

**Message from the Chairman**

Welcome to the first edition of our newsletter. We hope that this will keep you up to date with the goings on within the Northern Ireland branch of the MNDA. The Branch has had considerable success in fundraising since the last edition of the old newsletter but as a result of the current economical difficulties the demands upon our resources are steadily increasing. We are grateful for the support we have had from the various groups who have raised funds on our behalf and continue to be astonished by the generosity of the people of N.I and we look forward to continued success in this area. If you have an idea about an event and are unsure how to proceed give us a call and we will help get things moving and provide as much support material as we can.



In my capacity as Chairman I am very grateful for the support of the members of the committee. We are a small group and would welcome new blood to allow us to increase the work we do. If you think you could help please get in touch.

*Stephen Thompson*  
 Chairman

**Davy Boyle – A Tribute**



Davy Boyle is the current caretaker at Coleraine Town Hall. Known as 'The Caring Caretaker' he has been raising money for charity since 2002, raising an amazing £346,999.25 for a total of 25 charities using a variety of events including his now famous 'Sit Out' outside Coleraine Town Hall, using his own annual leave, for 3 weeks every December. In the last four years Davy has raised an astonishing £33,000 for MNDANI and we would like to wish him a special thank you for all he has done.

**Profile of an Association Visitor  
 Fiona Hutchinson**



Association visitors play a vital, valued and unique role in helping us to ensure people with MND and their families receive the support and services they require. Fiona got involved with MNDANI in 2009 after losing her mother in 2003 to MND. She provides emotional support to those who need it most, by providing a friendly face. Fiona combines this important voluntary role with a full time job in Belfast

### Upcoming Events

For information on any event please

Date	Event	Location	Information
14th - 21st July 2012	Away in The Head' Cycle Challenge	Mizen - Malin	A gruelling 411 mile trip from Ireland's most Southerly point to its most Northerly.
25 <sup>th</sup> July 2012	Clogher Valley Show	Clogher	<a href="http://www.cloghervalleyshow.com">www.cloghervalleyshow.com</a>
15th September 2012	National AGM	Stansted	National AGM of MNDA
30 <sup>th</sup> September 2012	8 <sup>th</sup> Elbaman Ironman Distance Triathlon	Elba Island, Italy	Ross McDonagh is raising money for MNDA in this competition. <a href="http://www.elbaman.it">www.elbaman.it</a>

contact [events.mndani@btinternet.com](mailto:events.mndani@btinternet.com)

### Vote for Arthur!



The MND Association (of which the Northern Ireland Branch is part of) is governed by elected trustees. Committee member Arthur Newell, who has been living with MND since 2003 is applying to be a trustee and asks those of you who are association members to vote for him. Arthur is an extremely active member of the committee and would be an excellent trustee.

### Further Contact

If you would like to know more about the MNDA please visit [www.mndassociation.org](http://www.mndassociation.org). For the Northern Ireland Branch please visit [www.mndani.com](http://www.mndani.com), or scan the QR code below on your compatible device phone for direct access to the website.

