

## **CoNNO Meeting – Friday 8 November 2013 Member Reports**

List of member reports:

Audiometry Nurses Association of Australia  
Australasian Sexual Health and HIV Nurses Association  
Australian and New Zealand Society for Vascular Nursing ANZSVN  
Australian College of Children and Young People's Nurses  
Australian College of Mental Health Nurses  
Australian College of Neonatal Nurses Inc  
Australian College of Operating Room Nurses  
Australian Nurse Teachers Society  
Australian Nursing & Midwifery Federation  
Australian Ophthalmic Nurses Association  
Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association  
Australian Woman's Health Nurse Association  
Australian Wound Management Association  
Cancer Nurses Society of Australia  
CRANApus  
Drug and Alcohol Nurses of Australasia  
Gastroenterological Nurses College of Australia  
Maternal Child and Family Health Nurses Australia  
Nursing Informatics Australia  
Otorhinolaryngology, Head & Neck Nurses Group Inc  
Palliative Care Nurses Australia  
Renal Society of Australasia

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## **Audiometry Nurses Association of Australia Incorporated (ANAA INC.)**

**What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

- 1) Reviewing Business plan
- 2) Liaising with NSW health regarding our Audiometry history and report documentation.
- 3) Designing a Audiometry Nursing Flyer
- 4) Annual Conference from 16/10/2013-18/10/2013 in the Hunter Valley
- 5) Constitution has been changed in accordance with NSW law.

**What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

We at present have clinical competencies and professional competencies, we would like to find out if other Association have similar competencies and is it necessary to have both.

*Vanessa Smith*

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## **Australasian Sexual Health and HIV Nurses Association Inc. (ASHHNA)**

**What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

- Development of new website and sponsorship for same
- AGM October 2013
- Australasian Sexual Health and HIV Conference Darwin October 2013
- Nurses prize for paper and poster presentations at the above conference.
- Membership is steady
- Nursing representation on National Guideline reviews

*Jo Perks*

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## Australian and New Zealand Society for Vascular Nursing ANZSVN

### What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australia and New Zealand Society of Vascular Surgery combined with the Australian and New Zealand Society for Vascular Nursing ANZSVN was recently held in Hobart Tasmania on 12-15 October 2013. Due to the cost and distance only 64 nurses attended the conference.

Vascular Nurse of the Year 2013 presented to Theresa O'Keefe in recognition of the achievement to maintain vascular as a speciality amidst restructuring. Planning underway for a inaugural stand-alone Nursing Conference in 2014 in Canberra

AGM held with a shuffling of the office bearers. NZ Committee Member/ Vice President to liaise with NZ Wound Association as a possible "sister" association to promote vascular nursing across the Tasman.

### What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

Nil at this time

### Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Nil at this time

*Karen Simunov*

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## Australian College of Children and Young People's Nurses - ACCYPN

### What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

1. Current membership 563
2. 4<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Paediatric Nursing held in August in Melbourne, which ran concurrently with the International Congress in Paediatrics.
  - a. 220 delegates attended the 2 ½ day meeting
  - b. Master classes on - Achieving quality in financially challenging times, Conducting research in vulnerable populations, To publish or perish in paediatrics and child health, Choosing not to immunise – Myths and misconceptions.
  - c. Key note speakers were - Eileen Sporing - the Chief of Nursing and Senior Vice President for Patient Care Operations, Boston Children's Hospital, Sally Kendall – Trustee, Institute of Health Visiting Research in the UK, Dr Lynn Gillam, - Associate Professor, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne, Rhonda Marriot – Senior Research, Centre for Child Health Research, University of Western Australia
  - d. Sponsorship secured for PNG nurses to attend
3. Planning for the next international conference which will be held in Cairns in October 2014, theme 'Are the Children Well'.
4. Petitioning the Federal Government about the detainment of children in detention centres
5. Regular Chapter events running in WA, Qld, SA, Victoria and Tasmania
6. Establishing list of e-learning sessions via weblinks for members to view online, current discount offer to members before the 30<sup>th</sup> June <http://www.accypn.org.au/pd/e-learning/>
7. Have established facebook and twitter links, and in process of LinkedIn site
8. Reviewing College competencies and re developing these into practice standards

### What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

1. Promotion of the next conference, information will be on the College's website [www.accypn.org.au](http://www.accypn.org.au) soon.

### What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

2. Promotion of the next conference, information will be on the College's website [www.accypn.org.au](http://www.accypn.org.au) soon.

### Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

1. Work force issues related to capturing more accurate data about number so nurses working with children and young people across Australia

Jacque Burton – Chair ACCYPN

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## Australian College of Mental Health Nurses

This year we had a very **successful conference, in Perth** at the end of October, The key note presentations we particularly impressive.

Lt Colonel Cate McGregor (previously Malcolm) was an absolutely fantastic, sharing her story of gender transition within herself while being a senior ranking officer in the Aus. Army currently speech writer to the chief of the Army David Morrison and indeed wrote the if you don't like it get out speech.

Next year will be our 40<sup>th</sup> Conference a time for celebration of mental health nursing in Australia. Another celebration for us is the Colleges International Journal of Mental Health Nursing has been ranked the number one mental health nursing journal internationally.

