



Messages



Myasthenia Gravis Association of Queensland Inc

OCTOBER 2010

Myasthenia Gravis Association of Qld Inc IN NO WAY endorses any products, medical procedures or medical practitioners mentioned. Articles are provided as a guide, and/or for information purposes only.

We take this opportunity to thank Queensland Health who by the provision of a grant, make the work of the Association and the publication of this Newsletter possible, and to those who take the effort to contribute to its success.

Myasthenia Gravis Association of Queensland Inc

P.O. Box 16
MT. GRAVATT QLD 4122
NATIONAL FREE CALL:
1800 802 568
ABN 92 055 613 137

E-mail: mgaq@gil.com.au
Internet: www.mgaq.org.au

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President

Anita JACKSON
Ph. 3800 4913

Vice-president

Kris KLITGAARD
Ph. 3890 0115

Secretary and Editor

Graeme PETERS
Ph. 3288 4484
email: graeme.peters2@bigpond.com

Treasurer

Susan WHITE
Ph. 3358 1056

Information Officer

Shirley JOHNSTON
Ph. 1800 802 568

Committee

Bill SYNNOT
Ph. 0418196707

Carol BUCHANAN
Ph. 4773 7122

PATRON

Dr Cecilie LANDER
Neurologist
Founder Member, of Brisbane

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I am writing this before our first committee meeting since the Annual General Meeting with our new committee so do not know what our commitments or projects will be for the next 12 months. I can assure you that we will try and do the best we can for our members far and wide.

We have been very successful with our recent Guest Speakers and I am hoping that you our members received valued information from these presentations. If you feel that there is a topic or something that would be good for a guest speaker to talk about please feel free to call us on the 1800 number as we would welcome any suggestions. Remember this is your Association and we are open to any feedback.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Carol Buchanan from Townsville to the Committee as our voice from the North so if you would like her to convey any of your suggestions please feel free to give her a call.

We are holding our next 'Meet the Members' at the Sunshine Coast on 13 November 2010 and we ask members in the region, to please make the effort to meet your Committee members for an informal chat. The Committee will be staying for lunch afterwards. Full details on Page 5 of this issue.

Christmas is not far away and our get together will be at Sharks AFL Club in Southport on 12 December 2010 so please mark this on your calendars. See Page 8 of this issue for all the details

To date we have had no response in our search for Coordinators for the Wide Bay, Rockhampton & Darling Downs regions. It is imperative that we get someone for each of these regions as Coordinators are vital to the success of the Association. See the call for Expressions of Interest on Page 4 in this issue.

I draw your attention to the article in this month's Members' Forum. This has implications for people with MG who are actively seeking employment in Queensland, and is the result of great work done by Denise of Townsville.

Take care

Anita

Supported by



CHAT LIST:

Each member of our Management Committee is happy to speak with you, while the following members, who include MG sufferers or their carers, have offered to join our Chat List. If you have a need to have a yarn, particularly about how MG affects you, please ask if it is convenient to talk, and respect the privacy of those whom you call.

In the interests of one's privacy, we have not listed surnames. Do not be embarrassed by ringing a stranger and asking to speak to say, "Fred or Mary". If you wish to disclose your surname, that is your prerogative. Simply explain that you are a MYASTHENIC or a CARER.

Remember there is also the FREECALL telephone number for Australia manned (or is it womanned?) by Shirley and is 1800 802 568. Please do not hesitate to call if you feel the need. If the 1800 802 568 is not answering, please leave a message and Shirley will get back to you as soon as practicable. Your call is valuable to us, so please do not hang up without leaving a message.

