

Suite Talk

The Newsletter of the NSW Operating Theatre Association Inc



APRIL 2011

www.nsw-ota.asn.au

Dear Colleagues,

This is my first suite talk as President of the NSW OTA, it is a great honour to hold this position and I look forward to working with our members and colleagues in the trade. The NSW OTA is undergoing great change and in the next year the executive will be reviewing all aspects of the organisation and developing a strategic plan which will take us forward.

I hope you have all recovered from our Annual Conference held in early March. The conference saw large numbers of delegates and trade in attendance which helped make it the great success it was. Rosehill Racecourse provided a wonderful background to 3 days of education, networking and social functions.

At the AGM we were very proud to present NSW OTA awards to YY Soo from Westmead Hospital who was presented with the NSW OTA excellence award for outstanding achievement by an individual perioperative nurse, the NSW OTA excellence award for Perioperative teamwork was awarded to the Perioperative nursing workforce program working party from Nepean Hospital. Honorary life membership was awarded to Terri Pinkis, Dr Lois Hamlin and Karin Croghan further details of these awards can be found later in this edition.

A big thankyou to the conference subcommittee for their time and effort in organising a successful conference. Thanks also to all executive and Zone executive who help out throughout the conference to make sure it runs as smooth as possible.

During the conference we held a focus group session on the Future Directions of the NSW OTA. During this session a SWOT analysis was developed. The executive are currently using this analysis for a review of the NSW OTA and the possible changes suggested by the delegates.

The annual planning day was held on the 2nd and 3rd April (in 2011 it was agreed that we would hold the planning day over a weekend). Executive members got together and reviewed all aspects of the NSW OTA. This weekend was invaluable to the executive as it provides time for us to discuss the current situation and the future. One decision to be made was for the NSW OTA Inc. to join a group called Associations Forum, Association Forum is a group which focuses on helping not for profit organisations in their day to day running of the organisation, membership recruitment and retention, website management and strategic planning. 3 executive members attended the recruitment and retention of member's workshop recently and it was found to be an excellent day which has given us lots of ideas for improving our membership base and retaining those members we already have.

A big thank you to our outgoing executive members Eve Stones and Fran O'Brien for their terms on the executive committee. It was a pleasure to work with you both.

Don't forget to check out the NSW OTA website. Heaps of information is available on the website in particular the calendar of events which includes professional days and education sessions though out the State.

The professional days for 2011 have been confirmed with the Anaesthetic Day to be held on the 7th May, Recovery day on the 4th June, Educator's day 19th August and the Instrument/Circulating Day on the 5th November. Details are available on the website for each of these days.

I would like to welcome Maryann Renshaw as our newest executive member. Maryann brings with her lots of experience, knowledge and enthusiasm and has already become a valuable member of the executive.

Lastly but certainly not least is a very special thank you to Kerry Rodgers our immediate past president. It was a pleasure working with you and I am pleased that you have decided to stay on the executive as ACORN Representative.

Allanah



Kerry Rodgers hands over the heirloom Presidents Badge to Allanah Hazelgrove at the conclusion of the 2011 NSW OTA Conference.

oops!

A Correction

At the annual conference each company was provided with the opportunity to place their company profile in the official program. Unfortunately a printing error occurred and it was noticed that under the company name of Austmel we had another company's profile. The NSW OTA Inc is very sorry for this mistake and has included the correct profile for Austmel in Suite talk. The correct profile is....

Austmel Pty Ltd is an Australian owned company which was established in 1974. We are market leaders in the supply of Quality Management Systems, Sterilization Monitoring and Packaging Products to the healthcare industry, in particular those involved with the processing and supply of sterile goods.

