



brainstem

www.anna.asn.au

Australasian Neuroscience Nurses Association

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year/ Happy Chinese New year. It is hard to believe last year is over and planning is now well under way for this year. Hope you have a great year of the goat.

You will have seen the Abstract submission information and Registration brochure (but if not you can find information in this newsletter) and the news of the venue. It is always exciting planning our annual conference amidst the hard work the committee and presenters are involved in. The social events will be fun with lots of opportunities to network and meet up with colleagues new or previously met.

Apart from working on your abstract I would request you speak with any company representatives who you know regarding sponsorship opportunities at the conference. One of the great things about an ANNA conference is the contribution of trade. It is always exciting to explore changes in products and new developments that can improve our patient's outcomes and add to our knowledge. Please refer them to conferenceconvenor@anna.asn.au for a full [prospectus](#).

Shortly representing ANNA I will be attending the launch of the Health Coalition Statement. More than 110 non-government health and medical associations including ANNA has signed a statement 'in support of constitutional change, highlighting its importance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing. The statement recognises the higher burden of disease and shorter life expectancy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and states that constitutional recognition could provide a strong foundation for working together towards better health and social wellbeing in the hearts, minds and lives of all Australians'. Romlie Mokak, Chief Executive Officer, Lowitja Institute. www.lowitja.org.au for more information.

While young I was aware of the change to allow Indigenous Australians to vote which was finally completed in 1965 and the referendum in 1967 which resulted in the first people's inclusion in the national census. (www.aec.gov.au/indigenous/history.htm) The reason for this awareness was at that time I lived in a small country town and several of my close friends were aboriginal including my 'aunt'. It is hard to believe that with the current health statistics it is unlikely the majority of those childhood friends are alive and well. This is a health challenge we as a nation must change and as nurses we will lead the way.

Additionally ANNA is working to redesign both the website and the member database to increase usability including on-line payment. New Zealand and ACT members we are also working on a communication strategy to ensure you stay up to date now the local branch has closed.

Everyone please visit the ANNA Facebook page and add comments or ask questions. Your involvement is what drives improvement.

Cheers and see you in sunny Brisbane in September if not before!

Sharryn

ANNA President





The Coalition statement is:

We call on all Australians to support recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Australian Constitution.

We look forward to a time when all Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples can fully participate in all that Australia has to offer, enjoying respect for our country's first cultures and leadership, and the benefits of long healthy lives.

Australia's First Peoples continue to die far earlier and experience a higher burden of disease and disability than other Australians. This is a result of long term economic disadvantage and social exclusion, among other factors. Constitutional recognition would provide a strong foundation for working together towards better health and wellbeing within the hearts and minds of all Australians.

ANNA CONTACTS

ANNA	PO Box 193 Surrey Hills Vic 3127 Phone: 03 9895 4461	Email: anna@pams.org.au Fax: 03 9898 0249
For specific executive enquiries please contact the relevant committee member		
President	Sharryn Byers	president@anna.asn.au
Vice President	Kylie Wright	vicepresident@anna.asn.au
Treasurer	Sandra Krpez	treasurer@anna.asn.au
A/Secretary	Kylie Wright	secretary@anna.asn.au
Webmaster	Sharryn Byers	webmaster@anna.asn.au
Conference Convenor	Linda Nichols & Leigh Arrowsmith	conferenceconvenor@anna.asn.au
Journal Editor	Vicki Evans	editor@anna.asn.au

Branch Delegates

Calling all Tasmanian and New Zealand members, we urgently need new Branch delegates to represent you; all positions are currently vacant, president, secretary and treasurer. Please contact ANNA executive	
Kylie Tasula- NSW	nswdelegate@anna.asn.au
Christine Holland - VIC	vicdelegate@anna.asn.au
Joan Crystal - QLD	qlddelegate@anna.asn.au
Debbie Wilkinson- WA	wadelegate@anna.asn.au
Stephen Yu - SA	sadelegate@anna.asn.au



Expressions of Interest for- ANNA Executive Secretary

The Secretary shall manage the administrative objectives of the Association.

