



ME North East
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Dear Members,

15th November 2019

**ME North East –Special General Meeting
Thursday 19th December 2019 at 12noon
Bullion Hall, South Approach, Chester le Street. DH2 2ES**

Many members have been aware that for the last 12-18 months we have been really struggling to remain financially viable to continue to deliver our help and support services.

With the loss of our main grant funders and our lack of success in winning sufficient new funding bids we have lost all but one of our staff. Jennifer (our Chief Executive) has been holding the fort since May 2019 and has continued to make every effort to secure funds from a range of grant making bodies.

A number of our members have raised funds with activities and events and we have had members, friend and families taking part in our sponsored activities (The Great North Run and the Tyne Bridge Zip Slide). We also continue to be supported by over 80 individuals donating via voluntary subscriptions each month. We are immensely grateful to each and every one of you – we would not be here today without your help. However, we are simply running out of money, and it is with a heavy heart that after 20 years of running ME North East as an independent charity, we are looking at closure in the next few months.

In line with good governance, Company Law and Charity Commission regulations, we are required to call a Special General Meeting (SGM) of our members to present our proposal and to dissolve ME North East in the next few months. We are required to gain the approval of two-thirds of members present at this SGM to begin this process.

We hope it will be an opportunity for those who are able to get together one last time, and despite the inevitable sadness at the end of an era, to celebrate the good work we have done and the 1000's of people we have been able to help and support over the years.

In order to make the necessary arrangements for this meeting (and to ensure we have enough cake!!), it would be very helpful if you could let us know if you are planning to attend.

Simply call 0191 3892222, email jennifer@menortheast.org or leave a message on our Facebook Page www.Facebook.com/MENorthEast.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Rachel Burton
Chairperson.

