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#### TO CONTRIBUTE ARTICLES/FEEDBACK

#### Email to the editor (Manager) at *info@ostomynsw.org.au* by:

Winter Edition	
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Summer Edition	15th October 2022

#### ONL PHONE: 02 9542 1300 ONL FAX: 02 9542 1400 WEBSITE: www.ostomynsw.org.au

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## **COVID-19** ILLNESS AND TRAVELLING OVERSEAS Murphys' Law - What can happen?

We see and hear the media hype, Australia is open for business, families can be together again. Off we go inter intrastate, interstate, overseas. Wopeeee !!!

Before booking and before you travel, ensure you check the latest Government travel requirements, which may include mandatory health declarations, vaccinations, COVID-19 tests, use of face masks, entry permits, pre-approval and quarantine (possibly at your own expense), or you could be denied entry.



Qantas says while flying might look a little different, particularly in the short term, they are here to help you get travel ready through each part of your journey.

#### Check the Department of Foreign Affairs web site for the latest Covid rules!

I love travel as it inspires me displaying all that is humanly good over the centuries. I am an ostomate, retired insurance professional travelling with my wife. However due to Covid I'm cautious and risk adverse.

People now have a heightened awareness of a world disease. In late May 2022 WHO (World Health Organization) is tracking the latest disease 'Monkeypox'. Australian health authorities are continuing to promote Covid booster shots and flu shots predicting a worse than ever flu season this winter.

Under the above circumstances we still consider travel. Crowded into planes, transiting airports, ques, ships, trains and buses with people from everywhere and anywhere. Accepting hygiene and vaccination standards and wear a mask 24/7 while on public transport, planes and in airports.

#### Covid Rules -

Further you may not have Covid but have an attention attracting \* cough \* sneeze \* wheeze (asthma), temperature (flu? other cause?) so you and your companions are stopped in transit somewhere enroute. If you become ill, where do you stay?

The risk is that some official alleges that a traveller has 'Covid'. The official insists on tests, then the traveller must await results in a foreign country with a different language and rules. In addition, a traveller is unsure where to stay. If a Covid test is positive then a traveller must seek and endure treatment and obtain medical proof that he or she has recovered from Covid. A Traveller will still 'shed' and could prove positive to Covid tests for months. A cruise may disembark a Covid passenger enroute. (Note: some foreign counties may recognise Medicare for public health care).

My assessment is a 'simple' 1-2 destination trip which would involve a low risk of disruption. Remember Tasmania! New Zealand. Pacific Countries. Short haul, less dollar\$\$ to lose on a cancellation. To visit foreign relatives not simple either!

I've experienced dealing with officials in other Countries, speaking in foreign languages. It can be very difficult and challenging. But, I'm still a little keen.

There are two examples below where airlines expect travellers to know the rules applying to the airline, countries you travel to, from and through. Rather daunting and the Australian Government advice is you have to check out the rules of other countries regarding Covid.



#### Airfares, travel bookings nasty shocks.

If you cancel or seek to postpone, the first problem may be the fare difference \$ cost for the dates you change to for travel. A Company may give a 'certificate' for the current value to be used by a date. Yet there may be a higher fare on those 'new dates'. Given travel is returning early low priced incentive deals are going away replaced by more full priced as demand rises.

#### Insurance. International and Domestic

Medical insurance with limited Covid cover is now available for travellers to many countries. The Department of Foreign affairs says 'ok' to travel too. Note the loss must be caused by Covid. If your trip is stopped and you prove to not have Covid then no insurance coverage. No cover if the country suddenly bans travel in, to, or through. We all have pre – existing medical conditions so we need to apply to the insurer to cover ostomate pre-existing conditions AND our travel companions too, if they are disrupted by an ostomate's event. Travellers together should insure together. Pre-existing exclusion applies to anyone who can disrupt your trip including aged parents at or in a home.

Like the airlines, work out the rules yourself!!!

And NOT all circumstances are covered, these exclude.

#### COVID-19 Travel Insurance

**IMPORTANT:** Our customer service team cannot provide customers with personal advice over the phone or confirm if a claim will be approved. All claims need to be submitted online via our claims portal for consideration by our claims team. For general questions related to our Cover-More COVID -19 cover, please read the PDS and/or you Policy Wording, review our COVID-19 FAQs, or call us on 1300 72 88 22.



Government Border Closures, Lockdowns or Quarantine



Mandated COVID-19 Tests (PCRs and Rapid Antigen Tests)



Close Contacts of a Person Diagnosed with COVID-19



Cruise Cabin Confinement Costs Related to COVID-19

## BIOGRAPHY

## OSTOMY NSW DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHY 2022

#### Stephen Grange – Vice President

Stephen joined the Ostomy NSW board in 2007. A retired insurance professional with many years experience in various general insurance aspects including: technical, sales , marketing then coaching. Gained Fellowship status in Insurance, Marketing. Gained MBA from MGSM. He has attended numerous national ostomy meetings, supporting national efforts, tasks etc.

Due to bladder cancer had a urostomy from 1 June 2006.

Stephen is passionate about ostomate welfare, wishing for higher non- ostomate revenue to enable more services to ostomates, especially the disadvantaged ostomate. Believes in ostomate ' demostomy' where ostomates direct their own charity organisation to severe ostomates, with 2 viable Associations in larger States to provide choice.

#### Greg Doyle - Director

#### Why become an ONL Director?

Good question!

I joined ONL as an ostomate member in Jan 2011. Following my surgery, that left me a double ostomate, I returned to my normal place of employment until late in 2012 when I retired.

For the following couple of years I placed and received my orders like clockwork, without any questions. I used to browse quickly through the quarterly newsletter, just reading any articles that caught my eye. During this time, the Association "was just there when I needed my monthly order". However the request for volunteers was a regular part of these newsletters that I seemed to always notice - do you??

I decided to apply to help out and my application was greatly accepted. I started volunteering for one day each week in February 2014. By the end of that year I was employed for 20 hours a week working in the warehouse. I enjoyed the work and atmosphere of "do our best for the members".

In 2015 the then General Manager asked me if I would consider joining the Board. I wasn't too sure what I could bring to the Board as my previous employment required me to manage repairs and maintenance of heavy and mining machinery. It didn't seem to fit with the ins and outs of a stoma association. However, I threw my hat into the ring, and here I am!!

Initially I was mildly uncomfortable with the legal requirements of a board member, but I soon came to appreciate that the staff and management were appreciative of having an operating and visible board, meeting regularly to hear reports, and to advise and guide management through any issues as they arise. I realised quickly that the position was needed for the Association to function as best as possible.

