



Annual Report 2016 - 2017



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Strategic Plan 2015 – 2018

Our Vision

Rehabilitation as an integral part of every nurse's practice.

Our Mission

Support the development and sharing of nursing's body of rehabilitation knowledge, skills and attitudes for the wellbeing of individuals and communities.

Our Values

Professionalism
Leadership
Accountability
Collaboration
Excellence

Pillars of Strategic Success

ARNA strives to achieve its Mission through three key strategic pillars facilitated through our Governance Structure.

Education and Research

- JARNA
- Research
- National conference and Study Days
- Position Statements
- Competency Statements

Governance

- Finance Management
- Risk Management
- Legislation Requirements
 - Constitution
 - Policies & Procedures
- Marketing

Member Services

- Education Scholarships
- Research Training Grants
- Website
- Newsletter
- Professional Representation

President's Report

The past year, in keeping with this year's conference theme, has been a time of change and for laying the groundwork for future transition and transformation. These changes are evident in the variation in National Committee membership and in work begun and planned relating to ARNA governance and operations.

Firstly, as President for the last 3 and half months I would like to acknowledge and thank those members of the National Committee who left us during the year; Sara Alger (President), Lyn McBain (Treasurer) and David Parsons (Vice President). They have been committed to ARNA National for some years and continue to contribute at Chapter level. I would also like to thank the other members of the National Committee who filled the casual vacancies and for the commitment of all committee members to ARNA during this challenging time.

These challenges are due to the number of important issues and matters occurring in combination, requiring significant input from the National Committee. Including:

- The ARNA Constitution is due for review and has provoked an investigation of current Association requirements and structuring. Consideration is required given the national and international intended operations of an Australasian Association currently incorporated in NSW.
- Development of Standard Operating Procedures, beginning with AGM processes to ensure good governance, the meeting of constitutional requirements and enabling documented guides for future continuity.
- Review of financial reporting methods, the establishment of a Finance Working Group with an agenda to improve efficiency, transparency and to support informed fiscal decisions by Chapter and National Committees.
- Upcoming completion of the PAMS Association Management Contract, and need to review future secretariat requirements and management options.

In addition, there has been this year's National Conference to organise, and the Conference and Abstract committees have worked hard to ensure a varied and interesting program. I would like to thank them and also the Keynote Speaker Kathryn McPherson, the invited speakers and other presenters. I think we have a record number of research papers (6) and first-time presenters (11), exemplifying key purposes of the conference. To provide information on cutting-edge and newly completed research which supports the growth and sharing of new knowledge, and to provide an opportunity for the development of future leaders and recognition of rehabilitation clinicians. This year's conference continues a trend for varying the program, as there is a Breakfast event and Discussion Panel included. These sessions enable an interactive format with esteemed experts.

A direction that has not changed for ARNA, and will continue to be a prime function, is the provision of educational activities, and support for scholarship and research. These endeavours are essential for promoting and maintaining our body of knowledge and for advancing best practice in rehabilitative care. The work of local Chapters is invaluable in the provision of study days and enabling sharing of expertise and knowledge. The Research Working Group has recently reviewed guidelines for scholarship and research grants. They are available on the website, and I suggest you view these and keep watching for more developments and opportunities. Decisions for Budget allocation have been made to support these activities. Also, a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with the University of Tasmania for ARNA members to have access to post-graduate study scholarships.

JARNA has continued to be produced through Cambridge Publishing and I urge you to write about your projects, service improvements and academic endeavours. JARNA is for us - to share information, knowledge and practice development. Thanks to the contributors, Julie Pryor (Editor) and the JARNA Editorial Board.

Other items on the horizon include supporting the expansion of New Zealand member activities, and review of the ARNA Strategic Plan.

The National Committee members and I, are committed to strengthening ARNA and look to the future need for raising

ARNA



Australasian Rehabilitation
Nurses' Association

Founded in the Illawarra in 1991

ARNA Annual Report 2016 - 2017

the profile of rehabilitation nursing and promoting ARNA as a peak body. A healthy committee has representation from all Chapters and brings together a wealth of differing perspectives, experiential knowledge, committed to the objectives of the Association "to advance the practice of rehabilitation in nursing". As we go forward, please consider contributing by nominating for committee positions, ARNA and the future of the speciality practice of rehabilitation nursing needs you. In closing, I acknowledge and appreciate the support and dedication of the National Committee members, and also thank the Chapter Committees for their work at the local level, and the members of ARNA who care about rehabilitation nursing practice and their clients in need.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D Widdall".

