



MS

The Multiple Sclerosis Society
of South Australia and
the Northern Territory (Inc)

Annual Report 2016-17

About multiple sclerosis & The MS Society of SA & NT

Multiple Sclerosis (MS) is a chronic condition that attacks the body's central nervous system (the brain, spinal cord and optic nerves), with unpredictable consequences.

No two cases of MS are identical. The progress, severity and specific symptoms of MS vary from person to person, and can include:

- Visual disturbance;
- Difficulties with walking, balance and coordination;
- Altered sensations, such as tingling, numbness or pins and needles;
- Bladder and bowel changes;
- Slurring and slowing of speech;
- Muscle weakness, tremors, stiffness or spasms.

OUR VISION

Seeking the cure.

Providing the care.

For people with MS, this daily battle with the condition can be compounded with fear and uncertainty about the future. This is why the Multiple Sclerosis Society of South Australia & the Northern Territory ('the Society') was formed. We help to minimise the impact of multiple sclerosis on individuals, their families, carers and the community, whilst supporting research into improved treatments and ultimately finding a cure.

All of this would not be possible without the help of our loyal supporters. We hope this report will provide valuable insight into our current activities, and our ambitious plans to provide a brighter future for Australians living with MS.

Cover Image: Deb

MS Society of SA & NT is able to provide vital services and support for thousands of South Australians living with MS.

"The MS Society were a fantastic help to me after I was diagnosed with relapsing remitting multiple sclerosis. This was a frightening time for me and my family and they were always ready to give me help and advice and organised a physiotherapist and an occupational therapist to help me keep doing the things I'd always done despite my MS. That support meant a lot to me in those early days. To know you're not alone, to know there's someone you can talk to who actually understands what you're going through - that was just invaluable."

Helen (pictured with Mix102.3's Jodie Oddy) is one of the amazing nurses working at the Society.

Helen is passionate about making a life changing difference to the lives of the thousands of people living with multiple sclerosis.

Helen and our other MS Nurses are there to help people living with multiple sclerosis navigate the challenges presented by every stage of their journey.

From practical medical support and advice, like demonstrating how to self inject MS medication, to explaining the often complicated and sometimes confronting medical lingo - our MS nurses are there to help.

Your support through donations and lottery tickets means that amazing nurses like Helen can continue to help people living with MS in SA and the NT.



Multiple Solutions was formed under the auspices of the Society and provides support to participants with a range of disabilities.

Multiple Solutions has been helping South Australians with their specialist employment needs since 1992. Its mission is to provide high quality, holistic and inclusive services that empower individuals to improve the quality of their lives. Over the course of the year we had a typical caseload of more than 1,300 people at any one time.

At Multiple Solutions, we offer support to both our participants and employers at no cost to either as we are funded by the Australian Government. Our employment solutions team supports people living with a disability to find, as well as maintain, secure sustainable employment. We do this through case management which identifies skills, experience, interests and attitudes to employment. We then work with participants and employers to source, create or modify suitable roles for our participants. We then support all parties involved.

Following job placement, Multiple Solutions consultants deliver intensive post placement support on a weekly basis. Ongoing support is provided to ensure participants are able to maintain their employment long-term, providing involvement in their future - their way.



President's Report

Christine Hahn

"The Society has increased its contributions to research, through payment of subscriptions to Multiple Sclerosis Research Australia, including subscriptions missed in 2014 and 2015."

The Society has returned to self-management during 2016/17 after benefiting from the support and dedication of our sister Western Australian Society, MSWA and its senior managerial staff. On behalf of the Board, I thank the MSWA Board and staff for their assistance over the past few years.

I am pleased to announce that after I served as Interim CEO for six months this year, the Board has appointed Andrew Ellis as the new Chief Executive Officer. Andrew joins the Society with experience in both the private and not for profit sectors at both senior executive and CEO level. Andrew has also served on the Board of Directors of a number of not for profit organisations.

Please join me in welcoming Andrew to the Society as he builds a new, Adelaide based management team to complete the transition to local management.

During 2016/17 we achieved a number of milestones. The Society has paid off all debt, after having loans totalling \$1.150 million in 2014. The Society has increased its contributions to research, through payment of subscriptions to Multiple Sclerosis Research Australia, including subscriptions missed in 2014 and 2015. The Society also increased client services, including the reintroduction of hydrotherapy classes, continence management clinics and the establishment of a gym.

The financial turnaround occurred faster than we expected and places us well for our two major challenges and opportunities – the roll-out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and the competitive tender of our employment services contract, provided by Multiple Solutions. Our objective is to use these opportunities to continue to increase services to clients.

At the Board level we have been joined this year by Adrian Hinton, who brings over 40 years' experience as a chartered accountant, in particular as an auditor. Adrian has stepped into the Treasurer role following my appointment as President.

