

2020 CANCELLED

or was it?

Due to the unprecedented circumstances that have been thrust upon us all this year, sadly most of our fundraising events had to be cancelled with the exception of a few.....

COFFEE MORNING

The West Wight team held a Coffee Morning at Freshwater Memorial Hall in February 2020 and raised £600.

ANNUAL ANTIQUES FAIR



The 16th Annual Antiques Fair took place on the 8th March 2020 at Northwood House in Cowes.

As news had just broken that there was a confirmed case of the virus on the Island this certainly had an impact on visitors as we were down by about 100 from the previous year.

Luckily, the visitors that did still venture out were in the mood for buying and we are delighted to say we raised £1462.

WHAT A RIDE!



What started as an idea very quickly turned into something quite special when Jay Bilsby decided he wanted to do something for a local charity but wasn't sure what to do. He had seen runners, walkers and climbers, but as he liked cycling (to and from work) he thought he should do something with a bike.

Jay is passionate about Star Wars and is part of the IOW Garrison so this sparked the idea to dress as a Biker Scout and to raise money for the IOW branch of MND as it is a charity very close to his heart.



The idea now needed a route, so adopting the "Go Big or Go Home" attitude, Jay chose to visit 6 iconic locations that were used during filming of the Star Wars films: Wipendell Wood; RAF Bovingdon; RAF Cardington; Puzzlewood; RAF Greenham Common and finally Fawley power station – 406 miles of not knowing what the weather would be like or what the terrain would be like, and not for one minute did Jay realise that he would be on his own most of the time as his support vehicle had to take a different route. His support team of friends Ronnie, Luke and Kev were vital to the event by organising routes, stops, feeding breaks etc.



Initially the plan was to go in May but due to the pandemic the event was cancelled until 26th September 2020.

They were hampered by the weather which made it so much harder and Jay fell off his bike two days into the ride, so he cycled most of the journey in pain with a knee injury, but the support team just kept on encouraging him to push on and finish the trip.



People they met along the way were truly awesome, including a lovely couple in Littledean who let them camp in their garden, they also stayed in the house/garden of a Star Wars fan in Bedford who is part of the UK Joker Squad – a great example of people coming together to help each other.

Jay said people were so receptive of they were doing and why they were doing it.

Donations came in whilst they were on the road and from people they met along the way.



Jays initial target of raising £1000 has been smashed and now stands in excess of £2500 – a final total will be known at the end of the year once all the collection buckets have been emptied and counted. Donations can still be made at <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jay-bilsby> (Please specify the IOW branch).

There were so many sponsors that eagerly got on board to give their support, but a special mention must go to Ross Walmsley of RWA Creations who supplied the Star Wars kit which on its own is worth £100's.

SEVEN HILLS

Now Jay had the taste for adventure he decided to take on the Islands Seven Hills, also dressed as a Biker Scout.

The event took place on Sunday 6th December with Jay, supported by a friend Gavin, and they left Freshwater at 9.30a.m. completing the ride in about 4.5 hours.

IOW MARATHON



Having lost his Mother-in-Law to MND last year, Peter Wheeler decided he wanted to do something to raise funds in her memory, so he decided to start training for his first ever IOW Marathon.



The race took place on Sunday 4th October 2020 in the most appalling weather. Peter set off from the IOW Community Club at 11.30a.m. with a good crowd of people to wish the runners well, including some of the IOW branch committee.



The route consisted of:- Cowes; Gurnard; Rew Street; Porchfield; Shalfleet; Yarmouth; Afton; Willingham; Thorley; Shalfleet; Porchfield; Northwood and back to Cowes.

Peter completed the race in a very impressive 4 hours 39 minutes and 2 seconds. Donations can still be made to: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/roowheeler> (please specify the IOW branch).



Total raised from both events
£3057.



Having planned various quiz nights throughout the year which obviously had to be cancelled, he did manage to still hold a raffle which was drawn in November.

Peter was coached by his Sister Sarah Holmes who also ran on the day for MND. Her time was 4 hours 12 minutes and 12 seconds.

Peter continued his quest to raise awareness for MND by making a special guest appearance on ThatsTVSouth (freeview chanel 7) on the 10th November 2020.



mnda
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CHARITABLE GARDENER



Ellis Gant held a plant sale with a selection of his home-grown plants and collected £45 in the honesty box.

VARIOUS DONATIONS

Christina Howard held a family whip round and raised £50.

Christina Howard and Louise Moyce held a Tropic Skincare event and raised £150.

Terracycle donated £190 in March and £440 in August.

Osborne Lodge Masons donated £250.

IOW Garrison donated £3466.20
Thank you for choosing MND as your chosen charity last year and for the various fundraising events held.

All donations are so gratefully received.

ACT TO ADAPT

MP's were invited to join an online meeting on Wednesday 18th November to raise awareness and support the current issues faced by people living with MND as they try to access home adaptations and accessible housing.

WHAT A TREASURE

After 21 years, we are sorry to say goodbye to our treasurer Ann Marchant who has decided it is time to step down from the role. Ann will remain an Associate Visitor (AV) but she will be greatly missed by the committee and we all thank her for her hard work and dedication over the years.

CHRISTMAS

Sadly, we cannot hold a Christmas Lunch as usual but we are optimistic that the New Year will bring new hope for some kind of normality when we will be able to meet and socialise again. In the meantime, please be assured that we are always here for anyone who needs help and we wish you all best wishes for the festive season.

THE DIFFERENCE YOU COULD MAKE

(Source – the MNDA events guide 2020)

£10 provides an information pack for a newly diagnosed person with MND.
£27 funds an MND Connect helpline advisor for one hour, helping to provide information and support to anyone affected by MND.
£35 could buy an adapted cutlery set to help someone with MND continue to feed themselves.
£75 funds an MND expert researcher for half a day.
£80 will buy software to allow someone to bank their own voice.
£125 will buy a specialist communication app for a smartphone, tablet or a laptop.
£200 could provide 40 copies of “So what is MND anyway?” our guide for young people affected by MND.
£250 provides an education bursary for a health or social care professional to advance their knowledge and expertise in MND.
£300 could provide a basic level of respite care for one day.
£400 could fund a tablet device with communication software, giving the ability to communicate with loved ones.
£600 could fund a seat riser so someone with MND can reach shelves, or talk to someone at their own level.
£750 could help fund a ramp to allow someone with MND to continue to enjoy their garden and access the local community.
£1000 would pay for detailed analysis of the DNA of someone with MND to help us better understand the causes of the disease.
£1500 could fund the installation and 6 months stairlift rental to give someone with MND greater independence.
£2000 buys a Lightwriter to give someone with MND the ability to continue to communicate with their loved ones.

£4000 could fund a person with MND to participate in a clinical trial for a year.

Every donation makes a difference to a person with MND. We ensure that every pound we receive is spent carefully so that people affected by MND get the support they need, both now and in the future.

The MNDA Emergency Assistance Grant has been extended until the end of January 2021. The grant was set up to support people living with MND struggling with additional and everyday living costs such as grocery shopping or bills as a result of Covid-19.

The Footprint Trust offers free advice and home visits to anyone struggling with their energy bills/energy use etc. They can help if anyone is in fuel poverty and worrying about paying their bills. Tel: 01983 822282 or visit@footprint-trust.co.uk

STOP PRESS

The IOW branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association are looking for a new Treasurer. This is a voluntary role (as are all the positions within our branch). We are ideally looking for a trustworthy and organised person. If you are interested please e mail your contact details to our Chair Jennie Lewis who will make contact with you for an informal chat. eandjlewis@aol.com
