## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President’s Report</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSA Board of Directors, 2017-18</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSA Mission</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSA Values</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Plan 2018-21</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Members</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry Partners and Sponsors</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Award, Scholarship and Grant Recipients 2017</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSA Award</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graham Burnley Memorial Scholarship, sponsored by Baxter Healthcare ANZ</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birgit Munro Memorial Scholarship</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larelle Bryce Memorial Prize</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Travel Grants</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our Branches</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSW/ACT Branch</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NZ Branch</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queensland Branch</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SA/NT Branch</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tasmania Branch</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Branch</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WA Branch</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 RSA Annual Conference, Sydney</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Annual Conference Organising Committee</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Scientific Committee</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Annual Conference Awards</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Abstract</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Paper Novice</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Paper Advanced</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Paper Research</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Poster</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People’s Choice – Best Oral</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People’s Choice – Best Poster</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renal Society of Australasia Journal – RSAJ</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editor-in-Chief</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Editors</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSAJ List of Articles</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018 Annual Conference Organising Committee</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Committee</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nephrology Educators’ Network</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONE Platform</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18 Vascular Access Workshop Series</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JBRI Renal Node</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSA Policy Advisory Group</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representatives on External Committees</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Contact us

Renal Society of Australasia
PO Box 7345 Beaumaris, VIC Australia 3193
P: 1300 941 480 | E: office@renalsociety.org
www.renalsociety.org
President’s Report

Dear Members,

Welcome to the 2017-18 RSA Annual Report. We have much to celebrate from the past year. A significant undertaking during the year by the Board was the review of the strategic plan which will be launched at the upcoming Annual General Meeting. Building on the strong performance in recent years, the new Plan outlines our goals to build a stronger RSA. The plan has been updated and expanded to focus on a number of key priorities for the next three years.

During the last 12 months, we experienced strong growth in membership, membership increased almost 11% over the past twelve months to reach 2024 on 31 March 2018!

The RSA’s partnership with the University of Tasmania strengthened with the opportunity for members to complete a broader range of qualifications such as their clinical leadership course at a significant discount of 50% of HECS fees from Semester 1, 2018.

After tireless work by our Education Committee with support from the RSA Office, the upgraded ONE e-Learning platform was relaunched in late 2017. As well as offering a seamless interface for members to access the existing resources via the online shop, substantial work has been done to improve access from any device and build the range of content available on the platform. Some work will be ongoing as we continue to add value through new resources, including recordings of webinars and branch education events.

The roadshow of Vascular Access Workshops, sponsored by Medtronic with support from GE, has been a fantastic success with the final workshop in this series to be held in Cairns in May 2018. Plans are underway for further workshops in 2018-2019.

The Branch Committees, each led by a dedicated Chair, have been working very hard to meet the needs of their local members by providing excellent education. It is often challenging to meet the diverse needs of our members and schedule around competing education events occurring across all areas and I would like to commend them for all their hard work.

The Education Committee, under the direction of Debbie Fortnum as Chair, has been working closely with the Board and I would also like to congratulate and thank them all for their hard work. The committee have delivered a series of webinars, supported branches with podcasts, supported the delivery of the very successful workshop series, have brought the journal club to members, consistently published an article in every RSAJ this last year, and worked tirelessly to launch new packages to the ONE e-Learning platform.

The RSAJ continues to deliver exceptional knowledge and the latest research to members. Three issues of the RSAJ were published in 2017, in addition to the Annual Conference Abstracts supplement. We would like to thank Cambridge Media for their ongoing support in publishing the RSAJ.

I would like to thank our RSAJ Associate Editors and the Editorial Advisory Board.

The annual RSA Conference continues to be the highlight of each and every year, bringing together members from throughout Australasia, addressing current issues in renal care from invited speakers. Including a range of workshops, a large trade exhibition, international and local speakers, and annual dinner, this must-attend event attracts members working in all areas of renal healthcare. I would like to extend a very large thank you to all those who contribute to making this event such a success each and every year.

In closing, on behalf of the RSA Board of Directors I would like to acknowledge that the RSA would not be what it is today without the tireless contribution of an army of volunteers. Throughout this Annual Report, you will read about the contributions of many of our volunteers, who together contribute many hours of work to deliver benefits to our members and advance the care of people with kidney disease.