We launched the conference **the Mental Health Nurses in Australia Scope of Practice** document, which has been long waited. When MHNIP began in particular there were so many GPs, or other health professionals who would ask what does a MHN do, and indeed MHN themselves having difficulty articulating what a MHN does, now we have a document that can guide that conversation.

The term 'scope of practice' in the health context refers to the range of experience, work practices and activities undertaken by health professionals.

It is not a list of tasks, but a broad framework that allows for developments in evidence-based practice, diversity in people, services and structures comprising the health care system and the needs and preferences of those who utilise health services.

Launch of Enhancing the Patient Journey: Integrating physical and mental care. The Purpose of the project is to support the integration and continuity of care for people with chronic physical illness who are experiencing mental health issues by increasing the capacity of the Australian nursing workforce.

We have developed with the support of an ERG aptly chaired by Rosemary an e-learning package and other resources to increase their capacity to:

- identify and assess for mental illness and mental health issues of patients with chronic diseases,
- support patients to manage co-existing mental illness and mental health issues and maintain good mental health, and
- work effectively and collaboratively with consumers, carers, other health professionals and service providers to provide integrated care to patients.

To raise awareness of the mental health needs of people with chronic disease among nurses.

To attract the participation of nurses work in the areas of Cancer, Cardiovascular disease, Diabetes, Chronic respiratory disease including asthma.

Launch of Enhancing the Patient Journey: Integrating physical and mental care, will also include a series of webinars.

<http://www.acmhn.org/chronic-disease-elearning>

*Kim Ryan*  
CEO ACMHN

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## Australian College of Neonatal Nurses Inc.

### What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

ACNN has four branches, in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Queensland. Membership is approximately 500.

The annual conference and AGM was held on Friday 9 August in Townsville, followed by a symposium entitled *The beginnings of life: ethical issues in neonatal care* on Saturday 10 August. Attendance was excellent for this more remote location with about 125 delegates however the profit was modest. The symposium was well received. A visit to the local neonatal unit was also popular. Planning for the 2014 conference in Adelaide in September is well underway. The venue is booked and program planning has commenced with a view to calling for abstracts early next year.

The ACNN and Parker Healthcare Early Career and Early Research Career Scholarship resulted in three recipients, announced at the AGM in August. Two were for international conference attendance to present a paper and the third was towards course fees for a master's program. Ongoing funding for this scholarship by Parker Healthcare was secured for 2014.

The ACNN Neonatal Nurse Excellence Award resulted in four finalists selected to attend the conference where the overall winner was announced. The number of nominations had risen considerably this year and there is greater awareness of this initiative in the neonatal nursing community. For the first time the parents of babies requiring admission to neonatal units were able to make a nomination and these formed one-third of the nominations. The call for 2014 nominations will be launched early next year.

ACNN has now approved five special interest groups, for neonatal education, neonatal nurse practitioners, neonatal research, neonatal palliative care and one for improving neonatal care in low resource countries in our region (Low Resource Countries SIG).

The Neonatal Nurse Education SIG has written a position statement on neonatal nursing education, which will be released on our website after formal ratification at the November meeting of the national committee.

ACNN was invited to propose a representative for the National Baby Friendly Health Initiative Advisory Committee and Michelle Simmons from New South Wales has accepted. ACNN was also invited to propose a representative on the Raising Children Network Scientific Advisory Board, and Dr Karen New from Queensland has accepted. Internationally, quite a few of our members attended and presented at the International Conference on Neonatal Nursing, hosted by the Council of International Neonatal Nurses (COINN) in Belfast, Ireland. ACNN is a member of COINN and the current COINN president is an ACNN member, Dr Karen New from Brisbane.

*Shelley Reid*  
*ACNN Secretary and Public Officer*

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## Australian College of Operating Room Nurses

### What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

- Changes to our Articles of Association were past at our recent General Meeting which will enable us to obtain charitable status with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission.
- After a review of business processes, ACORN has purchased a subscription to Google business apps (email, calendar, cloud storage etc.) to facilitate operations.
- A team of 50 volunteer reviewers are currently revising the ACORN Standards prior to the release of the new edition. There have been a number of improvements in the review process this year including the appointment of a Standards Editor, cloud document storage, and web conferencing.
- We have engaged an IT consultant to assist us to provide our ACORN Standards in multiple formats such as online and Tablet. The new formats will be launched at our national conference in May next year.
- One of our state/territory associations had over \$60,000 stolen by their treasurer. The case just been finalised after almost a year in the courts. This incident has led to major governance reviews in each state/territory.

### What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

- ACORN will soon be tendering for a new journal publisher after more than 10 years with the same company. Does anyone have any lessons to share regarding this process?

### Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Nil.

*Jed Duff*

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## Australian Nurse Teachers Society

### What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

AGM April- change over of National Executive members, as tabled in last report  
Exec group – developed action plan for national  
-actions in progress

State branches:WA- active and progressing

SA – active and progressing

QLD, NSW, Vic- branches without committees, currently under national exec management

Memberships have increased slightly across Australia - ? in line with next NNEC,  
Currently at 250..