Responsibilities:

Carry out the responsibilities of a member of the Executive Committee.

Ensure all correspondence related to the Association is dealt with promptly;

Ensure accurate records of membership are maintained and are available for inspection and member details are kept in a safe location;

Prepare and present membership reports for Executive Committee meetings and Branch Delegates as required;

Together with the President, prepare agendas for Executive Committee meetings;

Maintain minutes of Executive Committee meetings;

Maintain records of all correspondence pertaining to the Association;

Disseminate minutes of the Executive Committee meetings to members of the Executive Committee and Branch Delegates;

Produce and publish Brainstem;

Circulate relevant documents and receive feedback on any matters concerning the Association;

Participate with the Executive Committee in the development of strategic direction for the Association;

Assist the Conference Convenor in the administrative proceedings for the Annual Scientific Meeting.

The Australasian Journal of Neuroscience needs YOU!



It's good for the profession, it's good for you!

The AJoN will be published twice yearly – May & October.

**Deadline for submission of articles: 1 March for publication in May
&
1 August for publication in October.**

Help is available to assist you if needed.

More information available on the ANNA website www.anna.asn.au

**Email to the Editor - Vicki Evans –
editor@anna.asn.au**

See you in PRINT!



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Australasian Neuroscience Nurses Association

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Please notify ANNA promptly of change of address via the website

OVERDUE as per your ANNA handbook, if renewal payments are not received within 3 months you are required to rejoin as a new member

All renewals are \$100 and new members \$110 per annum

All membership specific enquiries can now be directed to PAMS, the Professional Association Management Service

anna@pams.org.au



Celebrate

AUSTRALASIAN NEUROSCIENCE

NURSES DAY

On 4 May, 1974, Tonnie Koenen organised the first meeting of Australasian neuroscience nurses in Canberra, during the Neurosurgical Society of Australasia's annual meeting. About 30 nurses from the ACT, NSW, TAS, VIC and WA met to formally establish the Australasian Neurosurgical Nurses' Association.

Since that time, Neuroscience nurses have continued to promote collaboration with other nurses and other health professionals in a committed effort to the professional development and education of nurses within the specialty of neuroscience. We celebrate this and the beginning of our Association on our Australasian Neuroscience Nurses Day, every 4th May

Australasian Neuroscience Nurses Day is on 4th May 2014.

Annual Australasian Neuroscience Nurses Day Competition

“Submit your funny patient quotes”
The quote that makes the executive laugh the longest and the loudest will win.

The Prize will be a \$110 one year ANNA membership or equivalent off conference registration price.

Submit quotes to secretary@anna.asn.au by 30th June 2014, for your chance to win.

ANNA is an Organizational Partner with the World Parkinson Coalition www.worldpdcongress.org;



The Louie Blundell Prize

Closing date: 5pm EST last Friday in May 2015.

This prize is awarded for the best neuroscience nursing paper by a student submitted to the Australasian Neuroscience Nurses Association (ANNA) for inclusion in the *Australasian Journal of Neuroscience* by the designated date each year. The monetary value of the prize is \$500 AUD.

Candidates must be, or have been, students in a course as deemed appropriate by the ANNA Executive Committee during the preceding academic year and if they have completed their course must have graduated no more than six (6) months prior to submission of the paper. Types of papers that will be considered include case studies, reviews of literature, and research reports.

Each candidate for the prize must be the sole author of the paper and may only submit one paper for the Best Neuroscience Nursing Student Paper Prize.

Candidates should not have had a previous publication as a solo author.

ANNA reserves the right not to award the prize if no paper is of a satisfactory standard. The decision of the ANNA Executives is final. All candidates will be notified of the outcome in August.

A minimum of 3 judges will be appointed by ANNA to review the papers and report to the Executive Committee.

