



Myasthenia Gravis Association of Queensland Inc.

# MessaGes

AUGUST  
2025



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.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT AUGUST 2025

**Our Annual General Meeting is on  
Sunday, 14 September. Doors open at  
10.00am for 10.30am start.**

**The venue is Aspley Hornets Football  
Club, Graham Road Carseldine.**

*This will be followed by Conversation,  
Connection and Companionship.*

We hope to see as many people as possible who can attend. We will not have a guest speaker but will rather be providing the opportunity for **CONVERSATION CONNECTION and COMPANIONSHIP** after the formalities of the AGM. We encourage those attending to stay for lunch and chat with friends both familiar and new.

Anyone who is attending the AGM should register prior to the event. **Please either phone 1800 802 568 or email [info@mgaq.org.au](mailto:info@mgaq.org.au) before 12 September.**

***We are still looking for people to nominate to be a member of the management committee so that we have a full complement on the committee.*** We will also accept nominations from the meeting on the day if all positions are not filled via written nominations.

The committee ensures that all people are comfortable with any projects in which they are involved and allows time for people to get to know the workings of the committee. The agenda for the AGM is on **page 8** of this newsletter. Should you require proxy vote, please contact the free-call number **1800 802 568** and request same.

Your management committee has been very busy finalising our end of year commitments. Prior to our AGM four members of our committee will meet with officials from the Community Funding Branch of Queensland Health. In order for our funding to continue we must show the Member Welfare, Advocacy, Research and Awareness strategies undertaken over the previous twelve months. It is also an opportunity to show the many resources we produce for our members, their carers and the MG community.

I hope that all members are continuing to enjoy the cooler weather and, if you have experienced the severe weather conditions, they have not been too much of a burden.

Looking forward to catching up with as many people as possible at the AGM.

**Thanks Carol**

### Myasthenia Gravis Association of Queensland Inc

**P.O. Box 16 MT. GRAVATT QLD 4122**

**NATIONAL FREECALL: 1800 802 568**

ABN 92 055 613 137

Email: [info@mgaq.org.au](mailto:info@mgaq.org.au)

Internet: [www.mgaq.org.au](http://www.mgaq.org.au)

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**President:** CAROL BUCHANAN

**Vice-President:** SHARIN NISHA

**Secretary:** CRAIG STREATFEILD

E: [info@mgaq.org.au](mailto:info@mgaq.org.au)

**Treasurer:** DENISE HANNAY

E: [treasurer@mgaq.org.au](mailto:treasurer@mgaq.org.au)

ANITA JACKSON

DONNA FORMOSA

ROSALYN HOLLAND

SUSAN WHITE

LISA WRIGHT

**Newsletter Editor:** GREG BREADEN

E: [MGAQ.editor@gmail.com](mailto:MGAQ.editor@gmail.com)

**PATRON:** DR CECILIE LANDER AM Neurologist

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Your Association is your **VOICE** with Government.



# MYASTHENIA ALLIANCE AUSTRALIA

## MAA UPDATE

Dear All,

I have just returned from Melbourne where I attended a Summit focused on an extended and significant research project. The MAA are partnering in this project which is inclusive of the Value-Ig project. You will have recently read the first paper which directly resulted from our community engagement.

I share this news because I wish to say thank you to all the wonderful Australian Myasthenia patients who follow the work of the MAA, always getting behind the many projects offered and therefore ensuring each one becomes a success.

I was welcomed so very warmly at this event. It was made clear to me that Myasthenia Gravis was a condition of choice for this work as a direct result of the community engagement available through the MAA network. Our rare disease community is special and fairly unique. **We, together, are bringing about opportunities which can help everyone to achieve best possible care. A group hug is needed! I hope you all feel very proud and remain focused on contributing.**

The MAA aims to offer a range of community engagement projects throughout the next 6-9 months. To follow shortly will be an invitation to a special in-person event to be hosted in Brisbane on Monday, September 15th 2025. For those who can join us at Rydges Southbank Hotel in Southbank Brisbane at lunchtime on this day it will be a special time. Not only will you hear a talk from an International Dr who specialises in Myasthenia about patient outcome measures and how these will become more important in your care going forward, you will also have the opportunity to gather with other warriors to share experiences and to learn from each other. You can also meet some of the MAA and MGAQ team. A light lunch will be provided, and all are welcome including family/carers. Please look out for the invitation and seriously consider attending. Please know that this event will also be recorded and shared by the MAA as an important educational piece after the event. You will be able to register online or by calling 1800 802 568 if you do not use technology. Places will be limited so don't miss out.