Branches are struggling and discussions will be progressed at National level regarding how to manage this  
and maintain organisation viability

Bi-annual, NNEC- to be held in Adelaide in May 2014  
Progressing on target

National working to increase branch level involvement

### What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

Branch level membership involvement

### Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Nil at present

*Michelle Girdler*

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## Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation

**What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

### **National name change**

On 25 July 2013, the Fair Work Commission endorsed our new name – the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation. The Federal Council supported this historic resolution to reflect our membership of more than 19,000 midwives. For the 8<sup>th</sup> successive year, our union continues to grow, with an overall increase in ANMF membership in all state and territory branches and a national membership of over 230,711. The ANMF is now the largest health and aged care union in Australia.

### **Biennial National Conference**

The 11<sup>th</sup> ANMF Biennial National Conference was held over two days in Brisbane in October 2013. The Conference, themed *Protecting our professions, our patients and our planet*, saw national delegates consider 43 resolutions dealing with political, professional, aged care, industrial, workforce and social justice issues. These resolutions will inform the work of the Federal Office for the next two years. The Conference included a rally to Parliament House, Brisbane to protest privatisation of services and cuts to public health, and panels and speakers addressing global austerity measures, climate change and campaigning.

### **Review of the Competency Standards for nurses in general practice Project**

The ANMF Federal Office submitted a proposal for funding from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) to review the ANF Competency Standards for nurses in general practice, late in 2012. This document was originally published by ANF in 2005. Funding for the project was received from DoHA in June 2013. Commencing in July 2013, the ANMF is conducting this review in partnership with a nursing research team at the University of Wollongong headed up by Professor Liz Halcomb. The project is due to be completed by December 2014. Christine Ashley has been appointed as Project Officer to undertake day-to-day management of the project.

### **Nursing Guidelines for the Management of Medicines in Aged Care**

The revision of the Nursing Guidelines for the Management of Medicines in an Aged Care, 2002 edition, was completed in conjunction with the then Royal College of Nursing, *Australia*. The new document titled Nursing Guidelines: Management of Medicines in Aged Care, has now been published in hard copy and electronic formats, by the ANMF. While the publication is primarily focused on care provided in residential aged care settings, it is also applicable to aged care services provided in the community. There has been strong interest from members and stakeholders wanting to obtain the newly revised document. Hard copies of the Guidelines will be made available to CoNNO members at the November 2013 meeting.

### **Current ANMF national campaigns:**

#### **Australia's Nurses and Midwives - Positive Nursing Campaign**

Visit the ANMF Federal Office website ([www.anmf.org.au](http://www.anmf.org.au)) to find out about our national campaign *You couldn't be in better hands*, which aims to promote positive images of nurses and midwives, to the community.

#### **Stop Passing the Buck, Australia's Nursing Grads Need Jobs Campaign**

This campaign is raising awareness of the appallingly high numbers of newly graduating nurses not able to secure jobs. In Tasmania, only 30% of nurse graduates have been employed, in Queensland only 10%, 50% in South Australia and 800 nurse graduates are without employment in Victoria. To find out more visit the ANMF Federal Office website: [www.anmf.org.au](http://www.anmf.org.au).

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### Telehealth Project

The ANMF partnered in a Nursing and Midwifery Telehealth Consortia with APNA, Australian College of Midwives, Australian College of Nurse Practitioners and CRANApplus in 2013/14. Funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA), the *Telehealth Nursing and Midwifery: Education and Support Project* was part of the Government's aim was to provide more equitable access to specialist services for patients in regional, rural, remote and outer metropolitan areas. The ANMF was responsible for managing the development and distribution of nationally agreed Telehealth professional practice standards and guidelines for nurses and midwives. These standards and guidelines enable nurses and midwives to facilitate and contribute effectively to safe, high quality Telehealth on-line video consultations. Other components of the project included development of on-line learning modules (now available on the ANMF website), and communication and awareness raising activities. The overall project was completed at the end of June 2013. Hard copies of the Telehealth Standards and Guidelines will be made available to CoNNO members at the November 2013 meeting.

### Working Safe in Rural & Remote Australia Project

The *Working Safe in Rural and Remote Australia project* is a joint initiative of the Rural Doctors Association of Australia, the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine, ANMF, CRANApplus, the Queensland Teacher's Union, and the Police Federation of Australia. The project explored community-based approaches to reducing workplace violence, and improving safety for rural and remote health professionals, teachers, and police. The first stage of this project involved the development of the new *Working Safe* website. With Stage 1 now complete, the collaborating partners have submitted proposals to DoH for funding for Stages 2 and 3. The aim of Stage 2 is to develop and implement a centralised incident reporting database system for monitoring workplace violence in rural and remote areas. The Stage 2 proposal has been developed in conjunction with the Australian Institute of Criminology. Stage 3 focuses on developing a multi-disciplinary professional working safety program for employers and professionals. For further information about this project visit: [www.workingsafe.com.au](http://www.workingsafe.com.au).

### National Rural Health Alliance

The ANMF is one of the 34 national organisations in the National Rural Health Alliance (NRHA), which continues to work collaboratively to improve the health and wellbeing of people in Australia's rural and remote areas. The Alliance has lobbied the Australian Government on a range of health care inequities experienced by country people. The ANMF is represented on the Council by the Senior Federal Professional Officer. Through the NRHA, the ANMF has contributed to the discussion and development of broad Government policy to effect health and social change for rural and remote communities. The ANMF participated in the biennial National Rural Health Conference held in Adelaide in March 2013 and has contributed to the development of the NRHA 2013 Election Charter *Shining a Light on Rural and Remote Health*. ANMF will be attending the five day strategic policy think tank 'Councilfest' being held in Canberra late November 2013.