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- Steripak Bowie & Dick Test Packs*
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- Quality Assurance Training Courses*

Executive Committee of The NSW OTA Inc. for 2011 - 2012

POSITION	NAME	CONTACT
PRESIDENT	Allanah Hazelgrove	president@nsw-ota.asn.au
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ASS. TREASURER	Jane Waldron	c/-info@nsw-ota.asn.au
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MINUTES SECRETARY	Vacant	
EXECUTIVE MEMBER	Maryanne Renshaw	c/-info@nsw-ota.asn.au
EXECUTIVE MEMBER	Vacant	
SECRETARIAT	Michelle Berarducci	info@nsw-ota.asn.au



LET US KNOW SO WE CAN LET YOU KNOW

Have you move home or changed your workplace? Do you have a new phone number or email address? Don't forget to let us know. Contact Michelle Berarducci at the office by telephone 029799 9835 or by email info@nsw-ota.asn.au or send her a note to

The Secretariat
NSW OTA INC.
P.O. Box 212,
Croydon NSW 2132

2011 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AWARDS

LIFE MEMBERS

Dr Lois Hamlin is an outstanding perioperative nurse, leader clinician mentor and educator. Lois has been a member of the NSW OTA since the 1980s and has held a number of Executive positions, including President in that time. She continues to represent perioperative nursing on a number of committees at state, national and international level. Lois is a past Editor of the ACORN Journal and is currently on the editorial board of the Journal of Perioperative Practice (UK) and the AORN Journal (USA). She was also the lead editor of the first Australian perioperative textbook, Perioperative Nursing: An Introductory Text, in 2009. Lois has published a number of papers and articles and in 2000, was the winner of the Alison Bell Award and in 2008 was the ACORN Judith Cornell Orator and was the inaugural recipient of the NSW OTA Excellence In Perioperative Nursing Award



Karin Croghan has been a member of the NSW OTA for 34 years. She has attended every NSW OTA conference with one exception in 2010. Karin has attended many zone meetings as part of her travels around the state and has attended many interstate, ACORN and international conferences. She has received a certificate of appreciation from the NTPN in recognition of her regular attendance and support. During her career, Karin was a brilliant clinician, who held the role of CNS at Nepean Hospital, with her expertise in orthopaedics and trauma, - her grasp on the mechanics is still held in high esteem of the orthopaedic surgeons she worked with. Her focus was always patient orientated. Her breadth of knowledge of perioperative nursing made her a natural clinical leader and mentor to her colleagues. Karin retired from perioperative nursing in 2007.



Terri Pinkis has had a long and productive career in Nursing with Neurosurgery becoming her passion and pride. During her years in the operating theatres of Wollongong, she had the opportunity to train and influence large numbers of staff both nurses and surgeons and she was held in great esteem by these professionals. The establishment of the neuroscience conference was one of her major achievements in collaboration with her nursing peers. Many of Terri's extracurricular activities have been in support of neurosurgery and neurology education in the Wollongong area. Terri has been an active contributor to nursing education and an exemplar of continuing professional development. Terri has retired from her nursing career and will be missed greatly



NSW OTA EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR PERIOPERATIVE TEAMWORK

PNWP WORKING PARTY
THE NEPEAN HOSPITAL

The working party for the PNWP project conducted at Nepean Hospital consisted of 10 nurses and 1 Operations Assistant.

Each member was asked for a commitment to the project for twelve months. All 11 remained with the project until its conclusion.

The chosen project, 'Team Talk' is a communication model in which the surgical team briefly discusses the requirements of each of the patients in their care. It was designed to complement and supplement the current practise of "Time out" and could be used in conjunction with the WHO Safe Surgery Checklist.

The 'Team Talk' project has been presented at a number of nursing conferences and education days.



Thank you to the nominators of all of the award recipients. It is your words of praise that have demonstrated the achievements of these outstanding perioperative nurses and I've taken the liberty of using excerpts from your nominations to highlight the appropriateness of these awards.

*Karen Hay
Public Relations*

NSW OTA EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL PERIOPERATIVE NURSE.

Y Y SOO

Y Y is a very experienced perioperative nurse, who has been a Clinical Nurse Educator for only a short part of her working life. In the last 3 years Y Y has given incredible support to all instrument/circulation nurses and NUMs in her unit at Westmead Hospital. She has empathy for all novice learners and displays great tolerance and patience, enabling her to give valuable feedback. There is a saying,

"People don't always remember what you say, but they will always remember how you made them feel!"