CHAT LIST - BRISBANE

MELISSA	041 1039060	FOREST LAKE
TERRY / JUDI	3824 4158	ALEXANDRA HILLS
JESSICA	3369 8315	BARDON
JOHN	3269 5066	BRIGHTON
THOMAS	3386 1918	BEENLEIGH
EILEEN	3269 5660	BRIGHTON
GWENDA	3390 2643	CAPALABA
CAROL	33901788	CAPALABA
GORDON	3398 7891	CARINA
LORRAINE	3206 0789	CLEVELAND
PAM / RAY	3801 1335	CORNUBIA
HELEN	3203 0150	DECEPTION BAY
STEFAN	3807 0541	EAGLEBY
NORMA	3281 5079	EASTERN HEIGHTS (IPSWICH)
KIRSTIE	0408311110	EATONS HILL
ROGER	3379 8916	GRACEVILLE
JOHN	3899 9387	HAWTHORNE
LEILANI	0448192521	INDOOROOPILLY
DANIELLE	3202 2509	IPSWICH
HELEN	3279 3060	JAMBOREE HEIGHTS
PENNY	0415613242	KANGAROO POINT
CARLY (14 years old)	3354 3014	MITCHELTON
SUSAN	33581056	NEW FARM
KEVIN	32819225	NEWTOWN
BILL & JITLADA	33997041	NORMAN PARK
IAN	3266 2449	NUNDAH
PATRICIA / LES	5464 6719	PURGA IPSWICH
SYBIL	3219 9535	ROCHEDALE
MIKE	3288 4037	SPRINGFIELD
POPPY	3288 4484	SPRINGFIELD LAKES
MARIE	3300 0053	THE GAP
JOHN	3633 0604	ZILLMERE

Near Death Experience

A boss asked one of his employees, 'Do you believe in life after death?'

'Yes, sir,' replied the new employee.

'I thought you would,' said the boss. 'Yesterday after you left to go to your brother's funeral, he stopped by to see you.'

The prospective son-in-law was asked by his girl friend's father, 'Son, are you able to support a family?' 'Well, no, sir,' he replied. 'I was just planning to support your daughter. The rest of you will have to fend for yourselves.'

Future Planned Activities

Saturday 13 November 2010	Management Committee Meeting on Sunshine Coast Followed by 'Meet the Members'
Sunday 12 December 2010	Christmas Function –Sharks Australian Football Club Southport
Saturday 12 March 2011	Management Committee Meeting at Townsville Followed by 'Meet the Members'
Sunday 19 June 2011	20 th Anniversary Function

More details will be published as each event becomes closer.

The Management Committee meets on the second Saturday of each month (except January) and all members are invited to attend. If you wish to attend any of these meetings, please contact Shirley on the 1800 number to find out the time and place of the relevant meeting.

* * * * *

'MEET THE MEMBERS' – SUNSHINE COAST

The next meeting in our 'Meet the Members' program will be held on the Sunshine Coast at the Pacific Paradise Bowls Club, 13 Menzies Drive, Pacific Paradise on Saturday 13 November 2010 commencing at 10am. While the meeting is primarily for Sunshine Coast members, ALL members are invited.

The meeting will be in the format of an open forum, where members will be encouraged to express their thoughts about the Association – how are we going, how can we improve, etc – and to tell their stories and experiences of living with MG. We welcome constructive criticism and look forward to seeing as many of our members as possible.

Following the meeting, the Committee would like have lunch with as many members as possible. Lunch is available at reasonable prices.

If you would like directions on how to get to the venue, please contact the Sunshine Coast Coordinator, Shirley Langshaw, on 07 54431728.

If you intend coming, please contact Shirley Langshaw on the above number or Shirley Johnston on our 1800 802 568 Freecall number.

+++++

Update on **WHAT'S AHEAD IN 2010??**

A. Collecting data on sufferers of myasthenia gravis –

The preliminary version of the 'Research into Myasthenia Gravis Questionnaire' has been completed and forwarded to two Neurologists for feedback. During the preparatory process, committee members assisted by completing and responding to several drafts. We were fortunate to have an economist review the process and have worded the questions such that they may link into research recently undertaken in Norway.

B. Funding for research into 'Exercise and MG' –

A proposal has been received from the Department of Physiotherapy at University of Queensland, and is under consideration.

Not all or any of these projects may come to fruition, as time and cost considerations will require close scrutiny, but we will endeavour to obtain the best outcomes for our members.

