

# NEWSLETTER

Motor Neurone Disease Association South Yorkshire Branch  
SPRING 2023



Inside:  
MND Grants  
Bare Legs Brian  
Fantastic Fundraisers

[www.mndassociation.org/southyorkshire](http://www.mndassociation.org/southyorkshire)  
Facebook: southyorkmnd  
Twitter: SYMND

Newsletter Sponsors

**SMH** Group

**mnda**

motor neurone disease  
association

Registered Charity No. 294354  
Patron: Suzanne Maguire

## Welcome to the Spring Edition of the South Yorkshire Branch Newsletter

A belated Happy New Year to all our readers. As you read this, the first of our 2023 newsletters, it is heartening to feel that spring is really on its way. A warm welcome to all those of you who are reading this newsletter for the first time. We hope you will find items of interest and helpful information within it and we always welcome your contributions for inclusion as well, so if you have anything you would like to put forward, please contact me on [christine.naylor@mndassociation.org](mailto:christine.naylor@mndassociation.org) or [chris222@sky.com](mailto:chris222@sky.com)

You will find within this newsletter details of some of the planned fund-raising events for the coming year. If you have any ideas on fundraising or events you would like to see taking place, once again, please contact either myself or Dave Booker on [dave.booker1712@gmail.com](mailto:dave.booker1712@gmail.com) - we would very much like to hear from you. If you would like to help at any of our events, or indeed if you would like someone from the Branch Committee to attend a fundraising event you might be considering holding, Dave is the

man to contact. Dave is leading fund-raising temporarily, whilst Geoff is recuperating and we take this opportunity to send Geoff our best wishes. All Committee members' contact details can be found on the inside back page. Please also let us know of any changes to the details of how we can contact you.

Following our request in the Autumn Newsletter for a Grants Volunteer, the Branch were really pleased to receive interest from several people wanting to offer their help. Daisy Joustra, Esme Harvard, Siobhan Taylor and Vanessa Kirby-Firth will be volunteering with the Fund-Raising Committee, helping to increase the Branch's much needed income by identifying and applying for local awards that the South Yorkshire Branch might qualify for. Interest has been shown by Siobhan in assisting me as Branch Secretary, and Web Master, which is very much appreciated. The Summer newsletter will contain a short paragraph from each of the new volunteers. We also have news of the appointment of a Vice Chair to support our very busy Chairman. Julie Ward has contributed a brief resume of her background and why she wishes to volunteer for

the MND Association charity.

The Branch Committee take this opportunity of welcoming the new Vice Chair and the Grants Volunteers and look forward to us all working together in our shared aim of supporting people living with MND in the area. **Christine**

## Chairman's Report

The Branch is not holding a face-to-face AGM in 2023 but our Chairman Dr Andrew Gibson has produced a report (The Annual Report of the South Yorkshire Branch Management Committee of the Motor Neurone Disease Association 2022/2023). The report is quite extensive and the full report will be available shortly on our website [www.mndassociation.org/southyorkshire](http://www.mndassociation.org/southyorkshire) or a paper copy can be obtained from the Branch Secretary by contacting her directly; see her details on next to back page.

In his report Andrew has outlined the work of the three branch sub-groups of Care, Communications and Fundraising. The report also includes details of the branch finances and the various grants that have been administered in the past 12 months. Separate reports by Brian Jackson and Paul

Hebblethwaite are printed in this newsletter. Fundraising events that took place are reported as well as forthcoming planned events - these latter events are contained in this newsletter.

All members of the present committee are happy to continue to serve again in 2023/23. Andrew gave thanks to them for their volunteering work involving fund-raising, raising awareness and supporting people with MND.

