

MEDIA RELEASE

Award-winning actor, Andi Snelling raises her voice for Lyme Patients



The Lyme Disease Association of Australia (LDAA) is excited to bring aboard Andi Snelling as Ambassador.

A multiple award-winning actor, writer and theatre-maker, Andi was diagnosed with Lyme and co-infections only in 2017 after many years of complex health issues. Her condition was triggered by a tick bite with subsequent bullseye rash, which no-one recognised as significant at the time.

Andi trained at the prestigious Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts in London, with Dame Judi Dench as its president. After living in Berlin and London for seven years, she returned to her hometown of Melbourne where she has continued building a name for herself

as an artist. Her career highlights include working for the BBC, performing on the West End, being the voice of Qatar Airways, and a recurring role on Australian soap -- Neighbours. She has been described as “the standout” (Herald Sun), “sublimely talented” (Sydney Morning Herald) and “so skilled that you’re left wanting more” (Daily Review).

Andi continues to undergo rigorous treatments as she edges her way towards better health. She is proud to be an Ambassador for the Lyme Disease Association of Australia. *“Given the LDAA was one of my very first ports of call when I got diagnosed, I know first-hand the value of this organisation. The LDAA offers practical resources and support for Lyme patients and their loved ones, education around the potential dangers of ticks for the wider community, and crucial advocacy where there otherwise is woefully little,”* she said.

She hopes to see tick-borne infections being taken more seriously by the government and medical establishment so that she and her fellow Lymies do not have to remain as marginalised as they currently are. Voicing her hope, she said, *“I’m passionate about spreading tick awareness at a grassroots level (pardon the pun!) so that others may receive the crucial early intervention that I did not.”*

“While we’re very sorry to hear of Andi’s diagnosis, we are heartened to partner with her with a view to ending this scourge of late diagnosis and subsequent chronic illness that Australian tick-borne disease patients face. Australia has shown how we can mobilise resources urgently towards COVID-19, Lyme patients deserve a parallel and equal response,” says CEO, Sharon Whiteman.

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Additional resources for media are available from the Lyme Disease Association of Australia's website [here](#).

The Lyme Disease Association of Australia (LDAA) commenced operations in 2009. Since that time, we have evolved into a powerful organisation with the assistance of many volunteers who are passionate about awareness and education, and ultimately eradication of the illness, which can be debilitating, life-changing, and in some cases deadly. To learn more about symptoms, please visit [this page](#), and if you are concerned about your health and would like support please [contact us](#).