A FUTURE FREE OF MND

YOUR LEGACY

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT THE BEAST

FIGHT MND.

AVERAGE LIFE EXPECTANCY AFTER MND DIAGNOSIS IS **27 MONTHS.**

CURRENTLY MORE THAN **2,700 AUSTRALIANS** LIVE WITH MND. THIS WILL INCREASE TO OVER **4,300 BY 2050.**

EACH DAY, **2 PEOPLE DIE** OF MND, AND 2 MORE **ARE DIAGNOSED.**

DIAGNOSIS IS SLOW, OFTEN TAKING **OVER A YEAR** DUE TO THE LACK OF A DEFINITIVE TEST.

GLOBALLY, CASES ARE EXPECTED TO **INCREASE BY 69%** OVER 25 YEARS.

MND AFFECTS PEOPLE **REGARDLESS OF AGE, LOCATION, OR BACKGROUND.**

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People are advised that this document contains impacts and names of people who have passed away.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

DEAR VALUED SUPPORTER,

Here at FightMND we call motor neurone disease (MND) the Beast. For good reason.

Every day two Australians die from MND. Two more are diagnosed. Right now, more than 2,700 Australians are living with MND. That number is expected to grow to 4,300 by 2050. The average time to diagnosis is 13 months. The average life expectancy once a diagnosis is made is just 27 months. There is no effective treatment. There is no cure.

THIS IS WHY WE FIGHT.

Our vision at FightMND is simple. A world free from MND. We want to see a future where no family has to endure the heartbreak this disease brings. And we know we can't get there without you.

Thinking about your Will is a deeply personal process. One that reflects the values and people that matter most to you . Once you've provided for your loved ones, I invite you to consider including a gift to FightMND in your Will.

It's one of the most powerful ways to leave a lasting legacy.

A gift in your Will helps fund vital research, drive new drug discoveries, support clinical trials and, most importantly, give hope to people living with MND and those who love them.

Since 2014, we've made strategic, high-impact investments in cutting-edge research, fast-tracking potential treatments and pushing global science closer to a cure. We've built a strong foundation. We've made Australia a world leader in MND research. But we're not done yet.

By including a gift to FightMND in your Will, you're standing with us. You're saying the Beast won't win. And you're helping future generations live in a world where MND is no longer a life sentence.

Thank you for considering this meaningful and enduring way to support the Fight.

Kind regards,

Matt Tilley

MATT TILLEY
CEO FIGHTMND

NEALE DANIHER'S LEGACY: FIGHTING THE BEAST

AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR, NEALE DANIHER NEEDS NO INTRODUCTION.

An AFL champion, captain and coach, Neale has inspired players and fans for decades. Throughout his career, Neale's determination and grit have seen him hailed as one of the game's greatest players and leaders.

It is these traits that have characterised Neale's battle with motor neurone disease (MND).

Diagnosed in 2013, Neale has been determined to make a difference ever since. He has made it his legacy to fight tirelessly for those diagnosed with MND and those who will be diagnosed in the future.

FightMND co-founders Neale Daniher, Pat Cunningham (whose wife Angie died from MND in 2016) and Dr Ian Davis, who died from MND in 2018.

The beginning!
Packing Big Freeze Beanies around the family kitchen table with Lauren, Jan and Bec Daniher.

Neale knows research is the best weapon against the Beast and the only way to increase our chance of a scientific breakthrough is through funding vital research.

This is why he co-founded FightMND in 2014 with Pat Cunningham and the late Dr Ian Davis OAM.

From humble beginnings around the Daniher kitchen table, today FightMND is one of the world's largest independent funders of MND research.

In 2025, these efforts were honoured when Neale was named Australian of the Year. A tribute to his unwavering advocacy for MND research and the lasting impact he continues to make far beyond the football field.

Your generosity enables MND research in Australia to be competitive and world-leading in driving a pathway to better treatment and a cure for MND. While we have come a long way, there is still a long way to go—and we need your help.

NEALE'S PHILOSOPHY IS PLAY ON. GRAB THE OPPORTUNITY. FIGHT BACK.

"

MND IS A BEAST AND WE'RE IN THE CRITICAL PHASE OF THIS FIGHT. WE NEED OUR SUPPORTERS TO STEP UP AND TAKE THE LEAD IN THE FIGHT SO OUR KIDS AND GRANDKIDS WILL KNOW A WORLD WITHOUT MND.

THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL TO FIGHTMND.

NEALE DANIHER

FIGHTMND.

IN TONY'S MEMORY: SHELLY'S STORY

Eighteen years ago, Shelly's life changed when a close friend introduced her to Tony. Then a single parent to her 12-year-old daughter, Cahlia, Tony and Shelly quickly fell in love, married and welcomed two children, Savanah and Noah.

