

# MSNA E-Bulletin

## www.msnainc.com.au

### Conference 2016 Edition

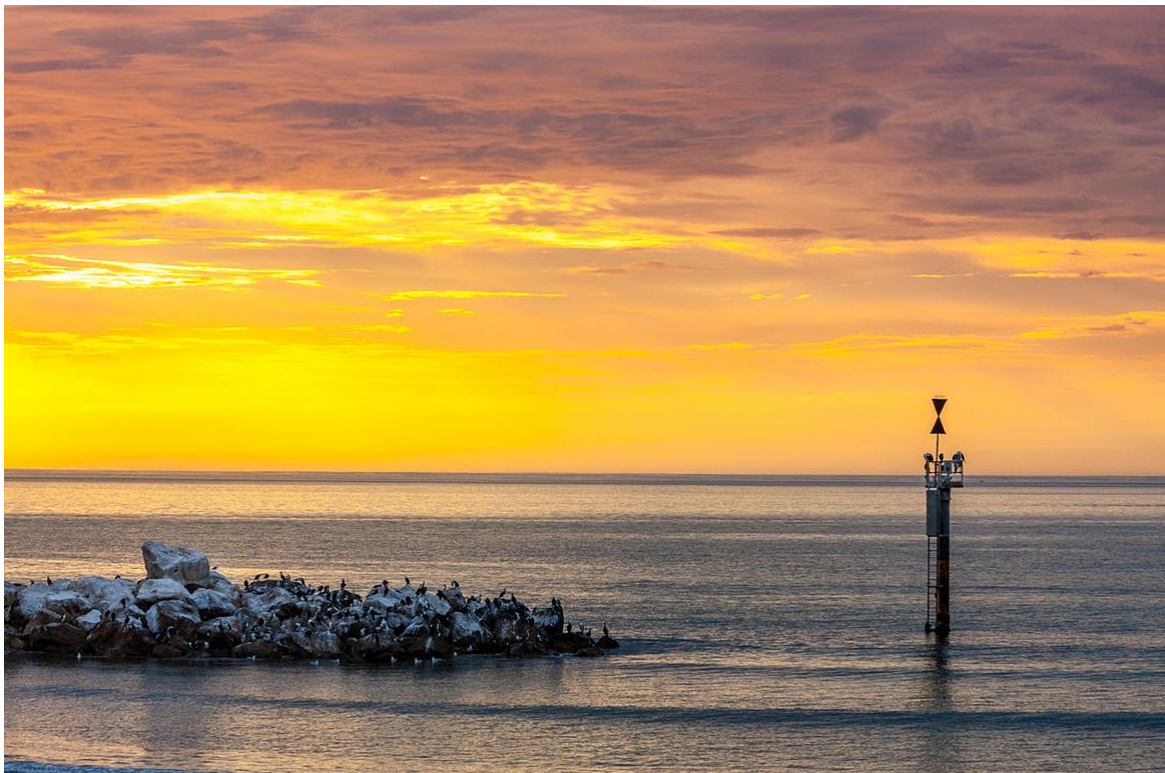


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<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=24308953>

### *It's conference time!*

*The count down is on - just 12 weeks until we meet again for the annual meeting. This year's conference convenors are Sharon Barlow and Helen McCarl. Sharon and Helen have brought together a terrific local team to bring you an up to date, packed 2 days of learning, sharing and networking. Hold Fast Against MS will bring together local and interstate experts for podium presentations and workshops. Head to the website for details of speakers, venue and special accomodation rates held for members of MSNA.*

*We are delighted to be able to have the MS Certification exam on site again this year. Good luck to those sitting the exam for the first time or for recertification. Don't forget you can claim your examination cost after successfully attaining certification, see the details below.*

*Lastly , MS Research Australia have asked us to forward you a survey to gather opinion and information on research priorities. This is a great opportunity to have your say about what Australian MS research dollars*

should be contributing knowledge to. the survey link is attached to the MS Research Australia section towards the bottom of the e-bulletin.

