



## PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT – 2016

It is my pleasure to present the President's Report to the 2016 Annual General Meeting.

This has been the second and final year of my term and again it has proven to be extremely busy but extremely satisfying. As with the majority of associations a lot is asked of a few dedicated people so I wish to commence my report by firstly thanking the 2016 ASA Committee which has worked tirelessly to maintain the activities of the Association.

Planning for the 2016 programme in Queenstown took a lot of work and I want to especially thank the 2016 Conference Committee which, with Kate and the Association, has created an outstanding learning experience here in Queenstown New Zealand. This has been a partnership with the College of Air Surface Transport Nurses (COASTN), and we have been pleased to co-host the Conference with them in this magical location. I would also like to recognise our ongoing relationship with Flight Nurses Australia and look forwards to working with them again in 2017.

Last year we reviewed the ASA Strategic Purpose in response to the changing environment for associations. Our key strategic activities are as follows:

### **ASA Strategic Purpose 2015 - 2020**

**Common Purpose** Safe, quality Aeromedical Services

#### **Key Strategies**

1. Promote the aeromedical profession within Australasia

#### **Activities / Actions**

To:

- Raise the public profile of the Aeromedical profession
- Proactively engage with, and provide a forum for the broad spectrum of professions and stakeholders within aeromedical industry
- Provide support to advance aeromedical practice within the ASA membership
- Provide a high quality conference annually
- Use social media effectively to promote the Society

2. Be seen as the authoritative, independent aeromedical peak body in Australasia

#### **Activities /Actions**

To:

- Identify opportunities at National/International level to increase sphere of influence

- Form international relationships with other aeromedical peak bodies
- Advocate for the aeromedical industry with relevant Regulatory Authorities
- Develop strong relationships and links with other relevant organisations within Australia & New Zealand

### 3. Promote best practice in aeromedical services

#### **Activities / Actions**

To:

- Develop and promulgate aeromedical standards
- Promote research in aeromedical practice
- Encourage members and their organisations to participate in a peer review processes
- Develop an Awards process for recognition of best practice of individuals and aeromedical organisations

Last year we refreshed our web-site which provided a more modern look and feel, we have better integrated social media and now the site works seamlessly on any platform or mobile device. This year we modernised our logo and branding to better fit with the new look and feel. This was made possible by the kind donation of the design from Nick Hawes of Yellow Pencil Brand Sharpening in New Zealand.

Although now future proof in its architecture we still need to ensure the content is current, relevant and assists our members. We encourage members to contribute content and research articles to assist the Association in becoming the site of choice for aeromedical information.

In regard to promoting best practice, the Society has continued to make progress on the standards for aeromedical services. We released the document as an Interim Standard last year and are encouraged to hear that a number of aeromedical services are looking to implement it over the coming year. This will enable us to commence a peer-review process with the ultimate goal of awarding ASA Accreditation to aeromedical services that demonstrate a commitment to maintaining the Standard.

We continue to make important progress in building stronger international relationships and this year we again witnessed great attendance of international guests to the conference. This year we will refresh our agreements with our Accord partners, specifically, Europe (EHAC), North America (AAMS) and the Society of Aeromedicine Malaysia (SAMMS) which will cement our relationship into the future.

The Scholarship is awarded to members of the Society to assist 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. Further, 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.

Planning for the 2017 programme has been underway for a number of months and we look forward to announcing the location at the end of the conference. Our expectation is that the association will strive to ensure that the conference continues to grow, continues to provide a fantastic education opportunity and most of all be current and relevant – the annual conference not to be missed.

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

*Mark Buick, Vice President, New South Wales,*

*Chris Webber, Treasurer, New South Wales*

*Margaret Tabone, Secretary, New South Wales*

*Ian Badham, Northern Territory*

*Andrew Berry, New South Wales*

*Graeme Field, New South Wales*

*Di Fuller, New Zealand*

*Paul Gallagher, New South Wales*

*Geri Malone, South Australia*

*Tony Vaughan, South Australia*

*Trish Woods, Western Australia*

As always, Kate Smith, assisted by Lynette, has been crucial to the success of the Society. Her organisational skills in putting together our annual conference and her input into the Society generally are very much appreciated.

I particularly want to record my appreciation of the Executive committee – Margaret Tabone, Chris Webber and Mark Buick for their continued contributions to the Society. They have diligently performed their roles and I thank you to all for your hard work over many years. Your diligence has certainly made my role a lot easier. I would also like to thank Catherine Jones for her administrative support over the last 12 months.

In conclusion, I would like to extend my best wishes to the 2017 Committee. I have enjoyed serving as your President for the last two years and I am sure that the 2017 Executive and Committee will work together to continue to move the Society forward in what appears to be a very busy year ahead.

**David Waters**

**PRESIDENT**

25th August 2016 - Queenstown, NZ