

## Isle of Wight Branch

Issue N° 9 Spring 2006

President Mrs Gloria Minghella

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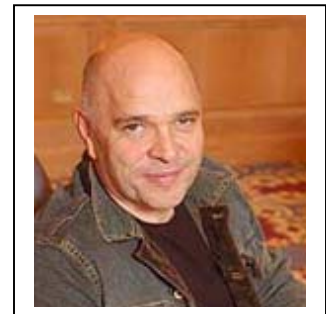
# Isle of Wight MND Association Supporters Enjoy Glamorous Evening at Madame Butterfly



Another successful evening's entertainment was organised by the Island's local MND Association President Gloria Minghella. Gloria planned and arranged the trip, on Friday 25 November 2005, which included a coach trip to London, Dress Circle tickets to see the performance of Puccini's Madame Butterfly, plus supper with the production's director Anthony Minghella.

The event was popular and hugely enjoyed by those who attended. The party was joined by Sarah, Duchess of Kent who is a patron of the MND Association and Lady Halifax who is the president.

Adding to the excitement of the evening (perhaps especially to the ladies amongst the party!) was the presence of actor Jude Law.



## Photos from the Event:



Sarah, Duchess of York with Branch Vice Chairman Mona Di Felice



The Duchess of York, Gloria Minghella and Association Visitor Wendy Farley



Anthony Minghella, MND Association's Chief Executive Dr Kirstine Knox, Jude Law and Head Office's Sarah Fitzgerald



Anthony and Gloria Minghella with Mrs. Betty Verrechia, Gloria's sister

## Other Fundraising Events

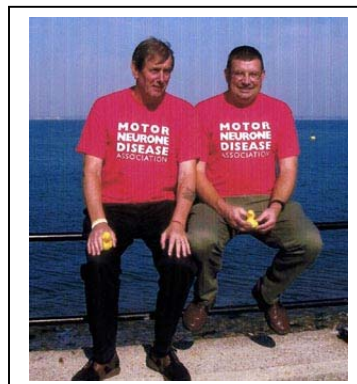
### Normandy Walk

Isle of Wight resident Roger Griffiths organised a sponsored walk of the World War Two Normandy landing beaches in order to raise funds and generate awareness of the disease. He also managed to inspire a whole new MND appeal arranged by the Isle of Wight Round Table.

Roger is a retired police officer who moved with his wife to the Island several years ago. He became aware of difficulties swallowing and speaking and last April was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease. He decided that whilst he was still able he wanted to plan and carry out something special. He traveled over to Normandy in October 2005 and with the support of his friends Peter Tautz, Pete Bascombe and Dave Flower completed the 60 mile walk.



Setting Off



Roger and Peter - A quick break!

It was Roger's aim to try and raise enough money to buy a specialist bed for the MND room at the Earl Mountbatten Hospice. The bed will assist people to sit up and even to turn over in bed when they are unable to control this movement voluntarily. He has easily surpassed this target having raised £11,750.

Many people have been touched and inspired by Roger's story. He has almost become a minor celebrity appearing in the County Press several times and on Isle of Wight radio! Newport's Round Table Charity was so inspired by Roger's determination and courage that they got together to organise a "Crazy Duck Appeal" to raise money initially for MND. Their efforts have been so successful that other Island charities including the Earl Mountbatten Hospice and the Kit Hobday Chemotherapy Appeal will also receive support.

### **Crazy Duck Appeal**

Tony Wake, with the Newport Round Table decided to launch a charity race with a difference! On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2005, thousands of numbered rubber ducks were released into the river Medina at the Barley Mow pub in Shide. A prize of £100 was awarded for the first duck past the finishing post (the first of each thousand ducks was given the prize). The event raised £14,000!!! And was a great day out!



MNDA Chairman Heather Humby with MP Andrew Turner, Actor Geoffrey Hughes amongst others



### **Football Testimonial**

The Crazy Duck Appeal Team of fundraisers swung into action again carrying out a collection at the Pompey vs. Chelsea match on 26<sup>th</sup> November. This was planned in honour of the contribution to Island football made by Tony Newman. Tony was diagnosed with MND last year. He had a long history of playing, coaching and managing Island teams and a life long devotion to Aston Villa. The Hampshire and IOW Round tables joined efforts along with the Lions club to organise the collection. £600 was raised to add to the Crazy Duck total.

For more details of Roger's walk and the ongoing Crazy Duck Appeal please visit:  
[www.duck.isleofwight.com](http://www.duck.isleofwight.com)

## Great South Run



## FIGHTING MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE

A team including Liz Newman, Eileen Clements and Emma Forbush in the Great South Run. They managed to complete the 10 Mile run and raised £1,821 for MND. Well done!!

### Dates for Your Diary

- 29<sup>th</sup> March – 2.30pm, Support Group Meeting, Riverside Centre, Newport
- 11<sup>th</sup> April – MND storyline commences on BBC1's Holby City

#### Store Collections:

- 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> May – Marks & Spencer, Newport
- 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> June – Morrisons, Lake
- 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> July – Morrisons, Newport
- 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> Aug – Sainsbury's, Newport
- 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> Oct – Marks & Spencer, Newport
  
- 15<sup>th</sup> October – Antiques Fair, Northwood House

### USEFUL CONTACTS

**Local Help Line:** 01983 873074

IOW Branch Website:  
[www.mndiw.org.uk](http://www.mndiw.org.uk)

#### Branch Contact – Committee Secretary

Maureen Martinez  
Email: mam\_nfm@yahoo.co.uk

**National Help Line:** 08457 626262  
Weekdays 9.00am to 5.00pm, 7.00pm to 10.30pm  
Saturday & Sunday: 10.00am to 6.00pm

**MNDA Regional Care Advisor –**  
Karen Wetherick Tel 01489 892790



### Herb Garden Remedies

- will return next Newsletter. I'm afraid we've run out of space!

### COME AND JOIN US!

We are always keen to hear from anyone that may like to either join the Island MNDA Branch Committee and/or help with fund raising such as next year's Store Collections. So if you are interested in joining us we **would be delighted to hear from you!**

Registered Office:

Motor Neurone Disease Association,  
David Niven House,  
10-15 Notre Dame Mews,  
Northampton, NN1 2BG,  
Telephone: 01604 250505,  
Registered charity number: 294354



**FIGHTING MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE**

The Thumbs Up sign represents David Niven's last defiant gesture. It remains our symbol of hope.