AUSTRALIAN RETRIEVAL NEWS

July 2008 Edition

Photo: A sunny day in Port Lincoln

All retrieval articles, pictures & educational cases are welcome. Submit electronically to ARNA.
We hope you enjoy the second edition of the ARNA NEWS. The inaugural edition although well received by members did create a bit of controversy thanks to the article by Marie Maddox. 2008 has been a very bust year for all of us both professionally and personally. Thank you to everyone who have found the time in their bust lives to provide the support essential to ensuring the association continues to develop.

ARNA is about to step up the pace in its efforts for recognition of Retrieval Nurses as a ‘Specialty’ by being involved in some promotional work. The first of which will be seen in the June edition of In Touch magazine. This magazine is distributed in South Australia only but we will ensure our interstate members get to see a copy. If you have any contacts or promotional ideas let your executive committee members know.

Speaking of Executive Members we have had some position changes (three in all). Shane Bolton has returned to SA after being absent for sometime in the Northern Territory. However, he has taken up a new position with the Marion Council and has formally resigned his SA Executive position. David White our NSW executive has left the country to pursue the Director of Clinical Nursing – Emergency, Critical Care and Retrievals in Saudi Arabia. We wish David and his family well in their new home. David was always able to bring a unique charm and wit to our meetings and will be missed by all committee members. Fortunately David has retained his membership and we hope to here more about nursing in Saudi Arabia, especially if rumours are true that there maybe some retrieval service in development. Our final resignation is from Kevin Holliday. Not surprising Kevin’s workload has in creased exponentially with the development of the Statewide Retrieval service. Kevin is currently embarking on his Premier’s Scholarship award winning tour of Canada and the USA. This will include visiting and flying with STARS in Calgary, Canada. Lifeflight in Cleveland, Ohio. Stat Medevac Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. And Careflight in Texas. We wish him a safe and rewarding journey and look forward to an article or two on his return.

It is not possible to permit Kevin to leave without a special thank you for his part in the development of ARNA. He was one of the key reasons why ARNA started and progressed so quickly. He asked his Mediflight retrieval staff to develop ‘projects’. One of these projects was to establish a network for retrieval nurses. What was intended for a local group of nurses quickly developed into a national association. Also credit to Kevin for allowing us access to Mediflight facilities (which include the skilled talents of Secretary Kathy and Esther) to start and maintain our head office.

Good news is that the vacant positions have been readily filled by skilled and vibrant members. Fiona Ellicott from Tamworth Base Hospi
tal has been appointed to the NSW Executive position. Gianna Pirone from Flinders Medical Centre has been appointed to the SA Executive position. Megan Ward from Mediflight has been appointed to the position of Secretary.

As part of our next development stage, ARNA is looking at ways to better serve our members and getting the website up and running.

Wishing you all safe journeys at work and at play.

Debbie Fancett
ARNA Chairperson
Executive Members

Victoria
Fay Presbury  
NETS nursing Director

New South Wales
Jacquie Hyslop  
Gosford Hospital
Fiona Ellicott  
Tamworth Base Hospital

Ian Gill  
John Hunter Hospital, Newcastle

South Australia
Sue Coretti  
Women’s & Childrens Hospital
Nat Cook  
Flinders Medical Centre
Gianna Pirone  
Flinders Medical Centre

Treasurer
Jo Murphy  
Mediflight

Secretary
Megan Ward  
Mediflight

Chairperson
Debbie Fancett  
Mediflight

ARNQA Editor
Blair Hicks  
Mediflight

Website designer
Michael Schwarz  
Mediflight

Treasurer's Report

Active Membership 55
Associate Membership 2  
SA 43
NSW 12
VIC 2

Funds as of 26 May2008
In Coming $2350.00
Out Going $167.82
Balance $2182.18

We are actively looking for financial sponsors with the possibility of providing them with advertising space on the newsletter or website. I encourage all of you to help recruit new members to our organisation, please contact Debbie for more forms if required.