Deidre Widdall
ARNA President

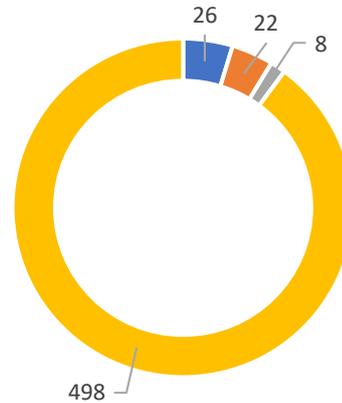
National Committee 2016 / 2017

President	Deidre Widdall Sara Alger	(June 2017 – Oct 2017) (Oct 2016 – June 2017)
Vice-President	Murray Fisher Deidre Widdall David Parsons	July 2017 – Oct 2017 Nov 2016 -June 2017 Oct 2016 – Nov 2016
Secretary	Kay Stevens	2016 - 2018
Treasurer	Terry Wells Lyn McBain	June 2017 – Oct 2018 Oct 2014 – June 2017
Vice Treasurer	Kerrie Garrad Terry Wells	Aug 2017 – Oct 2017 Oct 2016 – June 2017
Editor in Chief	Julie Pryor	2016-2018
Committee Members 2016/2017	Sandra Lever Alison New Denys Spencer Kylie Wicks	2016 - 2017 2016 - 2017 July 2017 – Oct 2017 July 2017 – Oct 2017
President NSW/ACT Chapter	Gail Teale-Sinclair	2016 - 2018
President VIC/TAS Chapter	Brendon Bakes	2016 - 2018
President SA/NT/ Chapter	Terry Wells	2016 - 2018
President WA Chapter	Stephanie Jones Erika Schlemmer Natalie Galatino	2017 - 2019 2016 - 2017 2016
President QLD Chapter	Alison New Kerrie Garrad	2017 - 2019 2015 - 2017
Public Officer	David Hind	

Membership Report 2015 / 2016

Current Members by Status - June 30th 2017

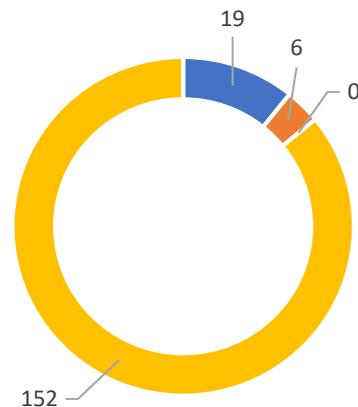
Associate	26
Company Member	22
Life Member	8
Member	498
Total	554



■ Associate ■ Company Member ■ Life Member ■ Member

New Members This Year

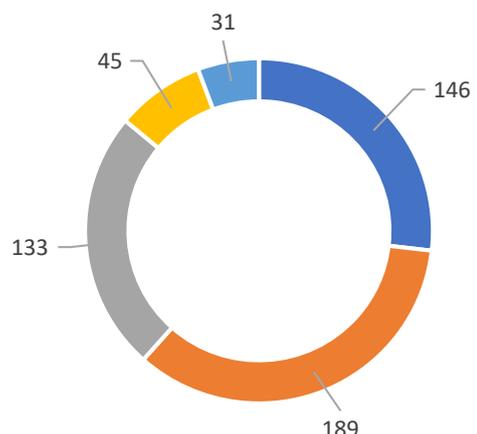
Associate	19
Company Member	6
Life Member	0
Member	152
Total	177



■ Associate ■ Company Member ■ Life Member ■ Member

As at June 30th 2017 - 554 members

NSW/ACT	146
VIC/TAS	189
QLD	133
SA/NT	45
WA	31
Total	554



■ NSW/ACT ■ VIC/TAS ■ QLD ■ SA/NT ■ WA

National Secretary Report

Much to my surprise, I was elected as Secretary of ARNA from the floor at the last Annual General Meeting held at the MCG. I didn't nominate, I was persuaded by an insistent Terry Wells. This year has been a very steep learning curve for me but I am pleased with the progress of the National Committee.

Membership

The National Committee met in November to plan the years' activities and to develop ARNA to reflect the Membership. The results of the Membership Survey were shared in the National Newsletter in October/November 2016. The National Committee is currently investigating ways to support growth of membership and ARNA activity in New Zealand.

