

# ms. VOICE



Newsletter

July 2022

We are excited that Joan's [aHSCT Petition](#), which we have been supporting, is finally being presented to Parliament on **26th July at 12.30pm**. See below for extra details and *please join us if you can*.

Nominations are open for the annual [Esme Tombleson Award](#). If you know of anyone that would be an ideal recipient in either category, nominate them now. The categories are 'Person with MS of the year' and 'Caregiver of the year'. [See our website](#) for more details and send nominations in via your local [Regional Society](#).

Last month, we hosted our annual [Community Support Worker Training and Conference](#) and were thrilled with the guest speakers, presenters and participation from our Regional Societies. Read more about the event below.

## MS Announcements and Events



### [aHSCT Petition update](#)

Joan's aHSCT petition will be received on the steps of Parliament on 26th June at 12.30pm. It will then be read in the House at 2pm.

We invite you to show your support and meet us at the steps at 12.00pm - and wear **orange!** Everyone has worked so tirelessly to get to this point, and we appreciate your support.

[Read More](#)



### [Together we did it!](#)

The new Pharmac criteria will no longer require people to suffer a second episode of symptoms, attack or relapse, before they can begin treatment!

We have been calling on Pharmac to widen the entry criteria since 2014 - and together we finally did it! These changes came into effect 1 July 2022.

Together we did it - Together we are stronger!

[Read More](#)



### [2022 Community Support Worker Training](#)

We were delighted our annual Community Support Worker training was able to go ahead in Christchurch last month. Being able to get together in the same venue, share resources and learn how we can best support people with MS here in New Zealand, and their families, is such a valuable and team building exercise.

We are deeply grateful to our sponsors and guest speakers, without which we would not be able to hold these events.

[Read More](#)

## Get Involved

### [Multiple Sclerosis has many faces](#)



Our Face of MS campaign will be taking place this September. We want to share real stories from real people living with MS. Everyone's story and MS experience is different

If you would like to chat with us about becoming a 'Face of MS' for MSNZ and sharing your MS experience with others, please [contact Emily](#).

[Share your story](#)

## Amplify your voice

### [My MS, My Story - Claire](#)



One morning I tripped over my ginger kitten, Weasley, while I was getting ready for work. I didn't actually fall to the ground, but I landed heavily on my left foot causing a sensation like a bolt of electricity to shoot through my foot and right up to my waist.

The young doctor who examined me at the 24hr surgery, told me my x-ray was normal and doubted that the electric shock sensation was anything to worry about.

This is my story.

[Read More](#)

## Covid updates

### [Covid boosters and flu vaccinations](#)



There have been recent changes to eligibility for free flu vaccinations and second booster doses for Covid-19.

A new call centre phone number for disability queries has been established **0800 11 12 13**. Most staff working on this line either have a disability or a lived experience of disability.

Callers to this line can get assistance with vaccine bookings, apply for face mask exemptions, get advice on COVID testing, and seek guidance with managing COVID at home.

[Read More](#)

## Support Us



### [We're fundraising with the Entertainment Membership and have an offer to share with you](#)

From 1st July-31st July you'll get an extra 2 months **FREE!**

That's an additional 2 months to take advantage of 2 for 1 or up to 50% offers on dining, takeaways, retail, travel, accommodation and loads more.

You'll be supporting our fundraiser at the same time and can purchase online.

[Purchase Here](#)



### [Your support matters](#)

We answer hundreds of calls for advice and support every year from people impacted by Multiple Sclerosis. Why not help us to continue to meet this need by becoming a regular donor.

[Help us make a difference](#)

## Looking After You



### [Individualised funding webinar](#)

Multiple Sclerosis Auckland recently did a webinar about 'Individualised Funding to Support MS'.

In the webinar, Liam Sanders and Simon Anderson guides you on how to get the most out of your individualised funding, putting you in control!

[Watch webinar](#)

We love to share real life stories, if you would like to share *your* MS story with the MS Community, please get in touch:

[info@msnz.org.nz](mailto:info@msnz.org.nz)

Thank you for your continued support, it has helped us to achieve so much to those impacted by MS.



P.S. Please check our our [Latest News](#) section on our website for updated guidelines and information.



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