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[www.sawma.org.au](http://www.sawma.org.au)



April 2008

## South Australian Wound Management Association Inc.

Box 1144 Blackwood, SA 5051

Telephone: 0406 440 813

### Education Meeting & AGM Wednesday 21 May 2008

#### "Skin and Bones"

Joint meeting with the South Australian  
Orthopaedic Nurses (SAON)

Presentations include:

- Pin site management
- Trauma

Trade display & supper 1845

**AGM & Education meeting commences 1930**

**All Welcome**

**Non members \$5.00 Members & students free**

*SAWMA is a multidisciplinary association and is  
non-partisan in its approach to wound products*

### Important dates 2008

Education  
nights:

21 May

20 August

19 November

AWMA  
conference:

Darwin  
7-10 May

### Wound Awareness Campaign

It is estimated over 270 000 older Australians are living with chronic wounds. AWMA is coordinating a campaign to raise government and community awareness and increase financial support to this significant health problem (including assistance for purchase of dressings).

The 2008 campaign was titled 'Elephant in the Room'. This uses the analogy of a big problem that no-one is talking about or taking action to deal with.

AWMA believes that all persons are entitled to best practice wound management that is affordable and sustainable and delivered by appropriately skilled practitioners.

What you can do: **Sign the on-line petition and encourage colleagues, patients and carers to sign. Go to: [www.elephantintheroom.com.au](http://www.elephantintheroom.com.au)**

More information can also be found on the AWMA web site: [www.awma.com.au](http://www.awma.com.au)

**Education night venue: Julia Farr seminar facilities**

**104 Greenhill Road, Unley**

East of King William Road, Opposite the Adelaide Hockey Club

**NEW!**

## President's report

I write this report during "Wound Awareness Week", after a public forum on Wednesday 2 April. The aim of the forum was to acknowledge those who suffer from any type of wound, highlight the services available and identify their rights to best practice. Although the weather kept many away, there was a sense of success, as help was provided for some members of the public who needed direction for more appropriate wound management services. The opening address was given by Dr. Richenda Webb from the Department of Health. Dr Webb stayed for the whole evening, and I believe that she will have a greater understanding of what it is like to live with a chronic wound and take a strong message back to the Department. Other presenters included Dr. Tim Manners (GP), Margi Moncrieff (NP), Bec Daebeler (Podiatrist) and Sue Templeton (RDNS CNC Wound Specialist). Dr Phil Puckridge (Vascular Surgeon) was also to present, but spent the night in theatre saving a life! We were able to record the evening and will make the CD available on request.

There is still time to register for the National Conference in Darwin; "Dreams, Diversity and Disasters" 7 – 10 May. The program offers a wide range of topics and is sure to be a winner! Visit [www.awma.com.au](http://www.awma.com.au) to register.

Our next education night is in May. It's hard to believe we will be almost half way through the year! Once again, we have invited the South Australian Orthopaedic Nurses Association (SAON) to join us. The evening is titled "Skin and Bones" and presenters include Dr. Alexa Potter a Plastic Surgeon and Annette Dahl who has published a thesis on pin site care. Please join us for an informative night. For our August education night the focus will be on the diabetic foot. The November topic has not been finalised as yet. As plans unfold we will keep you informed.

Included in this mail-out is a SAWMA member survey. The SAWMA committee seeks your valuable feedback to help plan events and activities that suit member's needs. Please take five minutes of your time to complete the survey and return it to SAWMA. Surveys returned at the May education night will be eligible for a prize. Your comments are appreciated. This is your chance to shape your association.

Finally, don't forget to visit the website [www.elephantintheroom.com.au](http://www.elephantintheroom.com.au) which is the official website of Wound Awareness Week. It is filled with information and you are strongly encouraged to sign the online petition to the Federal Government. Every petition counts and we hope that there will be greater attention paid the problem of chronic wounds in society. Encourage your friends and colleagues to vote also; the more signatures, the greater the impact.

