Welcome to Snapshot. With Christmas well and truly a distant memory our association has been very busy planning numerous events throughout Queensland. In upcoming weeks AQNL will be hosting a mixture of breakfast meetings and seminars with a variety of guest speakers. Some of the events coming up are highlighted in our section “Local AQNL in Action” so don’t forget to register.

We can also report the AQNL Executive met on Friday 25th of February for its annual planning meeting. We had a very full on day planning the year ahead, taking stock of where we are and working on preparations for this years Conference. The meeting also included discussions with Sue Norrie (Chief Nursing Advisory Queensland Health) and Gay Hawksworth (Secretary of the QNU). Particular points of discussion at the meeting included the Queensland Health Nursing IBB negotiations and the impact this will have and potential concerns related to the private sector with a significant gap appearing in the private and aged care sector awards.

AQNL Executive can also report discussions have been arranged with the Director-General and Minister of Health. These meetings will allow AQNL representatives to provide feedback and highlight issues from members. Thanks for your responses – we will be doing our best to represent your concerns.

**THIS YEAR’S CONFERENCE**

After lots of discussion and consultation we can confirm our conference title theme for 2006 will be:

**“Nursing leadership and readiness in a changing world. Bring it on”**

We have already contacted a number of highly regarded nursing professionals and received confirmation of their attendance. Interest has also been received from a diversified range of challenging speakers.

**When is it?**

The Conference will run from the 12-14 September. Our cocktail party will be held on the Tuesday evening preceding 2 full days of conference program. The Conference Dinner with all the fun will be held on Wednesday evening.

**Where:** Hilton Hotel Brisbane

**Something new and still time to shop:**

We are currently involved in discussions with Queensland Health to take advantage of running a forum for our rural colleagues on the Friday morning 15 September. Further information regarding the details will be forwarded accordingly.

**Registration** and further information regarding the Conference, speakers and early bird registration will be circulated widely soon.

**Want to know more?** Contact one of the AQNL Executive members.
QUEENSLAND HEALTH UPDATE

Interest Based Bargaining – IBB
As you are aware Queensland Health is in the thick of negotiation with Queensland Health nurses. Firstly we provide information about the interim offer which was accepted by Queensland Health nursing staff. We also have attached with Snapshot the offer to Queensland Health staff which is now being considered. In this edition under Rural Roundup Colleen provides feedback from our rural colleagues to the IBB proposal.

Interim Offer
The Nurses ( Queensland Health) Interim Certified Agreement 2005 and the Nurses (Mater Misericordiae Public Hospitals, Brisbane) Interim Certified Agreement 2005 has been successful at ballot. A valid majority of nursing staff have approved both agreements. The Nursing IBB team is committed to continuing the negotiations for a longer term, three year certified agreement which will address attraction, retention, workloads and enhanced roles.

AINs, AAINs, Ens, ENAPs, and nursing Officer Level 1 pay point 1 will receive a $30 per week increase (as this is greater than 4%), while all other nurses will receive increases equal to 4% of their salary from October 2005.

The targeted training AIN, targeted training AAIN, Hyperbaric, Mental Health Environment and Relieving in charge and Special Duty allowances will be increased by 4%, backdated to 26th October 2005.

The increased paid maternity or adoption leave is effective from 1 July 2005. Arrangements for employees who commenced leave prior to 1 July 2005 and who were still on leave after that date, have been explained in newsletter number 6.

The minimum amount of employer contributions to superannuation (9% of ordinary time earnings) will apply from 1 July 2006.

All other provisions will apply from date of certification. More information is available on QHEPS.

WHO’S WHO

Director General
Uschi Schreiber

General Managers, Area Health Services
Southern- Terry Mehan
Central- Gloria Wallace
Northern- Roxanne Ramsay

Executive Director, Policy and Planning
Professor Andrew Wilson

Executive Director, Reform & Development Unit
Professor Stephen Duckett

Chief Health Officer
Dr Jeanette Young

Executive Director, Corporate Services
Michael Kalimnios

AQNL SNAPSHOT

February/March 2006

AQNL’s position re NO8, NO9 and IBB

“No” to contracts and return our senior nurses back to the Nurses’ Award.

As part of the current negotiations, AQNL has particularly voiced the concerns in relation to our members who are on contract with Queensland Health and fall outside the Nurses’ Award. The clear message from our members is that this is not acceptable, AQNL has represented this opinion to the Director-General and senior health bureaucrats directly. We can also report that following discussions at our State Executive Meeting with our Senior Nursing Advisor and QNU representatives, they too share a similar position. AQNL will keep you informed accordingly.

RURAL ROUNDUP

The offer made by the Queensland Government to Rural and remote area nurses regarding Professional Development leave and entitlements has been met very favourably in most rural facilities. Obviously the only question is now...how can we get backfill to attend the education that we require. The Southern Area DON’s group is currently working on a new model to enhance relief in rural areas by adding extra FTE’s to the largest facility in the District.