### Review of the National EN Practice Standards

In 2012, the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) funded Monash University to undertake a project to review the current National Competency Standards for the Enrolled Nurse. The primary purpose of the project is to consider their relevance and currency against the contemporary role and scope of practice of the enrolled nurse; and revise them accordingly. The ANMF Federal Office is represented on the Project Governance Committee. The project is due to be completed mid-2014, following the granting of additional funding from NMBA, to enable more rigorous validation of the draft revised standards. The resultant document will be the National Practice Standards for Enrolled Nurses.

### Review of the National Nurse Practitioner Standards

The ANMF has participated in a research project team, funded by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia, to review the existing National Competency Standards for Nurse Practitioners. The team, led by Southern Cross University, included representatives from four universities (The University of Sydney, Charles Darwin University, Flinders University and Southern Cross University), the Consumers' Health Forum of Australia, the Australian College of Nurse Practitioners (ACNP) and the ANMF. The project commenced in June 2012 and was completed in June 2013. The resultant document is the *Nurse Practitioner Standards for Practice*.

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The revised standards were launched at the ACNP Conference held in Hobart in September 2013 and are now available on the NMBA website at: <http://www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/>.

#### **Australian Commission for Safety and Quality in Health Care**

The ANMF is represented on the Australian Commission for Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC) Health Service Medication Expert Advisory Committee (HSMEAG). This committee is responsible for oversight of the implementation of the National Inpatient Medicines Chart (NIMC) in the public and private health sectors, including the NIMC National Audit Process. The committee also advises on health service-based medicines standardisation initiatives, and medicines safety and quality. The Commission has released a new version of the NIMC. This is a suite of standard medication charts, both paper and electronic, that present and communicate information consistently between health professionals providing care to inpatients. It is part of a national strategy to reduce medicine errors in acute care through standardised medicines prescribing, dispensing and administering and information presentation. Further information about the new version of the NIMC is available through both the Commission's and the CoNNO websites.

#### **National Residential Medication Chart (NMRC) 1st Tier Communications**

The ANMF Federal Office participates as a member of the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care National Residential Medication Chart: 1st Tier Communications Group. This group was convened to ensure effective communication with the health and aged care sectors in relation to the development of the chart. The new national chart will permit the direct supply and claiming of PBS/RPBS medicines from medicines charts being used in aged care, removing the need for a separate prescription form. Currently, 30 pilot sites within NSW are testing the use of this comprehensive medicines chart in residential aged care facilities, leading to progressive refinement of the chart prior to approval by the Commission for national roll out. The legal prescription element of the chart will, of course, require changes to drugs and poisons Acts in the States and Territories.

#### **Health Workforce Australia Health Professional Prescribing Pathway (HPPP) Project**

The HWA HPPP Project commenced at the beginning of 2012. The Project has aimed to develop a nationally consistent approach to prescribing by health professionals that supports safe practice, quality use of medicines and effectiveness of healthcare services. The plan has been to deliver a consistent platform by which health professionals, other than medical practitioners, may undertake prescribing of medicines consistent with their scope of professional practice. The ANMF Federal Office was represented on the Project Advisory Group (PAG) which consisted of representatives of consumers, health professionals, higher education sector, jurisdictions and regulators. Following extensive consultation with all registered health professions and key stakeholders, the HPPP was finalised in May of this year, and the final report approved by the HWA Board in July 2013. The document was then circulated to PAG members, but is not for distribution until it has been considered by the Australian Health Ministers Advisory Council (AHMAC) and the Standing Council on Health (SCoH) in late 2013.

#### **What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

Support for professional and industrial campaigns being run by the ANMF, for the benefit of nursing and midwifery colleagues across the country.

#### **Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?**

Continued feedback to, and collaboration with, the ANMF.

*Julianne Bryce and Elizabeth Foley*  
Federal Professional Officers

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## **Australian Ophthalmic Nurses Association (Inc)** **Report to the National Coalition of Nursing Organisations** **November 2013**

This organisation, along with similar groups in Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia, represents the interests of Australian Ophthalmic Nurses. Our objectives are around providing a forum for nurses working in ophthalmic practice, facilitating education, defining and promoting a standard for practice, creating networking opportunities and promoting research in this area of practice.

With this in mind **significant activities of the organisation in the last six months** include:

- Continued access to information via the Internet, websites are maintained by the NSW, Qld, WA and Vic Associations.
- The NSW group has undergone a process of redeveloping the website to provide a 'members only' section, with a view to offering ongoing professional development and education opportunities for members.
- Publication and distribution to members of a national newsletter, with contributions from all state groups.
- Meetings for members held in each state several times per year; including State conferences in NSW (June) and Qld (August).
- Support of post-graduate study for members and other ophthalmic nurses, through provision of scholarships and through support of existing post-graduate programs and courses.
- The project to develop a *Professional Practice Standard for Ophthalmic Nurses in Australia* has not progressed at this stage.

**Our organisation would be interested to share the experiences of other groups with the following issues currently being considered:**

- Our group is an Incorporated Association, as are those in the other states. How could we develop a more formal national committee structure, without damaging the integrity of the state based organisations?
- We continue to explore offering ongoing professional education to members. The group would welcome any advice from other groups regarding their experiences.