In my time here a number of board members have come and gone for various reasons however we now seem to have a good balance of Directors who always have something to offer during meetings. We have a good balance. We also have a number of positions on the board to be filled by enthusiastic people from our membership.

My humble beginnings began in the mountains of the Upper Yarra Valley in Victoria, in 1953. I apprenticed as a Holden mechanic, served in the Australian Army and from the late 1970's I worked in the civil construction and mining industries (generally for the one employer) as a plant mechanic and later a General Superintendent.

I'm a bit of a nutter for AFL football. Not sure if that is a prerequisite for Directors,

and I can be a bit of a joker" at times. I have enjoyed being involved with our current and past employees and proud of the excellent service that they give our membership. I'm not sure that the above answers "why become a Director" but it will have to do.

#### Adam Keam - Director

I am a 41-year-old Ostomate and have been living with an ileostomy since 2018 after undergoing surgery to treat a reoccurrence of bowel cancer (after living with chronic ulcerative colitis since my teens).

As a result of my experience, I am passionate about making a positive impact for other Ostomates and advocating for continued and improved services via the Stoma Appliance Scheme.

İ have previously volunteered with the NSWCancer Council in several areas, including Co-Chair of the Manly Relay for Life.

I work as an Executive Director, for the US Investment Bank J.P. Morgan primarily focusing on

Finance and Business Management, with prior roles with the firm in Hong Kong and London. I am a Board Member of J.P. Morgan Nominees Australia Limited and a member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA). With a Bachelor of International Business, majoring in Economics and Asian Studies from the Flinders University of South Australia.

In my spare time, I enjoy water sports, Australian Rules Football (AFL), travelling and spending time with my wife and three young sons (12, 8 & 5).

Given my passion, I am keen to continue to serve the Ostomate community via involvement with the Australian Council of Stoma Associations and in turn use my personal and professional experience to continue to assist, govern and grow the council for the benefit of each and everyone of us.

#### Tom Flood - President

To many members Tom Flood is purely the name of the President of Ostomy NSW Ltd. (ONL), and the Vice-President of 'Bladder Exstrohpy, Epispadias, Cloacal Exstrophy, and Hypospadias Australian Community'(BEECHAC). To others Tom may be a neighbour, a friend or relative, a fellow worker, someone that travels on the same bus or train as you. Tom joined the Board in 1990 and has been President since 1998. Many great and unknown Australians contribute a vast amount to our society and without volunteers that ask for no reward our community would not prosper as it does.

Tom became even more involved with the IA in NSW: manning the counter, editing and helping to get the Newsletter out, becoming Secretary of the association, then Vice-president and on to President a position he still holds today... all the time feeling how good it is to help new and old members, organising and attending the United Ostomy Associations, NSW country meetings and realising the importance of the stoma support groups. Tom says that he loves being one of a team bringing peace of mind to others through support, reassurance and provision of information.

Tom is humble and exceptional in that he had the foresight from an early age to pursue his vision for, and love of, humanity. He appears to have never been daunted whatever obstacles confront him, and, with dedication and enthusiasm continues to be a driving force providing guidance and support to ONL and its members, his Church, and BEECHAC.

[Footnote: on 9th June, 2014, Tom was awarded the 'Order of Australia Medal'(OAM) in the Queen's Birthday Honours for service to community health through leadership and advocacy for people living with stomas.]

## FIONA "LEE" GAVEGAN

Hello to those of you who know me and to those who don't. You may or may not know my birth name or given name which is Fiona and my middle name is Lee. My mother always called me "Lee" and that is what I answer to. Why did she do this? I really don't know! What I can tell you, is that it is embarrassing sitting at the Motor Registry after having a new photo taken for my licence and thinking they are taking a long time. Meanwhile someone, has been calling for Fiona, to collect her licence, but "Fiona" is sitting there day dreaming. Lee is thinking, what is the holdup?

One of the questions I get asked by patients and nurses all the time is, "Why did you choose to become a Stomal Therapy Nurse?" My answer is always the same, because I didn't know how to help a young man who had two stomas when I was a community nurse. He was the same age as me, had a motorbike accident which left him a paraplegic, wheelchair bound, with a urostomy and colostomy. For several years he was one of my community patients, who lived alone and managed to cope with his two stomas. When there was a problem, a question, I tried my best to help. It was my own lack of understanding that led me on this path.

With my Stomal Therapy certificate under my wing I was all prepared to help Stoma patients. I was seconded from Community Nursing into the newish Post Acute Community Care (PACC) team. This was an upmarket community nurse role where we were taught to cannulate and give intra venous antibiotics, take blood, do complex dressings, plus a variety of other nursing requests, travel across the whole of the area health to meet and care for our patients in their homes. From PACC I was seconded from my secondment into Westmead Hospital Stomal Therapy Service. What a large and daunting



place when you have been a community nurse for a long while? But at last, I was able to learn and apply the craft of Stomal Therapy. I was lucky enough to be with much more experienced Stomal Therapist(s) and not on my own. Here I learnt about colostomies, ileostomies, urostomies, Neo Bladders, Indiana Pouches, J pouches, antegrade enemas, Chait Buttons, MicKey Buttons, EntriSta Buttons, fistulas and a whole range of openings/stomas that I did not know about. Some people needing one, two or even three pouches. I had learnt that one pouch does NOT suit every stoma. We are so lucky to have such a selection of products here in Australia, with the Stoma Appliance Scheme, company aid and in NSW the two Associations; Ostomy NSW Ltd and NSW Stoma to support our stoma patients.

Later there was a Stomal Therapy position advertised and I was the successful applicant. I have been a full time Stomal Therapist at Westmead Hospital for twenty-two years. The role is Clinical Nurse Consultant - Stomal Therapy.



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**WINTER 2022** 

for my presentation

while she was so se-

rious and annoved

at me. She had to

see for herself that

I didn't have any

pockets in my pants.

Who has no pock-

ets in their pants?? I

try to have none as

they make my hips

bigger than they al-

This is a varied and complex position as it is seeing all ages of patients. There are the exceedingly small babies in Neonatal Intensive Care (NICU), with a stoma the size of the tip of your little finger, to the older population on the wards and in the general Intensive Care (ICU). The days are busy with a Stomal she was horrified that I did not have pockets in my pants as she wanted to place the speaker box in my pant pocket! In front of everyone, she lifts my top up to look for my pockets. I'm trying to pull my top down; her head is under my top and I'm trying not to laugh, be embarrassed and stay collected

Therapy outpatient clinic too. Prior to COVID there were 700 outpatients through the clinic in one year. Part of acute hospital care is meeting new patients, preparing them for surgery, siting for a possible or planned stoma,



post operative care, recovery, and follow up. Understanding about diet and exercise, as well as home environment and support when home. Ongoing outpatient care in the community often lacks support as this is when lots of issues are found needing help. Often, I find, it is not until patients are at home and managing on their own that issues small or large may arise. Something as simple as weight gain or loss may hinder stoma appliance attachment.

