

Your action needed!



LYME DISEASE
ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
For Lyme Disease Awareness & Action

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Dear Lymelighter,



[Senate Inquiry Submissions Needed ASAP](#)

Remember in the last newsflash we said: "Now the hard-work really begins"? We weren't kidding :-). Luckily the saying 'many hands make light work' is true for this next task – all we need is your story!

It's important that everyone who has a Lyme-like illness, and their friends and family

make a submission telling the Senate committee about their story. This is your opportunity to stand up and be counted. You don't need to answer all the points in the Terms of Reference, you can simply tell your own story about how you became sick and how you've been treated. You can provide your opinion on any of the other points too. The committee are especially interested in hearing from people with a 'lived experience' of Lyme-like illness.

The committee accepts written submissions. If you are unable to make a written submission, the committee will accept an audio submission and will have your submission transcribed and published with your permission.

For step-by-step guidance in making a submission, [click here](#). If anything is unclear or you have questions, please [contact us](#).

IMPORTANT - at this point we are only guaranteed one public hearing in Canberra.

We'd like to demonstrate how important and widespread Lyme-like illness is for Australians. The more patient submissions and the earlier they are, the better chance we have of having hearings in other states. We have over 1500 patients on our map survey, please help us spread the word!



Petition Power Continued

Our take action for Lyme-like illness petition is still growing. It's obvious that Australians want action for Lyme patients - can you help it grow?

[Senator John Madigan](#) recently called the Health Minister to action on Lyme-like illness in Australia:

"The Australian Government must act on this now. Health Minister Sussan Ley must get off the fence and bring sanity to this situation.

*Lyme disease is treated in the USA, Europe and elsewhere.
Yet the "official" attitude here is that there is no Lyme disease in Australia.
Meanwhile, I have met with dozens and dozens of people who are afflicted.
And now their doctors are being threatened with deregulation."*

Click [here](#) to copy the petition link to share with friends via email or Facebook... your support is appreciated!



Senator Madigan Backs Doctors

[Senator John Madigan](#) continues to push for positive action on behalf of Lyme patients. Most recently he's met with Lyme-treating doctors, learning about the incredible burden they carry by doing the right thing by patients while their disease is denied in our country. Senator Madigan has called for a moratorium on any further disciplinary action to doctors for treating Lyme-like illness.

We applaud Senator Madigan's action – Thank you! Please thank him too - you can do that [here](#). View and comment on the press [release here](#).



Lyme in the Media

Campaign of Intimidation Over Lyme Disease Treatment

Major papers highlight the plight of Lyme-like patients and their doctors. [Senator John Madigan](#) states "In relation to Lyme disease I am seeing a mafia-like approach to doctors at the cutting edge who are helping patients in a tangible way. The lives of Australians are at stake. Doctors treating Lyme disease in this country must be allowed to continue their vital work until a thorough investigation of this disease in this country is undertaken."

Read and Comment please [Herald Sun](#) | [Herald Sun Facebook](#)



Events Calendar

Gidgee Goes Gala for New Years Eve

Every year the Gidgee/Twin Hills community gathers to raise funds for charities that

are important to them. This year they've chosen the Lyme Disease Association of Australia. Most Queenslanders and rural Australians know the dangers of tick borne disease and they're taking action.

This year 'Gala in the Gudgeon' is a strictly black tie event, with live music to twirl to, superb catering and a well stocked bar to quench revellers thirst. A magical evening to be held amongst the Gidgee trees and under the captivating outback stars.

The LDAA team is grateful and we wish everyone a fantastic evening!

Learn more: [Web](#) | [Facebook](#)

If you'd like your event listed here in the Events, please complete an event registration form [here](#).



[Volunteer with Us!](#)

Join our wonderful volunteer team! LDAA works in a virtual online environment. You must have access to a computer, a stable internet connection, and have a passion to enact change in your community! LDAA's roles are expanding, often volunteers take on ad-hoc jobs, beyond their initial involvement.

Our current volunteer positions are:

1. **Marketing/Fundraising** | Need a passionate individual to help Lyme patients, bright/innovative ideas a bonus! Must be able to implement and manage fundraising projects as part of a team. Twitter expertise a bonus!
2. **IT Web Support** | More details [here](#).
3. **Events Coordinator** | National coordinator of LDAA events, including supervising support groups, policies, maintaining and liaising with event holders, and team work with our fulfilment officer.

Introduce yourself by sending us a message via our [contact us form](#)! We look forward to speaking with you!



From the Committee

Here at the LDAA, we're pulling out all stops to work with the Lyme patient community and their carers and friends to deliver the best possible outcome for the Senate Inquiry. Anyone connected to our patient story, anyone who's witnessed our journey can submit. We would like thousands of submissions to be uploaded. It doesn't have to be complex, simply authentic. Remember to let us know if you need help or would like to help!

From our homes to yours, the LDAA team would like to wish you all the best holiday season possible. We pray that the burden of 'Living with Lyme' is lightened at this time and there's some enjoyment possible for you and yours.

Yours in Green,

Sharon Whiteman
President

P.S. Remember to connect with us on [Facebook](#) & [Twitter](#). We appreciate your likes, comments and re-tweets, it's working!



Join our volunteer team!

Enquire or Apply

Have an LDAA event, or want to include something in our next newsletter? *Let us know [about events here](#) or [other happenings here!](#)*

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