“Clinical 43 Notes” includes the program for the 19th Annual Spinal Injury Conference

Appreciation is expressed to the Chief Nurse For NSW, Professor Thoms in accepting the Invitation to address the conference.

A report on the Annual Lunch held by the Fellows 43 is also included. During the lunch Meryl Pedersen became the 7th nurse to accept The Fellow 43 Medal

The Notice for the Annual General Meeting is also included. It will be held after the final session of the first day of the Conference. Your attendance is encouraged particularly in the matter of electing officers who are responsible for the conduct of the affairs of your Association.

The current team of Paul Schell (President) Trudi O’Neil (Public Officer) Joanna Cartwright (Secretary/ Treasurer) Meryl Pedersen, Isobel Jeans, Lynn Kemp (committee) are prepared to stand for re-election. Any member is invited to contest the election with nominations being accepted prior and up to the time of meeting.

WELCOME to this issue of “Clinical 43 Notes”. This newsletter is aimed at giving news and information on the various activities that have their origin in Ward 43 at the now closed Lidcombe Hospital directed to the care of people with disability.

“Clinical 43 Notes” is the journal of SPINAL INJURY NURSES ASSOCIATION inc.

READERS are invited to submit articles or letters for future editions.

The next edition is planned for: NOVEMBER 2009.

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The Association’s vice President, Graham Glendenning and the editor met with Tracey Osmond, Chief Executive of the College on Nursing during January.

Work has begun to implement the outcome of the discussion which is very satisfactory and exciting. This issue of “Notes” will gives an update on progress.
# 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Spinal Injury Conference

**Program 13<sup>th</sup> / 14<sup>th</sup> August 2009**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Thursday 13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>Friday 14&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Professor Debra Thoms</td>
<td>Sean Langshaw</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Chief Nurse</td>
<td>Disability South West</td>
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<td>10.15am</td>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Professor Judy Lumby</td>
<td>Team Presentation</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>University Technology Sydney</td>
<td>Disability South West</td>
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<td>11.30am</td>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Dr Paul Brock</td>
<td>Bernadette McNally</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Induced Pluripotent Stem</td>
<td>Wound Care</td>
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<td>12.15pm</td>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Professor Richard Millard</td>
<td>Kath Feltz</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Neurogenic vesico-Urethral Dysfunction</td>
<td>ABI Case Study</td>
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<td>Headway</td>
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<td>2.00pm</td>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Annelies De Wolf</td>
<td>Judith Cornell AM</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Physiotherapist</td>
<td>College of Nursing Archives</td>
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<td>Spinal Outreach Service</td>
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<td>2.45pm</td>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Ilze Jaunberzins</td>
<td>Inspection</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Neuroleadership</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>“harnessing your potential”</td>
<td>College of Nursing Archives</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.00pm</td>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Association’s Annual General Meeting</td>
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Note: Allocation of sessions may be subject to change.

Note: Following the Annual general Meeting do join in drinks and something to eat at the Burwood RSL Club. The Club is only a short walk from the College and has excellent facilities with reasonable prices!

Registration Contact
Hon Secretary Joanna Cartwright
Email: joannacartwright@optusnet.com.au
NOTICE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The meeting will be held following the final session on the first day of the 19th Annual Spinal Injury Conference at the College of Nursing Railway Parade Burwood on 13th August 2009

AGENDA:
1. Welcome and Registration.
2. Apologies
3. Correspondence
4. Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting
5. Business arising from the minutes
6. President’s Report
7. Secretary’s Report
8. Financial Statement
9. Election of Officers:
   1. Public Officer
   2. President
   3. Secretary / Treasurer
   4. Committee.
10. Business
   1. Study Project
11. General Business
12. Date for next meeting.

NOTES
1. The Attendance Book must be signed before eligibility to vote.
2. Nominations for Election to Office will be received up to and prior to the meeting. Each nomination must be seconded.
3. Motions for tabling must be in the Secretary’s possession one month prior to the meeting.
4. Motions without notice will be placed before the meeting for assent to be tabled under business.
5. The Annual General Meeting is conducted under the Rules of Association of the Department of Fair Trading N.S.W.
The 7th Annual Lunch was held at Chester Hill on Saturday April 4th. At the Lunch two people accepted the admittance to the Fellow Role. The Role was commenced in 1990 as a means of recognition for contribution and advice to activities that were instigated to improve the quality of life for people with disability.

Donald White from Wentworth Falls has contributed to “Music 43” in capacity as Honorary President and actively involved in organizing and co-ordinating the Annual Music 43 Concert. Don’s contribution is greatly appreciated not only by the Fellows but also by many musicians.