That's YY to a T.



DO YOU KNOW AN OUTSTANDING PERIOPERATIVE NURSE OR NURSING TEAM?

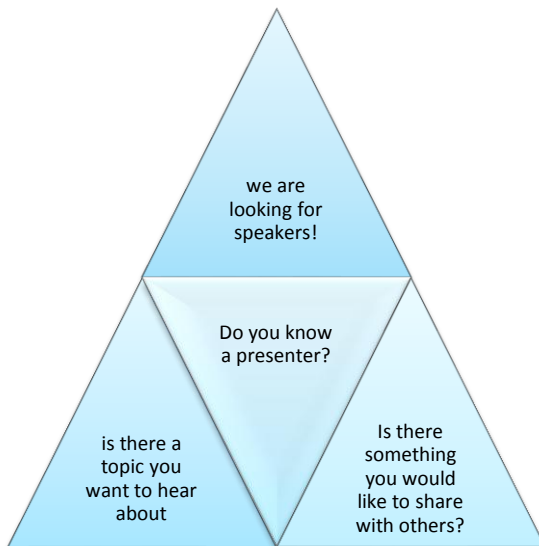
If so, now is the time to consider nominating those perioperative nurses whose work ethos and practises are an inspiration. There are different categories for which you can nominate your colleagues.

The details for the nominating process are available on the web site

www.nsw-ota.asn.au

Just click on the link, EXCELLENCE AWARDS, in the menu on the left hand side of the home page.

**ABSTRACTS MUST BE
RECEIVED BY 5PM –
2ND SEPTEMBER, 2011**



We are looking for speakers and topics for the Recovery and Instrument/Circulating nurses Professional Education Days. If you are interested in presenting or showcasing your skills and knowledge in a particular area of your work then let us know. Contact the Education Officer, Debbie Carter or Assistant Education Officer, Brian Julien via email education@nsw-ota.asn.au Or by contacting Michelle Berarducci on 029799 9835 Or info@nsw-ota.asn.au or P.O. 212, Croydon NSW 2132

7th May, 2011

*NSW OTA Professional Day – Anaesthetics
Focus 3M, Pymble,*

21st May, 2011

*Zone 7 Professional Day –
Obstetric Emergencies Canberra*

4th June, 2011

*NSW OTA Professional Day –
Recovery Room Focus 3M, Pymble*

14th June, 2011

*Zone 6 Professional Day
Wollongong*

17th July, 2011

*Zone 5 Professional Day
Grafton Hospital*

6th Aug, 2011

Zone 1 Professional Day Newcastle

9th Aug, 2011

*Zone 6 Professional Day
Wollongong*

13th Aug, 2011

*Zone 7 Professional Day
Oncology + AGM Canberra*

19th Aug, 2011

*NSW OTA Professional Day –
Educators Focus
Royal Women's Hospital, Randwick,
Sydney*

19th Nov, 2011

*NSW OTA Professional Day
Instrument/Circulating Focus
,Rydges Hotel, Parramatta*

New South Wales Operating Theatre Association Inc.
Annual Conference
Perioperative Nurses
"OUT IN FRONT"

8-10th March 2012 - ROSEHILL RACECOURSE

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

This call for abstracts is your chance to be part of this special event.
Interesting clinical papers are wanted for our annual conference
to be held at Rosehill Racecourse.
You must follow the specific criteria and formatting for abstracts,
available from the NSW OTA website www.nsw-ota.asn.au or
email info@nsw-ota.asn.au

Specific Criteria and formatting for abstracts are available on the NSW OTA Inc. website.

www.nsw-ota.asn.au

If you have any queries, please contact
The Secretariat Michelle Berarducci
On 97909 835
Or via email
info@nsw-ota.asn.au

**Zone report by Debbie Dobbs-Higgins
April 2011**

“The time has come the walrus said...”

And so for me the time has come and it is with a heavy heart I write my last zone report.