Thank you for the opportunity to join this forum.

*Amanda Wylie*

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## Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association

**What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

- Upward of 3,800 members nationally
- Successful initiation of free membership for student nurses
- Successful transition from May 2013 to new name Australian Primary healthcare Nurses Association
- Growing PHC nursing membership
- APNAs Increasing National representation in PHC space
- Successful 2013 APNA conference
- Planning APNA "Thriving through Change" 2014 conference in Sydney
- Under construction -online policy forum –watch this space for APNA members
- Ongoing successful and full Nursing CPD opportunities via F2F workshops and online learning through APNA
- Increasingly emphasis for APNA to develop, strengthen and sustaining good alliances and strategic partnerships with nursing and midwifery organisations ie:
  - Partnership between AMLA & APNA for NiGP funding to roll out 7 projects till June 2015
  - Partnership with ACN for writing of 2 subjects for Grad cert in nursing practice

**What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

Nil

**Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?**

Nil

*Julianne Badenoch*

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## Australian Women's Health Nurse Association Inc

### What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

Increased our membership  
Invitation to South Australian Sub Branch members to present at two WHN oriented functions  
Annual WHN Professional Update "Pathways to Venus: Vulval health and other women's health topics" 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> November in Sydney(NSWNMA) receiving registrations  
Clinical Handbook updated and in final draft  
Advanced Practice Standards currently under review

### What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

Networking with women's health interest groups

### Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Governance training in 2014 for our Executive

*Linda Oliver*

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## Australian Wound Management Association (AWMA)

### What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

We are providing our webinars for viewing free at present but it may be members only in the next year. There are currently two on line:

'The Importance of Skin Integrity and its profound impact' Webinar Guest speaker: A/Professor William McGuiness  
'The Importance of Wound Bed Cleansing/Preparation' Webinar Guest speaker: Professor Donald MacLellan

The Education subcommittee of AWMA has been working over the past two years to develop a set of minimum criteria for content of basic or fundamental wound education courses/modules. There are four streams of basic courses for which these criteria have been developed- they are:

- Introduction to wound management
- Acute trauma wound management
- Ulceration of lower legs
- Pressure ulceration

There are also three sets of criteria for advanced courses/modules –again specifying the minimum set of content to be covered when teaching these programs. The advanced programs for which these criteria have been developed are;

- Diabetic foot wound management
- Oncological wound management
- Conservative sharp debridement therapy

It is intended that educators delivering training programs based around these subject areas would include the minimum content specified in the templates developed by the subcommittee. A major benefit of this process is ensuring that the attendees are quite clear about the level of training being presented and advertising about the advanced or fundamental knowledge to be presented is accurate.

When those seeking RCNA endorsement of their programs submit their wound related information the assessors assigned by RCNA will use the templates provided by AWMA to judge the minimum criteria being taught. If endorsement is approved the wound related program will be cobranded with RCNA and AWMA logos. If criteria is not met and no valid reason for inclusion is not provided then endorsement will not be given and the educator would be asked to review the content of their training program to align with the minimum training requirements.

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**DOWNLOADS AVAILABLE**

**Module 1**

- AWMA MODULE ACCREDITATION: Introduction to Wound Management
- AWMA GUIDELINES TO DEVELOPMENT OF COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT TOOLS: Introduction to wound management

**Module 2**

- AWMA MODULE ACCREDITATION: Pressure Injury Prevention and Management
- AWMA GUIDELINES TO DEVELOPMENT OF COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT: Pressure Injury Prevention and Management

**Module 3**

- AWMA MODULE ACCREDITATION: Assessment and Management of Lower Leg Ulceration
- AWMA GUIDELINES TO DEVELOPMENT OF COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT: Assessment and Management of Lower Leg Ulceration

**Module 4**

- AWMA MODULE ACCREDITATION: Acute Traumatic Wound Management
- AWMA GUIDELINES TO DEVELOPMENT OF COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT: Acute Traumatic Wound Management

**Module 5**

- AWMA MODULE ACCREDITATION: The High Risk Foot (Including the Diabetic Foot)
- AWMA GUIDELINES TO DEVELOPMENT OF COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT: The High Risk Foot (Including the Diabetic Foot)

**Module 6**

- AWMA MODULE ACCREDITATION: Management of Oncology Related and Palliative Wounds
- AWMA GUIDELINES TO DEVELOPMENT OF COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT: Management of Oncology Related and Palliative wounds

**Module 7**

- AWMA MODULE ACCREDITATION: Conservative Sharp Wound Debridement
- AWMA GUIDELINES TO DEVELOPMENT OF COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT TOOLS: Conservative Sharp Wound Debridement

Also available on line are patient and health professional brochures regarding Venous Leg Ulcers (VLU), what it is, how to manage VLU and how to prevent VLU.

The Australian Wound Management Association welcomed the Federal Government's decision to provide \$0.3M to fund a scoping study and cost benefit analysis of options to better address chronic wound management

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for Senior Australians. The funding was announced in the Federal Budget 2013-14, handed down on 14 May, and forms part of the 'Supporting Senior Australians' package.

We would like to congratulate Margo Asimus NP Wound Management for being awarded Nurse Practitioner of the year from the Australian College of Nurse Practitioners at their annual conference in Hobart this September.

