

# Media Release

Hon Jacinta Allan MP  
Premier



Monday, 9 June 2025

## STANDING WITH NEALE DANIHER TO DEFEAT THE BEAST

The Allan Labor Government is backing the fight to beat Motor Neurone Disease, once again throwing its support behind Neale Daniher's FightMND campaign with a \$250,000 donation to this year's Big Freeze.

The Government has been a proud supporter of FightMND since 2015 – standing alongside Daniher and the thousands of Australians living with this cruel and incurable disease.

Every day at least two people are diagnosed with MND in Australia with sufferers progressively losing the ability to walk, talk, feed themselves, swallow, and ultimately breathe.

About 400 Victorians and 2,000 Australians are currently living with MND – a disease that slowly robs people of their ability to walk, talk, eat, and eventually breathe.

Daniher, a former Essendon Football Club captain and coach of the Melbourne Football Club, was diagnosed with MND in 2013 and has since inspired the nation with his efforts to progress treatments and find a cure for the condition he calls "The Beast".

His tireless advocacy was recognised this year when he was named the 2025 Australian of the Year.

FightMND has raised more than \$115 million to fund cutting-edge medical research and provide essential equipment to help those living with the disease.

The Big Freeze event is held on Monday 9 June 2025 at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

To help contribute to finding a cure for MND or to buy a beanie, visit [fightmnd.org.au](https://fightmnd.org.au)

### Quotes attributable to Premier Jacinta Allan

*"We're proud to back FightMND and the vital research to find a cure for this devastating disease."*

*"Neale Daniher's fight has become Australia's fight – and we stand with him, and every family affected by MND."*

### Quote attributable to Member for Pakenham Emma Vulin

*"Neale and his family's dedication has profoundly raised awareness of MND, and I'm honoured we are continuing to support the Big Freeze as it marks its 11th year."*