



Australian Wound Management Association Inc

News Release No 3 November 2007

**Highlights: AWMA Committee Meeting,
27 & 28 November 2007** held in Melbourne South Australia

Wound Awareness Campaign: March 2007- April 2008

AWMA has signed a contract with a media group, MWC Media, to assist with the Wound Awareness campaign. MWC Media have been successful in gaining meetings in which the AWMA President, Michael Woodward and/or Vice President, Tal Ellis have been able to speak with politicians from major parties. As well there has been the opportunity to speak on national radio. Press releases have occurred regularly. The WA campaign for 2007 – 2008 has two foci - firstly: A National media campaign to pursue wound product subsidy scheme and secondly, a National Wound Awareness Week that will be held 31st March to 6 April. It is hoped that all states will hold one significant wound awareness event during this week such as a public forum/lecture or similar activity. Regular teleconferences are held with state representatives and AWMA executive to plan this campaign.

Wound Association Northern Territory (WANT)

WANT now has an enthusiastic steering committee and over 100 members. AWMA with secretarial support from BizAid have continued to assist the inaugural WANT committee with the organisation of the educational meetings in Darwin. These have been well attended by enthusiastic wound managers. Planning is underway for a further series of education sessions in 2008. Of course the AWMA Conference will be held in Darwin in May 2008 and will provide further educational opportunities for WANT members. It is hoped that the education meetings can be video linked to Alice Springs and Katherine and the 'how to' is being investigated. AWMA will continue to mentor and support WANT during its establishment phase.

Australasian Wound and Tissue Research Society (AWTRS)

This society has continued to grow and will hold a scientific meeting immediately prior to the AWMA conference in Darwin on Wednesday 7 May 2008. (Look for details on the AWMA website) AWMA members are welcome to become members of AWTRS by paying the AWTRS membership fee.

AWMA Conference: Evolving Landscapes: Dreams, Diversity & Disasters. Darwin NT 7-10 May 2008.

The *Call for Abstract* has been made and **closing date has been extended to 16 December 2007**. The registration brochure has been posted to all members and registrations are coming in. Early bird registration closes in February 2008. The Conference planning continues with eminent International and national speakers.

Confirmed International and national speakers include Prof Greg Schulz, Prof Mark Ferguson, Dr Keryln Carville, Prof Fiona Wood and Dr Bart Currie. KCI are the Platinum sponsor for the conference. Trade commitment has been excellent and a wonderful Trade Exhibition will result. This will be a stimulating conference that should not be missed.

WUWHS Conference 4-8 June 2008 Toronto Canada

A Call for Abstracts has been made so please consider submitting an abstract to this important International conference. Be sure to visit the website www.wuwhs2008.ca where information on the themes of the conference and the program plan can be found.

Call for AWMA Fellow nominations.

Nominations close on 30th November and should be forwarded by that date to the AWMA Secretary. The criteria and process for AWMA Fellow nomination has been placed on the web. Please note that Nominees do not have to be members of AWMA. The 2008 AWMA Fellows will be presented in Darwin NT during the 2008 AWMA Conference

Paul Hartman/AWMA Advanced Wound Care Scholarship

Submission is by email and the entries close on 30 November 2007

In 2008, eight scholarships (one scholarship per each Australian state and territory) will be offered for AWMA members to attend the upcoming Health Education and Management innovations (HEMI) Advanced Wound Care Course. This is an exciting opportunity for AWMA members to advance their wound management skills. To apply for the scholarship you will need to complete and submit a case study documenting your management of a significant or complex wound. Details are on the AWMA website www.awma.com.au.

AWMA Guidelines and Standards

The VLUGDC Business Plan has been submitted to NHMRC and is being considered. A decision is likely in the next few weeks. Meanwhile a literature review is being conducted and evidence is being rated according to NHMRC criteria. Applications for grants have been written and the result of the submission should be known by the end of November. AWMA is also perusing the formation of a Taxable Gift Foundation to enable AWMA to apply for funding and to receive donations for its projects. A literature review for the AWMA Standards of Wound Management and the Clinical Guidelines for the Prevention and Prediction of Pressure Ulcers is also being conducted.

Online submission for AWMA Journal

Articles can now be submitted on line and can also be reviewed on line. This will make for easier submission and review process.

With regards

Michael Woodward

Michael Woodward. AWMA President