Tony's mother, Joy, had passed from motor neurone disease (MND) just two years before Shelly met him. Although she never met Joy, Shelly came to understand how devastating the disease was. Over the years, she often thought about what Joy and her family must have endured. Those thoughts stayed with her. When her children were born, Shelly would pray for their health, desperately hoping they would never inherit this cruel disease. But while she worried about her children, she never imagined Tony would one day face MND.

In 2022, Tony noticed his foot had started to drop. Shelly and Tony were no longer married, but they remained close friends and co-parented their children together. After months of tests, in April 2023, the family received the devastating news. Tony had MND.

"I felt helpless," Shelly recalls. "How could one family face this again?" Trying to process Tony's prognosis whilst trying not to think about her children's future was unfathomable.

Tony's journey lasted just 16 months. At only 47 years old, he passed away. Yet through it all, he never complained. He continued to smile, laugh, love his children and hold onto his faith.

The day before Tony died, Shelly attended an appointment to write her Will. She knew she wanted to include a gift to FightMND. "I couldn't help Tony, but I could help others already fighting, and I could help protect my children's future," she says.

For Shelly, the decision was simple. Motor neurone disease does not discriminate. That's why her gift to FightMND is so important. "FightMND is fighting on Neale's behalf, on Tony's behalf, on your behalf, on my children's behalf," she says. Shelly's gift is her way of rewriting the story of MND. Turning heartbreak into hope and helping ensure that one day, no family has to face this disease again.

Tony (middle) with Savannah and Noah.

Shelly (middle) with Savannah, Noah and Cahlia.

Hazmir (right) was diagnosed with MND in February 2025.

WHAT IS MND?

Motor neurone disease, or MND, is a devastating progressive, terminal neurological disease. It is the name given to a group of diseases in which the nerve cells, or neurones, controlling our muscles fail to work normally and die.

With no nerves to activate them, the muscles gradually weaken and waste. Over time, MND takes away a person's ability to walk, talk, feed themselves and, ultimately, breathe.

Many individuals first see the effects of MND in a hand or arm. They might have difficulty with simple tasks like writing or buttoning a shirt. Or, they might notice they trip or stumble more often.

While the muscles weaken as disease progresses, often a person's cognitive abilities remain intact. This leaves those living with MND motionless, unable to communicate, trapped, and aware of the progressive loss of their function and ability.

THERE IS NO TRULY EFFECTIVE TREATMENT. THERE IS NO KNOWN CURE.

THIS IS WHY WE FIGHT.

YOUR IMPACT

When Neale Daniher, Pat Cunningham and the late Dr Ian Davis founded FightMND in 2014, MND research in Australia looked very different. Access to clinical trials was limited and the disease remained largely misunderstood and underfunded.

More than 10 years later, Australia has transformed into a hub for MND research.

Thanks to supporters like you:

- We are one of the **world's largest independent funders** of MND research, helping Australia become a world leader in pushing towards better treatments and a cure for MND.
- We have funded **15 clinical trials** at sites across Australia and **supported 34 drugs** in the drug development pipeline.
- Over **600 Australians** have had access to clinical trials through FightMND funded projects.
- We have invested in **nine Care research projects** focused on improving best-practice care and enhancing quality of life for those living with MND.
- We have funded the development of **Australia's National MND clinical care guidelines,** setting the standard for care nationwide.
- We have supported **29 researchers with scholarships and fellowships,** nurturing the next generation of MND experts and breakthroughs.

There is real optimism that MND will be a treatable disease instead of a terminal one. This is only possible through careful, rigorous research.This takes time and investment.

We have come so far and built so much momentum towards a future free of MND. By including FightMND in your Will, we can continue to invest in world-leading MND cure research and care initiatives.

HONOURING ROBBIE: MICHELLE'S LEGACY

Michelle's beautiful son Robbie was just 34 years old when he was diagnosed with MND. He died in 2019, just two years later. Michelle has included FightMND in her Will as she is determined to help others living with this devastating disease.

"

WE MADE A PROMISE THAT WE WOULD TRY AND HELP FIND A CURE AND CARE FOR THOSE THAT HAVE TO LIVE WITH MND LIKE OUR SON ROBBIE.

Robbie and Michelle pictured with Neale Daniher in 2017.

Robbie died in 2019.

TYPES OF GIFTS YOU CAN INCLUDE IN YOUR WILL

Thank you for considering a gift in your Will to FightMND. It is a wonderful act of generosity and a way to make a significant impact beyond your lifetime.

Many of our supporters who have included a gift in their Will to FightMND say they want to leave the world in a better place. Imagine your legacy being the gift of more time with loved ones. The gift of movement. The gift of speech. The gift of MND being known as a treatable illness.