## Treasurer's Report

The financial year to 31st December 2022 was a difficult year, with income at £45969 (2021 £58,265), still depressed due to COVID. There was a large increase in the demand for grants, which at £47,265 (2021 £28,708) reached the highest ever level by a significant margin. We managed to pay out all grants requested, but we are now working on relatively low cash levels, which is a concern. I foresee 2023 being just as difficult, and perhaps more so, because we don't now have the reserves that we had in past years. I expect demand for grants to be high again in 2023 due to the current economic climate, and income to be depressed for the same reason. That means

to be able to continue to pay all grants in full, as we have always done, income needs to increase. You can help by:

- Supporting our fundraising events.
- Joining our lottery costing £30 p.a. (ask me for details).
- Sending us a donation.
- Setting up a regular standing order.
- Doing a fundraising event to raise money for us.

Cheques to be made payable to 'MND Association South Yorkshire' and sent to Mr P Hebblethwaite at 55 Newfield Lane, Sheffield S17 3DD or you can pay directly to our account 02972378, sort code 30-96-09. You can call me on 07729 118 590 or email me - treasurer.mndasy@gmail.com. **Paul**

## A message from our Vice-Chair

I am delighted to be joining the South Yorkshire Branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association as Vice Chair.

My background is in NHS Management for almost 40 years, starting as an NHS Management Trainee in London Teaching Hospitals, then returning to my home city of Sheffield when I was appointed to the Management Team at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital. I worked for over 20 years with members of the Hallamshire Neuroscience Directorate in Sheffield, helping them to improve a wide range of services, including the Sheffield Motor Neurone Disease service.



I took early retirement from the NHS in 2014 when my husband was diagnosed with MND. We were fortunate to have another 5 years together and my husband was

able to welcome and get to know Archie, our beloved grandson.

I now feel ready to offer whatever skills and knowledge I have gained in order to help others on their MND journey. I have already met many members of the South Yorkshire Branch and am looking forward to working with them on the committee, attending fund raising events and helping to support people living with MND in the area.  
Julie Ward

## MNDA grants for people affected by MND

You may not be aware the Association have several financial grants which can be used in a variety of ways. For people living with MND there is a Support (Care) Grant which is to be used once after assessment by a Health and Social Care Professional. It can be used for adaptations, stairlifts, respite care costs, washer dryer toilets and riser recliner chairs. There is also a Quality-of-Life Grant which is designed to help maintain independence, dignity, comfort and social connections. This is the widest reaching grant as it can be used for adaptations and equipment not needing assessment, as well

as for hobbies and interests including gardening and even home maintenance, transport costs, tablets for accessing social media etc, and accessible/adapted holiday venues.

For people affected by MND there is the Carer's and Young Carer's Grant which again can be used for hobbies and interests, keeping connected and short breaks such as pamper weekends or activity weekends.

The Children and Young Person's Grant which is for those under 18 affected by MND can again be used for hobbies and interests as well as driving lessons, keeping connected, and holiday and school trips.

All of these grants have limits on the individual request and on the amount in any one year.

The examples given for the use of the grants are a few of ways in which the Branch and the Association can help.

If you would like to know more about how to apply and who can apply, please, contact Brian Jackson at **associationvisitor.bj@gmail.com** or on **07794 480110** or ask your Association Visitor if you have one.



Motor Neurone Disease Association and Aurora Wellbeing are pleased to offer a free package of support for people living with MND and their main carer.

In one of our centres or at your home, our qualified therapists can help you calm any whirling thoughts and ease tension in your body with a relaxing reflexology treatment, leaving you feeling supported and confident to tackle any issues you may be facing.

For further information and to book an appointment please call 07591 954601 or email [support@aurorawellbeing.org.uk](mailto:support@aurorawellbeing.org.uk)



## Family Fun Day June 17th

Register now. Free Admission

Families are invited to meet up & enjoy the outdoor/ indoor activities of Gulliver's Valley Fully accessible and suitable for children 2yrs + Height restrictions apply to rides. Bring your own lunch + food outlets available Dedicated lunch space to meet up. Register ASAP closing date 31st May 2023

**Contact Brian Jackson [associationvisitor.bj@gmail.com](mailto:associationvisitor.bj@gmail.com)  
07467242232 Ann Quinn [mndvisitor@gmail.com](mailto:mndvisitor@gmail.com) 0777619133  
Chris Naylor [chris222@sky.com](mailto:chris222@sky.com)**

 southyorkmnd  SYMNDA

[www.mndassociation.org](http://www.mndassociation.org)