The award will be made based on the standard of scholarship of the paper. The qualities that the judges will be looking for are:

- Originality of the work
- The relevance and importance of the topic to current neuroscience nursing practice
- Evidence of reflection consistent with the level of the student
- Comprehensiveness, clarity and conciseness
- Conformity to the Guidelines for Authors, as specified in the *Australasian Journal of Neuroscience*

The author of the winning paper is required to submit the paper for publication in the *Australasian Journal of Neuroscience* and encouraged to present the paper at the

Annual Scientific Meeting. At the discretion of the Journal Editor, all applicants, whether selected for a prize or not, may still be encouraged to submit their paper for publication, oral or poster presentation at the Annual Scientific Meeting. The judging process will form part of the peer review process for publication and as such recommendations may be made to the author prior to publication.

Registration, accommodation and travel arrangements are at the individuals' expense. Application for scholarships from ANNA or other organisations is encouraged.

Electronic submission of the paper is to be made to anna@pams.org.au

Further information is available on the web site www.anna.asn.au

Louie Blundell, was born in England, and although she wanted to be a nurse she had to wait until after World War 11 to start her training as a mature student in her late twenties. Later she and her family moved to Western Australia in 1959. She worked for a General Practice surgery in Perth until a move to the Eastern Goldfields in 1963. Subsequently, she worked at Southern Cross Hospital and then Merriden Hospital. During this time she undertook post basic education to maintain her currency of knowledge and practice, especially in coronary care.

Louie was also active in the community. She joined the Country Women's Association and over the years held branch, division and state executive positions until shortly before her death in 2007. She was especially involved in supporting the welfare of students at secondary school, serving on a high school hostel board for some time. She felt strongly that education was important for women and was a strong supporter and advocate of the move of nursing education to the tertiary sector, of post graduate study in nursing and the development of nursing scholarship and research, strongly defending this view to others over the years.



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Australasian Neuroscience Nurses Association

BARBARA LESTER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Hurry..... Apply for the Barbara Lester

Scholarship Fund.

**Please forward all applications to
ANNA Executive Secretary
by the last working day of May 2015.**

Aim

To provide opportunity for an ANNA member who is presenting a verbal paper or poster or who is facilitating a workshop/breakout session at an international, national or local conference to receive financial assistance.

Objectives

- To promote professional development in the field of Neuroscience.
- To maintain availability of a scholarship from ANNA on a yearly basis (that provides equal opportunity) for ANNA members presenting at conference.
- To assist with funding to attend the conference where the presentation will be delivered.



Eligibility Criteria

- Available to full financial members.
- A minimum of 24 months of continuous period of membership is required.
- Priority accorded to members working within an environment where neuroscience patients receive care/management.
- Nurses must have current registration in their state/territory/country.
- The conference presentation or workshop/breakout session must have relevance to the neuroscience specialty.

NB: All attempts to ensure fair distribution of the scholarship fund will occur.

Funding Available / Financial Policy

- Up to \$3000 available to fund a scholarship for one successful applicant.
- The ANNA Executive will convene for scholarship review annually in the month of June. Therefore a fully completed application must be received by the last working day in May.

Please visit the ANNA website for further information and scholarship application forms

www.anna.asn.au



APNA National Conference 2015

Brave to Bold

APNA's seventh impressive national conference for nurses in primary health care including general practice is to be held at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre from 14 May – 16 May.

The conference program is sure to inspire and enhance your personal and professional development, whilst also providing extensive opportunities to network with your nurse colleagues from around Australia.

Indeed, just a few topics scheduled into the program include: mental health, sexual health, refugee health, domestic violence, ATSI, child and maternal health, HIV, cancer survivorship, wound management, diabetes, chronic disease screening, mentoring, transitioning from EN to RN, building leadership capability, COPD, family planning, Co-payments, Methamphetamine, Pandemic Influenza and more.