By including FightMND in your Will, you're enlisting in the fight for generations to come. You're giving hope to thousands of people and their families living with MND.

THERE ARE DIFFERENT WAYS YOU CAN INCLUDE A GIFT IN YOUR WILL TO FIGHTMND

1

A RESIDUAL GIFT

After making provisions for your family and loved ones, you can choose to leave the remainder of your estate to FightMND.

Many people prefer to give a residuary gift because it keeps in line with inflation, so their wishes are honoured and their gift does not lose value over time.

2

WHOLE OR PERCENTAGE OF YOUR ESTATE

You can choose to leave your estate or part thereof of your estate to FightMND.

3

A SPECIFIED AMOUNT

You can leave a specific sum of money.

4

A SPECIFIC ITEM

You can leave specific items of value, such as shares or real estate.

I'M EXCITED TO SEE OUR SCIENCE RESEARCH NOW MOVING CLOSER TOWARDS FINDING WAYS THAT WE CAN APPLY NEW KNOWLEDGE TO HELPING PEOPLE WITH MND.

PROFESSOR ADAM WALKER

University of Sydney
Dr Walker was awarded a FightMND Fellowship in 2022

SUGGESTED WILL WORDING TO LEAVE A GIFT IN WILL (BEQUEST) TO FIGHTMND

After considering your family and loved ones, you may wish to include a gift in your Will to FightMND and help lead the fight against the Beast that is MND.

I (NAME)

OF (ADDRESS)

POSTCODE

give and bequeath to FightMND, ABN 62 740 350 704 (or its legal successor),

_____ (the residual of my estate) or

_____ (percentage of my estate) or

_____ (the sum of $ .....) or

_____ (specific item/s, asset)

for its General Purposes and direct that the receipt by the company's CEO, Treasurer, or other authorised officer of FightMND will be an absolute discharge to my executors/trustees.

Please note: This is suggested wording. We recommend seeking professional advice to formalise your Will.

FOR HER BROTHER. FOR A BETTER FUTURE: VICKI'S STORY

When Vicki's brother Ron first experienced foot drop during a walk with his wife Liz, they had no idea it was the beginning of a devastating and swift battle with motor neurone disease (MND).

As Ron's condition progressed, the family rallied around him. He was able to continue working part-time until early 2010, but swallowing became difficult and talking required tremendous effort.

Ron died in December 2010, leaving behind his beloved wife Liz and four daughters.

Vicki and her husband Stan have decided to include FightMND in their Will. "We've worked hard and feel that sharing with others and organisations that are doing great things is important to us."

For Vicki, this decision is deeply personal. "I wish Ron had lived to see the impact that Neale Daniher and FightMND have made. He was a Melbourne supporter and admired Neale. Neale rightly calls MND 'the Beast' – it has to be the worst diagnosis anyone can receive."

"I hope that a cure is found, that symptoms can be slowed and people with MND can have a better quality of life."

To others considering a similar gift, Vicki's message is heartfelt and direct: "If you're in a position to make a gift in your Will please do so and help to fight the beast with us." When asked about her favourite memory of Ron, she smiles: "He was lucky to be so loved and was so proud of all his girls."

Vicki (right) with her sister-in-law, four nieces and Neale Daniher at Albert Park in 2018

HOPE CHAMPIONS

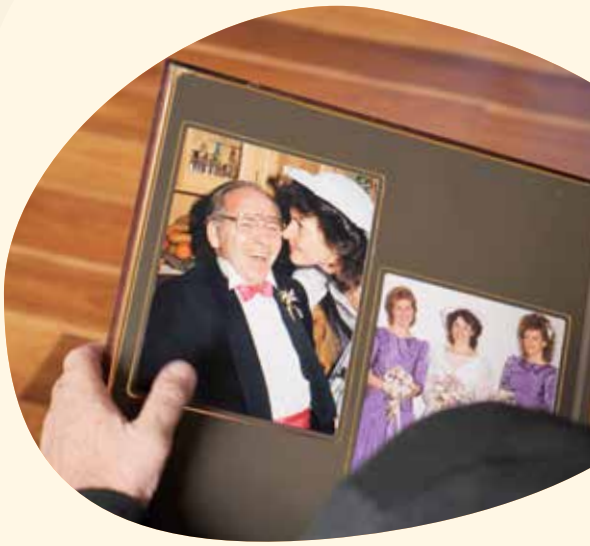
By including FightMND in your Will, you join a special group of people by becoming a Hope Champion. You will be part of a community of courageous, visionary supporters acting today to create a tomorrow where MND is no longer a death sentence.

Hope Champions are changemakers. Their gifts help fund world-class research, accelerate medical breakthroughs and support vital care programs to improve the lives of people living with MND for generations to come.

Every gift is a lasting contribution, turning foresight and generosity into tangible progress and hope.

