



PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT - 2018

I would like to welcome the members of ASA to the AGM and thank you for your attendance. It is my pleasure to present the President's Report for 2018.

This has been my second year as President and I would like to express my appreciation to the Society and its members for the privilege. I would like to thank this year's committee members for their contribution to the society and personally, for their counsel, encouragement and support. I have also considered it somewhat of an honour to represent and promote ASA at international forums organised by our MOU partners. I thank ASA for the opportunity.

Planning for the 2018 conference in Hobart has taken a lot of effort and I want to thank the committee members involved, who with Kate and her team have been committed and professional, hallmarks exhibited over many years. It is worthwhile noting that much of this work is completed "behind the scenes", something I've become more intimately aware and appreciative of since becoming President. It is easily overlooked, that together with the general conference organisation, the Learning Place and Safety Forum preparations significantly increase the challenge. I would also like to acknowledge that others such as Andrew Pearce and Emmeline Finn, while not committee members of ASA, contributed significantly come conference time.

As a joint conference in association with Flight Nurses Australia. I would like to acknowledge the ongoing relationship between ASA and FNA and look forward to continuing and enhancing it in to the future. I welcome any members of FNA present here this afternoon.



We continue to make important progress in building stronger international relationships and are fortunate to attract international visitors to our conference. Hobart is no exception. Senior representatives of our Accord partners in Europe (EHAC), North America (AAMS) and the Society of Aeromedicine Malaysia (SAMMs) are in attendance and presenting. While our Chinese colleagues from CAMRA are unable to join us this year, cooperation continues to develop. Graeme Field's and my attendance at their annual conference in Shanghai earlier this year was a positive experience which I feel further enhanced the relationship.

It is extremely pleasing that during this conference, we will be formally recognising the work carried out between an Australian aeromedical organisation and one of our international partners.

This year has seen progress made in areas the committee has agreed are in the long term strategic interests of ASA.

- After some initially slow negotiations, a short term contracted sponsorship for ASA has been provided by Leonardo in Italy. While further enhancing the profile of ASA with international organisations, it is a general indication of the importance with which foreign manufacturers and operators view our region. This changing view provides both benefits and challenges for ASA and its members. Leonardo has informally indicated an intention to become corporate members and enhance the value of sponsorship in future years. Work shall continue on the relationship and opportunities looked for with other organisations.
- A general review of ASA membership and services continues. After some review a formal proposal for corporate services, in addition to conference organisation, has now been provided by Conference Design for consideration by the committee. As an organisation made up by already busy professionals, it is important for ASA to continually review how outside resources may be leveraged to complete critical time consuming tasks and enhance value for our members.



- Communication with the Royal Flying Doctor Service national body has commenced to explore the possibility of its long term cooperation with ASA. It is unfortunate that its CEO, Martin Laverty, has had to cancel his attendance at the conference due to a death in the family. However commitments have been made for a meeting with members of the Executive at the earliest opportunity following our stay in Hobart.
- Some changes have been made to the monthly committee meeting agenda and minutes structures in an attempt to direct focus on to key tasks. This has worked quite well and has been achieved with the ongoing cooperation of the committee. I would like to acknowledge the role of the Secretary in helping to make the changes and keeping us all honest!!

While not normally acknowledged, the financial position of the Society as a not for profit organisation remains healthy. ASA has managed to keep its membership fees low and provide relatively competitive conference attendance fees also. I would like to thank the Treasurer for his stewardship of the accounts over the years.

As I said in last year's report, the central theme of ASA is to develop as a crucible for ideas, standards and advocacy for the aeromedical industry in our region. I think the activity in the last twelve months has been in alignment with this and ASA's stated strategic aims. Within the committee and membership of ASA lies a vast pool of knowledge and expertise, placing the society in good stead to pursue its strategic goals in to the future.

The Society's annual scholarship was awarded to our current Secretary, Diane Fuller from Starship Child Health, Auckland District Health Board in New Zealand. The scholarship was used to visit and train with various aeromedical operations in Australia.

The Scholarship is awarded to members of the Society to assist in their professional development and, through reporting back to members, provides benefits to others in the Society. The Scholarship of up to \$A3,000 can be used to attend a relevant international conference or undertake a professional development programme within the region.



Furthermore, the successful candidate may be able to take advantage of our reciprocal relationships with our Accord partners and attend their respective conferences free of charge. It continues to be a source of some frustration that applications are low in number. I would encourage the vigorous promotion of this fantastic facility and for more members to take advantage of the opportunity.

Planning for the 2019 conference has been underway for a number of months. With an enthusiastic local host organisation, committed and capable organising committee and the re-engagement of Kate Smith from Conference Design, it promises to be another successful event,

Again, my sincere thanks to the members of the ASA Committee for their valuable contributions to the Society over the past year:

David Waters, Vice President, New Zealand
Chris Webber, Treasurer, New South Wales
Di Fuller, Secretary, New Zealand
Graeme Field, New South Wales
Andrew Berry, New South Wales
Margaret Tabone, New South Wales
Paul Gallagher, New South Wales
Tony Vaughan, South Australia
Paul Ingram, Western Australia
Dave Greenberg, New Zealand
Sam Love, New Zealand

I would also like to thank Catherine Jones for her often overlooked but diligent administrative support over the last 12 months. It is greatly appreciated.

I would like to especially acknowledge two individuals, Chris Webber and Margaret Tabone. Chris has been treasurer for as long as anyone can remember and is stepping down from the role. Thank you for your fine contribution and diligence. Margaret has been an outstanding and long standing committee member, fulfilling the Secretarial role for a number of years. Could you please join me in recognising them now?!



In conclusion, I would like to extend my best wishes to the 2019 Committee, thank those taking on new roles and issue the challenge that we frequently and regularly look for opportunities to grow and improve our Society.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Buick", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Buick
PRESIDENT
27th September 2018 – Hobart, Australia

Recommendation - that the 2018 President's report be accepted.