Scholarship And Research Training Grants

This year ARNA has been pleased to announce the University of Tasmania's collaboration with ARNA to allow members to access education qualification courses on scholarship or as fee paying candidates. Currently there are three candidates who have applied and are studying with UTAS. For more information on this please go to https://www.arna.com.au/ARNA/Documents/SHS_Course_Brochure_ARNA_UTAS.pdf

ARNA also offers grants and scholarships via the Chapters and at a National level. Application guidelines can be found at the ARNA website. www.arna.com.au One applicant has been successful in obtaining a Research grant of \$5000 this year.

Arna Newsletter

We welcomed Denys Spencer as the new ARNA Newsletter Editor following the retirement of Beverley Leibelt. Please consider sending a short item with pictures of your Chapter activities, study days and workplace events for inclusion in the newsletter. The next issue is planned for end of October 2017.

Chapter Study Days

It is pleasing that all Chapters have had good attendance at their study days this year. Membership has increased due to new members signing up to attend and valuing the professional education presented at these events. We also value the enthusiastic support from local and national sponsors at our study days.

Arna Lifetime Membership Awards

Please check the ARNA website to review members who have been awarded Lifetime Membership. Their contribution to ARNA since 1991 is recognised.

I acknowledge the ARNA National Committee for their encouragement to me as a greenhorn secretary with special thanks to Julie Pryor, Murray Fisher, Sandra Lever and Deidre Widdall for their patience and mentoring in my new role.

I also owe special thanks to our PAMS Management administrators, Matthew Grose and more recently, Peter Carey.

Kay Stevens DipEN-AP, GradCertRehab, GradCertContinence
ARNA National Secretary

Reports from Chapters

New South Wales / Australian Capital Territory Chapter Report

Thanks to the commitment of the NSW/ACT Chapter committee we have had a busy and exciting year providing an opportunity for approximately 245 Rehabilitation nurses from NSW, the ACT Victoria and Queensland to attend study days, five in all, in their "Own Backyard".

Starting in Canberra in February then in May we held two study days, one in Albury/Wodonga, and the other in Ballina a joint QLD and NSW/ACT event. In June we were in the Hunter region at Merewether, where as a bonus, the venue provided a view of the migrating whales. The Sydney study day & AGM was held in August at Epping. Feedback from the study days was overwhelmingly positive.

Thank you to all our sponsors for making these days possible and to the local teams who organised venues and local sponsors. We could not have done it without you. A special mention goes to Sarah Potter in Albury and Jason Thomas in Toronto, who lead the teams in their local area in collaboration with the NSW/ACT committee.

We have one more study day to finish off this year to be held on 10th November at Batemans Bay Soldiers Club. All are welcome to attend. Register online or contact Phillip Au (Chapter Secretary) at phillip.au@gmail.com. Our goal is to hold these events annually, tailored to the needs of the local area. Another event is planned for western NSW... keep an eye out on the website.

We value your ideas and feedback. We want to hear from you. Please write to nswact@arna.com.au
At the AGM in Sydney on the 18th August the election of ordinary members was held. Ordinary members are elected annually.

Education scholarships are available from the chapter. No one applied for a scholarship this year. The scholarship application process can be seen on the website.

The NSW/ACT membership increased this year by 42%. We hope to continue to grow and provide more opportunities to learn and network.

Gail Teale Sinclair
NSW/ACT Chapter President

The committee for NSW/ACT 2017-18 are:

President:	Gail Teale-Sinclair
Vice President:	Andrew Murray
Secretary:	Phillip Au
Treasurer:	Julie Pryor
Ordinary member:	Laynie Hall Pullin (Sydney)
	Mark Ryan (Canberra)
	Sarah Potter (Albury)
	Anne Renshaw (Sydney)
	Jason Mook (Moruya)
	Jason Thomas (Toronto)

Queensland Chapter Report

Credit due and thanks to the hardworking ARNAQ Committee, we have had a very productive and busy year. I am pleased to report on behalf of the ARNAQ Committee, that in response to member feedback for more “local” workshops – organising professional development activities has been our top priority.

To this end, February 17th 2017 we held our traditional one day workshop at the Princess Alexandra Hospital (PAH). This was well attended with some 75 participants and also very good representation from our trade partners. The day proved very successful with feedback from both presenters and delegates very positive. The ARNAQ committee is actively preparing for this event in March 2018, and was especially grateful for the provision of this facility given that the study day was held in the middle of the implementation process for the largest fully digital hospital in Australia. We also partnered with ARNA NSW/ ACT Chapter on May 26th 2017 for a very successful Study Day at Ballina RSL Club in Ballina, NSW for 60 participants including trade. The view of the Richmond River was picturesque, the food was good and the participants rated their satisfaction with the Study Day at 95%. The ARNA NSW / ACT and ARNAQ committee members who attended the day have expressed a wish that this be an annual event and are together planning for this again in June 2018.