**What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

We have in draft form "Credentialing for the Advanced Wound Clinician" and would like those organisations that have credentialing within their framework to review the document and provide feedback. We have used much of the CoNNO framework. We are also seeking permission from CoNNO to use some their figures from their Glossary of Terms for our publications and are awaiting permission to do so.

**Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?**

We have over 250 registered for the 2014 Conference in the Gold Coast. <http://www.awma2014.com.au>  
Abstracts close 8 November.



**A Gold Standard:  
Research and Clinical Practice**

Australian Wound Management Association  
**National Conference 2014**  
Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre  
7-10 May 2014

**Web:** [www.awma.com.au](http://www.awma.com.au)

Terry Swanson NPWM  
AWMA Nursing Representative  
[tswanson@swh.net.au](mailto:tswanson@swh.net.au)

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## Cancer Nurses Society of Australia (CNSA)

### What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

The CNSA 16<sup>th</sup> Winter Congress with the theme of *Connecting Cancer Care* was held in Brisbane in July. This very successful Congress was our first as an independent society. We received a record number of registrations (>540) and abstract submissions. All three pre-congress workshops were oversubscribed generating wait lists of participants. National and international invited keynote speakers ensured high quality plenary sessions. Planning is well underway for the 17<sup>th</sup> Winter Congress to be held in Melbourne.

Two members were awarded Life Memberships at the Brisbane Winter Congress, in recognition of their outstanding contribution to cancer nursing and cancer care. Keith Cox OAM and Tish Lancaster received these awards which is the highest honour of CNSA.

Around seven other members were successful in their application for travel and research grants. These were also awarded at Congress.

Our five regional groups continue to be active running regular education sessions for local members. The Sydney group were the first to trial podcasting an education session. The plan is that future selected sessions will be placed in the members section on the CNSA website. The special interest groups (SIGS) (breast, gynaecological oncology and radiation oncology) memberships continue to grow with the possibility of new group development. With this growth the society are now planning a review of the constitution relating to SIGs. The constitutional review will be in consultation with the broader society membership.

We are continuing to grow our brand as an independent society. The need for new positions from within the National Executive Committee has been identified. The regional and special interest groups will now have the support and mentorship of a specified executive committee member. Previously this role was covered by the President, however with the growth of the organisation and the regional and special interest groups higher needs were identified. Also the communications officer role has been expanded to support our entry onto social media platforms:

- Facebook: Cancer Nurses Society of Australia – CNSA and
- Twitter: @CNSA\_ORG).

Our communication strategy has also included designing templates to ensure a consistent, professional and recognisable look for the organisation. All of our new and existing position descriptions have been either created or updated into the new format. Our research grant guideline and application form have gone through a complete review and reformatting. These new documents should ensure a more seamless application and review process.

A recent call for nominations to the National Executive Committee for the 2014-16 term has been finalised. Successful nominees have been notified and the results have been posted to the webpage.

Mary Ryan  
CNSA National Executive Committee - NSW representative

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## **CRANaplus**

### **What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

- After 18 months of hard work, CRANaplus has received RTO status, a significant milestone for our education services.
- A very successful conference was held in Darwin in September, with a theme of 'cradle to grave'.
- A new President, Dr Janie Smith was elected at the AGM for a three year term.
- After 5 successful years at the helm, our CEO Carole Taylor has announced her resignation. The process of appointing new CEO will commence in November, and Geri Malone (CRANaplus Professional Officer) will be acting CEO during this transition period, with the support of the CFO.
- CRANaplus provided responses to the following consultations:
  - NMBA Endorsement for scheduled medicines
  - NMBA Re -entry framework
  - ANMAC Midwifery accreditation standards

*Christopher Cliffe*

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## Drug and Alcohol Nurses of Australasia Inc. (DANA)

### What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

- Significant educational events
  - Walk on the Wild Side (WOWs) one day Symposium held in Brisbane in May 2013. Themed “Crossed Tracks”, it explored issues around substance misuse and chronic disease. Planning is now underway for WOWs 2014.
  - First off-shore DANA conference, “1st Australasian Mental Health and Addiction Nursing Conference”, held in Auckland in June 2013 in partnership with the New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses (NZCMHN)- Te Ao Maramatanga.
  - Planning underway for the Sydney DANA Conference 2014 themed “Speak Up”
  - NSW Nurses “Frontiers” Forum held in Sydney in August 2013.
  - ASSIST-BI (WHO drug and alcohol screening tool for primary care) 2-day workshop held in Brisbane July 2013.
  - Queensland Chapter meeting August 2013 “The relationship between internal sensitivity and alcohol craving”.
  - South Australian Chapter meeting October 2013 “The use of Interferon in the treatment of hepatitis B in 2013 & beyond: A review of data & clinical guidelines”.
  - Presentation to the NZCMHN) “Maternal addiction management”.
- AGM held in conjunction with 1<sup>st</sup> off shore conference
  - Launched new constitution.
  - Appointed several new management committee members.
- Involvement with other organisations / Conference representation
  - DANA stands and displays at:
    - CATSINaM October 2013.
    - ACN Forum October 2013.
    - Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol & other Drugs (APSAD) November 2013.
    - Cutting Edge (Auckland) September 2013
  - Attended launch of new NGO – “Lives Lived Well” Brisbane July 2013.
  - ASPAD strategic planning meeting.
- DANA Pathways to Credentialling Program
  - Officially launched in Sydney in August 2013 at the NSW Nurses Forum by Prof Ramon Shaban from ACIPCI.
  - First face-to-face meeting of the Credentialling Advisory Committee held in Sydney on 24.8.13.
  - First 4 applicant’s credentialled (with 3 others close to finalisation).
  - Mahara software being trialled to provide interaction between credentialling applicants and the credentialling mentor.
- Grants
  - The Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia (ADCA) for DANA Pathways to Credentialling Program
  - Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (FARE) towards the cost of keynote and invited speakers for the DANA conference 2014.
  - Also from FARE \$2000 to support a DANA member’s attendance at APSAD conference.

