



News & Events

Kia ora Kath

Wow, wow, wow - Awareness Week was alive and kicking this year! A huge thank you to everyone who helped make it such a success. If you missed our special Awareness Week Round-Up email, you can catch up on all the highlights [here](#).

Rev your engines for Southside Streeters Hot Rods Club! What a fantastic event – *AWESOME* doesn't even begin to cover it. With the timing lining up perfectly with Awareness Week, we were truly on a roll. It's such a privilege to be the chosen charity for Hot Rods in Howick – thank you, thank you, thank you! 🙏





ECTRIMS Patient Community Day – Viewing Hub

Join us for a special viewing hub of ECTRIMS Patient Community Day, where you'll hear the latest advancements in MS care and treatment options.

We'll be screening the two community sessions from ECTRIMS, followed by a live Q&A with our expert panel:

Brett Drummond – MS Translate

Rachael Hofmann – Clinical Lead, MS New Zealand

Helen Carrington – Physiotherapist, Wellington DHB

When: Saturday 11 October

Time: 10am

Where: Online

Cost: Free

[Kath, Register for Viewing Hub
Here](#)



Christmas Lunch - Save the Date!

It's never too early for a Christmas reminder! Mark your diaries now so you don't miss out.



Christmas lunch, 7th December.

More details coming next month!

Wills Month May Be Over – But Planning Ahead Never Is!

Did you know that nearly 50% of New Zealanders don't have a Will?

Leaving a gift to charity in your will is a meaningful way to keep supporting the causes that mattered to you throughout your life. Please consider leaving a gift to MS Auckland — your legacy will provide lasting support for people affected by MS. Make sure your wishes are honoured, your loved ones are protected, and your legacy lives on.



For a simple Will, Gathered Here offers a free online service, read more [here](#).

If your circumstances are more complex or if you prefer the reassurance of speaking to a professional, [Catherine Te Wharau](#) of Murdoch & Price Lawyers, who has a personal connection to MS, has kindly extended the offer of half priced Wills through the month of

October (\$300+GST for a single Will and \$400+GST for a couple).

Catherine also presented a short webinar for Wills Month : **Why Having a Will is Important.** 12 minutes well spent!

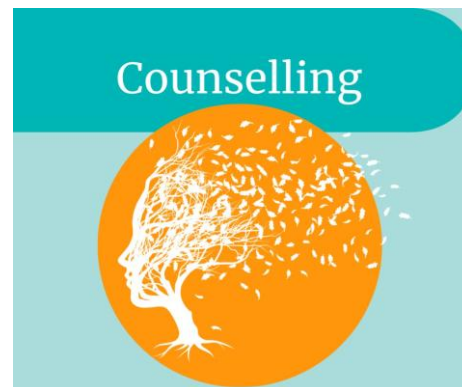
[Kath, Find More Information Here](#)



Counselling

MS Auckland is pleased to offer our highly regarded counselling course with counsellor **Val Leveson** in **South Auckland**. This supportive course is designed for people who have recently been diagnosed with MS, or who are recently coming to terms with their diagnosis.

MS Auckland is also pleased to offer **heavily discounted online** counselling course, more information [here](#).



[Register Your Interest Here](#)

OCREVUS sub-cut enters consultation phase

OCREVUS (ocrelizumab) Subcutaneous has now entered the public consultation phase with PHARMAC. Currently, OCREVUS is funded by PHARMAC for certain people with MS as an intravenous infusion, which typically takes several hours in a clinical setting. The new formulation is administered as a 10-minute injection under the skin

every six months – offering the same twice-yearly dosing schedule as the currently funded IV infusion, and without the requirement for a split first dose.

PHARMAC are seeking feedback on a proposal to fund OCREVUS SC for the same population of people as the current IV funding. This feedback phase is a **crucial step** for any views to be considered. If you would like to submit your own feedback to PHARMAC, we encourage you to do so [here](#).

Our Community Advisor team would also welcome your views, to help inform MS Auckland's submission. If you are happy to share, please email info@msakl.org.nz or get in touch with your CA. 🙏

My Career Pathway

Careers are often a big question mark for people with chronic conditions. ***Can I keep working? What if I need to change career paths? What else could I do?*** MS Auckland is proud to partner with **FuturePath World**, for this four-part seminar series to help guide through career options and strategies. Course will be held free-of-charge during October. There are a limited number of places, and we hope to repeat again in 2026.



[Register Your Interest Here](#)

Changes to Disability Flexible Funding Support

Following a nationwide consultation earlier this year, The Government has announced important changes to the way Disability Support Services (DSS) will be assessed and funded, commencing **February 2026**. Independent Living shares more information [here](#).

Fundraiser of the Month

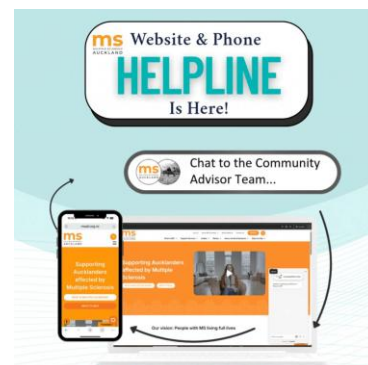
A shout out to one of our Battle of the Boots players, ZM and Celebrity Treasure Island personality **Bree Tomasel** who went over-and-above the call of duty, getting three sponsors for the game and giving MS several shoutouts on air.



Bree, you're a legend! 🙌

Our Helpline is Here!

No question is too small for our Helpline! A Community Advisor is just a click or phone call away — available in **real-time** to answer your questions or concerns, **weekdays from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM**. 🖥️ **Online?** Visit our website during these hours and a chat box will pop up on the home page. 📞 **Prefer to call?** Dial **09 845 5921**, then press **1**, followed by **1** to speak with the on-call Community Advisor. As always, our service is **free of charge**.



Thank you, community! It certainly has been fun the last few weeks, and thank you for the tremendous support, we feel very lucky. 🍀

Huge thanks to those that have kept Bucky busy, if you haven't yet, there's still time, just tap the bucket 🙏



From the team at MS Auckland



Future dates for your diary

ECTRIMS Viewing Hub 11 October

Life Buoy for MS 19 October

Christmas lunch 7 December

We are now on Tik Tok - Lets be friends!



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