Joanna Murphy

New Address

Australian Retrieval Nurse Association
PO Box 192
Rundle Mall
Adelaide SA 5000

OR email: debbie.fancett@health.sa.gov.au

The current website is also in the construction phase and nearing completion. Thanks to Michael for all his work

www.retrieval.org.au
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Conference Funding Available

ARNA is offering up to $500 to members to attend the ISAS/FNA conference in Adelaide, October 2008. To be eligible you must be a financial member of ARNA. To apply send your name and contact details to us

Australian Retrieval Nurse Association
PO Box 192
Rundle Mall
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Closing date 7th August 2008.

NEXT ARNA MEETING
August 11th 2008

Agenda & venue to be determined

Have we got your email address?
If you want regular updates on ARNA news & meetings send us your email address

THANK YOU ANF

The Australian Retrieval Nurse Association (ARNA) would like to thank the ANF (SA Branch) for its support during its founding year.

In March 2007, ARNA was started by a group of nurses in Adelaide but very quickly gained the attention of retrieval nurses from interstate and more recently overseas.

In less than a year ARNA became incorporated, published its first magazine (not without controversy) and established a strong membership base. We could not have achieved this without the support and guidance from Lee Thomas, Liz Dabar and Rob Bonner. A special mention also to Julie Livesey, Mandy Collett and Nadia for their assistance.

The Australian Retrieval Nursing Association represents nurses & midwives who specialise in the care and management of critically ill patients (neonate, paediatrics and /or adults) in an aviation and/or ground transport environment.

ARNA is a not for profit organisation whose mission is to advance the practice of Retrieval Nursing in Australia, to provide a professional identity and promote national recognition for Retrieval Nursing. Our members support research and education that promotes nursing knowledge and improves patient care practice.
To provide opportunities for communication and collaboration among Retrieval Nurses.
In December 2007 an Australian Medical Assistance Team from South Australia (AUSMAT-SA) was deployed to provide support to emergency personnel fighting Kangaroo Island's bushfires. The Kangaroo Island Bushfires caused by lightning strikes resulted in 95,000 ha of land being destroyed and sadly one man died in his truck as he tried to flee a bushfire. The event was South Australia's largest bush fire operation with over 800 fire fighting personnel, 7 fixed-wing water bombers and an Elvis Sky-crane Helitanker all assisting fire fighting efforts. There was a very real potential for local resources to become overwhelmed.

ARNA member Wade Emmerton was sent as part of the AUSMAT-SA volunteer team to assist local medical services and provide coordination to SAAS, St Johns and other medical emergency services. AUSMAT-SA had the ability to provide acute support to any medical emergency on Kangaroo Island. K.I has only one hospital on the island and the only way off is to fly or by ferry. The nearest major trauma hospital being the Flinders Medical Centre, and for burns the major burn hospital in the state is the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

**DAY ONE**

- Identify Team and individual roles
- Kingscote hospital team / tent city team
- Hospital briefing, staff introduction and orientation
- Bed-state and capacity planning
- Gastroenteritis plan. Some small out-breaks with the Salvation Army and SAPOL. With such a large tent city there was potential for firefighters to be rapidly infected.
- Stores audit and planning including the local hospitals response plans and capabilities.
- Staffing: theatre list Fri 2 exploratory laps and 5 scopes no scrub or recovery nurses
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DAY TWO

- Relief of local GPs to join team @ tent city
- Supernumerary shift at Kingcote Hospital
- ongoing planning and audit
- assist with inpatient care and any emergency presentations (chest pain, dehydration, & minor stuff ranging from URTI’s to blisters)
- staff education (BLS, ALS, venipuncture and burns in-service)
- Until Hugh mentioned the Q word! Quickly followed by multiple collapses and dehydration all of which required aggressive fluid resuscitation.

