

## DANNY DELPORT UPDATE

17<sup>th</sup> May 2018

A letter was distributed from Brian Boyes from the Danny Support Initiative:

Hello everyone

Sorry that we have been so slack in doing an update – not sure if we are lazy or just forgot – Danny's dementia is getting bad but we still have to rely on him to keep us on track!!

The latest news is that Danny recently went to see the Head Neurologist at the new fancy Fiona Stanley Hospital in Perth. She spent a couple of hours with Dan and says that the type of MND that he has, is called – Flailing Arms MND. It affects the arms and hands the worst and then goes to the legs but it is slow. The MND has caused Dan to get Frontal Lobe Dementia and she says that this is moving quite quickly and is overtaking the MND. The Dementia is specific and affects five main areas:

- Change in behaviour
- Reduced level of perception and insight
- Loss of emotions
- Loss of spacial awareness – become very rigid and needing to know where things are and that they stay in their correct places
- Severely affects speech

As the Dementia evolves Dan will become very withdrawn and isolated from most of what is happening around him.

It is all very sad but there is not much that can be done – We tell Dan that the reason the MND part is slow is because he keeps forgetting that he has it and that he had most of the Dementia symptoms when he was at University and farming in Zim!!!

Sue and Danny continue to cope remarkably well – They somehow manage to keep their sense of humour and stay as positive as they can.

Thank you all for your interest and support and we will try and remember to send another update in the next few months or so!!

Cheers for now.

Brian (Stroppy) and Dave

Rasty Erasmus was recently in Australia and saw Danny: “Despite the awful situation, is apparently still joking and resilient, despite everything”.