Facilitation and knowledge transfer for new stomal therapy nurses is something I am enthusiastic about. I have aided over twenty clinical placements for nurses doing the Stomal Therapy Course via the Australian College of Nursing (ACN) here in NSW.

In hospital Stomal Therapy is also about staff and education exchange too. I have been part of education for nursing staff and have been an invited speaker at Tripartite Colorectal Meeting and Asia Pacific Enterostomal Therapy Nurse Association (APETNA) international conferences. I have presented at other conferences both locally and overseas. It is always interesting to take part, learn and gain innovative ideas. One funny experience that I will never forget was the electrical lady trying to attach a microphone speaker to my pants, on stage. This was in front of the large overseas audience, and ready are!

Generally, if lucky enough to travel locally and overseas, it is always fun, like an adventure. I enjoy travelling and learning about places I have never been to before.

Aren't I lucky to have been unconsciously guided down this path to Stomal Therapy? It has been such a rewarding career for me where I have spent the last twenty-two years at Westmead Public Hospital as a CNC Stomal Therapy. I have had the privilege of collaborating with many talented people, patients and I am forever grateful for their support, understanding and help over the years.

My next journey will be as the Stomal Therapy Nurse linked to Ostomy NSW Ltd. I hope with all my heart that I will be able to help any ostomates that connect with me in any way I can. No one person's experience is complete, and it is realistic to acknowledge that we are all learning and together hopefully we will be able to address any problems that arise.

I will look forward to hearing from you in the future.

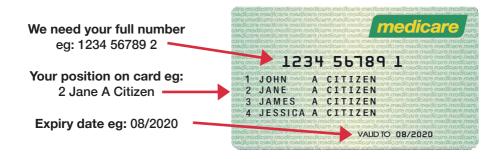
Kind regards,

Lee Gavegan Stomal Therapist Ostomy NSW Ltd M: 0499 980 330

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٦ . ONL HUMBIN Ms. N. MEMBER OSTOMY NSW LTD 1 STREET ROAD PO BOX 3068 KIRRAWEE NSW 2232 OST KIRRAWEE NSW 2232 POE Tel: 02 9542 1300 KIR Fax: 02 9542 1400 Tel: EMAIL: new.member@bigpond.com Fax MOBILI 0400 123 456 Packing form: 26/04/2022 Member No: 12345X \* Membership Fees for 2022/23 are soon due \* Packin Full membership \$70 \* M/ Concession \$60 Delivery Membership fees must be paid by 1st July 2022. Ful Thank you for your prompt attention to Co NSW Me payments. Th pa The balance of your account, after any costs associated with this order is \$62.00. You may use the reverse of this form to order again when you next require supplies. Fill in the order form and then fax to (02) 9542 1400, mail to the address above or scan and email to Th Fi The following products are enclosed 0 Supplier Item No Supplier Description т 402532 Units Packets Maximum CC STOMAHESIVE 402532 SYS. 2 STD. DRAINABLE 38MM 125143 60 6 pkt STOMAHESTVE 125143 SYS. 2 WAFERS 38MM CC 60 183910 5 CC 1 pkt STOMAHESIVE 183910 PASTE 60G 30 1 1 pkt 3 Front See other side for order form





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#### **WINTER 2022**

### TRAVEL

## PERRY TRIP TO IRELAND – AN ONL STORY

After three failed attempts due to Covid and international border closures, our family finally made it to Ireland for our planned trip. Originally we planned to attend a family member wedding and hoping for a white Christmas. The pandemic postponed the wedding but also and stopped us from travelling.

The federal government relaxed the restrictions, we took up our credit with the airline and booked our flights for a white Christmas in Ireland.

After we booked we began the process of getting extra supplies from ONL and travel insurance for a pre-existing condition. The friendly staff at ONL organised all my supplies and my concerns were dissipated once I received all the items that I required.

Travel insurance took a while to source, but I finally found a company and I was feeling more secure knowing that the Ireland and Australian governments have reciprocal medical healthcare arrangements. headed to our Hotel. The aim was simply to try and stay awake as long as possible to beat jetlag, we hit the beach and became very active and felt alive, and then as they say what goes up, must come down and we crashed, but with the time zone heading into Ireland in a few days we were happy with our plan.

Dubai is a great city if you are a tourist or a cashed up local, unfortunately, if you are not then it's a harsh city to live with the extreme heat and the local sandstorms.

We played tourist and went and visited the worlds tallest building and then went to the man-made lagoon in town and watched a laser show. We visited the worlds biggest shopping centre and the highlight for me in Dubai was the Dubai snow park which is an indoor version of the North Pole where we fed penguins and snow skied whilst it was over 30 degrees outside.

The second last day was another travel PCR test in order to get us into Ireland from

I highly recommend that where possible everyone take the chance to travel, the safe guards we put in place such as extra stoma bags, travel insurance, knowing where the local associations are etc all gave me the confidence to travel and experience a trip of a lifetime!

The last thing we required was a travel PCR test to depart Australia at \$75 a pop which was an expensive exercise on top of the uncomfortable feeling of having the swabs shoved up passed my eyeballs.

The big day arrived and we headed to the airport with paperwork, passports, and our new best friend the mask. It was compulsory that we all wore masks inside the airport and then on the plane.

The flight to Dubai was a long flight with masks on during the entire trip plus to top it off, we had an additional hour sitting on the plane while they fixed a maintenance problem.

We arrived in a sunny and warm Dubai and

Dubai, which was another \$105 each.

We finally arrived in Dublin, where grey rain clouds and a chilly 4 degrees greeted us for our trip to Kinsale, in County Cork. The drive in the hire car was an experience with the blinkers and wiper handles on the opposite side to the location in my car, so every time I changed lanes the wipers came on, it took a while to adjust to that.

Once in Kinsale it was a knock on the door to surprise the family members there and a bit of confusion then happiness as loved ones saw each other for the first time in what seemed like many years.

When I got over the shock of the sun coming up around 9:00am and going down



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TRE seals are available in 3 sizes 18mm • 30mm • 40mm



#### **WINTER 2022**

## TRAVEL



around 4:00pm I was fine, we did plenty of tourist things plus spent many occasions with family and it was the perfect mix.

