



Branch and group webpages

We are actively working to increase the information that is available online about the support and events that branches and groups organise locally on behalf of people with MND. This is due to more and more people using the internet for their personal research into MND and the support that is available.

Some of our branches and groups have their own independent websites; however others do not currently have any online presence. This results in a lack of information about local events and activities being accessible online.

To combat this and ensure that we have an online presence for all, we have provided each branch and group with a webpage, hosted for free on our main website. This means that anyone in England, Wales or Northern Ireland who is searching the internet will be able to find information about their local branch/group online.

For those of you with your own independent website:

Your branch/group will have a link from the provided webpage to your own independent branch/group website to continue to support the promotion of it.

We understand that you may wish to continue with your own website being the primary online resource for information about your branch/group. However, to ensure that anyone searching through our website sees accurate and relevant information, there will be a need to ensure that your branch/group webpage on our website is also kept up-to-date.

This information sheet provides details about how you can access your branch/ group webpage, plus information about how you can update your webpage to ensure it reflects what you do locally.

How to navigate to your webpage

Your branch/group webpage is on the main MND Association website –

www.mndassociation.org

It can be accessed by yourself/website users in a variety of ways:

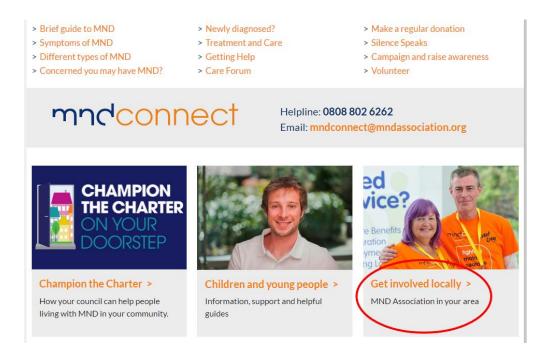
Direct access via a personalised URL (This is the easiest option)

All follow the following format.

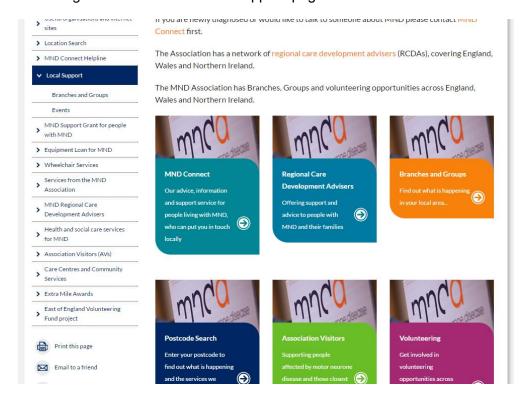
www.mndassociation.org/southbuckinghamshire www.mndassociation.org/northandwestcumbria www.mndassociation.org/bristolbathwestonandwinsley If you have any difficulties accessing your webpage, please contact the Volunteering or Digital team and we can confirm your direct URL.

This can be used for promotional purposes, particularly if you don't have your own independent website.

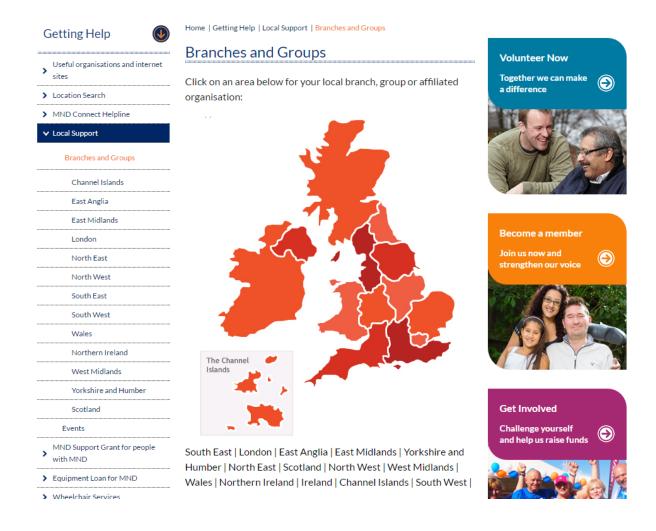
From the home page, click on the 'Get involved locally' panel



This brings the user to our 'Local Support' page. Click on the 'Branches and Groups' panel.



