

Remembering Mark Stone



Mark lost his battle with MND in February 2016.

Mark was diagnosed with MND in January 2012 but had previously worked on projects in health and social care in a number of roles including training, testing, business analysis and project management. He worked across the sector: for software development companies, for those managing change – and directly for the public sector: NHS and local authorities.

Since his diagnosis Mark continued working hard, just with a different focus and purpose; he helped a group of disabled people to create a new social enterprise and worked for Healthwatch Oxfordshire as a project manager on patient experience of hospital discharges. He remained active within the NHS too as a Patient Partner on a range of NHS bodies and committees.

Mark lobbied in Parliament on access to Continuing Healthcare for people with MND and locally in Oxford for a specialist neuro physio post to avoid emergency admissions for people with MND.

As a Trustee of the MND Association Trustee he believed passionately in its mission, vision and values. Mark brought to the Board a breadth of specialised experience from his career but also the direct experience of being a person living with MND. He always wanted to contribute positively as long as his condition allowed and he did just that – attending his last Association meeting just a few weeks before he died.

Mark didn't shy away from making the most of media opportunities and was a regular contributor on BBC Radio Oxford and in October 2015 was interviewed by Jeremy Vine for his Radio 2 show.

He read a [poem](#) in the studio from his blog called "Bloke with Limp – or the Diary of an East Oxford dad with MND". Mark eloquently described the progression of his MND and the impact on him and his family and friends. He listed the things he could no longer do and that he once took for granted – whether it was visiting his parents' house or driving his car.

Mark said "time and people are the most precious thing of all."