Ireland had plenty of issues with Covid and social distancing, mask wearing was in play everywhere we discovered to the horror of all, pubs were closed at 8:30 every night by order of the local government.

Ireland is such a beautiful country steeped in tradition and its hard not to get caught up in it all, as a proud Aboriginal man and knowing what the English did to our people and country and learning what the English did to the Irish made me feel a special kindred to the local people.

One of the special places we visited was the town of Gougane Barra a monastery built on a small island in the 6th century and is the one of the five Pilgrim paths of Ireland. Walking into the Church and then a walk through the surrounding grounds brought a feeling of calmness and peace throughout the body. In true Irish tradition we retreated to the towns only pub and had a nice lunch washed down by a refreshing liquid beverage.

A visit to Ireland must include a visit to Blarney Castle to climb and kiss the Blarney Stone. The climb inside the castle is very tight and no good for less mobile people or people who are claustrophobic but we all got there and then in the tradition laid down and lent backwards to kiss the stone, which gave us all the gift of the gab.

Christmas day was my very first cold Christmas day and a tradition in Ireland is a swim in the ocean on Christmas day. We went to the beach but I wasn't brave enough to jump in, that's one tradition I will leave to the Irish.

As with all holidays they must end and it was quite sad saying goodbye, although you can face time people these days, you do realise when you say good bye that we really are a long way down under. Driving back from Cork to Dublin the radio weather report said there was a very good chance of snow falling that night and as we got into the area they mentioned snow had fallen. We pulled over and got out of the car and made a few snow balls and threw them, a perfect way to end the trip. We had one more PCR test to get us back into Australia what's another \$95 p.p..

I was a bit anxious to travel especially thinking I might catch Covid or if I have an issue with my stoma, but nothing happened, in fact I caught Covid a week after I arrived home.

## STOMAL THERAPY SERVICES - (NSW &

## Any errors or omissions please email Heather Hill at heathermaryhyde@yahoo.com OR phone: 0422 204 497(M)

#### **NSW STOMA LTD. CLINIC**

Anne Marie Lyons STN. Mobile: **0468 582 951** 

Email: stomanurse@nswstoma.org.au

The NSW Stoma Clinic (free to members) is open from 11am to 1pm at half-hour intervals on the second and fourth Thursday of each month in the private room at our office in Unit 5, 7-29 Bridge Rd Stanmore. Our lift has wheelchair access. Members with an ostomy problem may phone to organise a free consultation.

Due to COVID-19 our on-site clinic has been replaced by a phone and email service.

#### **OSTOMY NSW LIMITED CLINIC**

Lee Gavegan CNC Phone: (02) 9542 1300

A free Clinic is held every between 9am and 3:00pm. Please ring ONL to make an appointment. The telehealth clinic will operate on Tuesdays from 9am to 3pm. Please call our office on (02) 9542 1300 to make an appointment, and Lee will contact you for a time to meet. The virtual clinic is offered to all of our members and we would appreciate a donation to Ostomy NSW to support the cost of providing this service. This service is especially recommended for members who are not able to see a local STN. At this stage there is no face-to-face clinic available at our temporary location.

#### SYDNEY METRO AREA

BANKSTOWN-LIDCOMBE, FAIRFIELD & BRAESIDE HOSPITALS Phone: (02) 9722 7196

Tracey McMorrow Fiona Le

#### **BLACKTOWN HOSPITAL**

Lesley Jack CNC STN (Mon. to Fri.) Phone: (02) 9881 8000 Pager 7610 Mobile: 0408 923 788

#### **CAMPBELLTOWN PRIVATE HOSPITAL**

Lisa Howarth STN 42 Parkside Crescent, Campbelltown Phone: (**02) 4621 9166** 

#### **CHRIS O'BRIEN LIFEHOUSE**

Jason Plunkett Phone: **(02) 8514 0000** 

## CONCORD REPATRIATION GENERAL HOSPITAL

Ian Whiteley NP Anne Marie Lyons CNS Roger Riccardi CNS Phone: **(02) 9767 6761** 

#### HORNSBY HOSPITAL

Michelle Noon CNC Stomal Therapy and Wounds Phone: **(02) 9477 9184** 

#### HURSTVILLE PRIVATE HOSPITAL

Trish Doherty CNS (Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri.) Melanie Perez STN (TBC) Phone: **(02) 9579 7865** 

#### **KAREENA PRIVATE HOSPITAL**

86 Kareena Road, Caringbah NSW 2229 Kelly Taylor RN STN (Mon. and Fri.) Phone: **(02) 9717 0219** 

## ACT) DIRECTORY AS AT JUNE 2022

#### LIVERPOOL, CAMPBELLTOWN AND CAMDEN HOSPITALS Phone: (02) 8738 4308

Lu Wang CNS 2 Mobile: **0417 026 109** Erin Wagner STN Mobile: **0419 224 662** Diane Hooper

#### MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Colette Craft CNC STN Phone: **(02) 9812 3483** Email: colette.craft@muh.org.au Kenneth Salazar CNS STN Phone: **(02) 9812 3484** Email: kenneth.salazar@muh.org.au **MATER HOSPITAL** Johanna Ward STN Mobile: **0401 532 108** 

Email: wardjohanna@ramsayhealth.com.au

#### MT DRUITT HOSPITAL

Lesley Jack CNC STN (Mon. to Fri.) Phone: (02) 9881 8000 Pager 7610 Mobile: **0408 923 788** 

#### NEPEAN PRIVATE HOSPITAL

Nothabo Ndoweni STN Phone: (02) 4732 7333 Phone the Banksia Ward and leave a message Kerrie Wrenford STN Phone: **(02) 4734 1245** Fax: (02) 4734 1426

#### NEPEAN PUBLIC HOSPITAL

Naomi Houston CNS STN Phone: **(02) 4734 1245** (if Urgent: phone **(02) 4734 2000** and request a page) Email: Naomi.Houston@health.nsw.gov.au

#### NORTHERN BEACHES HOSPITAL

Phone: **(02) 9105 5549** Kathryn Bolton Sarah Beecham

#### NORTH SHORE PRIVATE

Johanna Ward STN Phone: **(02) 8425 3540** 

#### NORWEST PRIVATE HOSPITAL

Phone: **(02) 8882 8882** Kieren Zaballa STN Email: kieren.rocillo@healthscope.com.au

#### PRINCE OF WALES

Phone: **(02) 9382 3869** Katherine Wykes Page 44220 Lisa Graaf CNC Page 44403 Michael Breeze Page 44220 Email: SESLHD-StomalTherapyAndWoundMa nagementCNCs@health.nsw.gov.au