At the last annual general meeting, long serving President Tony Abbott resigned as President, remaining on the Board. I would like to thank Tony for his dedicated service to the Society as President, in good times and bad, and his support and wise counsel in helping me carry out the role of President.

Finally, I would like to thank all stakeholders who have contributed to the Society – Board members, management, staff, volunteers as well as government partners, suppliers, business and retail customers - all helping to serve our clients.

I look forward to working with all of our stakeholders to continue seeking the cure and providing the care.

The MS Society of SA & NT Board of Directors - as at September 2017



Christine Hahn
BA Acc, Grad Dip App Inv & Fin, FCA, GAICD

President
Finance Committee Member
Nominations Committee Member



Alan Scott
BA Acc FCA RITF

Vice President
Finance Committee Member
Nominations Committee Member (from March 2017)



Adrian Hinton
BEc FCA

Treasurer
Chair Finance Committee



Dr Sharon Morton
BMBS MHA FRACP GAICD

Director
Chair Nominations Committee



Helen Hoppmann

Director



Anthony (Tony) Abbott AM
LI.B BCL

Director
Finance Committee Member
Nominations Committee Member (until March 2017)



Christine Umapathysivam
BA Grad Dip BM

Director
Nominations Committee Member

Board Member	Board Meetings		Finance Committee		Nominations Committee	
	A	B	A	B	A	B
Christine Hahn	10	10	11	11	2	2
Alan Scott	10	10	11	11		
Adrian Hinton	6	6	6	6		
Anthony (Tony) Abbott AM	10	9	11	10	2	2
Helen Hoppman	10	8				
Dr Sharon Morton	10	7			2	2
Christine Umapathysivam	10	9			2	2

A - Number of meetings eligible to attend (excludes circular resolutions and sub committee meetings)

B - Number of meetings attended

Note: Directors may also attend meetings of committees of which they are not a member. This is not recorded in the table above.



Chief Executive Officer's Report

Andrew Ellis

"We have re-established hydrotherapy classes and look forward to shortly commencing classes in our new gym at Hillcrest as part of helping our members and clients to live well with MS."

The 2016/17 year has been a positive year where the Society has improved its financial position.

This is my first Annual Report as Chief Executive Officer, and it is a pleasure to join such a passionate group of staff and volunteers committed to providing the care and seeking the cure. I thank Interim Chief Executive Officer Christine Hahn for her positive leadership through a significant part of this year.

Our client services team continues to provide valuable services to our members. They support clients newly diagnosed through MS ASSIST, providing ongoing care through our nurses, occupational therapists, physiotherapists and social/community workers.

We have re-established hydrotherapy classes and look forward to shortly commencing classes in our new gym at Hillcrest. Part of our program is to help our members and clients to live well with MS. Working with other partners, we are also providing regular continence management clinics and have run a number of community education events.

In an exciting time of change for our sector, we are working with the Australian Government to transition to the NDIS. We are also working within the Commonwealth Government aged care program in providing care to people 65 and over with MS.

I also acknowledge Karen Brown, lead author of Multiple Sclerosis: Many Stories Many Symptoms who released this book in May 2017. This book raises awareness through sharing the stories of many South Australians living with MS. All contributors to this book are providing valuable support to people with MS and their families.

World MS Day provided a strong focus for the Society in May and great opportunities for local media to share our stories.

Thank you to the more than 400 people who took part in the Mighty Swim, and our many suppliers and sponsors who help make the event a success. This event raised over \$100k this year and this goes a long way towards supporting the many services we provide to people with multiple sclerosis, including subsidising our hydrotherapy classes.

Our lotteries continued to perform well with the 2017 MS Life Changer and Game Changer Lotteries selling out early and providing valuable financial resources for MS research and helping to subsidise the cost of our nurses and community/ social work.

Our Multiple Solutions business continues to provide services to people with disability who are seeking employment. This business is about to tender for a new five year contract.

It is pleasing to see the Society now debt free and having made a much greater contribution this year to MS research.

Internally, we have been adapting our business to the changing compliance needs of the Society with a complete review and refresh of our systems and training around work health and safety and childsafe compliance. We also were audited under the National Standards for Disability Services and maintained our accreditation without any non-compliances.

Our more than 100 staff have achieved some great results over the past 12 months and I look forward to working closely with them to continue to strengthen and grow the business to serve our community.

Lastly, I thank the Board members, volunteers, government partners, suppliers, business and retail customers for their contribution to the results presented here.



His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC Governor of South Australia and Mrs Lan Le pictured with MS Society staff Felicity, Yvette and Alexandra

Summary

The summary financial report provided here is an extract of, and has been derived from, the Multiple Sclerosis Society of SA & NT Inc's ("the Society") full financial report, for the 2016-2017 financial year.