With Kind Regards,



**Margi Moncrieff**  
SAWMA President

## **SAWMA achievements 2007**

Wondered what SAWMA has achieved for its members in the last 12 months?

The major achievements of SAWMA in 2007 include:

- Held successful major conference: Bacteria, Bioburden & Beyond
- Held four successful education evenings and increased attendance at education evenings
- Held a joint education meeting with the South Australian Orthopaedic Nurses Association (SAON)
- Maintained membership at approximately 300
- Maintained and expanded the web site
- Contributed \$5000 to AWMA for media campaign and wound awareness week – One of the first states to commit to this
- Participated in the inaugural wound awareness week
- Commenced planning for wound awareness week in 2008
- Redesigned and expanded the SAWMA newsletter
- Continued to offer a \$5000 research grant
- Designed and purchased two promotional banners
- Continued to distribute SAWMA promotional material to residential aged care facilities and other health professionals & organisations
- Represented and actively contributed to the AWMA national committee
- Raised AWMA issues for SAWMA information and decision making
- Participated in the following AWMA initiatives
  - Review of the AWMA Standards for Wound Management
  - Review of the Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Prediction and Prevention of Pressure Ulcers
  - Development of the inaugural Australian Venous Leg Ulcer Clinical Practice Guidelines
  - Revision and expansion of the AWMA web site
- Promoted the 2008 AWMA 7<sup>th</sup> National Conference
- Promoted the HEMI/Hartmann scholarship

Some of these initiatives are continuing into 2008 and beyond. Many of these outcomes are only possible through the hard work and enthusiasm of the SAWMA committee.

SAWMA is proud to be able to offer its members a diverse range of educational and professional opportunities.

## **Increase in membership fees**

Due to increased costs and expansion of services SAWMA advises its members that from January 2009 membership fees will be set at \$55 for general members. This still makes SAWMA membership very competitive and excellent value for money.

Bec Daebeler  
SAWMA Treasurer

## SAWMA Strategic Plan 2008

In January 2008 SAWMA committed to developing an annual strategic plan. As the first part of this plan the Objectives of SAWMA were reviewed. This process will also help inform the review of the SAWMA Constitution being undertaken in 2008.

The new SAWMA objectives are:

To promote and increase awareness of wound management by:

1. Ensuring a strong governance framework
2. Developing and maintaining collaborative relationships with health professionals, professional bodies and key organisations/groups
3. Promoting contemporary wound management
4. Promoting evidence based practice, education and research

The key outcomes planned for 2008 are to:

- 1a. Promote & maintain multidisciplinary committee representation
- 1b. Revise the SAWMA constitution in alignment with the AWMA constitution and contemporary wound management
- 1c. Review the format of committee meetings to ensure optimal efficiency, productivity and collegiality
- 1d. Maintain strong links with AWMA
- 2a. Inform relevant external bodies and key groups of SAWMA and current issues related to wound management.
- 2b. Explore opportunities for consumer involvement
- 3a. Develop an annual education calendar
- 3b. Participate in wound awareness week (31 March – 4 April)
- 3c. Raise awareness of SAWMA and contemporary practice in regional areas
- 3d. Offer opportunities for sponsored member education
- 4a. Promote the research scholarship
- 4b. Actively participate in review and development of AWMA Standards and Clinical Practice Guidelines
- 4c. Explore strategies to disseminate key publications, resources and information

Strategies have been developed for each key outcome and progress will be reviewed regularly. A full copy of the SAWMA Strategic Plan can be accessed on the website.

The SAWMA committee hopes the strategic plan will assist members to understand the scope and activities of SAWMA.

## RDNS Wound Courses

RDNS offers a five day internal Wound Management Course. The course can be completed as a certificate or a 3 unit credit option within the School of Nursing, Flinders University of South Australia. The next five day course will be held during the second half of 2008.

RDNS also offers individualised education programs, sessions and workshops to suit your organisation.

For further details phone RDNS: 8208 5300 and ask for the Education Centre

## Conference opportunity

### “Until the feet do depart”

Partnerships in care

You are invited to attend the National Public Sector and Aged Care Conference titled ‘Until the feet do depart’ Partnerships in Care.