#### PRINCE OF WALES AND SYDNEY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL Alison Kennedy STN

Phone: (02) 9282 1627

#### PRINCE OF WALES PRIVATE HOSPITAL

Phone: (02) 9650 4470 Mandy Richardson CNC ROYAL NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL Rachael Hodgkins Phone: (02) 9463 2824 (pager 41244)

#### **ROYAL WOMEN'S HOSPITAL**

Jenny Duggan STN Mobile: **0417 944 247** 

#### ROYAL PRINCE ALFRED HOSPITAL

Phone: **(02) 9515 7280** Email: SLHD-RPAStomalTherapy@health.nsw. gov.au Colleen Mendes CNC Betty Boles CNC STN

#### **RYDE HOSPITAL**

Lisa Naylon (Mon. and Thurs.) Phone: (02) 9858 7987

#### ST GEORGE PRIVATE HOSPITAL, KOGARAH

Phone: (02) 9598 5342 Kerrin Hammon CNS

#### ST GEORGE PUBLIC HOSPITAL

Phone: **(02) 9113 3519** Daniela Levido CNC Email: Daniela.Levido@health.nsw.gov.au Anne Mamo CNS Deborah Dutchak CNS Melanie Perez

#### STRATHFIELD PRIVATE HOSPITAL

Maureen O'Shannessy CNC Phone: (02) 9745 7444

**WINTER 2022** 

## STOMAL THERAPY SERVICES - (NSW &

#### ST VINCENT'S PRIVATE HOSPITAL

Marnie Simpson Louise Gallagher Phone: (02) 8382 7010

#### ST VINCENT'S PUBLIC HOSPITAL

Mark Murtagh CNC Phone: **(02) 8382 2671** or **(02) 8382 1111** (pager 6158) Ann Sullivan Phone: (02) 8382 2963

#### SUTHERLAND HOSPITAL

Melissa Lampard CNC (Mon. to Thu., 8am-4pm) Phone: **(02) 9540 7111** (pager 473)

#### SYDNEY ADVENTIST HOSPITAL

Email: StomalTherapy@sah.org.au Glenda Flew CNS Mobile: **0419 285 113** Sandra Cryer CNC STN Phone: **(02) 9487 9111** Kerrie Whitson CNC STN Phone: **(02) 9480 4972** 

#### WESTMEAD CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Charmaine Richards CNC Stomal Therapy/ Wound Management Phone: **(02) 9845 2158** Email: Charmaine.Richards@health. nsw. gov.au

#### WESTMEAD HOSPITAL

Fiona (Lee) Gavegan CNC Mobile: **0409 962 111** Email: Fiona.Gavegan@health.nsw. gov.au Karen Shedden CNC Phone: **(02) 8890 5555** (page 22888 or 27904)

#### Mobile: 0427 127 795

Email: Karen.Shedden@health.nsw. gov.au Call the answering service on **(02) 8890 7969** if unable to contact via pager.

### **ILLWARRA AND SOUTH COAST**

#### **BATEMANS BAY & MORUYA HOSPITALS**

Trena O'Shea CNS STN (Clinical Co-ordinator) Phone: **(02) 4474 2666** 

Email: trena.Oshea@health.nsw.gov.au Servicing Monaro, South Coast & Southern Tablelands.

#### **BEGA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE**

PO Box 173, Bega NSW 2550 Julie Metcalf CNS STN (Mon / Tue, 8:30am-4pm) Phone: **(02) 6491 9800** Email: julie.metcalf@health.nsw.gov.au

#### NOWRA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

5 – 7 Lawrence Ave, Nowra 2541 Stomal Therapy Clinic: Mondays by appointment Phone: **(02) 4424 6300** Fax: (02) 4424 6347 Brenda Christiansen STN (Mon. to Fri., Clinic)

#### RAMSAY PRIVATE NOWRA

Liz McLeod Phone: (02) 4421 5855

#### WOLLONGONG HOSPTIAL

Julia Kittscha CNC Phone: **(02) 4255 1594** Mobile: **0414 421 021** Email: Julia.Kittscha@health.nsw.gov.au

#### WOLLONGONG PRIVATE HOSPITAL

Helen Richards CNC (Ward 4 South, Mon. only) Phone: **(02) 4286 1109** Fax: (02) 4286 1312

#### **CENTRAL COAST**

#### **GOSFORD DISTRICT HOSPITAL**

Phone: **(02) 4320 3323** Sharon Gibbins Mary Cuzner Annika Leystone (Mon. to Fri., 8am-4pm) Deb Day CNC Emma Cutugno

#### **GOSFORD PRIVATE HOSPITAL**

Phone: **(02) 4304 3297** Karen McNamara STN Dee Coulton STN

## ACT) DIRECTORY AS AT JUNE 2022

#### **NEWCASTLE REGION**

#### CALVARY MATER HOSPITAL

Phone: **(02) 4014 3815** Email: stomaltherapy@calvarymater.org.au Tess Richards CNC Jane Fifield STN Lara Riley STN Casey Luke Kellie-Anne Russell Phone: **(02) 4014 3810**.

#### JOHN HUNTER HOSPITAL

Phone: **(02) 4921 3000** Email: HNELHD-JHHStomal@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au Jenny O'Donnell CNC Karen Cole STN Mitchell Eddington (casual)

#### HUNTER VALLEY PRIVATE HOSPITAL

Alison Lincoln STN Phone: **(02) 4944 3777** Email: alison.lincoln@healthecare.com.au

#### LAKE MACQUARIE PRIVATE HOSPITAL

Rachel Wiley (Mon. to Thu.) Phone: (02) 4947 5362

#### LINGARD PRIVATE HOSPITAL

Alison Lincoln STN Phone: **(02) 4969 6799** for an appointment Email: alison.lincoln@healthecare.com.au

#### MAITLAND PUBLIC HOSPITAL

Phone: **(02) 4936 5507** Remedios Wilson STN Email: remedios.wilson@health.nsw.gov.au Phone: **(02) 4939 2000** 

#### MAITLAND PRIVATE HOSPITAL

Rhonda Farthing (Education) Phone: (02) 4931 2304

#### NEWCASTLE PRIVATE HOSPITAL

Phone: **(02) 4941 8741** Jill Fairhall STN CNC Cecelia King (casual)

#### WALLSEND COMMUNITY HEALTH

vacant Nash Street, Wallsend. Phone: **(02) 4924 6100** 

### **NORTH COAST**

#### COFFS HARBOUR COMMUNITY NURSING

HEALTH CAMPUS Mandy Hawkins CNC, STN/Continence Roslyn Adamson Phone: **(02) 6656 7820** Alyssa Higoe Phone: **(02) 6656 5467** Serving the towns of Coffs Harbour, Dorrigo, Bellingen, Macksville and Woolgoolga.