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- Administrative
  - New teleconference provider appointed.
  - Discussion with potential patron.
  - Participation in research, *Families thriving in adversity*, funded under the National Research Agenda for Protecting Children 2011 – 2014.
  - DANA contribution to a revised national Cannabis Policy.
- Articles about DANA
  - ADCA Tips and Tricks for New Players...a Guide to becoming familiar with the Alcohol and Other Drug sector.
  - Two DANA newsletters.
  - APSAD newsletter,
  - New Zealand “Handover” newsletter,
  - Brisbane Private Hospital newsletter.
  - New Zealand’s first “Advanced Certified Addiction Nurse” under the DANA Pathways to Credentialling Program interviewed.
- Future planning
  - Participation in the National Alcohol and Other Drug workforce strategy
  - Estimation of addiction demand and treatment needs in the future / the Drug and Alcohol Prevention and Treatment Advisory Committee meeting

**What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

- Recognition systems for ENs
- Working with a Patron

*Colleen Blums*

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## **Gastroenterological Nurses College of Australia (GENCA)**

**What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

1. Development of e-Learning modules on Endoscopic Skills
2. Development of National Standard in Care & Maintenance Gastrostomy feeding tubes
3. Development e-Learning Module in Care & Maintenance of Gastrostomy Feeding tubes
4. Continuation of Practical Skills Assessments in Endoscopic Reprocessing
5. Fundamentals in Endoscopy Cleaning and Reprocessing Workshops
6. Credentialling Examination for Gastroenterology Nurses via the examining arm known as COGEN (Credentialling Organisation of Gastroenterological Nurses).

**What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

Continuing to lobby for remuneration of Credentialling status.

**Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?**

Not identified via membership.

*Debbie-Ann McQueen*  
President

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## Maternal Child and Family Health Nurses Australia (MCaFHNA)

### What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

- Special general meeting held April 23<sup>rd</sup> to ratify new name (MCaFHNA) and new membership criteria ensuring all state and territory members now also members of the national Association
- Bi-annual conference held in May 9-10<sup>th</sup> in Canberra. 550 in attendance. Next conference being planned for 2015 in Perth
- Partnered in Office of Learning and Teaching (OLT) grant regarding inter-professional educational standards for working with children from birth to 5 years.
- Journal now searchable through major databases.
- Now additionally represented on:
  - National Immunisation Committee
  - Coalition of Organisations Committed to the Safety and Wellbeing of Australia's Children
  - Expert reference panel of the National Framework for Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander Child and Family Health
- Established a project team and project plan to develop national standards for MCaFHN practice. Plan to commence in February 2014 and be completed by May 2015 for National Conference. Have sources funds to commence project. Have recruited a research assistant/project officer to work on the project

### What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

How to go seek funds/publishing support to continue development of our National Standards?

### Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

As above

*Julian Grant*

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## **Nursing Informatics Australia (NIA)**

### **What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

The NIA Strategic Plan 2013-2015 was finalised at our July meeting, it is now available on the NIA website.

The NIA conference this year was held in Adelaide in July as the first day of the Health Informatics Society Australia (HISA) conference. We had a great attendance, with keynote speakers from Victoria and the UK. There were quite a few first time speakers who did really well under pressure. The day was great for networking and making new friends. The NIA conference next year will again be on the Monday of the HIC week, in Melbourne, from the 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> August – if you are in Melbourne think about putting in a paper and attending, it really is a great day!

HISA Health Informatics Certification – these have been finalised with some of the authors sitting the actual exam as a trial run – I believe they all passed. The exam will be available very soon for those who have registered via the HISA website. The questions are around generic health informatics, with health profession specific questions also being available, for example, nursing, for those belonging to each health profession.

Nursing Competencies – these are yet to be signed off by the ANMF. NIA are frequently asked for these by the people writing position descriptions for nurses who will be directly involved with informatics.

### **What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

Nursing and Health Informatics is finally becoming known and is being included in Workforce Planning as it is recognised that the increase in “e” records for health professionals requires that the workforce will need to be competent in their use, and understand the theory that underpins health informatics. NIA would be more than happy to be called upon for expert advice in relation to this.

### **Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?**

As Nursing is the largest profession within health, we must be included in any future planning in relation to eHealth – it has been shown that eHealth projects that have clinicians on their team (especially nurses) will have a more successful implementation than if the project is driven by technology people.

*Lis Herbert, Chair NIA*

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## Otorhinolaryngology Head & Neck Nurses Group Inc ...O.H.N.N.G.

