

DANNY'S SUPPORT INITIATIVE

October Newsletter

Hello friends of Danny's Support Initiative,

This newsletter aims to update you on Dan's health, how Dan and Sue are doing and current fundraising efforts on behalf of the Initiative.

Danny recently spent some time in hospital having stents placed in his heart. This condition is unrelated to the motor neurone disease which is slowly progressing at a normal rate. Dan is now back at home and will be starting a fitness programme shortly to assist in the rehabilitation of his heart muscles.

There have also been some recent developments in relation to the Australian Government providing some form of assistance to Danny as he is unable to work. Although Dan does not qualify for a disability pension, the government has agreed to pay a small contribution on a fortnightly basis – this is paid on a sliding scale based on Sue's income level while she is still working. This is a very positive outcome and is helpful to Dan and Sue's day-to-day living expenses. The government has also agreed to cover the cost of the necessary bathroom renovations on the ground floor of the house once Dan's condition requires that he no longer use the stairs.

Dan and Sue have settled well into their new home. Moving closer to the city has been very positive for them both and has provided great emotional and social support, with many friends popping in to visit and to take Dan out for the occasional adventure! Managing living with MND has been very tidal in nature for both of them – the challenges and changes it brings ebb and flow from week to week.

Dan's previous employer, Royle Goodwin, put together a fundraising evening in September at the SOAKS Rugby Club. With more than 100 people coming along to the event, it was a well-attended and fun evening at a very welcoming venue. The event was a great opportunity for people to catch up with each other and everyone's generous spirit meant that it was highly successful in raising funds for the Initiative. Dan, Sue and the family would like to say an enormous thank you to all those who have contributed to the Initiative and who continue to give support through their emails and donations. The family would also like to thank Brian and Dave who continue to work tirelessly behind the scenes to keep the Initiative running smoothly.

The Committee,

Danny's Support Initiative

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