The extra Nurse Educators being allocated will be a huge bonus to the rural areas, some of which have not had an Educator at all. The support being offered to these Educators from the large metropolitan hospitals has been great and will really help to get relevant education out to the rural centres. All we need now is to get those metro hospitals to send us out some rain and life will be great!

Colleen Rasmussen
Director of Nursing/Service Manager
Dalby Health Services

Have Your Say …

We welcome any feedback / commentary regarding the association or issues impacting on nursing and nursing leadership suitable to share with our members or to take forward and represent in our discussions. Contact your Executive representative so we can progress accordingly.
PRESENTATION ABOUT AQNL

A PowerPoint presentation has been developed to assist in presenting and promoting AQNL. The presentation is available to all members to help spread the word about us and what we are about. Please email Graham Wilkinson if you would like a copy.

More good news

Professor Sally Borbasi has accepted to help out on the Executive Committee until our next annual meeting. Sally will add significantly to AQNL leadership and future direction with her solid academic and research background and not to mention an AQNL debate under her belt.

Thanks Sally

• An Interesting Website
  • If you are looking for information on nursing in Queensland Health, whether you are a school student, nursing student, Registered Nurse, Enrolled Nurse or Assistant in Nursing-
  • the Queensland Health nursing website
  • www.thinknursing.com.au has a host of interesting information about employment opportunities, education courses, Graduate Nurse programs, career progression, Nurse Practitioner, a day in the life of a nurse and as they say in the classics - much more! Please tell your friends.

PRIVATE EYE

Wanted a replacement for Sue McKee from the Private Sector to contribute to Snapshot from a private perspective.

Interested?
Contact Graham Wilkinson
07 54706602

ABOUT AQNL MEMBERSHIP AND RENEWALS

Are you wondering about how/when to renew your membership - the following will hopefully help. The AQNL has recently registered for GST which has now been added to the membership fees as listed below applicable from the 1st January 2006.

New and Renewed Membership 01 July to 30 June (annually) $110
New Membership if joining between 01 Jan to 31 Mar $55 (with a renewal notice being sent at 01 July)
New Membership if joining 01 April onwards to June $110 (up to 15 months for the 12 months fee)

NOTE:
§ Our membership application form is available to all members to distribute. If you have colleagues who are interested, please direct them to our web site.
§ Credit Card facilities are available.

OUR MEMBERSHIP IS GROWING

This year we see an increasing representation of public, private, rural and education sectors made up of a diversity of our nursing leaders working in array of different environments.

AQNL welcomes the following new members:
Pauline Ross – PA Hospital
Greg Hill – Tablelands HSD
Tracey Duke – Mater Adult Hospital
Sue Norrie – Queensland Health
Jennifer Goldsmith – Bremer TAFE
Kim Fraser – West Moreton HSD
Roberta Rossi – QE11 Hospital

Thanks Sue McKee and best of luck

Sue McKee has resigned from her position as vice president of AQNL and also her position as Director of Nursing Selangor Private Hospital Nambour.

Sue will be taking on a senior executive position in the ACT. Congratulations Sue and thanks for your hard work and support for AQNL especially advocating the needs of our private sector colleagues.

Thanks Ann Schefe

A special thanks to Ann Shefe AQNL executive member and Nursing Director of Community Health West Moreton for being successful in taking on the temporary position of vice president until our annual meeting in September.

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SUNSHINE COAST AQNL

Invitation to
Wine, Cheese and Presentation

Session Title: FISH!
Presenter: Leonie Murray (TAFE presenter)
Date: Wednesday 29 March 2006
Time: 4pm - 6pm
Place: Nambour General Auditorium, Hospital Road, Nambour
Sponsor: Oxley Nursing Service

FISH! A remarkable way to boost morale and improve results. Imagine a workplace where everyone chooses to bring energy, passion, and a positive attitude to the job every day. FISH tells us a story of where this has been achieved and how their journey occurred.

Come along and FISH!

RSVP: 54706604
AQNL EXECUTIVE

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We’re on the Web
Our web address is:
Http://www.aqnl.org.au

On our web site you will find info
about us as an association, association
rules, upcoming events, AQNL
updates, profiles on members and
membership details on how to join our
association.
Where to find your nearest AQNL Executive Member

- Debbie Jolley – Cairns
- Josie Duffy - Cairns
- Shirley Godfrey - Rockhampton
- Colleen Rasmussen - Dalby
- Brenda Moloney - Esk
- Mary-Rose Robinson – Torres Strait
- Jeff Potter - Kingaroy
- Graham Wilkinson – Nambour
- Sue McKee - Nambour
- Shelley Nowlan - Caloundra
- Cheryl Bums – The Prince Charles
- Debra Moen - Mater
- Prof Sally Borbasi - Griffith
- Pauline Ross - Princess Alexandra
- Brenda Moloney - Esk
- Ann Schefe - Ipswich
- Deb Moen - Mater
- Graham Wilkinson – Nambour
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