### What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

We held our 17<sup>TH</sup> National Conference in Perth in March. This was once again a great success with 111 delegates registered. The three-day event showcased speakers from around the world as well as local and national nursing speakers. It was the second year the surgeons sponsored our attendance at the welcome reception and their gala dinner. We are also encouraged to attend any lectures during their scientific meeting

#### WA

New State Coordinated elected at the AGM. Ms Tu Trang Tran ENT Clinical Nurse Specialist. Tooey has continued to run several education sessions for our members in the West. The dates for next year are 12<sup>th</sup> February, 14<sup>th</sup> May, 13<sup>th</sup> August & 12<sup>th</sup> November for 2014

#### TAS

New State Coordinated elected at the AGM. It has been a pleasure to welcome Dani Donegan from Bernie in Tasmania and I must congratulate her on holding her first (of many we hope) study day. This was held at the Tramsheds in Launceston. We had an amazing 82 delegates attending from all over Tassie. Silvia O'Connor, Bronny Hindley-Cooke, Pauline Kennedy and myself went down to add to the already diverse program. I can safely say we gave everyone a brief insight into the vast specialty that we belong to. The evaluations certainly gave us a lot of positive feedback and a sound base to start planning more events there in the future. Many thanks to the 6 Victorian members that headed over the Tasman to attend.

#### VIC

New State Coordinator elected at the AGM. Plans for the First study day is underway.

#### ACT

New State Coordinated elected at the AGM Judith Redpath. Judy has also held her first education morning and this was also well received, next one planned for November.

#### NSW & SA

Two education session held for both of these states this year. Great speakers and attendance.

#### QLD

Queensland has also been busting at the seams with education. Silvia & Tooey headed up to help Cheryl out with her paediatrics day at the PA. This had 91 delegates attend and she followed this up with a regional study day, which I attended, in Toowoomba with 67 delegates.

I have been to Qld to attend one of the planning meetings for the next National, which will be held in Brisbane in March/Apr next year. We hope to offer a diverse program and with the theme *Modern Approaches to ENT* should give everyone the opportunity to hear and experience the latest and current treatment available around the world.

On behalf of our group we submitted a letter of disappointment on the new guidelines for submission to the newly formed ACN, for APEC status and achieving accredited points on delivering education to our members. We feel this has now become more of a money generated issue and will become well out of reach for small organizations.

#### Membership

Continues to grow with 102 new members since Jan

### Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Would CoNNO be able to look at the possibility of initiating this service/recognition to its members?

Tracey Nicholls

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## **Palliative Care Nurses Australia (PCNA)**

### **What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

The AGM was held in September and 2 new office bearers and 2 new ordinary members were elected to the national committee. The incoming committee confirmed PCNA's commitment to strengthening our membership base, inclusion of members in our activities and increasing our professional profile within the health sector and with government agencies.

PCNA ran a short series of clinical and non-clinical professional development events during the year. The topics covered included ethics of care at end of life, how to prepare a successful abstract for conference submission, designing a winning poster and writing a great podium presentation. Local networking and education events is part of PCNA's commitment to increasing opportunities for members to develop and maintain knowledge, build and continue professional relationships and encourage involvement in the profession.

PCNA's submission to the Queensland Parliamentary Inquiry into palliative care services and home and community care services in Queensland in late 2012 was acknowledged in the follow-up to the report published in May 2013. PCNA was invited to participate in the Queensland Department of Health 'End of life care statewide health service planning project' consultation phase and submitted to the project at the end of October.

PCNA biennial conference is being held in Sydney 6-7<sup>th</sup> April 2014. Acknowledging that palliative and end of life care occurs in all settings with participation from all levels of nursing, the conference theme is 'Building a bridge to the future: the wide span of palliative care nursing'.

### **What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?**

Nil at this time.

### **Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?**

Not at this time

*Kym Griffin*

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## **Renal Society of Australasia (RSA)**

**What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?**

### **Conferences**

RSA 41st conference was held in June in Hobart with 400+ delegates. Next year's conference to be a Concurrent with ANZ Society of Nephrology to be held in August 2014. Annual New Zealand Branch Conference held this November

### **Financial Model of our organisation.**

An external consultant and an independent accountant were engaged to review our business. With membership fees covering only 40% of current expenditure, financial remodelling has been required to ensure financial security/viability along with meeting our insurance requirements of the organisation as a whole.

The new model mirrors a number of organisations with a similar structure and membership to the RSA. As a result of the implementation of the new model some of the savings will be utilised in an upgrade of the organisations website enabling easier viewing on smart phones and tablets, introduction of an online membership system and an increased number of travel grants for RSA Annual Conference attendance based upon branch membership numbers.

### **Interactive education portal**

The Nephrology Education Network is pleased to announce, in collaboration with Kidney Health Australia and the Home Dialysis First Project that the Online Nephrology Education (ONE) e-learning portal went live on Friday 9th of August, 2013 and is now accepting registrations. This new partnership brings Nephrology online education to the ONE place that requires ONE web address and ONE password to provide you with a ONE stop shop for quality peer reviewed online education. We are still able to offer this online learning free.

*Beth Amega*

[www.renalsociety.org](http://www.renalsociety.org)

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The Coalition of National Nursing Organisations acknowledges the traditional owners and Elders past and present of the land on which we meet across Australia

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