The summary financial report does not, and cannot be expected to, provide a full understanding of the financial position of the Society as the full financial report.

Further financial information can be obtained from the full financial report which is available, free of charge, on request to the Society.

Directors' Report

Your Directors submit their report and the financial statements of the Society for the year ended 30 June 2017.

Directors

The names of the members of the Board of Directors serve in a voluntary capacity. They are not remunerated, and those who serve in office during the year and to the date of this report are:

Ms C E Hahn (President)

Mr A G Scott (Vice President)

Mr A M Hinton (Treasurer Appointed November 2016)

Mr A N Abbott AM (Director)

Ms H Hoppmann (Director)

Dr S L Morton (Director)

Ms C E Umapathysivam (Director)

Directors' Benefits

No Director has received or become entitled to receive, during or since the financial year, a benefit as a result of a contract made by the Society with a Director, a firm of which a Director is a member or an entity in which a Director has a substantial financial interest, except as noted in the financial statements at Note 13.

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Society are the provision of client services, education and information. The funds are allocated for research into multiple sclerosis.

The Society also operates a Disability Employment Service that provides employment related services to people with a disability funded through the Department of Social Services (DSS). This service is operated by the Employment Services Department under the brand name, Multiple Solutions. Multiple Solutions has grown into a large operation, with the aim of attracting funding to support a range of people in need including people living with MS.

Significant Changes

There were no significant changes in the nature of the activities of the Society during the year.

Operating Results

The operating profit for the financial year as a result of the Society's activities amounted to \$535,343 (2016 profit of \$415,129).

Future Developments

There are no significant future developments identified by the Society.

After Balance Date Events

There were no significant events subsequent to year end.

Environmental Issues

The Society's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or a state or territory.

Indemnifying Officers or Auditors

The Society paid for the insurance premiums of Directors and Officers Liability Insurance policy indemnifying Directors and Officers. No indemnities have been given or insurance premiums paid, during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an auditor of the Society.

Proceedings on Behalf of the Entity

No person has applied for leave of a Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the Society or intervene in any proceedings to which the entity is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the entity for all or any part of those proceedings.

The Society was not a party to any such proceedings during the year.

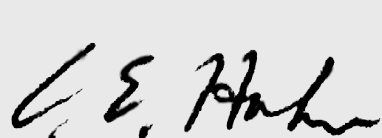
Benefits Payable to Directors and/or Officers

During the financial year:

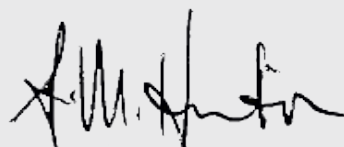
- (i) no officer of the Society;
- (ii) no firm in which an officer was a member; and
- (iii) no body corporate in which an officer has a substantial interest;

Has received or become entitled to receive a benefit as a result of a contract between the officer, firm, or body corporate and the Society and no officer has received either directly or indirectly from the Society any payment or other benefit of a pecuniary value, except as noted in the financial statements at Note 13.

This report is signed for and behalf of the Directors in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.



C E Hahn
Director



A M Hinton
Director



Treasurers Report Adrian Hinton

It is with great pleasure that I present the financial report for the year ended 30 June 2017.

Due mostly to the success of the sold out Game Changer Lottery and newly introduced Life Changer Lottery, the Society's surplus was \$535,343. A total income of \$13,038,727 was achieved, including a record amount of \$7,495,369 raised from fundraising activities.

Funds raised were used to pay off all loans owing to sister Societies, reducing from \$1.150 million in 2014 to zero in June 2017.

The Society's balance sheet reflects a healthy increase in net assets from \$166,102 to \$701,445 at 30 June 2017. The working capital ratio, defined as total current assets to total current liabilities was 1.14 times at 30 June, 2017. This ratio improved to 1.35 times at the end of July after payment of all Game Changer Lottery prizes and expenses.

You are encouraged to read the Society's annual audited Financial Statements and in particular, the Income and Expenditure Statement. The Financial Statements can be found on the Society's website at www.ms.asn.au.

These provide a detailed breakdown of income, costs, assets and liabilities. A brief summary is shown on the next page.

