At time of writing, this event is still to be confirmed. It will be posted on our website.

6th National MND Conference

Adelaide, Monday September 10, 2012

Tasmanian MND Forum

Launceston, Wednesday 24 October, 2012

Neuromuscular Alliance of Tasmania

The Neuromuscular Alliance of Tasmania (NMAT) consists of MND Tasmania, Alzheimer's Australia (Tas), Australian Huntington's Disease Association (Tas), Multiple Sclerosis Tasmania, Muscular Dystrophy Association of Tasmania, Parkinson's Tasmania and the Spina Bifida Association of Tasmania.

At the March meeting, issues discussed included the Tasmanian Neurological Support Service, the Keeping Cool Campaign, NDIS (National Disability Insurance Scheme), Tasmanian Gateways (disability services) and driving issues.

Driving - The National Transport Commission and Austroads have revised the medical standards on **fitness to drive**. The key changes are summarised on the Austroads website (www.austroads.com.au) where there are also links to supporting information.

In Tasmania, the driver (not their doctor) has a legal responsibility to tell the Registrar of Motor Vehicles of any changes in their medical fitness to drive. It is vital for drivers to regularly assess their own driving skills to ensure that they are a safe driver. The **Older Driver Book** is a new booklet produced by Transport Tasmania which is suitable for all drivers. It is available from any Service Tasmania Shop, on the Transport website (transport.tas.gov.au> publications > handbooks) or from the Transport Enquiry Service phone 1300 851 225.

Joyce Schuringa,
NMAT