Fiona Donnelly, RSA President
RSA Board of Directors, 2017-18

President: Fiona Donnelly  
Vice President: Jon Hosking  
Leanne Brown, Debbie Fortnum, Kathy Hill, Debbie Pugh, Gillian Treloar, Debbie Turner, Andrew Phillips

In 2017-18, we welcomed Dr Leanne Brown, Debbie Fortnum and Andrew Phillips to the Board. We farewelled Karen Mills, Pete Sinclair and Tiffany Whittington.

RSA Mission
Advancing the care of people with kidney disease.

RSA Values
- Excellence
- Collaboration
- Leadership
- Innovation
- Diversity.

Strategic Plan 2018-21

The 2017-18 year saw the final year of the 2015-2018 strategic plan. In early 2018 the Board updated this plan focusing on ensuring that the organisation is well placed to remain effective, relevant, and flexible in meeting the needs of members now and into the future, building on the tremendous work undertaken by everyone involved with RSA since its inception.

1. Provide professional development opportunities for RSA members and other interested parties.
2. Communicate knowledge and information about chronic kidney disease and associated treatments.
3. Advocate for the interests of members, the professions and consumers.
4. Support practice development, research, quality improvement and innovation.
5. Set standards for renal professionals.
6. Govern the association.
## Renal Society of Australasia Strategic Plan 2018–21

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>GOALS</strong></th>
<th><strong>OBJECTIVES</strong></th>
<th><strong>OUTCOMES</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Provide professional development for RSA members and other relevant parties. | ● Develop Australasian program of education (increase collaboration and cohesiveness, decrease silos)  
● Conduct conferences, seminars and workshops  
● Promote and develop Special Interest Groups  
● Improve utilisation and financial support of webinars/innovative education media  
● Assimilate ONE e-Learning into RSA | Integrated Australasian calendar of education that is accessible and meets member needs. |
| Communicate to grow membership, improve practice and utilise networking strategies. | ● Review all communications including online and social media  
● Review RSAJ  
● Increase networking | Integrated, branded communications throughout the RSA, aligned with strategy. |
| Advocate for interests of members, the profession and consumers. | ● Develop position statements on relevant issues  
● Provide representation to educational and professional bodies  
● Increase profile of the RSA  
● Support renal related requests | Relevant position statements, representation and profile in place. |
| Support practice development, research, quality improvement and innovation. | ● Facilitate individuals or groups to gain sponsorship for undertaking relevant projects  
● Offer clinical resources to support the profession  
● Seek collaborative opportunities for research | Individuals and the profession supported by sponsorship and resources. |
| Set standards for renal professionals. | ● Progress clinical practice framework development  
● Consider credentialing or accreditation | Standards are in place and individuals are recognised. |
| Govern the association. | ● Grow membership  
● Maintain and develop key metrics  
● Develop budget and financial model  
● Review and improve constitution, governance, unity and succession planning  
● Seek targeted government grants and corporate sponsorship | RSA is a well-governed, “must-join” association. |
Membership
During 2017-18, membership rose to new heights. In March 2018, we reached 2024 members, an increase of almost 11% over the past twelve months. Our members reside in all states and territories of Australia, throughout New Zealand, and around the globe.

The majority (95%) of our members are nurses, with a small yet important percentage of members from allied health disciplines, technicians, academics and industry representatives. Our members work in all areas of renal care, including haemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, chronic kidney disease/predialysis, transplantation, vascular access, education, industry and academia.

Life Members
From time to time, the RSA confers life membership to people who have made an outstanding contribution to the vision and objectives of the RSA.

The RSA’s life members are:
- Paul Bennett
- Ann Bonner
- Adrian Buttimore
- Sue Evans
- Ted Farnsworth
- Kate North
- Glenn Stewart

Industry Partners and Sponsors
The RSA is built around partnerships between members, industry and other key stakeholders, working together to advance the care of people with kidney disease.

Valued partnership helps us to provide high quality services to our members, including local, national and online education, publications, and our flagship event, the RSA Annual Conference.