It has been an honour and a privilege to represent the NSW OTA as Zone Coordinator for these past 6 years, liaising between Sydney and the country executive and members.

It has afforded me the opportunity to travel to places I may never otherwise have seen, meet some great people, listen to speakers I would never have otherwise heard and be able to recommend to others, hear about topics that would never be an issue in the city, be amazed, intrigued and educated. Travelling with a boot full of merchandise – some for gifts or lucky door prizes but mostly to cajole you to buy the merchandise ... arhhhh those socks! and then came the pads, the pens, the shopping bags. To help me do all of this has been Frank – gopher, chauffeur and right hand man to us all.

Thank you, Frank.

Supporting the zones has given me insight and understanding to the additional issues that are experienced by our country members the further you move away from Sydney.

Consider the vastness of the area that each zone has to cover and the effort required in attending a session, the distance that has to be travelled, finding speakers who are willing to travel, the limited number of resources (Reps & Company's) to assist, the limited number of members to call upon.

For those of us in Sydney, 30 minutes or less (for a few maybe an hour) is considered enough but for our colleagues in the zones it is not unusual to have to allow a minimum of 1-2 hours sometimes 3-4 hrs. traveling time each way. Knowing this has encouraged me to support, promote and advocate for the zones wherever possible.

There are exciting times ahead for our future not only for our organization but for those in the zones and as challenging as it may be for some of us (that would be me) we must learn to embrace them. But then we are theatre nurses, OK Perioperative nurses; we are used to change, to being flexible and adaptable. We had a very lively zone meeting at this year's conference at Rosehill, in particular discussing the impact and potential of E conferencing and social media opportunities.

The Sydney executive have been investigating the use of E conferencing not only for Sydney but for the zones as well with very positive results. This will be the way of the future and the potential there for bringing us all closer without the tyranny of distance. This in turn should help us network. Networking is paramount for without it how do we offer best practice to our patients. I take this opportunity to introduce Hayley McIntosh, who is an RN at Children's Hospital, Westmead, and is now the Zone Coordinator.

Hayley is of this new “E” phenomenon (my terminology) and it is only fitting that it is she that now moves the Zones forward.

Thank you to all of you in the zones. In these past 6 years as we have travelled around we have been made very welcome. We have been encouraged and we have many wonderful memories, you have become like family.



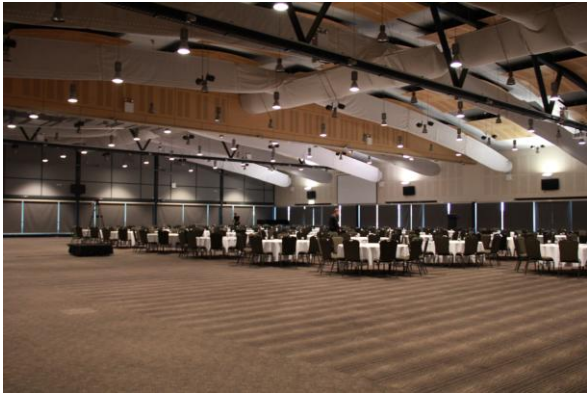
Debbie & Frank dance the night away at the conference.

A huge THANK YOU to 48 trade partners for their efforts and their enthusiasm. Without your support the conference would not have been the success that it was. Your continuing support of the NSW OTA is greatly appreciated and we hope to continue our relationship with each and every one of you



The Device Technologies team with the trophy

Congratulations to Device Technologies on winning the Trade Display Trophy. That makes it 3 in the last 4 years.



The Todman Room



The venue for the 'Fascinating Friday' Conference Dinner.



Keynote Speaker, Amanda Gore with Kerry Rodgers and Allannah Hazelgrove. (Dabdash!)



Partying the night away!



ACORN President, Vicki Warwick officially opening the Trade Exhibition



Kerry Rodgers with Jacqui Lane, Presenter of 'Playing Dead (Pst, but we're not really...)' A Patients Perspective.

