Mini biographies: Our volunteers and Community Support Coordinator

Evelyn Hayward, Chair

My best friend passed away with MND in 2000. I fundraised over the next few years then joined the Association in 2008 and trained to be an Association Visitor (AV) supporting people affected by MND. I also joined the South London Branch committee, became Treasurer, I am now Branch Chair.

Elizabeth Hurry, Treasurer

When my school friend was diagnosed with MND in 2016 I was absolutely gutted - at 56 she was too young to die (which she did within 12 months) - I felt I had to do something so I contacted South London Branch and met up with Sarah who was inspirational and made me feel like I could certainly help the South London team. I am always happy to shout and cheer from the sidelines and get involved if I possibly can and now I've swapped my high heels for welly boots and live in the West Country I want to continue to support South London members and pwMND as I am a Londoner through and through.

I was very happy to take on the role of Treasurer and feel privileged (if a little torn from time to time) to be part of our finance committee though we have a tough job as we would like to support everyone who asks for help.

Patrick Tatham

My wife Helen died of MND in 2003. It took me a while to get around to contacting my local team, and only joined the South London Branch in 2020. Now I am here, I’ve enjoyed helping out with fund-raisers and other branch activities.

Sarah Tucker

I got involved with the south London branch when my mum was sadly diagnosed.

I wanted to help other people affected by this horrible disease.

Jojo Thompson

I lost my Dad to MND in 2017 and became a volunteer Association Visitor in 2020 to offer support to families affected by MND and assist with navigating the maze of health and social care/services and the like.

I also fundraise for the South London Branch when I can to support financial grants and research towards that all-important cure.

Becky Gould

I became involved with the South London Branch in 2018 after attending one of the support group meetings to talk about my research. I saw what a fantastic job the South London Branch were doing to support those living with and affected by MND and wanted to help out too.

Since then I've been involved in supporting fundraising events and other Branch activities.

Sally Roberts, Deputy Chair and organiser of the MND Coffee Meetings

I got involved in volunteering for the MND South London Group back in 2014.

My aunt Maureen Carson, was diagnosed with MND back in 2013 and she was my absolute world. My aunt was like a second mum to me and my biggest supporter in everything I did in life.

Maureen used to love attending the support group and found them invaluable, and a way to meet others that understood exactly how she was feeling, she never missed one meeting.

To be able to volunteer, and now run the support group means so much to me, as I knew just how much it meant to Maureen, and this is always at the forefront of my mind, to ensure that everyone that attends gets the most out of these meetings.

Lynn Baxter

I've been a volunteer with MNDA since my best friend Maureen was diagnosed with the disease. She was a very lively sociable woman and it seemed so cruel that she lost her voice so quickly after her diagnosis. Sally, her niece and I remained silent for a week to raise awareness and funds for MNDA and shared some of the distressing and frustrating experiences when MND robs you of your voice.

Since then I've been involved regularly with fundraising events for MNDA and I felt very proud when my son ran in the London Marathon for MNDA this year.
I attend and help organise the regular Sunday South London Branch meet-ups for people living with MNDA and their families and have also arranged group outings to places of interest.

I'm also involved with the branch treasurer and the chair in decisions about what grants we can afford to fund for families living with MND with money raised by South London Branch.

Abigail Igbokwe, MND Association Community Support Co-ordinator

As the Community Support Co-ordinator (CSC) for the South London Branch, I am here to provide guidance and resources to individuals and families affected by MND. My role involves connecting people to local services and ensuring no one faces this journey alone. I am committed to creating a caring, inclusive MND Community.

Please do reach out to me if you or anyone you know would like to learn more about my role and the support the South London Branch can provide.