We would like to thank all of our industry partners and sponsors, without whom, we would not be able to deliver the high quality education that the RSA is renowned for.
Award, Scholarship and Grant Recipients 2017

RSA Award
This prestigious award recognises those individuals who have made an outstanding contribution and commitment to the RSA and renal communities at a local and/or Australasian level. Selection criteria include continuous membership of the RSA, evidence of high standards of practice and outstanding commitment to the RSA. The RSA Award recipient is chosen from individual branch and federal nominations.

The RSA Award 2017 was awarded to Dr Bronwyn Hayes (below).

Birgit Munro Memorial Scholarship
The Birgit Munro Memorial Scholarship was established to honour the memory of Birgit Munro, a renal nurse who died in 1992, aged 36, after a sudden illness. The Memorial Scholarship Fund was established by Birgit’s family, friends, and renal groups with which she had been associated. The fund is now administered through the Victoria Branch of the Renal Society of Australasia and by three fund trustees.


Larelle Bryce Memorial Prize
The Larelle Bryce Memorial Prize is presented each year to an RSA member for an outstanding article submitted to and published in Communiqué. It is awarded to a current RSA member based on their contribution being well written, offering new ideas, making a significant contribution to the field, arousing interest or stimulating debate.

The prize was established by the RSA Board in memory of Ms Larelle Bryce, our Editorial Coordinator, who died from a chronic illness in July 2008 at 44 years of age. Larelle was the RSA’s editorial coordinator for 10 years, establishing and maintaining vital relationships with publishers and utilising her editorial talents.


International Travel Grants
Each calendar year, the RSA awards funding of up to $3,000 to three individual RSA members to support their attendance at a renal-related international conference. Applicants must demonstrate both a previous and ongoing commitment to the RSA and associated activities, outline their objectives and aims of attending the conference including relevance to current nursing practice and potential benefit to the renal community.

Recipient: Kelly Lambert

Graham Burnley Memorial Scholarship, sponsored by Baxter Healthcare ANZ

The Graham Burnley Memorial Scholarship Fund, supported financially by Baxter Healthcare Pty Ltd ANZ once again in 2017, aims to foster quality care and services for individuals with kidney disease through financial support for professional activities initiated by renal health care professionals. A scholarship of $6,000 is awarded to the successful applicant or shared between applicants if it is awarded to more than one.

Recipient: Kelly Lambert

Recipients of the Branch / Federal nominations were:
- NSW/ACT – Tanya Smolonogov
- NZ – Balaji Jagannathan
- QLD – Sally Carpenter
- SA/NT – Christine Russell
- TAS – not awarded
- VIC – Siew Eng-Foo
- WA – Lois Johnston
- Federal – Dr Bronwyn Hayes

Recipient: Dr Bronwyn Hayes

Recipient: Kelly Lambert

Recipient: Dr Leanne Brown

Recipient: Jan Diresco

Recipient: Helen Hoffman
Our Branches

The RSA has seven Branches, who continue to be the lifeblood of the RSA. Made up of local RSA members, the committees plan and deliver education and networking events, and are the local voice of the RSA.

Our Branches are in:
- New South Wales / Australian Capital Territory
- New Zealand
- Queensland
- South Australia / Northern Territory
- Tasmania
- Victoria
- Western Australia

We thank and commend our members who have served on their local Branch committee. Without you, the RSA could not deliver such high quality, relevant member education.

Following is a list of all members who have served on their Branch committee within the 2017-18 year (where there is more than one person listed in a position, there was a changeover during the year), and a list of education meetings that they held including a listing of sponsors for these events.

**NSW/ACT Branch**

**Chair:** Perambalam Pattabhiraman

**Committee:** Khin Hnin Myint, Natividad Miles, Angela Park

**Branch Education Evening**

Transplantation
20 September 2017

**Sponsor/s:** Sanofi / Dialysis Australia / Astellas Transplant

**Branch Education Evening**

A presentation on Genetic and Polycystic Kidney Disease and the use of antibiotics in renal medicine
22 November 2017

**Sponsor/s:** Sanofi / Dialysis Australia / Astellas Transplant

**Branch Education Day**

An Overview of Renal Education
2 February 2018

**Sponsor/s:** AMGEN / ROCHE / Sanofi

**Branch Education Evening**

Rare Causes of End Stage Kidney Disease
18 April 2018

**Sponsor/s:** AMGEN / Sanofi

**NZ Branch**

**Chair:** Fredric Doss

**Committee:** Fakaola Otuafi, Jason Wei, Carmel Gregan-Ford, Blair Donkin

**NZ Branch Annual Symposium**

**Be Smart**

17 November 2017

Co Host or Co Convenor New Zealand Board of Dialysis Practice (NZBDP)