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NSW Health Policy Directive

**“Standard Procedures for the Handling of
Accountable Items in the Perioperative
Environment”
PD2005_571.**

This document has received a huge review over the last 8 months to bring it in line with the 2010 ACORN Standard and to reflect actual practice in the work place. Reviews have been performed by multiple Executive meetings and by email from perioperative nurses.

The NSW OTA Executive will be signing off on the final draft at the 27th April Executive meeting and then it shall be forwarded to NSW Health.

*Report supplied on behalf of NSW OTA Executive by Lillian Blair, NSW OTA Executive Committee member and NSW OTA Information Technology Officer.
Dated 17th April 2011.

Society for Preservation of the Artefacts
of Surgery & Medicine
www.spasmmuseum.org.au

Museum Location

Building 6, Gladesville Hospital
Victoria Road, Gladesville NSW 2111
Australia

Enter from Victoria Road, Building 6 is the 1st building on the right. Parking is available in the car park beside the museum. A Victoria Road bus stop is located at the door to the museum.

Opening Hours

February to November: The 2nd Saturday & 4th Monday from 11am to 3pm (public holidays excluded) or by appointment. Groups that wish to visit the museum please make prior arrangements by post, phone or email.

Admission

Casual visitor: A gold coin donation

Casual visitor guided tour: \$5.00

Group tours with guide: \$10.00 per person

The five rooms of the display areas illustrate examples of saved moveable heritage items related to the history of Health and Medicine. The collection began as a teaching collection within the Department of Anaesthetics at the then Lidcombe Hospital and it grew over time to include many other items no longer used in the practice of medicine, nursing, pharmacy, pathology, general practice, surgery and anaesthesia.

Email

spasm@netspace.net.au

Correspondence to:

Hon. Secretary
Prof. Ross Holland
133 Mountain View Close,
Kurrajong NSW 2758
Phone: 02 4567 7482

**INTERNATIONAL NURSES
DAY**

12TH MAY, 2011

**THE THEME THIS YEAR IS
‘Closing the gap:
increasing access and
equity’.**

PRIZE WINNERS FROM TRADE DRAWS

Kimberley Clark Lynn Alfaro	Textbook Manly Waters Private Hospital
Molynlycke Fran O'Brien	\$100 Medical Book Voucher Prince of Wales Hospital
First State Super Lauren Elliott Rebecca Lupton	Picnic Hamper Nepean Public Hospital
3M Marion Eames	Alexander's Care Of The Patient In Surgery Maroubra Day Surgery
Multigate Barbara Wise	Flowers (\$150.00) Bowral Hospital
Huntleigh Health Kathryn Taaffe	Picnic Hamper Royal Prince Alfred Hospital
Medchem Linda Mee	Moet & Chandon The Nepean Hospital
Defries Kath Gardiner Julianne McMillan	Defries goodies bag The Children's Hospital Westmead Mayo Private Hospital
Thermo Scientific Kim Gibbs	\$100 Charity Donation Fairfield Hospital
Medical & Optical Merrilyn Pitt Bill Parmenter	Medical Books Manly Waters Hospital Gove District Hospital
CareFusion Jenny Bryant	\$500 Conference Registration Mayo Private Hospital
Life Healthcare Belinda Collins Eileen Cawell	\$50 Gift Card Royal North Shore Hospital St George Public Hospital
D.S. Biomedical Debbie Evans	iPod Prince of Wales Hospital
Alliance Nursing Agency Liz Jennings	Moet & Chandon Hawkesbury Hospital
Orion/ Ecolab Liz Young	Digital Camera Canterbury Hospital

\$50.00 Co-Op

Bookshop

Vouchers

Lucky Door Prizes.

Each of the following delegates received a \$50.00 Co-Op Bookshop Voucher, kindly donated by the Co-Op Bookshop.

Diane Hilla-Larkan

Louise Reichert

Heidi Marcombe

Heidi Eastwood

Jenny Pirie

Geraldine Evans

Irene Bradley

Roxann Pares

Emma Woodhouse

Magda Gross