The MAA sincerely thank Prof Carlo Antozzi for his time and Argenx for making this event possible.

Best regards from your small but mighty MAA team.

**Susan White (MAA Chairperson)**

If you are not already registered with the Alliance please go to [www.myastheniaalliance.org.au](http://www.myastheniaalliance.org.au)

# SAVE THE DATE - 9 NOVEMBER 2025

## MGAQ Christmas Social Gathering - Brisbane

**If you are paying your membership via Direct Debit  
PLEASE add your name in the reference.**

**We received a payment on 25th July with the description "Sub and Donation",  
if this was you, please email [treasurer@mgaq.org.au](mailto:treasurer@mgaq.org.au)**

Become **INVOLVED** - make a **DIFFERENCE** for yourself and others.

**MYASTHENIA GRAVIS ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND INC.**

**Your Annual General Meeting offers  
CONVERSATION, CONNECTION,  
COMPANIONSHIP**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September**

**10AM for 10:30AM Start  
Hornets Football Club, Graham Rd Carseldine**

**Meet your committee**

**Time to ask questions**

**Put a face to a name**

**Chat with someone  
who understands your  
condition**



**RSVP to this in-person event:  
MGAQ Information Officer  
1800 802 568**



**WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER**

**Francesco, Carindale QLD**

**SUPPORT** your Association by **VOLUNTEERING.**

# MEMBERS' FORUM



Issues and Responses are published in the Members' Forum as-is without any recommendation as to their suitability or accuracy. The opinions expressed are entirely those of the contributor. Care should be taken if following advice or suggestions presented and it is strongly recommended that the advice of your GP or Specialist is taken in all cases.

**Remember, we cannot offer medical advice – this can only be offered by a registered Medical Practitioner.**

## Julie meets the MGAQ Management Committee.

I am a new MGAQ member. As a member we are welcome to attend the committee meetings as a guest. I did just that on Saturday 12th July via Zoom. What an extraordinarily wonderful, friendly and welcoming group of people.

The group discussed many initiatives that support the MG community including member welfare, advocacy, research, MG awareness and fund raising. I would encourage all my fellow members to try to attend a meeting. You might just like to get involved if not as a committee member, then maybe involvement in a sub-committee.

## ART WITH HEART AWARENESS PROJECT

### Join us and make a difference!

The Myasthenia Alliance Australia (MAA) continues its work with  
**International June MG Awareness Month in 2026.**

### *Want to support the MG Community?*

Volunteer with Myasthenia Alliance Australia!

We're seeking enthusiastic individuals from all over Australia to help raise awareness and gather art donations and gifts for this project and Myasthenia Gravis.

This is an Australia-wide campaign.

**Your skills matter. All Skills are welcome!**

**Contact us at: [operations@mgaq.org.au](mailto:operations@mgaq.org.au) or Free call 1800 802568**

**SUPPORT** your Association by **VOLUNTEERING.**

## KNOW YOUR COMMITTEE

I am Susan and many people will have spoken with me over the years as I answer the Freecall phone line (1800 802 568). I aim to assist our members with all administrative issues or with questions and concerns.

My key role is as your Information Officer. Speaking with people (members and non-members, Queenslanders or from elsewhere in Australia) is my joy. I truly hope to assist callers by sharing the knowledge the Committee gains from being closely involved with the Association. In addition, I represent the MGAQ on the Myasthenia Alliance Australia (MAA) Board where we have our Federal voice. I am the current Chairperson. The work of the MAA is extensive and broad reaching. I hope this makes me more effective as I speak with people in person, via the phone, over emails or on Zoom.

I joined the MGAQ in 2007 when newly diagnosed and the next year accepted a role as Treasurer. This was almost twenty years ago. At the time, I could not cope with talking about my myasthenia and struggled day by day. My fellow committee members were very supportive and gently helped me to adjust to my new lot in life. How things changed as the years went by. Gradual-



ly I grew more confident with everything. Now, I treasure the people I have met through this time, I value the diverse and engaging experiences that have unfolded for me and I give thanks that I found a safe environment where people understand my fluctuating capacities and where they support me in having purpose and friendship in life. Through my volunteering, I hope to make a difference for people who share with me in having this challenging condition.

myasthenia gravis

**south  
australia** friends

[mgsouthaustralia@gmail.com](mailto:mgsouthaustralia@gmail.com)

**SA Coffee & Chat - Adelaide**

**Saturday 6th September at 10.30am**

**The Hope Inn,**

**348 Port Road Hindmarsh**

RSVP to [mgsouthaustralia@gmail.com](mailto:mgsouthaustralia@gmail.com)

## BECOME INVOLVED - MAKE A DIFFERENCE

For membership payments and donations, the MGAQ account details are:

**BSB: 124032**

**A/c: 10263772**

**SUPPORT** your Association by **VOLUNTEERING.**

## CONVERSATION CONNECTION COMPANIONSHIP

The local Coffee and Chat is a safe space to share MG experiences with others.