**Premium Partner:** Fresenius / Baxter / Sanofi

**Partner Plus:** TekMed

**Partner:** Diaverum / SC Bio Limited (SCB)

**Supporter:** NZMS Medical / Nipro / Medtronic / Kidney Health NZ / Manukau Institute of Technology

**Queensland Branch**

**Chair:** Veronica Oliver

**Committee:** Hayley Dickfos, Robyn Rogers, Kimberley Withers, Jenny Best

**Branch Education Evening via Video Conference**

Cardiac biomarkers in patients on dialysis – current knowledge and future directions
15 August 2017

No Sponsor

**Branch Annual Symposium**

Remembering the Past in Looking to the Future
25 November 2017

**Sponsor/s:** Fresenius / AMGEN / Sanofi / Baxter / TekMed / Roche / Astellas Transplant / Nipro / Medtronic

**Branch Education Evening via Video Conference**

The Substance of Substance Use
20 February 2018

No Sponsor

**Branch Education Evening via Video Conference**

Gut Health in Chronic Kidney Disease – Easing renal failure by improving gut microbiology
15 May 2018

No Sponsor
SA/NT Branch
Chair: Linda Thorburn
Committee: Monique Borlace, Laura Lunardi, Jane Maberley, Dylan Carter,

Branch Education Evening
Advance Care Planning & Symptom Management for patients with ESKD
3 August 2017
Sponsor/s: Sanofi / Astellas Transplant

Branch Education Evening
Research to Practice
2 November 2017
Sponsor/s: Sanofi / Roche

Branch Education Evening
Four Pillars of Treatment Options
3 May 2018
Sponsor/s: Sanofi

Victoria Branch
Chair: Mechelle Seneviratne
Committee: Jane Crossett, Ignatius Abraham, Kristen Schuck, Genette Heslop, Barbara Cottell

Branch Education Evening
What’s actually good about home dialysis?
9 August 2017
Sponsor/s: Sanofi / Roche

Branch Education Day
Environment & Sustainability in the Renal Health Care Setting
28 October 2017
Sponsor/s: Sanofi / Roche

Branch Regional Education Day
Current Challenges in the Renal Care Setting
16 May 2018
Sponsor/s: Sanofi

Tasmania Branch
Chair: Carol Chadwick
Committee: Nil

Branch Education Evening
Renal Diet – Getting it Right and Transplant Transition from Paediatrics to Adulthood
30 May 2018
No Sponsor

WA Branch
Chair: Michelle Waugh
Committee: Lois Johnston, Nicola Rowland, Glenda Jacoby, Jeff McMullen, Alice Mawire, Santhi Vedhanayagam, John Yung, Fungai Mukusha

WA Branch Annual Symposium
Changing Climate: Meeting the Challenge
12 August 2017
Premium Partner: AMGEN
Partner Plus: Diaverum / Sanofi
Partner: Roche / Baxter
Event Supporters: Western Biomedical

Branch Education Evening
Renal Diet – Getting it Right and Transplant Transition from Paediatrics to Adulthood
30 May 2018
No Sponsor
The 2017 RSA Annual Conference was a wonderful success, and undoubtedly one of the highlights of the busy year. Held at the International Convention Centre Sydney, it attracted around 500 delegates. The Annual Conference ran from 19-21 June, with pre-conference workshops held on Sunday 18 June.

The Annual Conference theme was “Renal Care In A Changing Environment: Innovation and Transformation”. This theme was the inspiration behind the keynote speakers which included with Dr Helen Noble, Dr Linda Sheehan and Professor Steve Chadban.

The pre-conference workshops were held in conjunction with the education program. These workshops provided delegates with the opportunity to learn techniques in a small, hands-on environment:

- Nephrology Educators Network Symposium
- Nurse Practitioner Advanced Practice Symposium
- Vascular Access Workshop

The Conference Dinner was held onboard Captain Cook cruises in beautiful Sydney harbour, and was certainly a night to remember.