MND Association Francis Crick House, 6 Summerhouse Road, Northampton, NN3 6BJ  
| Registered charity no. 294354 | Created in RightMarket - 27/2/2023 - 17:10:17

 Registered with  
FUNDRAISING  
REGULATOR

## Bare Legs Brian is taking on yet another challenge

February 2023 marked the year that Brian Jackson reached 80 years young. Brian is a Branch Committee member and an Association Visitor.

Brian has undertaken fundraising challenges in the past such as wearing shorts for the whole year, or wearing a kilt for a whole year – hence the label “Bare Legs” Brian. As mentioned in the last newsletter Brian has decided to take on a slightly more daunting task this time by taking part in the MNDA

London to Paris Cycle Challenge. This is a 311-mile ride undertaken over four cycling days with one of the days just short of 100 miles and one over that distance. All the money raised in sponsorship will be coming to the South Yorkshire Branch to aid us in our work to help people affected by MND.

As it is suggested that training, other than cycling, will be beneficial to his success, he embarked on another first in preparation for the Challenge. On the second Saturday of February, just 12 days before his 80th birthday, he did his first Parkrun in Graves Park, Sheffield. It was

intended to be ‘jog, walk, jog, walk’ but he says he ended up doing more walking than jogging!

Brian says “At present I am about a quarter of the way towards raising the guaranteed sponsor money of £1,670 that I need to raise to allow me to take part, so any donations are more than welcome at [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/barelegs\\_brian](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/barelegs_brian), or to me personally”. Participants must guarantee a certain amount of sponsorship to pay for all the accommodation and support on the ride.

Brian is as determined as ever to meet the challenge so please support him by donating via his just giving page – the South Yorkshire Branch will benefit from Brian’s fundraising and enable us to support plwmnd in the area. Thank you.





## A Fan Tash tic Idea

What started out as a bit of fun between family members escalated to a brilliant fundraiser for Paul Wright from Sheffield. Paul decided that he'd try growing a moustache for the first time in November 2022. He wanted any money raised from this to go to the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

Paul works for construction company Robertson, and when he told his work colleagues what he was doing, their support was fantastic. He was determined that the tash was being shaved off at the end of November so their efforts needed to be swift. His tash task was advertised in the company's regional newsletter



and his amazing tash total came to £600.

Paul explained that his father had died of MND in 1973. He was just 8yrs old and his Dad was 35. At that time he said there was very little information about MND and no family support. He wanted the funds raised to help families locally living with the disease.

We actually collected the cash from Paul in December and within 30 mins of the photo being taken, Paul had shaved off the tash.

Thanks to his family and work colleagues for a great effort in raising so much so quickly.

## Memorial Service

The Bi-annual Memorial Service, in remembrance of people we have lost through MND, will take place at St Andrew's Church, Psalter Lane, Sheffield, S11 8YL on Saturday 18th March, 2 00 pm – 4 00 pm. If you have not received an invitation and would like to attend, please contact Annette Taylor on 01142 222289.

## Research News

### The 34th International Symposium returns to meeting in person

After three years on a virtual platform, the MND Association's annual International Symposium on ALS/MND will run as an in-person event in Basel,

Switzerland.

The event, which will take place from 6th-8th December 2023, brings together leading international researchers and health and social care professionals to present and debate key innovations in their respective fields. The Symposium plays an important role in facilitating the exchange of exciting new knowledge and information as well as stimulating new ideas and partnerships.

Dr Brian Dickie, Director of Research Development at the MND Association said

“We are delighted to once again be meeting in person. The hope is that through collaboration and partnership working we will find solutions to unpick the complex nature of MND which will lead to an effective treatment.

Although an online event proved more difficult for researchers to network effectively, one advantage of an online Symposium was its accessibility for those unable to travel, particularly people living with MND. We are therefore keen to continue this aspect of inclusivity and are considering ways of continuing to make the upcoming Symposium more accessible to a wider audience.”