#### **GRAFTON BASE HOSPITAL**

Jane Kulas STN CNS Phone: **(02) 6640 2222** Email: jane.kulas@health.nsw.gov.au

#### **GRAFTON COMMUNITY HEALTH**

Jane Kulas STN CNS Phone: **(02) 6641 8200** Email: jane.kulas@health.nsw.gov.au

#### LISMORE BASE HOSPITAL Phone: (02) 6620 2850

Margaret McKee STN CNC Belinda Sams CNS for in-hospital Ed Cooke STN for all out-of-hospital ostomy patients Janelle Wilson STN Phone: **(02) 6621 3252** Outpatient service also available on Tuesday and Friday

#### LISMORE COMMUNITY HEALTH

Janelle Wilson STN 29 Molesworth Street, Lismore. Phone: **(02) 6620 2097** Mobile: **0499 540 325** Fax: (02) 6620 2963

## MACLEAN DISTRICT HOSPITAL AND COMMUNITY HEALTH

Jane Kulas STN CNS Email: jane.kulas@health.nsw.gov.au

#### MANNING HOSPITAL (TAREE)

Phone: **(02) 6592 9469** Karla MacTaggart STN (Tue. to Thu.) Mobile: **0419 859 281** Naomi Case STN (Tue. to Thu.) Serving towns & communities between Wingham, Forster, Tuncurry, Taree, Harrington, Gloucester and Bulahdelah.

**WINTER 2022** 

## **STOMAL THERAPY SERVICES - (NSW &**

#### PORT MACQUARIE BASE HOSPITAL

lean McCarroll STN (Mon. and Wed.) Mobile: 0427 795 765 Phone: (02) 5524 2439 Email: Jeanie.McCarroll@health.nsw.gov.au Nerralee Cook STN Mobile: 0427 795 765

#### PORT MACQUARIE AND KEMPSEY **COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRES**

Maria Emerton-Bell STN CNC Phone: (02) 6561 2790 Serving towns and communities between Laurieton, Port Macquarie, Kempsey,

Wauchope, South West Rocks and Stuarts Point

#### ST VINCENT'S HOSPITAL (LISMORE)

Debbie Flick STN Phone: (02) 6627 9448 or (02) 6627 9449

#### TWEED HEADS COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

Lisa Clare Stomal/Continence Advisor. Phone: (07) 5506 7540 Email: Lisa.Clare@health.nsw.gov.au Siobhan Mills Mobile: 0427 064 815

Covering Tweed Heads Hospital & Communities from the Tweed Heads NSW/ OLD border to Bangalow.

#### **NEW ENGLAND**

#### TAMWORTH BASE HOSPITAL

Robin Skillman CNC Phone: (02) 6767 7733 Serving towns and communities between Tenterfield, Boggabilla, Mungindi, Moree, Wee Waa, Ouirindi, Armidale, Walcha, Uralla, Guyra, Bundarra, Tingha, Glen Innes, Emmaville, Ashford, Warialda, Inverell, Bingara, Barraba, Boggabri, Manilla, Gunnedah, Tamworth, Werris Creek, Nundle.

#### NARRABRI COMMUNITY HEALTH

Lavinia (Alvin) Hill Phone: (02) 6799 2800

#### WESTERN NSW

#### ALBURY WONDONGA HEALTH SERVICE Phone: (02) 6058 1800 Mobile: 0457 522 000 Gerardine O'Brien Amanda Forbes

#### ALBURY WODONGA PRIVATE HOSPITAL (AWPH/ASG)

1125 Pemberton St., Albury 2640 Gerardine O'Brien STN Phone: (02) 6022 4350 Email: gerardine@alburysurgical.com.au

#### **BATHURST HEALTH SERVICE**

Louise Linke NP STN Phone: (02) 6330 5676 Fax: (02) 6330 5742 Email: louise.linke@health.nsw.gov.au Serving Bathurst, Orange, Parkes, Forbes, Cowra, Lithgow, Condobolin and surrounds.

#### **BROKEN HILL BASE HOSPITAL**

Shirley Victory (resources person only) Phone: (08) 8080 1642

#### DUBBO BASE HOSPITAL

Thulisile Moyo STN Phone: (02) 6809 6000 Mobile: 0427 150 649 Hannah Mines Phone: (02) 6908 6809 Serving Dubbo, Cobar, Coonamble, Narromine, Nyngan, Trangie, Warren, Wellington, Baradine, Gulargambone, Coolah, Gilgandra, Coonabarabran, Dunedoo, Gulgong, Mudgee, Bourke, Brewarrina, Collarenebri, Goodooga, Lightning Ridge & Walgett.

#### **GRIFFITH BASE HOSPITAL**

Phone: (02) 6969 5555 (ext. 695)

#### **GRIFFITH COMMUNITY HEALTH**

Rave Martin STN Phone: (02) 6922 9903 Email: raye.martin@gsahs.health.nsw.gov.au

## ACT) DIRECTORY AS AT JUNE 2022

#### **ORANGE HEALTH SERVICES**

Joe Webster STN Phone: (02) 6369 7455 Email: Joseph.Webster@health.nsw.gov.au WAGGA WAGGA BASE HOSPITAL

Irene Cozens Phone: **(02) 5943 1545** Karyn Bowering Phone: **(02) 5943 1500** Naomi Smith Mobile: **0412 324 136** 

#### WAGGA WAGGA RURAL REFFERAL HOSPITAL

Karrinda Kenny Mobile: **0412 324 136** 

#### YOUNG MERCY CENTRE

Contact Community Nurses Phone: **(02) 6382 8444** Serving Young, Harden, Cootamundra, Boorowa, Grenfell and district.

#### **CANBERRA AND DISTRICT**

ACT COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE Clare Love CNC Phone: (02) 6205 2147 BELCONNEN HEALTH Cheryl Jannaway CNC Phone: (02) 6205 1201

#### **CALVARY HOSPITAL (CANBERRA)**

Marree Pegrem STN. Phone: **(02) 6201 6045** Kellie Burke CNC Phone: **(02) 6244 2222** (then page stomal therapist)

#### COOMA HEALTH SERVICE

Vicki Black STN Phone: (02) 6455 3222

#### **COOTAMUNDRA HOSPITAL**

Raylene Godvier Phone: **(02) 6942 1861** Mobile: **0419 123 508** 

#### QUEANBEYAN COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE Jo Morgan STN

Phone: **(02) 6150 7144** or **(02) 6150 7670** Visits patients in Queanbeyan & Yarralumla areas.

