

## NEW SOUTH WALES

### President's Message

The busy and productive period we've had to date this year (with education events and Wound Awareness Week) is set to continue in the second half of the year for AWMA (NSW). Education opportunities will continue with the biennial state conference, further education events, the AGM and decision by the members on the future of AWMA (NSW) and nationalisation of AWMA to Wounds Australia.

Throughout the year the AWMA (NSW) committee has been steadily preparing for the biennial state conference. The state conference is scheduled to occur at Terrigal on the scenic central coast of NSW this week. Key invited speakers will be Jacquie Fletcher, Professor Frank Barron and Dr Debbie Geyer. A number of other well-recognised speakers will be providing presentations and workshops. In addition, highly regarded wound leaders, Wendy White and Gary Bain, will be chairing the conference. Those delegates who have registered for the full conference and have membership for 2015 - 2016 will be receiving the "Wound Management for the Advanced Practitioner" text as part of their conference package.

Hunter and Central Coast Wound Interest Groups have continued to provide quality education events. The education evenings provide education locally to a range of health professionals involved in wound management on subjects they have requested in the annual survey. We have seen capacity attendance this year with guests wanting to hear invited speakers on a range of subjects, and take up the opportunity to meet with industry representatives at the product display areas and network with others involved in wound management. To meet the request of members in the Hunter, a weekend workshop was conducted by the well-organised Hunter committee, strongly supported by industry partners and attended by enthusiastic workshop participants. Both Hunter and Central Coast groups have further education events scheduled throughout the second half of the year.

Nicole Flannery, as lead of the Wound Awareness Week campaign in NSW, has provided a report and presented prizes to the winning participants. Ongoing enhancement of the campaign continued this year with increased web presence and more activities. It was pleasing to see a number of prizes awarded across the state in relation to activities conducted by AWMA (NSW) members. Awards in various categories included an acknowledgement letter, memberships and textbooks.

Nationalisation of AWMA is gaining momentum with significant meetings scheduled this month for NSW. In line with the AWMA (NSW) constitution, the AGM will be conducted in conjunction with a scheduled education event. Both the AGM and a special extraordinary meeting will be conducted at the state conference. Of significance will be the special extra ordinary meeting that is scheduled to occur on day one of the conference for the membership to decide on the wind up of AWMA (NSW) and join as members of Wounds Australia. Over a considerable period of time the membership has been provided with progress information on the nationalisation of AWMA via the newsletter, email messages, website and communication directly from committee members.

The next publication will include a report to you on the conference and outcome of the AGM and Special Extraordinary Meeting. Most importantly we will have the outcome of the membership decision on the nationalisation restructure.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our conference this week and keeping you informed of the outcome of the decision on nationalisation by NSW members.

**Lyn Thomas**  
**AWMA (NSW) President**

*Please email any comments or suggestions regarding this report to:*  
[newsletter@awma.com.au](mailto:newsletter@awma.com.au)



## QUEENSLAND

AWMA Queensland is rapidly moving towards the culmination of years of preparations and planning for the changeover to a nationalised AWMA. Be sure to keep an eye out for important communication from AWMA (QLD) over the next month – further information on the process will be sent out, in addition to details and information on a special general meeting and AGM. Please don't hesitate to contact us with any queries on these changes.

A reminder for everyone - have you renewed your membership this year? Notices and reminders were sent out mid-year, so if you think you have not received your renewal notice, please contact us as soon as possible.

It's nearly time for our State Conference! This will be a special occasion, as after nationalisation the format is likely to change - so join us at the Brisbane Convention Centre on 3–5 September to catch up with your colleagues on the latest innovations, research and practice changes. With speakers and workshop leaders such as Prof Keryln Carville and Prof Geoff Sussman, our hands-on workshops are booking out fast – don't miss out! Visit the conference website for details: <http://www.awma.com.au/qld/conference2015.php>

Hope to see you there.

### **Prof Keith Harding and Wound CRC Strengthening International Ties**

Professor Keith Harding, internationally renowned expert in wound healing and thought leader in the field, has been on Australian shores in August as a part of the Welsh-Australian collaboration with the Wound Management Innovation CRC (Wound CRC).

Professor Harding will be working closely with the CRC's Clinical Director, Michelle Gibb, in the establishment of the CRC's Australian Wound Innovation Centre (AWIC), Australian Wound Registry (AWR) and other key activities. As a part of the visit, the CRC is hosting 'An Evening With Keith', an invite only event consisting of key industry and clinical leaders, including AWMA national representatives.

Professor Harding will present his work to date with the Welsh Wound Innovation Centre (WWIC) and how the Wound CRC and WWIC are working closely to advance the AWIC and AWR. The event also features a very special launch and celebration of a Wound CRC spin-out company. Keep up-to-date with the Wound CRC by visiting: [www.woundcrc.com](http://www.woundcrc.com) for more news and events.



*Keith Harding and Tim Stack, Acclivity GM*

## **New incontinence-associated dermatitis global consensus document published.**

Incontinence-associated dermatitis (IAD) represents a significant burden for incontinent individuals and is an ongoing challenge in a variety of health care settings. In addition to being a painful and complex condition, IAD is a risk factor for pressure injury development.

