

# Grant 18 Heather – May 2022



**Anne Dyer**



**Daniel O'Reilly**

**May 2022**

**ADDOR is pleased to announce a further grant in support of the continued fight against Huntington's disease (HD), providing financial assistance to help an HD sufferer Heather.**

**Heather**



**Heather and Adriaan**

**Heather now 41 years old, was diagnosed with HD when 36 years old, lives with her husband Adriaan(Ad) in a village in County Down, Northern Ireland. She inherited Huntington's disease from her mum who has sadly passed away.**

**Heather gave birth to a baby daughter in June last year and since then life has become very busy. In spite of the difficulties that Heather experiences day to day with her HD and the**

assistance now needed, she maintains a positive outlook and has never shied from promoting the work of HDANI or sharing experiences of HD through media and other public platforms to raise awareness of the disease.



**Heather, Adriaan and baby daughter**

They have been generous with their time in sharing their HD story to help raise awareness of the condition. To see Heather's and AD's story please log on to the following video clips:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TwNyNsKGxeo.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TwNyNsKGxeo)

[And https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MZ\\_ziapPp-E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MZ_ziapPp-E)

Anyone who has ever met Heather and Ad would be struck by their devotion to each other and positive outlook on life.

Heather loved to travel on faraway holidays and upon receiving her diagnosis she took to the skies, sky-diving in New Zealand. She also enjoyed mountain-hiking and is an accomplished piano player.



**Heather and Adriaan in Australia**

Heather and Ad still enjoy travelling, recently returning from a trip to Holland to visit Ad's extended family to introduce their baby daughter for the first time, as plans had all been on hold with the pandemic. They are hoping to plan a camping trip closer to home again sometime in the not too distant future

Ad who works in education, has taken on the majority of the caring role for both their daughter and Heather who now needs some day to day assistance because of her HD symptoms. He is due to return to work soon and given that he has assumed a significant caring role for both his daughter and in helping out Heather, an opportunity for them to have quality time out together for some rest and relaxation would be greatly welcomed, for example a spa day with some therapeutic treatments, whilst their daughter is being spoiled by her loving grandparents.

**ADDOR is very pleased to provide a grant of £500 to Heather and Ad to help facilitate a few days of outside visits, perhaps the camping holiday and enhance the quality of the family's daily life.**

Adriaan in response to the news of the grant said "Thank you so much for the excellent write up I think story and photos show Heather's character and her devotion to promote awareness of HD and to show the world the human side of HD. And thank you so much for making it possible for Heather to have some relaxing time as she loves having a spa day those are days she can forget the day to day struggles and just enjoy life."

**If you would like to help in the fight to defeat HD, fund research  
and help others like Heather**

**Please donate at [addor.co.uk](http://addor.co.uk)**