You can sign up for Symposium updates on the National Association website.

# South Yorkshire Branch presents

**mnda**  
motor neurone disease  
association



Kindly sponsored by  
**WEBSTER**  
TECHNOLOGIES  
DESIGN | ENGINEERING | INNOVATION

## Unite the Union Brass Band with Movie Music, Musicals & More

Sunday 26th March 2023 at 7.30 pm

Doors, bar and sales table open from 6.15 pm

Niagara Conference & Leisure, Niagara Road, Sheffield, S6 1LU

The venue is accessible with a lift and has free parking.

**Tickets are £7 reserved in advance or £8 on the door available  
from Trevor Peacock on 0114 242 2956 or  
trevorpeacock56@gmail.com**

 MND Association South Yorkshire  @SYMNDA

[www.mndassociation.org](http://www.mndassociation.org)

MND Association Francis Crick House, 6 Summerhouse Road, Northampton, NN3 6BJ  
| Registered charity no. 294354 | Created in RightMarket - 24/1/2023 - 19:00:25

 Registered with  
**FUNDRAISING  
REGULATOR**

# DENBY CHARITY FOLK FESTIVAL



Main Venue  
The George • HD8 8UE  
FREE Car Parking available

SUN 23  
JULY

12:30

More Information from Mel White  
chalks50@yahoo.com • 07870298985

All Proceeds to

**mnda**

motor neurone disease  
association

ARTISAN • GAELFORCE

— • • ANDY TAGGER

RICHARD MOSS &

— • CLARE DOUGLAS •

KEITH KENDRICK &

— • SYLVIA NEEDHAM •

TONI BUNNELL • FOLKLINGS

— • THE HOOLIE MEN

MORRIS DANCING •

& MUCH MORE

FREE  
ENTRY



# MND Peer Support



**First Tuesday of the month, 11am until 12.30pm**

Do you have MND? Are you affected by or care for someone with MND?  
Come along to our support group, this is a safe space to meet others from the MND community

Aurora Centre  
Montagu Hospital  
Adwick Road  
Mexborough  
S64 0AZ

Some free disabled parking spaces  
Bus lines 208, 218 and 218a stop at Montagu Hospital

**For more information please contact**

**Jayne Thompson**  
**07811280893**  
[jayne.thompson@mndassociation.org](mailto:jayne.thompson@mndassociation.org)

 [mndassociation](https://www.facebook.com/mndassociation)  [@mndassoc](https://twitter.com/mndassoc)

[www.mndassociation.org](http://www.mndassociation.org)

MND Association Francis Crick House, 6 Summerhouse Road, Northampton, NN3 6BJ  
| Registered charity no. 294354 | Created in RightMarket - 16/2/2023 - 16:40:27

---

# The Motor Neurone Disease Association

Website: [www.mndassociation.org](http://www.mndassociation.org) Tel: 01604 250505  
Registered office: MNDA, Francis Crick House,  
6 Summerhouse Road, Moulton Park, Northampton NN3 6BJ  
MNDA Connect Helpline 0808 802 6262

---

## South Yorkshire Branch

Website: [www.mndassociation.org/southyorkshire](http://www.mndassociation.org/southyorkshire)  
Email: [mndvisitor@gmail.com](mailto:mndvisitor@gmail.com)

### Committee Members 2023/24

Chair: Dr Andrew Gibson  
[andrew.gibson7@nhs.net](mailto:andrew.gibson7@nhs.net)

Vice Chair: Julie Ward  
[julie.ward@dmndassociation.org](mailto:julie.ward@dmndassociation.org)

Branch Contact:  
Ann Quinn 07776 191333  
[mndvisitor@gmail.com](mailto:mndvisitor@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Paul Hebblethwaite  
(Home) 0114 236 3222  
077291 18590  
[treasurer.mndasy@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.mndasy@gmail.com)

