

MSNA E-News

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CONFERENCE REGISTRATIONS OPEN!

www.msnainc.com.au/conference-registration

MS

Nurses

Australasia Inc

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President's Report

Hi everyone,

Welcome to the New Year! I hope you all managed to enjoy some happy and peaceful times with your loved ones over the festive season and that you're feeling re-energised for the coming year (which we're frighteningly already well into, aren't we?!)

I have to confess to feeling a little overwhelmed and wrung out by the end of 2018 and so (unusually) I took the kind of advice I usually give my patients and had a bit of an extended break, taking 6 weeks of long service leave. Apart from some Marie Kondo-style cleaning out of my cupboards, I didn't do much at all!

Now that's more than enough about me. I have a few updates to provide.

Stop and Reverse MS Assembly: After 12 months of consultation and planning, the goal of this Assembly held on 21 & 22 November 2018 was to harness the collective strengths of a broad MS community: PwMS, carers, care providers, clinicians, researchers, political figures, philanthropists and other stakeholders, in order to work towards stopping and reversing MS in 10 years. I was invited to represent MS Nurses, and I took the opportunity to speak about the importance of the MS Nurse in identifying patients at risk, in enabling high efficacy therapies to be utilized, in trouble-shooting and minimizing problems, in managing community-based care and referrals, in avoiding admissions and ED presentations, in keeping patients well at work and at home, and in facilitating clinical research.

Strategic Planning meeting: I met recently with John Blewonski, the CEO of MS based in Blackburn, VIC, who has asked me to participate in their strategic planning process in conjunction with KPMG as they review their service delivery models. I emphasized the need for MS Nurses into the future.

Consumer Insights - Meeting the needs of people with MS: MS Australia, on behalf of its state-based member organisations has engaged KPMG Acuity to complete an update of the National MS Needs Analysis of Australians with MS (2012). You can find a link to the previous report here: <https://msra.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/National-MS-Needs-Analysis-2012-1.pdf> This analysis aims to gain a deeper insight into the expectations and needs of people and carers of people with MS. I was asked to represent MS Nurses by participating in a baseline interview to inform the primary research activities. MSA will keep us informed of the project's progress.

MSSN Project Update: The Multiple Sclerosis Specialist Nurses in Australia project has received a small amount of funding from MSA to progress phase II of this project. Many of you will recall completing a survey which aimed to collect information about number, location and position details of MS Nurses in Australia. In collaboration with MSNA and MSHPN, MSA would like to repeat this survey with a few refinements. Results of the previous MSSN survey culminated in the 2017 publication, Multiple Sclerosis Specialist Nurses in Australia 2017. A copy of this report can be found here:

<https://www.msaaustralia.org.au/sites/default/files/MSA%20MS%20Specialist%20Nurses%20Report%202017.pdf>
. MSA is also working in partnership with a number of neurologists on an online resource for funding applications or business cases that can assist in growing the number of MSSNs in Australia.

MSNA Conference 2019: Our conference this year will be held in Sydney at Rydges Sydney World Square Hotel from August 29 to 31, and it's already shaping up to be a colourful and educational few days! Meena and the NSW team have hit the ground running and arrangements are well underway for a fantastic conference so please keep these dates free for our annual get-together.

That's it for now but as always, don't hesitate to get in touch at any time.

Cheers,
Belinda

Belinda Bardsley RN MSCN
President, MSNA Inc

Annual Conference - Calming the Sea



Date: 29th to 31st August 2019

Venue: Rydges World Square
389 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000
Web: www.rydges.com

Conference theme: " Calming the Sea"

Gala Dinner Theme: Las Vegas, Elvis Presley

MSNA Membership, Mel McMurtrie

Hello from me and welcome back to MSNA for 2019.
Wow, what a year 2018 was, breaking the 100 member's milestone!!

Wouldn't it be great to keep the momentum going into 2019 and see more growth and support for MS Nurses and Associate members?

This is a reminder that membership fees are due in April of each year, so please take the time to renew your membership and encourage any colleagues you have to become members. All health care professionals working within the field of MS are warmly welcomed as associate members.



Membership provides you with ongoing access to professional development and networking within the MS community, via a network of state delegates and our affiliation with the International MS Nurses IOMSN, along with the bonus of discounted fees for our Annual MSNA conference. Ongoing membership also has the bonus of access to grants and awards, provided by our organisation.

And YES! Your membership fee is tax deductible.

Membership fee categories:

Ordinary Member - Registered or Enrolled Nurse, working with or having an expressed interest MS Nursing. \$50

Associate Member -AIN or Allied Health Professional working with or having an expressed interest MS Nursing. \$50

Corporate Nurse Member Registered Nurse,- employed directly by a Company or Corporation working within MS related fields. (Non-voting membership) \$50

Corporate Associate Member- Individual, employed directly by a Company or Corporation working within MS related fields. (Non-voting membership) \$70

Please join us, or renew your membership, this April via our website www.msnainc.com.au

If you have any questions, please contact me at treasurer@msnainc.com.au

See you at the next conference!

Melanie McMurtrie

Treasurer MSNA Inc.

MSNICB examination 2019 - CALL FOR INTEREST/REGISTRATIONS FOR THE EXAMINATION IN SYDNEY AT THE MSNA CONFERENCE

If you are an RN with a minimum of 2 years experience working in MS, it is time to register for the Multiple Sclerosis Nurses International Certification Board (MSNICB) examination this year. The opportunity to sit for this internationally recognized qualification as a Multiple Sclerosis Certified Nurse (accredited letters MSCN) will be made available to you as part of the MSNA annual conference. For more exam details and the course handbook please refer to the IOMSN/MSNICB website www.msnicb.org

Extensive educational resources for MS information are available through the IOMSN website www.iomsn.org and also through MSNA www.msnainc.com.au

The examination is scheduled for the afternoon prior to the MSNA conference on the 29th August 2019 so that it precedes the conference and you can relax. Time and venue TBA (tentatively for 2pm-4pm at the conference venue). Registration/payment are not yet open, but please register your interest with Therese and to receive regular updates and key dates to note. There is no obligation to sit for the exam just by registering interest.

The individual must pay the cost of the examination (currently \$US320), however there are opportunities for you to seek sponsorship from outside sources (let your conference sponsor know you are sitting the exam and are seeking reimbursement for the fee, in some cases they may help). MSNA also has a grant pathway (conditions apply - check the website for grant forms) to request reimbursement if you are successful in your exam, so please keep your receipt handy.

Any questions, please let Therese Burke know as early as possible (therese.burke2@my.nd.edu.au).
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