

## PAG Event: Dignity in Dying

Written by PAG

Monday, 12 November 2018 22:00 - Last Updated Monday, 12 November 2018 22:30

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POSITIVE ACTION GROUP (PAG) & IOM FREETHINKERS - Public Meeting

# Dignity and Choice in Dying

## A presentation and discussion

Thomas Davies
Director of Campaigns & Communications
Mick Murray
Active supporter
Dignity in Dying

# Manx Legion Club, Market Hill, Douglas

# 7:30 pm MONDAY 26th November 2018

## The event is free and open to all

Positive Action Group (PAG) and Isle of Man Freethinkers are proud to announce another collaboration on a topic of great importance: on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November they will be hosting a presentation and discussion on "Dignity and Choice in Dying"

Guest speakers for the evening will be Thomas Davies, who is Dignity in Dying's (DID) Director of Campaigns and Communications, and Mick Murray, an active supporter of DID. Mick has personal experience of accompanying friends to Dignitas in Switzerland. He is a long-term supporter, with a personal story. Mick and his wife accompanied two of their friends to Dignitas: Ann Hall and her partner Bob Cole were each assisted to die there. Ann had progressive supranuclear palsy (PSP), a disease very similar to motor neurone disease (MND). Later Bob was diagnosed with mesothelioma. As a result of this experience Mick is an expert on inequality aspects of having an assisted death overseas

**Further information**

[Dignity in Dying](https://www.dignityindying.org.uk/) is a not for profit organisation whose members and supporters campaign to legalise assisted dying within upfront safeguards, for terminally ill, mentally competent adults. This would require a change in the law, alongside excellent palliative care. Assisted dying laws allow people to make informed decisions, having discussed all their care and treatment options with healthcare professionals. The current law restricts choice and turns a blind eye to suffering at the end of life.

Increasingly Britons are travelling abroad to die. Many more who are unable to travel, or cannot afford to do so, attempt to take their own life alone, ask a loved one to help them die, or refuse food and water. Although recent prosecuting policy has effectively decriminalised amateur assistance to die, all the checks take place after a person has died, when it is too late to prevent abuse. An assisted dying law would give a dying person choice and comfort, whilst providing better protection and upfront safeguards.

The presentation will be at 7.30pm in the Manx Legion Club on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November, and all will be made very

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