Recently, an unrestricted educational grant from 3M allowed 14 international experts to meet in London for a two-day round table discussion. Following the meeting, a consensus document was produced and subsequently reviewed by a wider international panel of experts. The resulting document: *Proceedings of the Global IAD Expert Panel, Incontinence-associated dermatitis; Moving prevention forward*, was published by Wounds International in early 2015. Fiona Coyer, Professor of Nursing, joint appointment Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital and Queensland University of Technology, School of Nursing was a member of the expert group that met in London and Jill Campbell, PhD candidate at Queensland University of Technology and clinical nurse, skin integrity at Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital was a member of the wider review panel.

The consensus document presents a new, straightforward IAD severity categorisation tool designed for ease of use in clinical practice. The tool characterises mild IAD as skin redness but with skin intact, and moderate to severe IAD as skin redness with skin breakdown. Importantly, this tool also identifies that the incontinent individual with intact, non-inflamed skin is at risk of developing IAD.

Contact Professor Fiona Coyer via email at [f.coyer@qut.edu.au](mailto:f.coyer@qut.edu.au) and Jill Campbell [jill.campbell@hdr.qut.edu.au](mailto:jill.campbell@hdr.qut.edu.au) for further information.

The document "Proceedings of the Global IAD Expert Panel: Incontinence-associated dermatitis: moving prevention forward" is available for download at [www.woundsinternational.com](http://www.woundsinternational.com)

**Shelley Morris**

**Branding & Communications Coordinator**

## **A Clinical Trial Examining The Effectiveness of Rectogesic (GTN Ointment) for the Treatment of Venous Leg Ulcers**

Rectogesic is a commercially available product sold as a 0.2% topical GTN ointment normally used for the treatment of anal fissures. It is thought that both the antibacterial and vasodilator properties of the compound may assist in a more rapid rate of healing for these chronic wounds. Preliminary data obtained in earlier studies on a limited number of patients suggest it may be effective for this application.

The trial was to start last year but several delays in documentation between the two partner institutions delayed its commencement and it will now begin in September 2015. The pharmaceutical product and its placebo have been supplied by Care Pharmaceuticals and several other commercial partners are providing the necessary materials to make the trial a reality (3M, Coloplast and Radiometer). Due to heavy teaching commitments at the Australian Catholic University (ACU), the dispensing component of the trial cannot get underway until September even though the therapeutic compound has arrived on site at ACU. Dispensing operations will take place in a C2 facility at ACU under GLP standards for clinical grade material before being transferred to the pharmacy at The Prince Charles Hospital (TPCH). The team involved with the study includes Dr Roger Lord, Sandra Miles, Damian Williams, Ewan Kinnear, Petra Lawrence, Dr Jeffery Rowland and Professor Paul Fullbrook.

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## AWMA Member Appointed to TGA Panels

Dr Lord has recently been appointed to two of the expert Advisory Committees of the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). The TGA is part of the Federal Department of Health and is responsible for regulating the supply, import and export, manufacturing and advertising of therapeutic goods in Australia. The TGA has ten statutory advisory committees from which it can obtain independent expert advice on specific scientific and technical matters to aid the TGA's regulatory decision-making process.

Dr Lord has been appointed to the TGA's *Advisory Committee on the Safety of Medicines (ACSOM)* and the *Therapeutic Goods Committee (TGC)*. ACSOM advises and makes recommendations to the TGA on the safety of medicines and provides guidance for risk assessment and management of medicines. ACSOM may also provide advice to the TGA on matters related to the detection, assessment, understanding and prevention of adverse effects (known as pharmaco-vigilance). Dr Lord's appointment has been made in relation to his expertise in organ and tissue transplantation as well as infectious diseases.

Dr Lord has also been appointed to the *Therapeutic Goods Committee (TGC)*. The TGC makes recommendations to the TGA and Minister for Health on the adoption of standards for therapeutic goods including requirements for labelling, packaging and manufacture of pharmaceuticals. The TGC also provides advice on standards for medical devices, biologicals and conformity to these standards.

**Kathleen Finlayson**

**AWMA (QLD) Representative**

***The latest edition of "The Chronical", the full Queensland newsletter can be accessed by AWMA members from "Wounds Central"***

**<http://www.awma.com.au/central/>**

***Please email any comments or suggestions regarding this report to:***

**[newsletter@awma.com.au](mailto:newsletter@awma.com.au)**

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

### Education Evenings

AWMA (SA) has held two education evenings so far in 2015. In February we had Mr Moore speak. Officer Gibbons was shot in the line of duty and required reconstructive surgery, which was undertaken by Mr Moore. This told the story from both the patient's and the surgeon's perspective and was an emotional and compelling evening. In May we held an education evening in conjunction with the SA Orthopaedic Nurses Association. The first presentation discussed management of fasciotomy wounds, including the very interesting 'shoelace' closure technique. The second presentation examined how patients with significant trauma are managed on presentation to a large public hospital emergency department. Our education evenings continue to be well supported by members, friends and our corporate industry partners.