Assistant Treasurer: Kirsteen  
Booy 07749 111570  
[booykirsteen@gmail.com](mailto:booykirsteen@gmail.com)

Secretary: Christine Naylor  
0114 265 3774 [chris222@sky.com](mailto:chris222@sky.com)

Care & Grants: Brian Jackson  
0114 2376814  
[associationvisitor.bj@gmail.com](mailto:associationvisitor.bj@gmail.com)

Fundraising: Geoff Bland  
01226 245811 [Gbland7@protonmail.com](mailto:Gbland7@protonmail.com)  
Dave Booker  
[davebooker1712@gmail.com](mailto:davebooker1712@gmail.com)

Newsletter Editor: Christine  
Naylor 0114 265 3774  
[chris222@sky.com](mailto:chris222@sky.com)

Website: Kath Groom, Trevor  
Peacock

Social Media:  
Natalie Pye  
[natalie.a.pye2@gmail.com](mailto:natalie.a.pye2@gmail.com)

Nikolaos Stefanidis  
[nikolaos.stefanidis.uk@gmail.com](mailto:nikolaos.stefanidis.uk@gmail.com)

Area Support Co-ordinator:  
Jayne Thompson [Jayne.Thompson@mndassociation.org](mailto:Jayne.Thompson@mndassociation.org)

Regional Fundraiser:  
Jenn Scribbins  
[jenn.scribbins@mndassociation.org](mailto:jenn.scribbins@mndassociation.org)

---

## Events for 2023

The Branch have the following events planned for 2023, with some dates still to be confirmed and further details to be announced in future newsletters.

Thursday Carers' Meetings	30th March 2023 United Reform Church, Wickersley Road, Rotherham S60 2JN 2.00 pm – 4 00 pm
Sheffield Half Marathon	Sunday 26th March 2023
Unite The Union Band Concert	Sunday 26th March 7:30pm at Niagara Events Centre
Gulliver's Valley Fun Day	Saturday 17th June 2023
Folk Event, Upper Denby Village	Sunday 23rd July 2023 @ George Inn, Denby Lane, HD8 8UE
Hallows Golf Day	4th August 2023
Walk to D'Feet & In Memory Walk	13th August, Yorkshire Outlet Centre, White Rose Way, Doncaster
SHM Golf Day	September - date to be confirmed
A Musical Evening Featuring Julian Jones & Simply Strings	Sunday 8th October 2023 @ Niagara Events Centre
Quiz Night	20th October 2023 @ Tapton Hall
Ceilidh	12th November - Wakefield Community Hall
Stannington Band Concert	December - date to be confirmed
<b>Ideas for future Events</b>	
Murder Mystery Night	date to be confirmed
Cannon Hall Treasure Hunt	date to be confirmed

### PEER SUPPORT GROUP MEETING DATES

1. In Sheffield – Peer Support Cafe meetings are held on the last Wednesday of the month from 2 00 pm until 3 30 pm at Greenhill Methodist Church, School Lane, Greenhill, Sheffield S8 7RL
2. In Barnsley – Peer Support Group meetings are held on the last Monday of the month from 2 00 pm until 3 30 pm at Emmanuel Church, Huddersfield Road, Barnsley S75 1DT
3. In Doncaster – Peer Support Group meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month from 11 00 am – 12 30 pm at Aurora Centre, Montague Hospital, Adwick Road, Doncaster S64 OAZ

All people across South Yorkshire who are affected by MND are welcome at any of our support meetings.

# Motor Neurone Disease Association Charity Ceili

in conjunction with Pontefract Folk Club



with The Hooliemen & friends

## Sat 25th Nov 2023

7:30-10pm

**Tickets : £10 advance or £12 on door**

**email [symnda@yahoo.com](mailto:symnda@yahoo.com)**

at

Featherstone Community Centre

Victoria Street Featherstone WF7 5BB

monies raised shared between West & South Yorks  
MND Association's Charity Registration No. 294354

There is no bar so bring your  
own drinks, & picnic/snacks



[www.facebook.com/roisinban/](http://www.facebook.com/roisinban/)