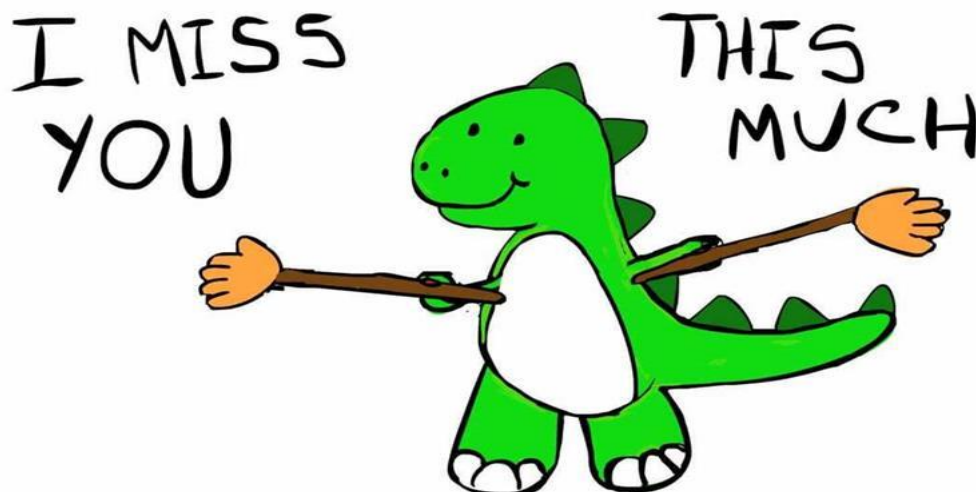




## Important Updates and Information

from MSNA: June 2020



## President's Newsletter

Hi everyone.

It's certainly been a challenging year so far. We started out with bushfires in vast regions of Australia, closely followed by a global pandemic with terrifying potential. This has driven us and our patients into varying levels of anxiety and isolation, and as we emerge from this, many of us are finding new and innovative ways of running clinics, providing treatment, support and counselling, networking with colleagues, keeping updated; all with the aim of ensuring we provide the best possible care that we can to people with MS.

We want to help.



## Webinars

In lieu of our face-to-face conference in August, we have been working on webinar capability and have some exciting educational sessions planned.

We would LOVE to hear from YOU too, just like we would if we were able to have podiums at conference. Please consider presenting a short 15 minute webinar with the full support of your friends at MSNA.

For more information, contact Imogen: [Imogen.Milner@ccdhb.org.nz](mailto:Imogen.Milner@ccdhb.org.nz)

## First Webinar

Our first webinar is to be held on 24 June.

**Tim O'Maley will be speaking about Medicinal Cannabis in MS.** Details were sent out via email but just in case you can't find them, here is the link below to register:

<https://app.livestorm.co/p/0af162e1-c9e3-4fa7-902e-b6efc791bd77>

## AGM



Our "virtual" AGM will be held on **Friday 21st August**, with details and invitations to be sent out closer to the date.

It has been a strange year, to say the least! Due to this the Exec Committee (Belinda, Imogen, Emma and Melanie) have agreed to stay on in their positions for a further year if required as they recognise that handover may be difficult at this time, however nominations for all positions are welcome, as always.



## Website Forum

**Did you know?** We have a forum area on the website where we can communicate privately with each other. You need to be a member to register and log in to this forum.

Go to: [www.msnainc.org.au](http://www.msnainc.org.au)

Scroll down to [Web Member Registration](#)

Enter details: Remember your password!

Once your membership is confirmed, your access will be activated

## Membership

Membership fees of \$50 are now due.

There are some excellent reasons to join or maintain your membership of MSNA:

- Professional networking & collaboration
- Members-only areas on website
- Educational Webinars
- Complimentary IOMSN membership
- 2 yr consecutive membership requirement for education/research grants
- Reduced conference registration fees (when we can actually have a conference!)
- Tax deductible, bargain price for a professional affiliation
- We are a warm and friendly group of people 😊

## People

I am so sad to let you know about the tragic and sudden passing of Kathleen "Kate" Styles early this year. Kate was an MS Nurse based in WA and she is sadly missed and fondly remembered by her patients and colleagues.

Two of our members have moved on to well-deserved retirement after many years of working in the field of MS Nursing. Their years in this sector over times of significant change led to them being involved in important pioneering work in both clinical and research nursing. I would like to recognise the outstanding efforts of Susanne Baker and Jennifer Coleman and thank them for their contribution to MS Nursing over many years.

Other longstanding MSNA members have moved to new roles after many years in MS Nursing. Lou Hatter has recently returned to the field of MS after a brief departure, taking on a role with RxMx healthcare company. Jodi Haartsen has left her long term role as Nurse Practitioner at Eastern Health to take on the role of Exec Manager of Client Engagement and Wellbeing at MS Limited. Dee Menzies has left her role as Hospital Liaison Nurse at MSWA and now works in research and Huntington's Disease. We wish them all the very best in these new roles.

I am sure there have been other moves and changes in our membership over the past few months that we are unaware of. Please let us know so we can stay up to date, and especially let us know if your contact details change.

Wishing you all the best in these challenging times. I hope to actually SEE some of you in person in the not too distant future. In the meantime, my warmest wishes to you all.

Belinda

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Belinda', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.