Hope Champions honour the fighting spirit of Neale Daniher and all those who face MND. By including FightMND in their Will, they stand alongside those battling the disease today and those who will face it tomorrow, ensuring that better treatments, care and outcomes are possible for the future.

As a Hope Champion, you'll transform courage into action and vision into real change, leaving a legacy of hope, impact and lasting difference in the fight against MND.



> **"YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN THIS COULD AFFECT YOU OR SOMEBODY YOU LOVE DEARLY IN THE FUTURE. ANY LITTLE BIT WOULD HELP TO FIND A CURE.**
>
> - Wendy, FightMND Hope Champion

PETER HAS LEFT A GIFT IN HIS WILL TO FIGHTMND.

“

I HAVE DECIDED TO LEAVE A PORTION OF MY ESTATE TO FIGHTMND.

I BECAME AWARE OF THIS INSIDIOUS DISEASE WHEN NEALE DANIHER WAS DIAGNOSED. I WAS INSPIRED BY HIS STRENGTH, AND THIS MOTIVATED ME TO ASSIST IN FINDING A CURE. I AM PROUD TO BE A PART OF THE FIGHTMND COMMUNITY, FIGHTING TO BEAT THE BEAST FOR GOOD.

OUR PROMISE TO YOU

WE RESPECT THAT YOUR FAMILY AND LOVED ONES COME FIRST.

We are grateful for any size gift you may leave to FightMND.

WE WILL RESPECT YOUR PRIVACY.

We will ensure that any information you give us about your personal circumstances remains confidential.

WE WELCOME YOU TO THE FIGHTMND FAMILY.

You can choose the level of communication you have with us. We would love to include you in events, recognise your gift publicly, or just keep you updated if you prefer. We also understand if you wish to remain anonymous.

WE WILL HONOUR YOUR LEGACY.

We would be delighted to discuss any specific requests in your Will.

WE WILL RESPECT AND HANDLE ALL GIFTS WITH COMPASSION AND GRATITUDE.

We appreciate all gifts left to FightMND. If you choose to include a gift in your Will in the name of a loved one, please let us know.

WE WILL STRIVE FOR IMPACT.

FightMND will use your gift carefully and in a cost-effective manner to ensure the greatest impact.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOW DO I INCLUDE FIGHTMND IN MY WILL?

There are many ways you can create or update your Will to include FightMND. This can include:

Decide to include a gift in your Will and speak to your family and loved ones.

Decide on the type of gifts you want to leave in your Will.

Get legal advice in the development of your Will. You may wish to use our recommended Will wording. You can also use an online Will platform such as Safewill or Willed.

Please let us know your intentions so we can thank you for joining the fight against MND.

I ALREADY HAVE A WILL. DO I NEED TO UPDATE?

Your Will records your wishes at a point in time. If there has been a significant change in your circumstances, or your Will no longer reflects your wishes, it may be necessary to make a new Will. You should consult your solicitor about whether a new Will or a codicil (a short amendment to your Will), is appropriate for the updates you wish to make.

HOW WILL MY GIFT BE USED TO MAKE AN IMPACT?

We work carefully to invest your generous gift into the most promising projects across the globe. Your legacy will help us to fund world-class research, collaborate with the best and brightest, build the MND workforce capacity, facilitate knowledge-sharing and invest in research infrastructure. This is critical to beating the Beast and improving the lives of people living with MND.

DO I NEED TO TELL FIGHTMND ABOUT MY GIFT?

You don't have to let us know if you include a gift in your Will to FightMND. We will always respect your wishes, and you can remain anonymous if you prefer. However, we would love to hear from you so we can thank you for your generous gift and invite you to join our exclusive Gift in Will community, the Hope Champions.

We can also keep you updated about progress towards a future free from MND, and explain how your legacy will be used in the future, creating hope through groundbreaking research.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A BEQUEST AND A GIFT IN WILL?

A bequest is another term for a gift in Will. The two terms are often used interchangeably in Australia.

THANK YOU

FOR CONSIDERING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL TO FIGHTMND.

A promise of a future gift is deeply appreciated. Your kindness ensures FightMND can continue investing in world-leading MND cure research and care initiatives.

If you decide to include FightMND in your Will, it would be a privilege to hear your story, learn about the intentions behind your gift and to thank you personally for your generosity.


FIGHT
MND.
IT TAKES PEOPLE

Please contact our gift in Wills team on **1800 344 486** or **wills@fightmnd.org.au** for a confidential discussion.

PO Box 3073
Burnley North VIC 3121
fightmnd.org.au

FIGHT MND.
IT TAKES PEOPLE

REGISTERED CHARITY
acnc.gov.au/charityregister

ABN 62 740 350 704
FightMND is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR). It is covered by Item 1 of the table in section 30-15 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.