12-13 June 2008, Hilton Adelaide,  
South Australia



Keynote speakers are Ms Sally Rowe and Ms Anna Brennan. Ms Rowe is a T-Trainer in the Stanford Chronic Disease Self Management Program and current Physiotherapy Manager at Noarlunga Health Services, Southern Adelaide Health Services. She will be concentrating on the principles underpinning the Stanford model of chronic disease self management program.

Ms Anna Brennan is Education and Training Officer with the Flinders Human Behaviour and Health Research Unit who will be outlining the Flinders model of chronic disease self management.

There will be abstract presentations from a variety of podiatrists and work place settings, poster presentations on display and an opportunity to talk to the authors (under graduate and post graduates) and workshops all of which will highlight clinical applications and new initiatives in service delivery.

For further information contact Bec Daebeler Ph (08) 8204 4884 Fax (08) 8204 5020 or Email [rebecca.daebeler@fmc.sa.gov.au](mailto:rebecca.daebeler@fmc.sa.gov.au)

## Wound Awareness Campaign

The second Wound Awareness Week ran from 31 March – 4 April 2008. The campaign was coordinated by AWMA and supported by SAWMA. Whilst the week is now over the campaign to raise awareness of persons with chronic wounds is still active.

The 2008 campaign was titled ‘Elephant in the Room’. This uses the analogy of a big problem that no-one is talking about or taking action to deal with. As it is estimated that over 270 000 older Australians are living with chronic wounds this is a significant health care issue. AWMA believes that all persons are entitled to best practice wound management that is affordable, sustainable and delivered by appropriately skilled practitioners. The campaign includes lobbying the government to provide increased funding for wound dressings and treatments.

What you can do: **Sign the on line petition and encourage colleagues, patients and carers to sign: Go to:**

[www.elephantintheroom.com.au](http://www.elephantintheroom.com.au)

More information can also be found on the AWMA web site: [www.awma.com.au](http://www.awma.com.au)

# Country Road Show



The South Australian Wound Management Association, SA Society for Vascular Nursing and the Infection Control Association of SA Proudly presents....

## Bob's Health Care Adventure A patient's journey

Each one day seminar will follow a patient's journey from home to hospital and back to home, as they require vascular management, wound management and infection prevention and control practices.

**Don't miss this exciting education opportunity!**

**Whyalla**  
 Saturday 14 June 2008  
 0900 – 1600  
 Whyalla Hospital

**Mount Gambier**  
 Saturday 1 November 2008  
 0900 – 1600  
 Venue to be confirmed  
 Posted on association web sites when available

Cost: \$20 (for SAWMA, ICASA and SASVN members)  
\$90 for non members

Or join SAWMA at the same time for \$50 + \$20 seminar fee = \$70  
SAWMA registration forms are available on the web site [www.sawma.org.au](http://www.sawma.org.au)



### Registration Form

Title: ..... First name: ..... Surname: .....

Workplace: ..... Position: .....

Postal address: .....

Email: ..... Phone: ..... Mobile: .....

Special dietary requirements:  Gluten free  Vegetarian  Other .....

Please indicate which seminar you will be attending:  Whyalla (14 June)  Mt Gambier (1 Nov)

Please forward registration form and money by cheque or money order (made out to SAWMA) to:

SAWMA – Country Seminar, PO Box 1144 Blackwood, SA 5051 or Electronic funds transfer (EFT)

If using EFT please provide a reference ie 'your surname – CS' (Country Seminar)

EFT payment details	Tick the applicable boxes	
South Australian Wound Management Association BSB: 105-027 Account No. 132463040	<input type="checkbox"/> Payment by EFT <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by cheque <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by money order	<input type="checkbox"/> Member rate \$20 <input type="checkbox"/> Non member rate \$90