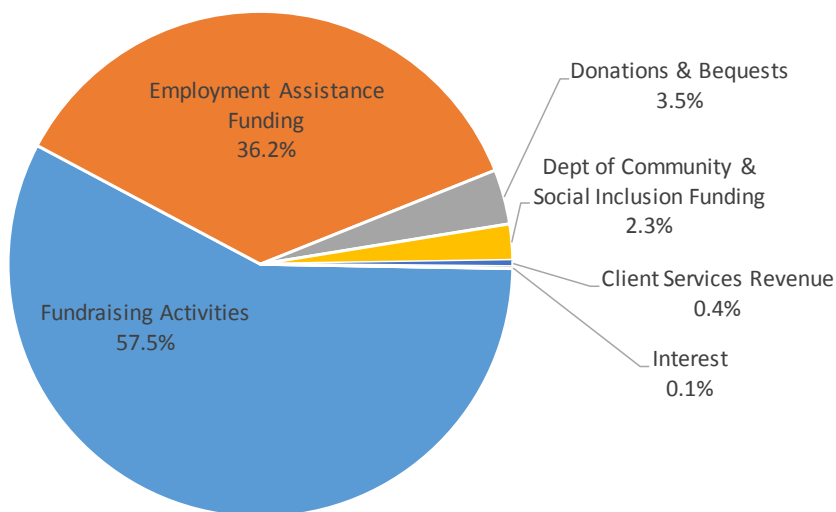
"The Society's balance sheet reflects a healthy increase in net assets from \$166,102 to \$701,445 at 30 June 2017."



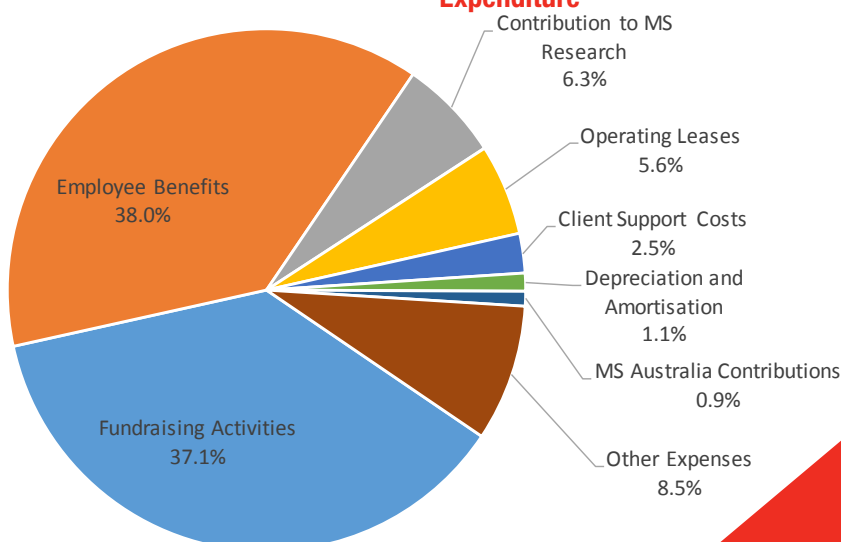
	2016/17	2015/16
Revenue		
Fundraising Activities	7,495,369	5,812,883
Employment Assistance Funding	4,717,092	4,696,329
Client Services Revenue	51,845	101,731
Dept of Community & Social Inclusion Funding	300,172	290,463
Donations & Bequests	457,904	326,991
Interest	13,912	25,592
Other Revenues	2,433	766
Total Revenue	13,038,727	11,254,755
Expenses		
Employee Benefits	4,754,435	4,252,306
Depreciation and Amortisation	138,661	134,902
Fundraising Activities	4,637,578	3,899,041
Contribution to MS Research	789,658	315,786
Client Support Costs	306,592	336,991
MS Australia Contributions	113,998	50,000
Operating Leases	705,087	592,949
Other Expenses	1,057,375	1,257,651
Total Expenses	12,503,383	10,839,626
Profit from Operations	535,343	415,129



Income



Expenditure



Key Supporters & Sponsors



Sponsors and Supporters

Adelaide BMW | Adelaide Festival | Adelaide Therapeutic Massage Services | Adelaide Zoo | Angas Travel |
Anytime Fitness Unley | Appliance Online Australia | Arkaba Hotel | Art and Frame | Aspire Magazine | B.D. Farm Paris Creek |
Beerenberg | Bounce SA - Marlestone | Bunnings Kent Town | Capri Theatre | City Mazda Hindmarsh | City of Unley |
Coles - Grote Street | Dymocks - Adelaide | Endota Spa | Foodland - Frewville | Genzyme | Guilt Free Delights |
Jarvis Ford | Kmart - Kurralta Park | Lights View Wines | Maggie Beer | Merck - Serono | Mercedes-Benz Adelaide |
Norwood Swim School and Better Movement Studio | Officeworks | Old Tailern Town | Porsche Centre Adelaide |
Rapid Relief Team | Red Balloon | Robert Oatley Wines | Solitaire Audi | Solitaire Volkswagen | Table of Plenty |
The Fresh Egg Shop | The Gift Specialist | The Good Guys | The Lane Vineyard | Wallis Cinemas | Windsor Meat Store |
Woolworths - Mawson Lakes | Zoggs Australia |



For more information

08 7002 6500

enquiries@ms.asn.au

ms.asn.au

The Multiple Sclerosis Society of SA & NT (Inc.)
341 North East Road, Hillcrest SA 5086