* * * * *

Old people shouldn't eat health foods. They need all the preservatives they can get.

Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors.

The only difference between a rut and a grave is the depth.

KEEP YOUR BRAIN ACTIVE

Answers are at the bottom.

1. What is the only country in the world with 'love' in its name?
2. Which two teams were the losers in the AFL Preliminary Finals this year?
3. What is the postal abbreviation for Texas USA?
4. In Peter Pan, what sort of animal was Nana?
5. What is California's state capital?
6. In which country was a 2000 year old, life size terracotta army discovered?
7. What was the first name of the first man in space?
8. What does the B stand for in SCUBA diving?
9. Who became the first US President to resign in office?
10. Who is the Vice President of the USA?
11. Where was the second Atom bomb dropped?
12. What Eastern Europe dictator banned Scrabble because he deemed it too intellectual?
13. What country left the League of Nations in 1933?
14. What U.S. president was born William Jefferson Blythe IV?
15. What name has been shared by the most popes?
16. Who was the Australian boxer defeated by Cassius Clay in the Rome Olympics in 1960?
17. What leader ruled an area that stretched from the North Sea to central Italy at the onset of the ninth century?
18. In 1998 Cristina Sanchez became the first woman to become what?
19. What planet is closest in size to our moon?
20. How many of the nine planets have moons?

Answers: 1. Slovenia; 2. Geelong & Western Bulldogs; 3. TX; 4. Dog; 5. Sacramento; 6. China; 7. Yuri; 8. Breathing; 9. Richard Nixon; 10. Joe Biden; 11. Nagasaki; 12. Ceausescu (Romania); 13. Germany; 14. Bill Clinton; 15. John; 16. Tony Madigan; 17. Charlemagne; 18. A matador; 19. Mercury; 20. Seven.

* * * * *

Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.
(Martin Luther King)

Why is it that we rejoice at a birth and grieve at a funeral? It is because we are not the person involved.
(Mark Twain)



JINGLE BELLS JINGLE BELLS



Ho! Ho! Ho!, it's that time again - time for our annual **Christmas Get-Together**, so come along and have a great day with lots of fun and good company.

- WHEN:** Sunday 12 December 2010
- TIME:** 12 Noon
- WHERE:** Sharks AFC Club, Musgrave St., SOUTHPORT
- WHAT WILL IT COST?** Meals are priced from approximately \$13 each and there is a varied menu.
- WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING?** Yourself and whomever else you wish to bring along.
- HOW DO I GET THERE?** From Brisbane, take Exit 62 (Helensvale South) off the M1. Follow that road (Gold Coast Highway or Brisbane Rd) for approx 7 km (or 10th set of traffic lights). Turn right into Olsen Ave (Labrador – Carrara Rd). After about 2km, turn left into Musgrave Ave. You can't miss Sharks. (UBD Gold Coast Map 28 ref L7)
- RSVP** Ring our FREECALL 1800 802 568 and tell Shirley if you are coming, but please let her know by **Friday 26 November 2010**

The Generous Lawyer

A local charity office realised that the organisation had never received a donation from the town's most successful lawyer. The charity's fundraiser called him to persuade him to contribute.

"Our research shows that out of a yearly income of at least \$500,000, you give not a cent to charity. Wouldn't you like to give back to the community in some way?"

The lawyer mulled this over for a moment and replied, "First, did your research also show that my mother is dying after a long illness, and has medical bills that are several times her annual income?" Embarrassed, the fundraiser mumbled, "Um ... no."

The lawyer interrupts, "or that my brother, a disabled veteran, is blind and confined to a wheelchair?" The stricken fundraiser began to stammer out an apology, but was interrupted again.

"or that my sister's husband died in a traffic accident," the lawyer's voice rising in indignation, "leaving her penniless with three children?!" The humiliated fundraiser, completely beaten, said simply, "I had no idea..."

On a roll, the lawyer cut him off once again, "So if I don't give any money to them, why should I give any to you?"