## The lighter side of life

### You Might Be a Nurse if...

- When using a public toilet, you wash your hands with soap for a full minute, turn off the taps with your elbows and wait for someone else to open the door.
- Your favorite dream is one where you leave a mess at a patient's bedside and tell a doctor to clean it up.
- Men assume you must be great in bed because of the 9 billion porn movies about nurses.
- Everyone, including complete strangers, tells you about each and every ache and pain they have.
- You want to put your foot through the TV screen every time you see a nurse on a soap opera doing nothing but talking on the phone and flirting with doctors.
- You can almost SEE the germs on doorknobs and telephones.
- You can watch the goriest movie and eat anything afterwards, even spaghetti with lots of tomato sauce.
- You use a plastic 30cc medicine cup for a shotglass.

### Top reasons to become a nurse

1. Pays better than fast food, though the hours aren't as good.
2. Needles: It's better to give than to receive.
3. Reassure your patients that all bleeding stops....eventually.
4. Expose yourself to rare, exotic, & exciting new diseases.
5. Interesting aromas.
6. Do enough charting to navigate around the world.
7. Take comfort that most of your patients survive no matter what you do to them.
8. Courteous & infallible doctors who always leave clear orders in perfectly legible handwriting.

### How many doctors does it take to change a light bulb?

- That depends on whether it has private health insurance.
- None. They just tell it to take two aspirin and come round to the surgery later.
- None. They only sign the death certificate and phone the mortuary.
- None. They would diagnose depression and prescribe benzodiazapines.
- Only one, but he has to have a nurse to tell him which end to screw in.
- Three. One to find a bulb specialist, one to find a bulb installation specialist, and one to bill it all to Medicare.

### How many surgeons does it take to change a light bulb?

- None. They would wait for a suitable donor and do a filament transplant.
- Three. They'd also like to remove the socket as you aren't using it now.

### How many physiotherapists does it take to change a light bulb?

- None. They just give the dead bulb some exercises to do and hope it will be working a bit better the next time they see it.

**If it is dry - add moisture; if it is moist - add dryness.  
Congratulations, you are now a wound specialist!**

### Things you don't want to hear during surgery

- Oops!
- Damn! Page 47 of the manual is missing.
- Come back with that. Bad dog!
- I wish I hadn't forgotten my glasses.
- Better save that, we'll need it for the autopsy.
- Could you stop that thing from beating, it's throwing my concentration off.
- The floor's clean, isn't it?
- "Don't worry; the doctor's seen an operation just like yours on TV.":



## Important dates 2008

SASVN: Study night: 29 April: 'Micro-vascular issues'

[www.sasvn.com.au](http://www.sasvn.com.au)

June 4-8: 3<sup>rd</sup> World Union of Wound Healing Societies Meeting, Toronto, Canada: [www.wuwhs.org](http://www.wuwhs.org)

May 7-10: 7<sup>th</sup> National Conference of the Australian Wound Management Association, Darwin, Australia

This newsletter aims to share information about contemporary issues in wound management.

We welcome your contributions, resources, tips, case studies etc.

Submit contributions to the editor  
Sue Templeton Ph 1300 364 264 or  
[editor@sawma.org.au](mailto:editor@sawma.org.au)

Web address

Visit us at:

[www.sawma.org.au](http://www.sawma.org.au)

## SAWMA Committee Members

### Office Bearers

Ms Margi Moncrieff	Ph 8204 5511	President
Ms Sue Templeton	1300 364 264	Vice President & AWMA rep
Ms Andrea Smallman	8204 4311	Secretary
Ms Bec Daebeler	8204 4884	Treasurer
Mr Michael Arthur	8355 3500	Membership Secretary

### General Committee Members

Ms Lindsey Brooks	0437 771 605
Ms Veronica Dottore	8222 4413
Mr Tim Garfield	
Mr Frank Guerriero	
Ms Beth McErlean	8275 1090
Ms Helen Pecanek	0419 845 619
Ms Maree Prendergast	1300 364 264

All phone numbers are work contact numbers

Committee members can be contacted via e-mail, the mailing address or through a message left on the SAWMA phone:  
**0406 440 813**

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