Even more exciting are three two international keynote speakers we have secured:

- Dr Mary Moller (USA), an advanced registered nurse practitioner and past president of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA), will present on *Every nurse is a mental health nurse: You just didn't know it!*

- Dr Sheila Tlou (Botswana), Director of the UNAIDS Regional Support Team for Eastern and Southern Africa and former Member of Parliament and Minister of Health of the Republic of Botswana, will present on her inspiring professional journey and provide us with a timely reminder of the global village we work in.

Be brave, be bold, and be a part of APNA's 2015 National Conference!

For any queries please contact APNA via telephone on 1300 303 184 or alternatively via email at admin@apna.asn

The online link to the Brave to Bold registrations can be found here:

<http://apnaconference.asn.au/register/>

SAVE THE DATE

Neurosurgical Nursing Professional Development

Scholarship Committee (NNPDSC)

12th Annual Conference

Friday 5th June 2015



Kirribilli Club Lavender Bay

Program and registration details available in April



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Australasian Neuroscience Nurses Association



The Jewel in the Crown

KEEPING IT SAFE IN OUR HANDS



Save the Date
for the

**Australasian Neuroscience Nurses Association
Conference**

The Novotel, Brisbane
9th - 11th September, 2015

<http://www.anna.asn.au>





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Australasian Neuroscience Nurses Association



The Jewel in the Crown

KEEPING IT SAFE IN OUR HANDS

Call for Abstracts

Submissions close

April 10th 2015

Australasian Neuroscience Nurses Association
Conference

The Novotel, Brisbane
9th - 11th September, 2015

<http://www.anna.asn.au>





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Australasian Neuroscience Nurses Association

Abstract Submission Guidelines

Intending speakers for the Australasian Neuroscience Nurses Association Annual Scientific Meeting are invited to submit abstracts of not more than two hundred and fifty (250) words. Presentation time for each paper is limited to 20 minutes: 15 minutes for paper presentation and 5 minutes for discussion time.

Financial members of the Association may submit papers in competition for Prizes awarded by the Association (refer to specific guidelines). It is the speaker's responsibility to ensure that these requirements are fulfilled.

All papers presented at the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australasian Neuroscience Nurses' Association become the property of the Association and will be reviewed for suitability for publication in the "Australasian Journal of Neuroscience".

Submission Deadlines:

Abstracts are to be submitted via the website (see link below) by April 10th 2015. All submissions should follow the instructions on the website. No responsibility is taken for incomplete, illegible or misplaced abstracts. Please ensure that you retain a copy of your abstract.

Authors will be notified via email of the acceptance of their abstract.

Award Descriptions (note prizes are dependent on funding and sponsorship)

Tonnie Koenen Prize

Award sponsored by ANNA for the paper that makes a significant comment on the practice of Neuroscience Nursing. Prize \$1000

The Neurosurgical Society of Australasia Prize

Awarded for the best neurosurgical nursing paper presented in the Australasian Neuroscience Nurses' Association Scientific Program.

Sponsored by the Neurosurgical Society of Australasia (NSA)

Australian and New Zealand Association of Neurologists Prize

Awarded for the best neurology nursing paper presented in the Australasian Neuroscience Nurses' Association Scientific Program.

Sponsored by the Australian and New Zealand Association of Neurologists

First Time Presenter Prize

Based on presentation skills and awarded to the person presenting for the first time at an 'ANNA Conference' showing a good understanding of their chosen topic and relevance to Neuro Nursing.

Best Poster Prize

Awarded to the poster best showcasing the needs of the neuroscience patient and people who provide care for these patients.

<http://www.anna.asn.au/index.php/conference/conference-abstract-submission/>

At the conclusion of the ANNA Conference, prize winners will be announced and will receive a certificate of achievement. In order to receive the monetary award that accompanies the prize, winners need to have the paper accepted for publication, in the *Australasian Journal of Neuroscience* prior to payment of any funds.