DAY TWO

- Daily Hospital; ward round
- On going support and new presentations to the hospital
- Daily staff meeting
- Daily medical inspection of tent city
- Fire crew change over and aseessment/medical treatment
- Late Tea with Jerome and family (local GP)

DAY FOUR

- Evaluation of team role by KI staff
- Finalising infusion protocols boxes for hospitals
- Tour of affected areas when police road blocks stood down
- Briefing next team
- Visiting one of the best beaches in the world…. 
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Tamworth Hospital Retrieval Service

The Tamworth Hospital Retrieval service provides 24-hour, 7-days per week urgent assistance to critically injured or unwell people of all ages. We bring the expertise and sophistication of an advanced Intensive Care Unit to the patient – whether they are in a small hospital or in a large paddock.

The retrieval service provides critical care advice to referring clinicians, dispatches aeromedical and road teams to distant centres to help local staff stabilize patients and brings them to definitive care at Tamworth Hospital or larger metropolitan hospitals. The service functions as part of the broader NSW retrieval system in conjunction with services in Sydney, Newcastle and Lismore – but mostly looks after “our” patch: the New England and NSW Northwest.

Retrieval doctors and nurses work as a cohesive team in delivering high quality advanced medical skills to the rural sector. All retrieval staff have advanced skills in operating specialist medical equipment and work in either the Acute Care Unit or the Emergency Department. When a call for assistance arrives, appropriate staff are urgently deployed from the hospital ED or ICU or are called in from home to respond. A senior Emergency Consultant prioritises the mission, coordinates the Critical Care team and vehicle (helicopter, road or air ambulance) and provides advice to staff in distant centres while the team takes off. In urgent cases the team with all of its equipment is airborne within 15 minutes of a call for help.

On retrievals, the doctor and retrieval nurse perform a thorough assessment of the patient before transferring the patient. Many of the patients are critically unwell or badly injured and require extensive time-critical intervention before they can be safely moved. Relatives are informed of the intended care the patient will receive and where the patient is being transferred to.

Retrieval staff are annually briefed by the Westpac Helicopter Service on safety regulations and procedures and are also involved with HUET training.

Dr John Kennedy Director of Retrieval Service
Fiona Ellicott Retrieval Nurse Co-ordinator
The Australian Medical Assistance Team – South Australia, or AUSMAT-SA as it is commonly known, is a group of medical professionals which includes doctors, nurses, allied health and paramedics, and non-medical members such as fire-fighters, logisticians that deploy to a disaster at short notice in order to supplement the local response which has been overwhelmed or rendered inoperable due to the incident. The disaster may be state, national or international depending on the type of incident.

The team is expected to be self sufficient for a period of up to two weeks and has the capacity to supply its own shelter, power, food, water, medical supplies and communications.

The origin of AUSMAT-SA arose from the experiences and outcomes of the Bali bombing in 2002 and the Boxing Day tsunami in 2004. ‘Team Echo’ was the South Australian Field Medical Team deployed to Banda Aceh for two weeks at Fakinah Hospital to provide surgical, medical and logistical support to the local population. This was the first time such resources had been requested or required from SA and unlikely to be the last. Accordingly, recommendations were made to develop civilian medical team capabilities to respond to such incidents in a timely manner.

There has been a lot of work done since the deployment of Team Echo. There have been numerous papers published. The lessons learnt and sessions run by Emergency Management Australia (EMA) have resulted in documentation that has helped shape team composition and AUSMAT-SA procedures.

There is now a volunteer database, training sessions and uniform. For more information see the website www.health.sa.gov.au/dmat
** Extreme Pre-Hospital Care Conference**- The Eastern Regional Pre-Hospital Care Conference & Exhibition is fast approaching. Our speakers have now been confirmed and it promises to be a really good day.