Stephen Frost from Chester Hill continues to support the weekend activity conducted by Freedom Across Australia at Glenfield for many years. Stephen has established a ready rapport with people with disability and exercises extreme patience and versatility in giving instruction in the art of Ti Chi.

Since 2002 the Fellow 43 have awarded a Medal annually to a practicing Registered Nurse who is considered by the Fellow 43 to have made significant contribution in the nursing care of people with spinal injury. At the Lunch the Medal was presented to Meryl Pedersen for significant nursing care for spinal injury impairment: in particular to Meryl’s long term effort and support to the care of young children with spinal injury at the Children’s Hospital Westmead.

FELLOWS

1990 Alex Ramsbottom +
1991 Ray Cox +
1992 Trudi O’Neil
1993 Thomas Cahill
1994 Graham Glendenning
1995 John Shanley
1998 Max and Grace + Burman
1999 Russell Lockton
2000 Peter Stokes
2001 Sue Rutowski
2001 Ronald Cox +
2003 Pamela and David Priest
2004 Barbara Curtin
2005 Lorraine Morgan
2006 Harry Brindley
2007 Adrian Sheen
2008 Richard Geeves ; John Yeo
2009 Stephen Frost; Donald White

MEDALISTS

2002 Lynn Kemp
2003 Wendy Jannings
2004 Lesley Brennan
2005 Deborah Hagen
2006 Glen Stolzenhein
2007 Kylie Jones
2008 Wendy Hall
2009 Meryl Pedersen
“PHOTO ALLEY”

top: Don White accepting admission
middle: Meryl Pedersen accepting the medal
below: The Awards to the Roll
Graham Glendenning and John Hebblewhite met in January this year with the Chief Executive of the College of Nursing, Tracey Osmond to consider the feasibility of a research project. A further meeting was held with Donna Waters, Manager Research and Projects at the College. Appreciation is expresses to Graham Glendenning for his involvement. The following letter was received from Graham:

“The topic of spinal Nursing Competencies has exercised my mind for some time. It is only possible for SINA to become a respected peak professional body after standardized clinical competencies have been developed and adopted.

The imperative for developing Spinal Nursing Competencies was recently brought into sharp focus following an announcement by the Federal Health Minister to allow Nurse Practitioners to become Medicare providers. I can see that governments may promote spinal outreach services by Nurse Practitioners to fill gaps in mainstream spinal services-especially in rural and remote areas or provincial cities. In this circumstance, Spinal Nurses would need to demonstrate specialized knowledge, insight and practice in order to attract Nurse Practitioner status and Medicare provider privileges. Educational institutions may look to SINA for partnering and clinical leadership in developing post graduate courses to help nurses prepare for and achieve elevated status. Nurses already working in mainstream spinal services (and their administration) would probably appreciate leadership from SINA in setting clinical benchmarks for practice.

To date, a fair amount of work has been done to prepare a position statement for SINA on the topic. As a starting point, the writer has looked very closely at the Nurse Practitioner Competencies published by the Nurses’ and Midwives’ Board. When completed, it is intended to present the document to committee for possible tabling and discussion at the Annual Conference. A funding source will need to be found which would enable a PhD candidate to take the strategy up as a research project (for standardization). This would lead to publication, and once SINA’s academic credentials are established then collaboration with like-minded groups and institutions becomes possible.

Such a process, as set out above, would enable members to have full knowledge and control of the proposed project”

Work is underway. The initial substantial work will be presented to the Committee so that irrefutable conclusions can be seen and acted upon. It is anticipated that it will be appealing and acceptable to members and will be read by academics and potential sponsors. The document will be presented and tabled at the 2010 Annual Conference for serious consideration.

This major study is the third to be initiated by the Association and continues the important adjunct to the Annual Conference.
The Spinal Injury Nurses’ Association was Incorporated in 2002. The Association evolved from the annual Spinal Injury Conference which began in 1991 to provide a forum for nurses and carers and to enhance their involvement in spinal injury nursing.

The major activity of the association is the Annual Conference held in November each year and has a collaborative agreement with the College of Nursing.

In addition the Association issues the following:

“CLINICAL 43 NOTES” [a 10 A4 page] in March, July, November. The journal provides articles relating to clinical aspects and practice.

“BOOKWORM” which publishes contributions by nurses in booklet form.

AIMS OF THE ASSOCIATION:

To PROMOTE and encourage the study and practice of the discipline of spinal injury nursing and care.

To DISSEminate such knowledge by encouraging nurses and carers to give free presentation at the Annual Conference.

ENQUIRIES

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To PUBLISH “Clinical 43 Notes” as an avenue for interchange of idea and experience.

To ENCOURAGE the highest ideals of professional and ethical standards.

The Association is a non profit member based association subject to the Rules of the Department Fair Trading NSW.