On behalf of the ARNAQ Committee too, I thank Karen Ashford (ARNAQ Committee Member) and her staff who had the determination, creativity and courage to organise our inaugural Townsville Study Day at the Grand Chancellor Hotel in Townsville this year. It was very well attended, and speakers presented on a wide range of topics (all suggested by our local ARNA members and rehabilitation health professionals). The feedback was excellent, and we hope this may become an annual event. We have one last Study Day planned for this year at the Redcliffe Hospital on November 4th, and the details and registration link are available on the ARNA events website. There will be more planning for future activities, and the ARNAQ committee values all ideas for presenters or topics, so we would love to hear from you.

ARNAQ Committee is committed to assisting members attend all ARNA activities – so I take this opportunity to remind our members that Education scholarships are available from the Chapter and we encourage members to apply for these. Details in regard to the application process are available on the ARNA website.

At the ARNAQ AGM on July 28th 2017, the election of new ARNAQ Committee members occurred. I take this opportunity to thank all previous members of the Committee and especially thank Kerrie Garrad for her leadership as the outgoing ARNA Qld Chapter President.

Alison New
QLD Chapter President

The committee for QLD 2017-18 are:

President:	Alison New
Vice President:	Carolyn Wilson
Secretary:	Shaun Matthews
Treasurer:	Kerrie Garrad
Ordinary member:	Karen Ashford (Townsville) Pauline Blaney (Fraser Coast) Fanuel Garayi (Brisbane)

South Australia / Northern Territory Chapter Report

During the past twelve months, the committee has continued to meet monthly via teleconference and continued working on the action areas identified by the previous committee, communication, building capacity and educational development.

Locally the committee has been involved in the planning of the 27th ARNA National Conference being held at the National Wine Centre in Adelaide on the 12th and 13th October. The theme of the conference is The changing landscape for rehabilitation nursing; transitions, transformation and future directions.

As a result of our chapter hosting this year's conference there was no SA study day in 2017.

Our NT members held a study day on May 26th at the North Australian Research Unit in Darwin entitled Nursing – Spinal Cord Injury: Mysteries Explained. Thanks go to the organisers, the attendees and sponsors Hartmann, Keepmoving, PQ SA, TSS and Brightsky, for making the day such a success. Six attendees took the opportunity to take up ARNA membership.

Thanks are extended to Helen McQueen who resigned from the Vice President and to Mandy O'Keefe for their contributions to the Chapter and to ARNA.

I would like to thank the members of the 2016-2017 Chapter committee members, Justine Prendergast (Treasurer), Natalie Thackray (Secretary), Deidre Widdall, Beverley Liebelt, Kay Stevens, Karen Simunov and Denys Spencer (committee members), for their hard work during the past twelve months and for their commitment and dedication to ARNA and for their support.

Terry Wells
SA/NT Chapter President

The committee for SA/NT 2017-18 are:

President:	Terry Wells (HRC SA)
Vice President:	Vacant
Treasurer:	Justin Prendergast (RGH SA)
Secretary:	Natalie Thackray (Country Health SA)
Ordinary member:	Denys Spencer (NT)
	Helen Kraft (SA)
	Anija Mathew (NT)
	Merilou Dellow (NT)
	Merridy Carter (SA)
	Amanda Fitzgerald (SA)

Victoria / Tasmania Chapter Report

ARNA Victoria / Tasmania has had a fairly busy year (July 2016 – June 2017). In October we hosted the National Conference at the MCG which was the culmination of a large amount of work by the Chapter in the preceding 12 months. Feedback from the conference was all very positive and many of the lessons learnt were passed onto the organising committee for this year's conference in Adelaide.

Three study days were held in the last 12 months:

- The year kicked off with a great study day and AGM at Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Centre on Friday 22nd July 2016. Over 100 people attended and heard a range of topics.
- Due to the conference being in Melbourne we didn't hold a third study day in 2016 but began the calendar year with a successful day at The Victorian Rehabilitation Centre in Glen Waverley on February 10th 2017. Due to the room size we had to cap numbers at 60 but still had good attendance and support from 6 trades.
- On Friday 21st July 2017 we held another great day, this time at the McKellar Centre in beautiful Geelong. The venue was very comfortable and catering was good.