- Until August, stay safe, Susan.

## Presentation Abstract Closing Date

Closing date for submission of poster and podium presentation abstracts is 16th July. Successful applicants will be notified a week after this date.

To submit your abstract go to the website's conference tab or download a form from <http://www.msnainc.com.au/msna-conference>



## Exam Confirmation

It is with great delight that we can announce that we are able to offer the MSNICB MS Nurse certification exam at the MSNA conference in Adelaide on Thursday afternoon, 25th August 2016, prior to the conference commencing on Friday morning, 26th August. The time will be confirmed, but is likely to be approximately 2-4pm at the conference location, The Stamford Grand Hotel, Glenelg, Adelaide.

You can either take the test for the first time, or if you have previously passed the examination, but your certification has lapsed (it lasts for a period of 5 years) you may also take and pass the test again to recertify.

The MSNICB offers the examination annually, with successful candidates being granted accreditation as a Multiple Sclerosis Certified Nurse (MSCN).

How to register:

The MSNICB examination is posted on the PTCNY website, which is the testing company responsible for the examination ([www.ptcny.com](http://www.ptcny.com)).

Go to [www.ptcny.com](http://www.ptcny.com) website and click on the "Test Information" tab on the top row and scroll down until the section for MSNICB (please note it is MSNICB Nursing exam, not the MSCS exam as they are side by side). Then click on the test date of August 25, 2016 pen and paper examination in Adelaide and complete the ON-LINE application and submit the payment. Each candidate should also read the "Handbook for Candidates" which can be found in the same section as the online application and provides additional valuable information.

Please don't forget that I can organise mentors for you from others who have previously passed the exam, as well as sharing resources amongst the group. There are excellent educational resources on the IOMSN website under resources ([www.iomsn.org](http://www.iomsn.org)).

Additionally, the UK Nurses have put together a comprehensive study guide, which may assist you in your preparations, this link can be sent to you if you would like further information (just let me know). In addition, PTCNY offers an on-line practice test, which can be found on the website, along with all of the other details [www.msnicb.org](http://www.msnicb.org)

Please contact me for any queries: Therese Burke 0412 365 667 or by email on [therese.burke@sydney.edu.au](mailto:therese.burke@sydney.edu.au)

## Holding fast Against MS



MSNA Inc is proud to announce keynote speakers for the 2016 conference from 26th-27th August at the Stamford Hotel, Glenelg.

### *Hold Fast Against MS*

Keynote speakers this year include:

- A/Prof Mark Slee: Presenting Progressive MS and pipeline treatments
- A/Prof John Moore: Sharing the Stem cell treatment in MS: The St Vincent's experience
- Dr Deborah Field: Investigating Immunology and implications with MS therapies
- James McLaughlin: Explaining Vertigo and MS Vestibular rehabilitation

And much more to come, including interactive workshops covering topics such as MRI differentials, interpreting lab results and research "seed to fruit" presentations.

Take the opportunity to present what is new in your area through a platform or poster presentation and learn from MS Nurses within Australasia.

On-line registrations coming soon.

Speakers are correct at the time of going to print.

## Breaking News

The Consortium of MS Centres (CMSC) annual meeting is on this week in Washington. You may remember that Best Overall Presentation winner at the MSNA conference receives a scholarship to attend this meeting and the opportunity to present



their work. Fiona d'Young, Auckland NZ was the 2015 recipient of this award and is currently attending this conference. Overnight we have heard that Fiona has been awarded the IOMSN's Linda Morgante Hope Award for her outstanding presentation. This award is named in honour of a founding member of the IOMSN and celebrates *'the poster which best represents a spirit of optimism and possibility related to clinical care or education for patients with MS and their families'*.

Not 24 hours earlier the executive were thrilled to learn that Therese Burke from Westmead MS Clinic NSW had been

awarded the prestigious IOMSN's June Halper Award for Excellence in MS Nursing. This award *'represents leadership and creativity in the care of people with MS and their families. The award signifies an energy of purpose to provide the most up-to date comprehensive care possible'*.

