

# **National Speakers Network**

### We are together

# **Booking talks in your community**

Being a volunteer speaker is a proactive role and reaching out to community groups is a key part of it. It's a brilliant way to make sure you can spread the word about MND to as many people as possible.

## **Contacting Community Groups Directly**

Many community groups regularly invite speakers and very often have a member whose role is to coordinate speakers. Such groups include:

U3A

Rotary

Soroptimists

Church Groups

Freemasons

Lions

WI

Round Table

Universities

The best place to start is by checking group websites for contact information and either call or email them, using the draft email overleaf. If a friend or relative is a member of any of these groups they may be able to connect you directly with the appropriate person.

### Advertising in the local press, parish magazines, club publications or newsletters

Publications like these are an excellent way into local groups.

Use the template below to place ads or notices in these publications. Please do not include your phone number, only your name and email address.

#### **Ad Template:**



## **MND Speaker Available**

Today in the UK, six people hear the devastating news that they have motor neurone disease (MND). In that instant, their world – and the world of their loved ones – is shattered. There is no effective treatment and no cure. A diagnosis is terminal.

I would love to visit your group to spread the word about MND and the work the MND Association is doing to support MND research and care.

To find out more or book me to visit please get in touch

<Name>

<Email>



#### **Email Template:**



Dear < Name >

Today in the UK, six people will sit in a hospital clinic and hear the devastating news that they have motor neurone disease (MND). In that instant, their world – and the world of their loved ones – is shattered.

MND is a disease that's still relatively unknown in the UK, which is why I became a volunteer speaker for the MND Association. I would love to come and talk to <Group Name> about MND and what the Association is doing to fight against it.

MND attacks the nerves, leaving those affected unable to walk, talk, eat and ultimately to breathe. It usually progresses rapidly and there is currently no effective treatment or cure. One third of people with MND lose their life within a year and over half within two years.

<Mention your connection to MND>. Being a volunteer speaker gives me a voice; an opportunity to tell my story and to raise more of an awareness and understanding of the disease.

It's also an opportunity for me to spread the word about the mission of the MND Association – that one day there will be a world free of MND. And how, together, we aim to achieve that.

Through expert support and information, the MND Association helps people to live as well as possible, for as long as possible. Through investment in research the MND Association aims to revolutionise understanding of the disease and develop treatments – and ultimately a cure – to bring hope for the future.

I would be delighted to come and talk to you more about MND and what the MND Association does. I'm passionate that more people know about the disease in order for us to find a cure.

If you are interested in a talk or would like to discuss this further, please do get in touch on xxxxx

Yours Sincerely

<Your name>



Send