Thank you to all those local members and committee who worked so hard to put on very good days within their services. It is a lot of work but also a very rewarding experience. We are well into planning for 2018 study days so if anyone wants to consider taking on the challenge please let us know. ARNA will provide as much support as possible to services who are interested.

Due to decreases in revenue, we regrettably had to reduce our chapter scholarships this year from 5 to 2 x \$500. We have already awarded 1 scholarship and the recipient intends to put the funds toward attending the national conference in October. We have also reviewed our study day charges to ensure we are able to continue to provide high quality, accessible study days to our members. Effective this financial year non-member fees for study day attendance will be \$100.00 and table fees for trades attending will be \$200.00. Financial members will continue to have access to study days free of charge. I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge the generous support of our trade colleagues, many of whom are long term ARNA sponsors. Without their support we would have to charge members and catering would be very different. Please take the time to visit trade tables, chat to the reps and consider if their products may benefit your service.

I would also like to invite members to consider stepping up and joining our committee. Office bearers are elected for 2 years and most of these are up for re-election in 2018. Many of us have other commitments and so are keen to support new committee so that this chapter remains active, continues to grow and provide relevant education and assistance to Victorian and Tasmanian rehabilitation nurses. If you are interested please let us know. It is not a massive commitment, we have 1 teleconference each month and committee generally help out with running study days. There are opportunities to assist with jobs at the national conference and chapter presidents sit on the national national committee of ARNA.

Thank you to all the committee for their support over the past 12 months and I look forward to 2017 / 2018. I hope to see many of our Vic / Tas members in Adelaide next month for what is shaping up to be a wonderful national conference.

Brendan Bakes
VIC/TAS Chapter President

The committee for VIC/TAS 2017-18 are:

President:	Brendan Bakes
Vice President:	Sara Alger
Secretary:	Marie Vasquez
Assistant Secretary:	Gail Collins
Treasurer:	Lyn McBain
Assistant Treasurer:	Trisha Dodds
Ordinary member:	Nurmala Kumar
	Patrick Small
	Lisa Street
	Raewyn Buchanan

Western Australia Chapter Report

The WA Chapter held its Second Annual General Meeting on the 18th of August at the WA Chapter Study day in Fremantle. All positions on the committee were up for re-election. The chapter committee aims to develop networks, share knowledge and resources, build capacity within our chapter and develop great working relationships throughout Western Australia to enhance the development of nurses working in rehabilitation settings across our large state.

The Chapter had a very successful second Chapter Study Day with 41 attendees. The study day at Fremantle had attendees from various sites across WA. We continue to be in a positive financial position and decided to offer x2 \$500 scholarships. We had 1 application for the scholarships and allocated 1 scholarship of \$200 for a member to attend the 2017 Chapter Study Day to further enhance our member's professional development.

The committee continues to maintain a great working relationship with Training Centre in Subacute Care WA (TRACS WA) and stakeholders such as the Stroke Foundation WA and other providers of health related products/services through trade displays at the study day and look forward to further development with key stakeholders.

The WA Chapter Office bearers for 2017-2018 were up for re-election with the Secretary and Treasurer re-elected and new President and Vice President. The Committee has grown in numbers with 8 ordinary members up from 5 previously.

Stephanie Jones
WA Chapter President

The committee for WA 2017-18 are:

President:	Stephanie Jones
Vice President:	Erika Schlemmer
Secretary:	Anthea Crawford
Treasurer:	Christopher Tan
Ordinary member:	Diane Hull
	Susan Finlay
	Nema Maddocks
	Sandra Denison
	Susan Kellet
	Tara Ruang
	Natalie Shepherd
	Gail Miller

Treasurers Report

At last year's AGM I was elected into the Vice Treasurer Position to provide support for the treasurer. Earlier this year I stepped into the treasurer role. During the last months it has been an objective to ensure that ARNA financial expectations were met. Recently a financial working group was formed to support the Treasurer role in moving forward.

For the year ended 30 June 2017 there was a net surplus of \$2,540, compared to a surplus of \$18,298 in the previous year. The Net Member Funds at 30 June 2017 were \$180,848 (\$178,308 in 2016).

I would like to acknowledge the previous ARNA National Treasurer Lyn McBain for her contribution to ARNA and to acknowledge the accounting team at PAMS for their support.

Refer to Financial Report for the Year Ended 30 June 2017

Terry Wells
Acting ARNA Treasurer