### TASMANIA - EVANDALE



For more information, call Vicki 0411 146 898.

### SPRINGWOOD



Your Association is your **VOICE** with Government.

## NEWS FROM AROUND QUEENSLAND

### News from Cairns

For more information, please contact **Donna** on 0414 397 462.

### News from Townsville

We are meeting again on **Saturday 6 September** at 12 noon, Kirwan Sports Club, 159 Bamford Lane, Kirwan.

For more information, please contact **Daphne** on 0400 778 637 or email [daphclay@gmail.com](mailto:daphclay@gmail.com)

### News from Mackay

For more information, please contact **Mary** on 07 4959 5251

### News from Bundaberg

For more information, please contact **Denise** on 0431 571 399.

### News from the Sunshine Coast

The Sunshine Coast group will meet again on **Monday, 1 September** at **Kawana Club**, 476 Nicklin Way Wurtulla at 10.30am. Visitors are very welcome.

For more information please contact **Michael** on 0447 887 652.

### News from the Gold Coast

Hi everyone. The next get together at **Southport Sharks Club**, Corner of Olsen and Musgrave Avenue Southport is on **Saturday, 13 September** at 10am.

I look forward to seeing you all. For more information please contact **Nader** on 0415 834 401.



## COFFEE & CHATS

**CURRUMBIN - Saturday 6th September at 10.30am,**  
**Dune Café, Currumbin**  
**945 Gold Coast Highway, Palm Beach**

*All Welcome!* RSVP Anita - 0414 588 312

## WHAT'S COMING UP

What's On?	When Is It?	Where Is It?
Conversation, Connection, Companionship <b>MGAQ AGM</b>	<b>Sunday 14th September 2025</b> <b>Doors open @ 10am for 10.30am start</b>	<b>Hornets Football Club,</b> <b>Graham Road</b> <b>Carseldine</b>

Become **INVOLVED** - make a **DIFFERENCE** for yourself and others.

# AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the

## MYASTHENIA GRAVIS ASSOCIATION OF QLD INC.

to be held on

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2025**

at the

**Aspley Hornets Football Club, Graham Road, Carseldine**

**Doors open at 10.00 am for 10.30 am Start**



Lunch is available at the venue with a varied and reasonably priced menu.

Tea and coffee will be available prior to the meeting.

The meeting will be followed by **Conversation Connection Companionship**

Everyone Welcome – **RSVP is required. Ring our FREECALL 1800 802 568 by Friday 12 September 2025**

### OPENING

### APOLOGIES

### CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM – Held at Aspley Hornets Football Club,  
Graham Road Carseldine on 15 September 2024.**

### Ordinary Business

#### Financial statements and reports

To receive the **President's Annual Report and Treasurer's Annual Report** for the year ended 30 June 2025.

To consider and adopt the MGAQ's Financial Statement for the year ended 30 June 2025.

#### **Resolution 1**

**Election of Carol Buchanan to the management committee in the office of President.**

**Election of Sharin Nisha to the management committee in the office of Vice President.**

**Election of Denise Hannay to the management committee in the office of Treasurer**

To consider and, if in favour, pass an ordinary resolution for the re-election of Susan White, Lisa Wright, Anita Jackson, Donna Formosa, Rosalyn Holland as members of the management committee.

To consider and, if in favour, pass a resolution for the election of Julie Von Grum as a member of the management committee.

#### **Resolution 2**

**Election of Craig Streatfeild to the management committee as Secretary**

### General Business

**Notice of Motion - Bank Authority:** That the signatories for the Bank of Queensland accounts will be the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Committee Member Susan White.

**Notice of Motion – Annual Operational Plan:** That the membership accepts the Annual Operational Plan (AOP) as presented.

**RSVP is required. Ring our FREECALL 1800 802 568 by Friday, 12 September 2025**