Additionally, the RSA’s Annual General Meeting, Awards Ceremony and President’s reception were held during the Annual Conference.

We would like to thank all of our sponsors and exhibitors, without whom we would not be able to run our Annual Conference:

- **Gold:** NIPRO
- **Silver:** Fresenius Medical Care, Baxter Healthcare, Medtronic

We would also like to thank our conference organisers, Association Professionals, for organising such a highly successful Annual Conference.

Special thanks must go to our hard-working Conference Committee and Scientific Committee, all of whom worked tirelessly in a volunteer capacity:

### 2017 Annual Conference Organising Committee

**Conference Convenor:** Debbie Pugh


### 2017 Scientific Committee

**Chair:** Dr Bronwyn Hayes

The committee membership of 12 was comprised of clinicians, educators, industry representative and academics.
2017 Annual Conference Awards

Each presentation and poster was judged by a team of content experts throughout the conference. The results were collated and the following winners were announced just prior to the closing ceremony, and were presented with cash prizes:

**Best abstract $500** – Awarded to Kerry Linton. ‘Supportive care is about more than kidneys’

**Best paper – novice $500** – Awarded to Lin Tomlinson. ‘Left ventricular access devices and the challenges of intermittent haemodialysis: One unit’s experience’

**Best paper – advanced $500** – Awarded to Dr Leanne Brown (Co-Authors: Prof. Glenn Gardner & Prof. Ann Bonner). ‘A randomised controlled trial evaluating a decision support intervention for the older person with advanced kidney disease’

**Best paper – research $500** – Awarded to Dr Leanne Brown (Co-Authors: Prof. Glenn Gardner & Prof. Ann Bonner). ‘A randomised controlled trial evaluating a decision support intervention for the older person with advanced kidney disease’

**Best poster – $500** – Awarded to Kristian Indino. ‘The effect of health literacy on self-reported treatment adherence and quality of life in maintenance haemodialysis patients: a cross-sectional study’

**People’s choice award – paper $200** – Awarded to Dr Bronwyn Hayes. ‘Where did all these patients come from? An audit of admissions of haemodialysis patients from multiple satellite units to a large regional hub unit’

**People’s choice award – poster $200** – Awarded to Marnie Budd. ‘PD buddy: using smartphone technology to improve patient care’

The 2017 RSA Conference Passport Prize was won by Monica Edwards. Monica has won a $200 pre-paid visa card!
Renal Society of Australasia
Journal – RSAJ

Editor-in-Chief
Melissa Arnold-Chamney

Three issues of the RSAJ were published, in addition to the Annual Conference Abstracts supplement. We would like to thank Cambridge Media for their ongoing support in publishing the RSAJ.

We would like to thank our RSAJ Associate Editors and the Editorial Advisory Board:

Associate Editors
Dr Ann Bonner, Dr Deirdre Fetherstonhaugh

Editorial Advisory Board
Dr Abdelbasit Ayoub (UAE), Jennifer Beavis, Dr Paul Bennett, Monique Borlace, Suzie Burford (HK), Dr Katrina Campbell, Dr Josephine Chow, Frederic Doss (NZ), Bettina Douglas, Leanne Evans, Barbara Harvie, Dr Bronwyn Hayes, Dr Tim Hewitson, Dr Kathy Hill, Jon Hosking (NZ), Dr Jacqueynne Hughes, Cheryl Hyde, Dr Julia Jones (UK), Kathy Kable, Dr Janet Kelly, Anna Lee, Casey Light, Amanda Lister, Dr Laura Lunardi, Althea Mahon, Deborah Rowe, Monica Schoch, John Sedgwick (KSA), Rosie Simmonds, Peter Sinclair, Melissa Stanley, Dr Charlotte Thomas-Hawkins (USA).