Any errors or omissions please email Heather Hill at heathermaryhyde@yahoo.com OR phone: 0422 204 497(M)



# 2022 REGIONAL

Note: at the time of printing, many support groups have paused due to COVID-19. Please contact the organiser before planning a trip to the meeting venue.

#### **BANKSTOWN AREA**

- Dates: 1st Wednesday every 2nd month commencing Wednesday 2nd February 2022; then 6th April 2022, 1st June 2022, 3rd August 2022, 5th October 2022, 7th December 2022
- Time: 10:00am to 12:00pm morning tea
- Address: Revesby Workers Club, 2B Brett Street, Revesby, Ph 02 9772 2100
- Access: Close to public transport and lots of free parking
- **About:** A stoma support group hosted by Bankstown Hospital STNs for you and your family. Everyone is welcome but must be double vaccinated.
- **RSVP:** Please RSVP for catering purposes to your Bankstown Hospital STN or Clare Jacobs on 0400 921 901 or aucldo@coloplast.com for further information.

#### **ST GEORGE AREA**

#### Dates: 3rd Tuesday of every month March 15th, April 19th, May 17th, June 21st

- **Time:** 11:00am 1:00pm morning tea
- Address: Ramsgate RSL Club, Ramsgate Road and Chuter Avenue, Sans Souci NSW 2219
- Access: Close to public transport and free parking
- About: Everyone welcome please RSVP for catering purposes to your STN or Clare Jacobs on 0400 921 901.

### SHOALHAVEN SUPPORT GROUP

- Dates:
   23rd February 2022, Nowra School of Arts Annex

   25th May 2022, Nowra School of Arts Annex
   27th July 2022, Ulladulla Community Health Centre

   26th October 2022, Nowra School of Arts Annex
   14th December 2022, Ulladulla Community Health Centre

   Time:
   2:00pm
- Address: Nowra school of Arts Annex: adjacent to School of Arts, 12 Berry Street, Nowra. Car parking surrounds the building. Ulladulla Community Health Centre: Corner of South Street and Princes Hwy, Ulladulla. Street parking.
- About: The contact is Brenda Christiansen STN CNC. Ph. 02 44246300 e. brenda.christiansen@health.nsw.gov.au

#### **DUBBO STOMA SUPPORT GROUP**

- Dates: Last Friday of the month, starting March 2022
- Time: 2pm to 3:00pm Everyone is welcome!!
- Address: Dubbo Health Service Ian Locke, building Room 8 or join virtually via Pexip or phone.
- Register: By phoning 0408 769 873 or email: Thulisile.Moyo@health.nsw.gov.au
- Contact Thulisile Moyo

#### **BOWRAL STOMA SUPPORT GROUP**

# INFORMATION MEETINGS

#### **NEPEAN EDUCATION STOMA SUPPORT GROUP**

Dates: Last Friday every second month, commencing in April 2022 (and Covid dependent) 29th April, 24th June, 26th August, 4th November (not 28th Oct).

Time: 2-3:30pm – afternoon tea

Address: 63 Derby St, Penrith (University of Sydney Medical School)

Access: The building is opposite Nepean Hospital's Emergency Department. Enter via the side path to the Clinical School's Outpatient waiting room. Please wait until 2:00 pm when you will be directed to the meeting room. Car Parking: Either on the street or in the multi-story car park on Somerset Street, Kingswood (free for pensioners for the first 3 hours)
 About: Family & friends are most welcome. Any enquiries please contact Naomi Houston on 4734 1245

### SOUTH WEST SYDNEY AND LIVERPOOL STOMA SUPPORT GROUP

South West Sydney and Liverpool stoma support group 2022

- Dates: 3rd Thursday every second month 17th February, 21st April, 16th of June, Thursday 30th September and Thursday 16th December
- **Time:** 1:30pm to 3:30pm

Address: Campbelltown Catholic Club 20/22 Camden Rd, Campbelltown NSW 2560

Contact: Erin or Lu on (02) 8738 4308, or Bernadette 0412 222 566

#### **ILLAWARRA OSTOMY INFORMATION GROUP**

Dates: 16th Feb, 13th April, 15th June, 10th August, 12th Oct, 14th Dec (Xmas luncheon. Venue to be advised)

Time: 10:00am to 12:00pm

Address: Education Room, Figtree Private Hospital, 1 Suttor Place, Figtree

**Contact:** For Further Information contact:

Helen Richards CNC STN Wollongong Private Hospital phone: 42861109 richardsh@ramsayhealth.com.au Julia Kittscha CNC STN Wollongong Hospital mob: 0414421021 office: 42551594 julia.kittscha@health.nsw.gov.au

#### **CANBERRA ACT SUPPORT GROUP**

Dates:2nd Tuesday every month - commencing from Tuesday 8th February 2022;<br/>then 8th March 2022, 12th April 2022, 10th May 2022, 14th June 2022, 12th July 2022Time:10:00am to 12:00pm

Address: Act & Districts Stoma Association {the old stoma association room} 2nd Floor, City Health Building, 1 Moore St, (Cnr Moore & Alinga ST), Canberra

2nd Floor, City Health Building, 1 Moore St, (Cnr Moore & Alinga ST), Canberra Contact: Your Stomal Therapy Nurse, or Clare Jacobs on 0400 921 901, or Geoff Rhodes {actual ostomate happy to chat with you} on 0416 206 871 or email Clare on aucldo@coloplast.com for further Information. Everyone is welcome but must be double vaccinated to attend. RSVP for this meeting is required by ACT Health so we can comply with COVID numbers and restrictions.

#### **GRAFTON/CLARENCE VALLEY 2022 \*NEW**

#### Dates: Tuesday 9th August 2022

Time: 10am to 11:00am Everyone is welcome!!

Address: Aruma Community Health, 175 Queen St, Grafton NSW 2460

Register: Jane Kulas Tel (02) 6640 2222 | Mob 0459 943 062

Contact: Jane Kulas Tel (02) 6640 2222 | Mob 0459 943 062

## Stephen Grange, Vice President

For me, in 2006, an ostomy gave me life. I remained in paid employment, then retired to enjoy my grandkids. To listen, talk to my wife. Enjoy other cultures (pre Covid!!). I've been an ONL Director since November 2007. In 2007 our (now) Emeritus Chairperson Tom Flood OAM wrote to members to say 'join the Board or we close'. With 5 others I joined. I can't live without pouches, wipes, seals. How about you??