**Lecture Topics / Speakers:**
- Challenges of Helicopter Medicine by Damien Sherman - Helicopter Paramedic / Paramedic East of England AS
- Marine Medicine & Rescue by Richard Melton - Helm, Burnham-On-Crouch RNLI
- Mountain Rescue by Major Andrew D Tredget - Army Doctor
- The Challenges of Expedition Medicine by Major Jaishan Mahan - Army Doctor
- Personal Protection by Adam Dowling - Bouncer / Body Guard & Head of Training – Regency Sec.
- Public Disorder & Riots by Ps Gerry Parker - Special Operations - Essex Police

Saturday 12th July 2008, 09:15 to 17:00, Charter Hall, Colchester, Essex.
Fee - £40
Further details are available on the site...

http://www.pre-hospitalcare.co.uk/equipmentreview/TowergateMIA.html

www.pre-hospitalcare.co.uk

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**COURSES OF INTEREST:**

SWAN XVI TRAUMA Conference, 25-26 July 2008, Education Centre Liverpool Hospital, Sydney, Australia

International Society Aeromedical Services (ISAS) 2-4 Oct 2008 Convention Centre Adelaide (see next page)

Extreme Prehospital Care Colchester UK 12 July 2008 E: info@pre-hospitalcare.co.uk

ANZICS/ACCCN ASM, Darling Harbour Sydney 30th Oct – 2nd Nov 2008
Overview
This course provides advanced specialist training for nurses to participate in the retrieval of critically ill adult patients. Retrievals may be undertaken by road, rotary or fixed wing aircraft. Students within this program will already be qualified in critical care, and practicing in a high acuity critical care environment.

The Graduate Certificate in Nursing Science (Retrieval Nursing) provides graduates with a rigorous grounding in principles and practices of retrieval nursing. This is to necessitate the transport of critically ill patients from a diverse setting such as rural and remote hospitals, motor vehicle crash site through to international repatriations.

Students will also graduate with a sound knowledge and understanding in the mechanisms of trauma.

Program Duration
Study in this program is usually undertaken over one year of part-time study.

Entry Requirements
This program is restricted to candidates with an approved qualification in critical care (Graduate Diploma/Graduate Cert in ICU or ED) and recent experience in critical care nursing. Minimum one year post specialist qualification and employment or ability to be employed in a retrieval service. Students must also satisfactorily complete an appropriate medical examination on occupational health and safety grounds for specialisation in Retrieval Nursing.

Teaching Methods
This course is only available to students within hospitals with intensive care and trauma care capacities who are employed as part of the retrieval service. This program is available in flexible delivery mode. Classroom learning is supported with a significant number of practical tutorials such as aircraft safety orientation and attendance at vehicular incidents.

Contact Details
Please contact the Discipline of Nursing for information on program fees or to obtain an application form.
Stephanie Glazbrook, Administrative Officer
Telephone:  +61 8 83033595
Email: nursing.sec@adelaide.edu.au
Some of the action shots from Kevin’s recent trip to the USA and Canada on his Premiers Scholarship. We look forward to Kevin being able to provide us with an insight on his experiences for the next newsletter.
We invite you to South Australia for what promises to be the most dynamic and exciting Air Medicine Conference in Australasia. Entitled “Learning from the Past – Looking to the Future”, this meeting is being held at the internationally awarded Adelaide Convention Centre, from 2nd – 4th October 2008. It will encompass historical perspectives, where we are now, and what the future holds for our unique air medical industry.

There is an excellent scientific programme involving national and international medical, nursing, paramedical and aviation industry speakers.

Registration includes a Thursday evening Welcome Reception and interactive Aviation Display at Adelaide Airport, with South Australia’s finest wines and live music.

The Friday night Conference Dinner will be a themed ‘MASH BASH’ – dress as your favourite MASH character or in army greens and enjoy the military surroundings of the Torrens Parade Ground. More wine, music and entertainment is promised. Weather in Adelaide is mild in October with the average night time temperature of 8°C, and a maximum average of a comfortable 20°C.

On behalf of the International Society of Aeromedical Services, Flight Nurse Australia and the South Australian Organising committee, we look forward to providing you with a professionally satisfying and socially enjoyable experience in our beautiful city.

Discover South Australia’s unique mix of world-famous wineries, culinary genius, picturesque boulevards and relaxed lifestyle, and see for yourself why Adelaide is...

a brilliant blend

Kevin Holliday RN, Dip N, BN, Crit Care Cert, Grad Cert Retrieval Nursing
Clinical Services Coordinator – RAH Mediflight
Convenor
ISAS/FNA
20th Scientific Meeting