Biostatistician: Kylie Lange

RSAJ List of Articles
Volume 13, Number 2: July 2017
- Chamney, M., Editorial: Reconciliation and recognition in renal care
- Dunbar-Reid, K. & Buikstra, E., The environmental impact of healthcare and haemodialysis: the Jekyll and Hyde dilemma
- Dunbar-Reid, K. & Buikstra, E., Waste reduction in haemodialysis: a multicentre quality activity
- Stephenson, M.D. & Bradshaw, W., NEN Continuing Professional Development Series: Pre-dialysis education for patients with chronic kidney disease
- Burns, T., Tranter, S. & Raghunath, V., In-centre night dialysis program: a single-centre experience

Volume 13, Number 3: November 2017
- Arnold-Chamney, M., Editorial: What is the future of renal care?
- Smith, V., & Schoch, M., Do plastic cannulae have better outcomes than metal needles in haemodialysis? A retrospective review.
- Fortnum, D., Chakera, A., Hawkins, N. & Vandepeer, G., With a little help from my friends: developing an assisted automated peritoneal dialysis program in Western Australia
- Bradshaw, W. & Fortnum, D., An introduction to the CARI guidelines

Volume 14, Number 1: March 2018
- Arnold-Chamney, M., Editorial: Culturally safe and respectful care
- Allen, G., Hakendorf, P., Kruger, A., Arnold, A. & Barbara, J., Comparison of ferric carboxymaltose and iron polymaltose efficacy in renal anaemia
- Light, C. & Kulkarnia, H., Booster hepatitis B vaccination in haemodialysis patients: five-year prospective observational study
- Beer, J., Mountford, E. & Boudville, N., Dietetic intervention in haemodialysis patients improves malnutrition
- Turner, K., Burns, T. & Tranter, S., An evaluation of the nursing care of renal transplant recipients: a qualitative study
- Stephenson, M.D. & Bradshaw, W., Continuing Professional Development Series – Shared decision making in chronic kidney disease
2018 Annual Conference Organising Committee

Conference Convenor – Debbie Turner
Bronwyn Hayes, Chairperson – Scientific Committee
Fiona Donnelly, President – Renal Society of Australasia
Monique Borlace
Debbie Fortnum
Kathy Hill
Kirsten Passaris
Linda Thorburn
Education Committee

Chair: Debbie Fortnum

Members: Lynn Brown (resigned Dec 2017), Wendi Bradshaw, Angela Henson (joined Aug 2017), Joanne Kok, Perambalam Pattabhiraman, Monica Schoch (rejoined Dec 2017).

This has certainly been the year of learning, change and consolidation. In an effort to build on previous year’s amazing work the committee decided to engage a strong commitment to a portfolio each. For the committee it has been a year of learning with a focus to ensure that we have strong databases to evaluate and collate what we are doing, what topics are already covered, and what is working well (or not).

ONE e-Learning

In November 2017, the Renal Society relaunched the ONE e-Learning online nephrology education portal.

ONE e-Learning is the gateway for RSA members to peer reviewed, online renal education. It offers a large number of courses, including learning modules, webinars and branch meeting recordings, and journal clubs. Topic areas include Chronic Kidney Disease, Dialysis, Vascular Access, and many others. Each course is specifically designed to help you develop your knowledge and skills in caring for people with kidney disease.

We are proud to report that the platform now has 76 courses available via the RSA online shop, with additional courses uploaded regularly. Since the launch there has been nearly 1600 course enrolments and we expect this level of interest to continue. Thank you to the RSA Office for all of their hard work. There have certainly been a few glitches but we are proud of the current content and are closely monitoring downloads.

Journal Club

The journal club was relaunched in December and is now the portfolio of Joanne, with three new journal clubs being added to the online shop in 2018, and the 15 old journal clubs also being made available. There have been 274 downloads to date. Thank you to Lynn for creating this portfolio and her previous vision and skill in this area.

Podcasts

Pera continues to manage the podcasts and the online shop now boasts 12 podcasts with 132 downloads to date. Thank you to everyone who agreed to be recorded for a podcast and we will continue to bring more new topics each month.

CPD series

Wendi manages our CPD series and has consistently published an article in every RSAJ this last year (3 in total). We are using this area to highlight new guidelines and build stronger relationships with KHA-CARI, as well as the JBI Node.

Workshop series

The new workshop series approach to education is the latest RSA evolution. Monica has kindly and efficiently coordinated a series of 8 workshops about Vascular Access around the country. The workshops were kindly sponsored by Medtronic with support from GE who have supplied equipment for each workshop. Over 280 attendees from across Australia and New Zealand have rated the workshops highly. Thank you to all speakers who did a fabulous job, and a particularly huge thank you to the enthusiasm of Monica for excellent coordinating and presenting. The Education Committee is now working with the Executive Officer to seek further sponsorship so that planning of more workshops in 2018-19 can get underway. At the time of writing vascular access workshops have been confirmed and other topics are under negotiation.