Without sufficient participation ostomates won't have SAS (Stoma Appliance Scheme) delivered by not-for-profit charities, mostly by volunteers. It will be replaced with for-profit organisations, with fee for service charges, paid by ostomates or the Government. ONL was nearly privatised in 2020 (Ostomy Australia page 5 August 2021) Throughout 2021 the previous Government declined to pay more to Associations.

The ONL (Ostomy NSW Limited) Board decided in April 2022 to not permanently increase membership fees trusting ostomates to make \$10-\$50 contribution. In June 2022 the media reported inflation costs of 5%-6% through to 2024. 69% of ONL members are concessional card holders and the Board expect more members to suffer financial distress.

In May 2022 ONL member participation survey suggested "members feel they don't need to be involved because they reside outside Sydney, and the service will continue as expected'. As at 15 June 2022 over 294 members have donated with their renew. Participation for ONL members includes tax deductible donations to fund nursing services and provision of services for the disadvantaged.

What you would expect a charity to do but care for ostomates who are less than 100%? ONL engage with volunteers who care to save members \$264,000pa.

The ONL Board calculated a voluntary contribution target of \$150,000 to 30 June 2023. (tax deductible). Costs and revenue was explained in the Autumn 2022 magazine. ONL's external accountant advised the Board to 30 June 2021, that employee benefit cost was only 5.6% on

Department of Health fee income.

#### STN (Stomal Therapy Nurse).

Elsewhere in this magazine members' STN nurse is introduced

ONL request a donation of \$10 per 30 minute consult time with an STN. A new member zoom session occurs monthly. Education sessions will occur more frequently, regularly with video recorded on the ONL web site section "Education and Wellbeing". Ostomates tell us having access to a stomal therapy nurse is critical. STN's are qualified professional and their time is precious and costly.

Some ostomates enjoy near normal lives while others need more support. For example an ONL staff talking through members SAS orders or non-availability of items or the members need to have a talk consult with a stomal nurse.

You need to know your stoma. Know about supply of your items. New items...ensure we have a valid mobile phone number and email address.

ONL for many years has partially covered the costs of training and certifying 2-3 new stomal nurses each year. One day will all need a stomal nurse. This is a worthwhile use of members' funds.

Resumption of NSW ostomate Education Days recommences in Newcastle on 24th June 2022. Other venues will be announced during 2022-3.

Please find some \$\$ to contribute. ONL really wants the concept of voluntary contribution donations to replace compulsory fee cost increase for all ostomates. Inflation will ensure ONLs' costs rise during 2023-4.

#### **Background references**

The members of Ostomy NSW are focused as a result of three major ostomate surveys. Further a recent survey in the ONL Summer 2022 magazine clearly informed what ostomates want in services. ONL fees





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1300 664 027 Mon - Fri 8:30 - 4pm excluding Public Holiday (**•**) ww

www.sutherlandmedical.com.au



Sutherland Medical Unit 2, 195 Chesterville Road, Moorabbin VIC 3189, Australia



## **MyOstomy**

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#### Got any questions about MyOstomy or living with a stoma in general?

Contact our dedicated Coloplast Care specialists to get free and personalised advice.



1800 431 297 🛛 🖂 aucare@coloplast.com

Ostomy Care / Continence Care / Wound & Skin Care / Interventional Urology

Coloplast Pty Ltd, PO Box 240, Mount Waverley, VIC 3149 Australia

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are spent solving member stated needs.

In Autumn 2022 the ONL magazine explained ONL revenue and costs. The media may criticise charities that spend large portions of revenue on staff, staff functions, and promotions. In 2021/2 ONL spent 5.6% of Medicare distribution fee income, being 2.75% on SAS values, and on ONL employee benefits.

From July 2020 ONL have been using email, facebook, web site and SMS communications to inform members of important issues e.g. availability of pouches and other SAS items. An AGM mail postout costs \$9,000-\$10,000. That money can buy 4 months STN clinic services for all members.

ONL still has to many members with no current mobile phone number or no email address and can include a carer or a family member. To employ extra staff to make phone calls is a cost we believe ostomates generally are not prepared to fund. Cost of accessing SAS is reported in surveys, as a problem (a negative).

The days of posting a letter attaching a stamp are over. Ostomates tell us that they want fast updates on supply. They want lowest costs for themselves to use the Stoma Appliance Scheme 'SAS".

ONL FOR MANY YEARS HAS PARTIALLY COVERED THE COSTS OF TRAINING CERTIFYING 2-3 NEW STOMAL THERAPY NURSES EACH YEAR. WE WILL ALL ONE DAY NEED A STOMAL NURSE. THIS IS A WORTHWHILE USE OF MEMBERS' FUNDS.

Some of our members are children. Some older (I am 67 with a 16 year old ostomy) ostomates who can afford a few dollars, need to fund an organization for now, and for tomorrow to help ostomates of today have capable lifestyles in 10 – 20 years. I donate 'return earn bottle' money. The Government's SAS (Stomal Appliance Scheme) created in 1975 (the 'Whitlam dismissal year!!) is wonderful for ostomates. In 2021 Federal Department of Health expected Associations to raise funds to deliver education and dispatch services to ostomates.

There are 3,915 SAS items and is an

enormous inventory to understand, know and interpret supply rules. So your pouches, wipes, clothing items' costs are covered for you by PBS-Medicare. Like a bulk billed medical practice.

Covid , Omicron, Monkeypox, influenza.. etc

Whether we are past the worst, time will tell. For ostomates, many with under lying health issues (as I do) the last two plus years have been isolating, frustrating, anxious, zooming. ONL people at Kirrawee have battled on for us. Many of the parcels you receive are packed by volunteers. These wonderful people do an accurate, excellent job. They enjoy it.

#### **Know your ONL**

Go to ONLs (Ostomy NSW Limited) web site Company notices: https://www.ostomynsw. org.au/company\_notices18.php

The Board's 2021 update and explanation of the operations financials are detailed, Do note the surplus relates partially to the timing receipt of ONL's various insurance claim payments from GIO Australia, as compared to our claim costs. We all thank GIO for their claim attitude.

#### **Summary**

Improve your service by ensuring ONL have members email and mobile phone contact details

You now have access to a STN (Stomal Therapy Nurse) for tele health consult (donation requested),

Save ONL communication costs (supply email/phone).

Only phone if complex issue otherwise email,

Use ONLs online order and payment services. ONL purchases are secure payments.

Answer the Summer magazine member survey – tell us how it all going.

Decide how you can help Australian ostomates. With donation\$, volunteering, joining the Board. ONL Board members are ostomates. We are an 'ostmocracy'. We believe in two viable Ostomy Associations in NSW. Volunteering is donating and is Valuable!

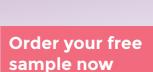
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