This will bring up a local support map. Select the relevant part of the map and then select your branch/group from the list.



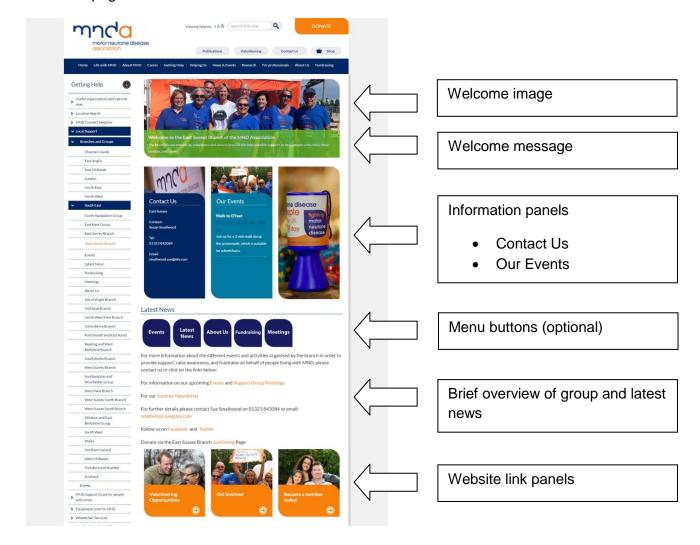
 There is also the 'Find local support link option at the bottom of the main homepage.



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Updating your branch/group webpage

Each branch and group has the same basic webpage set up. Parts of this webpage can be updated to ensure that relevant local information is provided. See notes below for each part of the webpage.



Welcome image

There is currently a standard header image on each branch/group webpage. This can be replaced with a photo of your branch/group volunteers or a photo of a local fundraising event to help localise the webpage.

The required photo size is: 660 x 265 pixels. If you are unable to crop a photo yourself, please send us the original and we can do this for you.

The reason for this size requirement is to ensure that all images are not stretched and appear clearly on the screen.

Please email your photo to volunteering@mndassociation.org

Welcome message

There is a standard welcome message which currently reads...

Welcome to the XXX Branch/Group of the MND Association

The branch (or group) is run entirely by volunteers and aims to provide the best possible support to local people with MND, their families, and carers

The text above in italics can be changed, however should ideally be no more than 35 words.

Please email any text changes to volunteering@mndassociation.org

Contact us panel

This has been set up to show the contact details of your current Branch/Group Contact volunteer. Please let us know if any details require changing.

As part of the contact details, we require a postcode area to enable your branch/group to appear on the 'Location search' map. In most cases, we have selected a postcode that your branch/group covers, however this may not necessarily be the central postcode for the area you cover. We would be grateful if you could provide us with a central postcode to ensure the map is accurate.

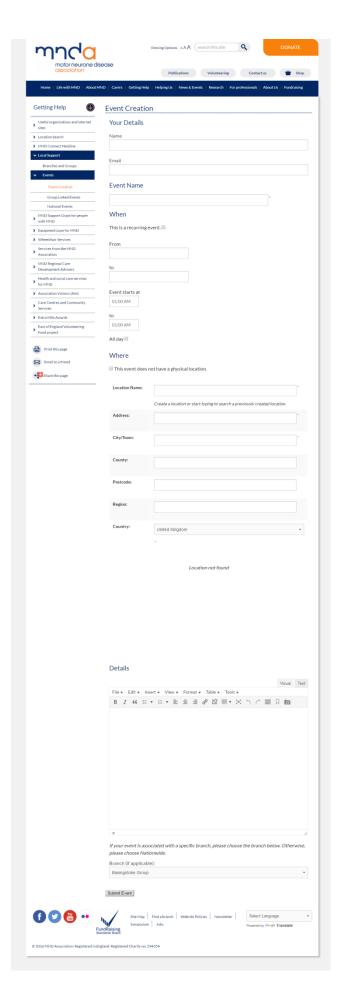
Please email your central postcode to volunteering@mndassociation.org

Our events panel

This is where information about any branch/group events that you enter will be displayed. Currently only two events are displayed at one time.