Webinars

I have continued to coordinate the webinars and we have delivered 6 new webinars with 242 registrations over the last year. The evaluations are always extremely positive and making the webinars available on the ONE e-Learning platform has added another opportunity for unit based education, utilising the recordings of the webinars. To date there are 12 downloads of the library of 14 webinars. Thank you to all speakers, the quality is excellent.

Online packages

The final items in the shop are the amazing online packages which we have to thank the original Nephrology Educator Network (NEN) group for. Five of the most popular have been adapted and it is hoped that all converted packages will be available in the new format by the mid-2018. To date we have 12 online packages with a total of 767 downloads.

Overall this last year has been interesting as strategies to deliver education are changing. No doubt the time-tested strategies of speakers and study days are really appreciated but we are striving to keep up with the digital era of education on demand for individuals. We will continue to seek ways to make the learning experience more streamlined and easier to access.

The Education Committee are always open to new ideas and rely on input from members, delegates, speakers and sponsors to continue to progress with the times.

Debbie Fortnum
Chair, Education Committee
Nephrology Educators’ Network

The national NEN group is getting a new breath of life, and this is being driven by Angela Henson. They have held their first national phone conference, relaunched the discussion boards and many members have agreed to support other work of the Education Committee as needed. A special mention has to go to the Queensland Branch who are the driving force behind the new developments. Our next focus will be on engaging a wider group of nephrology educators.

2017-18 Vascular Access Workshop Series

Medtronic

The RSA are very pleased to have partnered with Medtronic to deliver our very first series of vascular access workshops. A total of nine workshops were delivered commencing with the 2017 Conference Workshop in Sydney, followed by full day workshops being delivered in Brisbane, Auckland, Adelaide, Coffs Harbour, Perth, Melbourne, Launceston and Cairns. Over 280 members attended these events gaining valuable skills in this popular area of professional development. Supported by GE who generously supplied the ultrasound equipment, and the amazing presenters who all did a fantastic job to deliver an extremely well received series of events. RSA would like to acknowledge and thank the following people for their valuable contribution.

Liz Coroneos
Dianne Du Toit
Leanne Evans
Helen Hoffman
Kay McLaughlin
Samantha O’Neill
Chanelle Osborne
Monique Sandford
Monica Schoch
Mechelle Seneviratne
Juanita Starmer
Rebecca Taylor
Kiri Torpey
Mandy Zweedyk

JBI Renal Node

The JBI Renal Node is a partnership between RSA and the Joanna Briggs Institute, whereby the body of knowledge in evidence-based renal care is developed. Our members have free access to the resources, which are available online. The JBI reference group is currently under review by the RSA Board as part of the strategic plan.

RSA Policy Advisory Group

The RSA remains committed to an organisational approach to incorporating research into our policies and having a strong focus on consumers. To this end the RSA Board have taken the decision to move in a strategic direction with the formulation of a Policy Committee dedicated to evaluating current policy as it affects people with renal disease in Australia and aligning the RSA interests with this whilst individually crafting the unique role that RSA members have. In addition, building on the success of the former Queensland Branch Research Grant, we have transitioned this grant into one that is open to all RSA members. We hope that over the years, the grant can assist some of our up and coming and seasoned researchers to advance the care of people with kidney disease.

Representatives on External Committees

We would like to thank the following RSA members who represent the RSA on external committees:

ANZDATA: Kathy Hill
ANZSN Clinical Policy Advisory Committee: Fiona Donnelly
ANZSN Dialysis Advisory Committee: Maria Safe, Monique Borlase
ANZSN Green Nephrology Action Team: Craig Sumpner-Johnston, Anthea White
Coalition of National Nursing and Midwifery Organisations: Dr Kathy Hill
KHA-CARI (Caring for Australasians with Renal Impairment): Wendi Bradshaw, Debbie Fortnum
New Zealand Renal Advisory Board: Mark Hodge, Kay McLaughlin
Primary Care Education Advisory Committee for KHA (PEAK): Barbara Harvie
Victorian Renal Clinical Network: Lesley Ross