### Seminar 2015

AWMA (SA) is well into planning for our one-day seminar to be held Friday, 18 September 2015. The program has now been finalised and the venue is organised. We are hoping to have over 200 delegates attend. Eddi Cohen will be our keynote speaker. All are welcome, further details are included and are also on our web pages at [www.awma.com.au/sa](http://www.awma.com.au/sa)

### Scholarships

AWMA (SA) is proud to announce that seven scholarships to the total value of \$5,000 were awarded in 2014 - 2015 as part of our Janet Vincent Education Scholarship program. Scholarships were awarded to nurses and podiatrists for studies ranging from local wound management courses to university programmes. We wish all the recipients happy studying!

### Sue Templeton

#### AWMA (SA) Representative

*The latest edition of "Wound Wisdom", the full South Australian newsletter can be accessed by AWMA members from "Wounds Central"*

<http://www.awma.com.au/central/>

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## TASMANIA

A quiet few months from the Tassie team with one BIG thing to report:

We held our AGM and passed a 'special' motion, which will see us shutting up shop as AWMA (TAS) and joining Wounds Australia. Realistically not much will change in the coming months we are still planning an educational get together in Launceston on 22 October and something exciting later in the year in Hobart. Both of which will be available to members across the State via Skype. We are fully committed to nationalisation and the benefits of this initiative for our members and the greater wound community. We eagerly look forward to the future of Wounds Australia

Congratulations go to Juliet Scott and Clarissa Young both pioneers and long standing supporters of wound management in Tassie, who have been offered Life Membership.

Thank you to both ladies for their commitment and ongoing support of their wound management colleagues. May there be many more years of sharing to come.

**Carol 'the dog lady' Baines**  
**AWMA (TAS) Representative**

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## VICTORIA

### TWILIGHT SEMINARS

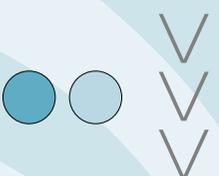
Our first twilight seminar for 2015 was held on 4 August at Royal Melbourne Hospital, focussing on the 5Cs of Compression, presented by Bill McGuinness and Melinda Brooks. This was the final single pilot live streaming of the session, with regional access to spread over the State for the December event. Lisa Hewitt has done an incredible amount of work mapping clusters of members across the State to access live streaming of the education events via Adobe Connect and has so far successfully live streamed to two pilot sites. It is expected that the December twilight will be live streamed across the State to enable access to our twilight for regional and remote members who have not previously been able to access these events as a result of the distance required to travel. We are currently looking for volunteers to run seminars in the locations shown in the map below. These locations have been chosen because most regional members will be able to drive to one of them in less than one hour. If you think you can help, please let us know by registering your interest here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RegTwilightPotentialOrganisers>

Someone from AWMA (VIC) will then contact you.

**The organiser of the first regional twilight seminar in each location will be offered a year's free membership.**

### What is a Regional Twilight Seminar?

AWMA (VIC) Regional Twilight Seminars have been developed to provide regional and remote members the opportunity to get together to network and enjoy the presentation from Melbourne without having to travel to the city. The presentation will be live streamed so regional and remote members will enjoy the same session at the same time as those attending the Melbourne venue. There is potential for 26 regional sites across Victoria to access the seminars at the same time.



## When is the first Regional Twilight Seminar?

The first regional twilight seminar will take place on Friday, 27 November 2015. We anticipate the Regional Twilight Seminars will begin at 6.00pm or 6.30pm for supper and networking, followed by the live webinar session from 7.00pm or 7.30pm. The live session will normally run for two hours or less.

## Who can attend?

All health care professionals are invited to attend, regardless of where they work. It is hoped that these events will provide a forum for nurses, doctors, podiatrists and other allied health professionals to get together and network, in the interest of great wound management practices in their area of the state.

## AGM 2015

The AWMA (VIC) AGM was held on 4 August after the Twilight Education Evening. During the AGM, a brief presentation was provided to discuss nationalisation and the Special General Meeting which will have been held when this goes to press (24 August) to vote of dissolution. AWMA (VIC) are committed to ensuring all members have access to voting on this issue and are conducting a postal or electronic vote prior to the Special General Meeting.

## SANDY DEAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

2015 has seen AWMA (VIC) sadly farewell our esteemed and much loved colleague, Sandy Dean. Sandy was instrumental in shaping our practice not only in Victoria, but nationally and internationally, as a leader in the field of wound management. Sandy was a past president and life member of AWMA (VIC) and her commitment and dedication has left a lasting legacy for us all. A truly respected member of AWMA (VIC), her sense of humour and down-to-earth nature will be sorely missed. Sandy was a friend, a mentor and an inspiration to so many and her loss has been felt very deeply. With the kind consent of Sandy's family, AWMA (VIC) are establishing a scholarship in her memory, that will provide members with the opportunity to attend a national or international conference, which is reflective of one of Sandy's passions, to ensure we network and share our knowledge and skills.

**Jill Butcher**

**AWMA (VIC) Representative**

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