They also appear on a central events list at www.mndassociation.org/groupevents/ If nothing is entered, the column will be blank.

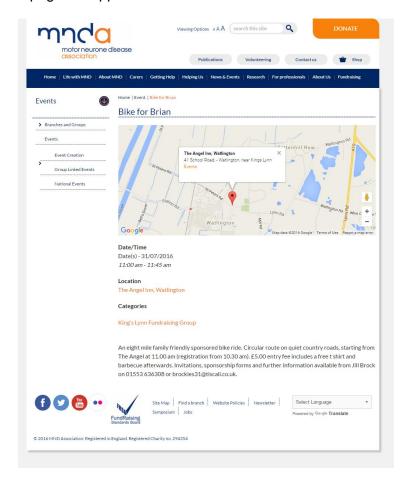
To add a branch/group event you will need to complete an event creation form. This is available at www.mndassociation.org/eventcreation.



Once submitted, the information will be checked centrally and uploaded live on the website usually within 24 hours.

(Please note, within 24 hours if submitted Sunday – Thursday, or within 72 hours if submitted Friday - Saturday).

A page will appear as follows:-



Latest News section

This is the body area of the page where you can choose your own editorial content. Suggestions for what could be included here are:

- Brief overview about the group including information about your regular support/open meetings (when and where they are held)
- A link to your independent branch/group website if you have one
- A link to your latest newsletter
- A link to your branch/group social media accounts e.g. Facebook or Twitter

This should be no longer than 3-4 paragraphs long.

For minor updates to section (e.g. Adding a latest newsletter, changing contact/event details, etc) please send the information required, along with any relevant attachments, to volunteering@mndassociation.org and this will be updated for you.

If you have a lot of content that needs refreshing on a regular basis, you may wish to consider gaining access to part of our content management system (CMS) to be able to update this section yourself. When considering this option please take into account local capacity, access to the internet and ICT literacy.

Our website uses Wordpress as its CMS, and is easy to use. We can provide training and best practice guidelines on how the system works. Please email volunteering@mndassociation.org for more information.

Website link panels

The left link panel links through to the volunteering homepage on the website. The middle link panel links through to the fundraising page, and the right link panel links through to our membership pages. These cannot be changed.

Social Media Links

If the branch/group has social media pages, such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, these can be incorporated into the page.

If you have a branch/group Flickr account we can automatically add your photo feed to the bottom of your webpage. This is an optional feature. If you don't have a Flickr account, this won't appear at all.

For more information please email volunteering@mndassociation.org.

In summary...

To enable us to support you with ensuring your webpage is up-to-date, please provide us with:

- A local photo for the welcome image
- A central postcode for the area your branch/group covers
- Any text required for the Latest News section, including any downloads

Please also let us know if you'd like more information on the CMS to enable you to update the webpage yourself.

Please start to submit your forthcoming events using the event creation form.

For more information contact the Volunteering Team or the Digital Team:

Abi Stafford (Volunteering Information & Communications Co-ordinator):

Phone: 01604 611756

Email: <u>abigail.stafford@mndassociation.org</u>
Website: www.mndassociation.org/volunteerzone

Simon Hoggarth (Website Administrator): Phone: 01604 611874

Email: simon.hoggarth@mndassociation.org

Adam Belson (Digital Media Manager): Phone: 01604 611892

Email: adam.belson@mndassociation.org



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