

Chairperson's Report – Trevor Jenkin

AGM Saturday 21st March 2015

Welcome to the Annual General Meeting of Muscular Dystrophy Northern Incorporated for 2015.

It gives me great pleasure as Chairperson to present this report and report to the membership on yet another very busy and successful year. MDN is part of the Muscular Dystrophy Association of NZ and is one of 4 branches.

The Northern office is based in Albany, Auckland where we employ one fulltime Fieldworker (Darian Smith), one part time Fieldworker (Kristine Newsome), and our part time Office/Information Manager (Denise Ganley) who also has responsibility for our funding and grant applications. Thank you to all three of them for their hard work and dedication to MDN and its members.

Our branch is also very lucky to have a pro-bono Accountant Raema Inglis who keeps our finances up to date and reports to our committee regularly; a huge thank you to Raema. We are very appreciative of the time she spends helping us with our accounts.

Without any Government funding to cover our costs for the Fieldworker service we rely heavily on fundraising, donations and Grants. Thank you to all of the Trusts who have supported our Fieldworker service in 2014. I'd also like to thank Outsource IT for their pro bono IT support and the Auckland HOG Chapter who have continued to be wonderful supporters for MDN.

Our two Fieldworkers both attend the Neuromuscular clinics at the Wilson Centre, Waikato Hospital and Auckland Hospital. This year we had a stand at the annual Brain Day at Auckland University and the Waikato Health & Disability Expo. There have also been talks to schools, nursing students, health professionals and other relevant groups. Both Fieldworkers and our Office Manager attend in service days at the National Office several times each year and have also taken up opportunities to attend conferences and courses for professional development.

Our fieldworker statistics were from 1st January 2014 – 31st December 2014:

Face to face contacts = 556

Other member contacts = 1697

Newsletters = 5. Our newsletters are now emailed rather than posted which has provided us with a cost saving in terms of printing and postage.

- Trusts who have supported MDN in 2014:

COGS

Lottery Grants Board

ASB

Bay Trust

Bluesky Community Trust

Endeavour Community Foundation

The Trusts Community Foundation

Trust Waikato

Trillian Trust

Infinity Foundation

The Southern Trust

Hamilton City Council

First Sovereign Trust Ltd
CR Stead Trust
JR Lewis Trust
Ted & Mollie Carr Trust
BA Lewis Trust
NZ Community Post
Grassroots Trust
James Seale Say Foundation
Oxford Sports Trust
JM Thompson Trust
Sargood Bequest
Lion Foundation
North Shore Presbyterian Hospital Trust
NZ Community Trust
Wel Energy
Sir Ernest Hyam Davis Trust
Sargood Bequest

- Other supporters:

Harley Owners Group – Auckland
Outsource IT – pro bono IT support
Bowtie raised \$5817

- Donations **of \$100** or more were received from the following people:

Georgina Ashley
Peter Brodeur
Dave Carson
Tim Carter
Nicola Chapman
Ewen Cooke
Merv Crosby
JC & CJ Gilbert
Edna Gleeson
Anthony Goddard
Jim Gray
Kenneth Green
Margaret Hare
Russell Hewitt
Peter High
Margaret Kelly
Lions Club of Reporoa
Marion Loveridge
Rod MacNeil
Lindsay McGregor
Sheryl McGregor
Maria Oomen
Tokoroa Host Lions
Sophie Tamati

Lady Felicity Tompkins
Waipapa and Districts Lions Club
Woodworks Building Services Ltd

MDN is governed by an elected committee, I would like to thank each of them for the work they have done in the past year.

Joy Jenkin - Secretary
Andrea Clive - Treasurer
Lew Pulman
Mike Pulman
Chris Kennedy
Brooke Clive

Below is a list of events that have been organised this past year by members, Fieldworkers or committee.

- Events in 2014:

Coffee groups in Auckland Central and North Shore continued to meet each month.

Ice skating

Family Camp in Hamilton

Member's dinner in Hamilton

Armageddon

Mid-winter lunch Auckland

Mid-winter lunch Hamilton

HOG/MDN Poker Run

Christmas Party

- Facebook

We continue to make use of our Facebook page to promote various events to our members, their families and other supporters. Our friends list continues to grow and we now have 396 friends on Facebook.

- Website

Our Northern Branch page on the MDA website is updated on a regular basis and we are pleased to report that it is the second most viewed page on the website.

Lastly I would like to say that I have enjoyed this past year as Chairperson for Muscular Dystrophy Northern and hope that we have made a positive difference in some way for our members and for the membership as a whole. I look forward to this next year and the challenges that lie ahead.

Trevor Jenkin
Muscular Dystrophy Northern Chairperson
National Council member (Northern Rep)
March 2015