



Muscular Dystrophy WELLINGTON NEWS

Harper's Little Art Auction

"The generosity of everyone who donated, supported or attended this event has humbled us to the core - and we are so thankful and grateful for all your love and support" - Ahern Family



Harper's Aunt Emma Ahern wanted to find a way to raise funds for her nephew, and the art auction was born out of the generosity of people throughout New Zealand and abroad. As well as helping Harper \$3,500 has been kindly donated to the Wellington Branch to support families living with muscular dystrophy. Harper's Little Art Auction was held at Southward car Museum and with around 250 guests and 75 artworks from 62 artists up for auction, it was not so little.

The Ahern family were overwhelmed by the amount of money the auction raised.

More than 180 people attended the event, and collectively purchased \$24,000 worth of art donated by people throughout New Zealand and overseas.

As well as the art, raffle tickets were sold. Prizes worth thousands of dollars were generously donated by local and national businesses.

The highest auction item went for \$2,200 and was an untitled oil on canvas work by Vincent Duncan.

Other auction items included a pair of printed boots, a surfboard and accessories from RealSurf, an All Blacks 2017 signed jersey donated by Grant Fitzgerald, and a pair of boxing gloves signed by David Tua.

It was wonderful to see the community come together

and work towards making this event a massive success.

The funds are being put in a savings account and will go towards helping support Harper's independence when he's older, including tertiary education needs.

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What's been happening in our area

Penny and Dympna are busy travelling. They would love to hear from you if you need further information.

Penny is on the road throughout November and December and will be hosting lots of functions. For more information, contact Penny on 027 535 5653 or email Penny@mda.org.nz

December 1st; Palmerston North - lunch

December 2nd; Whanganui - morning tea

December 7th; Gisborne - pot luck picnic

December 10th; Hawkes Bay - Christmas lunch

December 15th; Dannevirke - morning tea

In late January, Penny will visit New Plymouth and we are hoping for another sailing event in the Hawkes Bay in February. Keep an eye on our facebook page and we'll keep you informed of developments.

Dympna spoke at the Women's Development Group recently. This was a group of inspirational and enthusiastic women who were interested to hear from small charities about how we compete for funding and public awareness, and to talk about potential ways they could support us. It was a privilege to share the work we do at MDANZ and raise awareness of our rare conditions.

Dympna had a lovely trip to Wairarapa in October and plans to revisit in the New Year. This month she visited our members on the Kapiti Coast. Towards the end of the year, she will be offering visits to members in Wellington and Hutt Valley. Please let her know if you would like a visit before the Christmas break. The Ulysses will be making their annual toy run in the coming weeks, she hopes all our young members enjoy their visit.

FUN FAMILY ACTIVITY ON WELLINGTON ANNIVERSARY DAY (January 22nd). Come along and ride the miniature trains on Petone Esplanade between 1 and 4pm. For more information contact committee member Andrew on 027 418 7158 or the office.

Annual Appeal

Thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising efforts.



Our Freedom Campaign was a great success with a mixture of street appeals and events. We had fun ice skating at the pop-up ice rink on the Wellington Waterfront in August. It was great to see some of our members on the ice having fun with their family. We have also had a couple of fundraising events. One of these was a Movie Night held at The Lighthouse in Petone where we watched Victoria and Abdul. A movie highly recommended and worth watching if you haven't already. Our annual street collection raised about \$1,000 for our branch which is a great effort. Thank you to all who collected for us. Your support and assistance is greatly appreciated.

From the committee chair

Looking forward to a great 2018



Greetings from the Wellington Branch Committee. At our AGM in March,

seven members were elected to form the Branch Committee. Liz, who looks after our Facebook page, Andrew, who arranges miniature train rides for branch members, John and Lyn, who have a wealth of knowledge, Jon-Paul, branch secretary, and Urmit, our treasurer. As a committee, we have settled into our roles and held a successful movie night to help raise funds.

As a branch, we cover a huge geographical area with up

to 300 members. With your help, we will endeavour to improve member engagement, communication between our committee and members, and have a stronger presence in the regions in 2018. The starting time of our Christmas Party was brought forward to accommodate members travelling from out of Wellington.

Thanks for the opportunity to serve as Chair. Thanks also to our Office Manager, Elizabeth, and Fieldworkers, Dympna and Penny, for their commitment to members.

Wishing you all a blessed festive season and looking forward to 2018, when we can

work together as a branch, create awareness, increase our fundraising events and continue to get to know each other.

Annelize Steyn
Branch Chair

Save the date:

The Wellington Branch AGM will be held on the 7th April 2018.

More information is to follow but write the date in your diaries now. It will be great to see you there.

Contact us



Elizabeth McCallum
Office Manager



Dympna Mulroy
Fieldworker



Penny Piper
Fieldworker



Annelize Steyn
Committee Chair



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Our supporters

We would like to thank:

The Lion Foundation
Four Winds Foundation COGS
Trust House Foundation
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McCarthy Trust Infinity
Foundation
Jack Jeffs Charitable Trust
Eastern & Central Charitable
Trust
Esme & Tom Tombleson
Charitable Trust
Caffiend Petone
Speights Ale House Petone

Ways to help

Did you know you can donate to us at any time?
Donations are tax deductible

As an organisation that relies on donations we are grateful for even the smallest donation.

If you would like to donate, here are some of the ways to do it:

Internet Banking

Account Number: 03-1533-0006178-00

Particulars: Please use your surname

Code: your membership ID

Reference: Spring 2017

By Cheque

Please make your cheques payable to Muscular Dystrophy Assn Wgtn

We also have a Givealittle page set up. Just search Muscular Dystrophy Association Wellington Branch.

All donations over \$5 are tax deductible and you will receive a receipt for your donation

Just a reminder that if your contact details have changed please contact our office on 04 589 6626 or send Elizabeth an email; Elizabeth@mda.org.nz