Finally we were delighted to be advised that another of the MSNA membership was the recipient of an award, the Best Patient and Family Education poster presentation. Michelle Allen is to be congratulated for her work in this area.

Well done to each and all for these wonderful achievements.

## Conference Dinner



The local conference convenors have settled on a theme for the conference dinner -

### *Vintage of your Choice*

Interpret this to your taste. Vintage clothes, vintage as in eras, vintage wine. Hmm... wine barrel britches might not be warm enough.

## Whats on in Adelaide

**If you have some spare days in Adelaide**, there are very few big events happening whilst we are there. Unfortunately the AFL game that week is at 12 on Saturday !

But, the good news is, that if you happen to be in Adelaide on Sunday, there may be an opportunity for some networking whilst on an exclusive wine tour. This is not part of the conference but can easily be arranged. The tour will visit several great wineries and also include a lunch.

Anyone can register their interest and email [hmccarl@ms.asn.au](mailto:hmccarl@ms.asn.au)

Glenelg is a short tram ride to the city where Rundle Mall is the place to shop!

The Art Gallery and Museum are both on North Terrace

<http://www.artgallery.sa.gov.au/agsa/home/Exhibitions/NowShowing/index.jsp>

<http://www.samuseum.sa.gov.au/visit>

If you stay around Glenelg for the afternoon, there are local shopping opportunities, the Bay Discovery Centre and even just a walk along the promenade which will take to to beaches north and south, with cafes, and pubs to enjoy.

**Do you need accommodation?..** The Stamford Grand will have a link for on site accommodation at conference rate on our website booking page. There are many hotels, motels and guest houses in the Glenelg area.

You can try some of the booking sites such as <http://www.expedia.com.au/>  
<http://www.bookings.com> and similiar.

## MS Research Australia

MS Research Australia is inviting Australians with MS, their friends, family, carers, doctors, nurses and researchers to take part in a survey about the priorities in MS research.

MS Research Australia is seeking feedback on our current and future research strategy. We would like to understand which of the many different areas of MS research are considered important by people directly and indirectly affected by MS, as well as health professionals and researchers.

It is a priority for MS Research Australia that the views of the Australian MS community help to guide our research strategy into the future.

We greatly appreciate you taking the time to complete this survey. The survey should take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete.

You will only be able to complete the survey once, but if you need to take a break, you will be able to leave and return to the survey to pick up where you left off and/or edit responses on previous pages until you have clicked the 'Done' button.

The survey is anonymous, your name will not be collected. The survey will remain open until 30 June 2016.

The survey can be found here <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MSResearchAustralia>

## Literature

MSNA currently has a partnership with the Gardiner Library at the John Hunter Hospital to source full articles for the e-bulletin. If you have found an article of interest (perhaps something for us all to share) and can't access it through your employer or local university consider contacting the MSNA secretary as another possible avenue for getting access to the full article. Below are this editions articles of current interest.

An interesting local case study in a PwMS prescribed Lemtrada. [http://Vijaratnam, N., Rath, L., & Skibina, O. \(2016\). Pancolitis a novel early complication of Alemtuzumab for MS treatment. Multiple Sclerosis and Related Disorders, 7, 83-84.](http://Vijaratnam, N., Rath, L., & Skibina, O. (2016). Pancolitis a novel early complication of Alemtuzumab for MS treatment. Multiple Sclerosis and Related Disorders, 7, 83-84.)

Think you're getting busier? This poster from last ECTRIMS shows a significant increase in prevalence of MS in Newcastle, NSW, since 1959 to 2011. <http://onlinelibrary.ectrims-congress.eu/ectrims/2015/31st/115635/undefined>

It's time (if you didn't already know it) to care for our care-givers.  
<http://ijmsc.org/doi/full/10.7224/1537-2073.2015-023>

## Feedback

Your feedback about this e-bulletin is welcome. Please email the fabulous webmaster, Tim at [tim.omaley@msqld.org.au](mailto:tim.omaley@msqld.org.au) with your suggestions.

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