

PRESIDENT'S PIECE



Dear Australian Recreational Therapy Association members,

Welcome to April! We hope you all had a restful and safe Easter break.

The past month has been busy for the ARTA board and members who contributed to a submission, and recommendations regarding quality indicators. Thank you for your hard work in this area.

In consideration of the financial challenges faced by our members, there will be no increase in membership fees for the next financial year. However, as ARTA relies on membership as a financial stream, we will be sending out a survey to gather input on possible price increases, and other ideas for revenue streams. We recognise that ARTA is a business and sustaining income streams is crucial for our longevity.

The call for papers for the 2024 conference will be live soon, and we eagerly await your submissions. Keep an eye on our social media channels for more information.

We are still in need of volunteers for our regulation team to assist with the application to AHPA. If you are interested, please contact the office.

Thank you again, and a warm welcome to our new members. It's exciting to see our membership gradually growing stronger.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to the office.

Until next month, thank you for all that you do.

Renée Smith
ARTA President



**Australian
Recreational
Therapy
Association**

Please see below for updated actions over the past month from the Board.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Update: Volunteers required for our regulation team to move forward on our application to AHPA. If you are interested, please contact the office.

Action: Looking for ARTA council members - contact office for more information.

Action: Charlise attended Dementia competencies meeting last Friday. Draft for review by 11/4 with publication due for release July



Southern Cross Care (NSW & ACT) is seeking highly motivated Recreation & Engagement staff.

ROLES AVAILABLE:

Diversional Therapist: Turrumurra & South Coogee

Lifestyle Coordinator: Cootamundra & Moama

Lifestyle Officers: Greystanes, South Coogee, Turrumurra, Bateau Bay, Cootamundra, Moama & Young

SCC (NSW & ACT) has a long history of providing exceptional care that empowers older people to live life to the full. Our 'Care and Engagement Model' ensures all our programs and activities are resident-focused and resident-driven, from special interest groups, virtual quizzes, animal assisted therapy, and intergenerational activities to technology base- programs, social groups and creative pursuits.

Why is SCC (NSW & ACT) a leader in Engagement and Purposeful Living?

- ★ Diversional Therapy Advisors provide mentoring and support to each of our homes, and this is supported by the Engagement & Purposeful Living Manager.
- ★ Access to quality resources and innovative programs
- ★ Allocated monthly budget that enables the creation of high-quality engagement opportunities.
- ★ Regular professional development opportunities through an internal education series.
- ★ Opportunities to network with other SCC (NSW & ACT) Recreation and Engagement teams members.

EDUCATION

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT:

2024 conference will be virtual.

Date: Thursday 26th and Friday 27th September 2024.

Theme: Choice, Connection, Community.

MEMBER ACTION: Please contact the enquiries@recreationaltherapy.au if you are interested in joining the Conference Committee/for more information.

Action: Exploring different options for hosting conferences and ways to keep it cost effective for members/organisations with multiple attendees.

Action: Researching and developing educational options and topics.

DISABILITY

Action: Sourcing members to be part of the CoP group. Please contact enquiries@recreationaltherapy.au if you would like to join.

Update: Our final article with Link magazine will be published in the upcoming issue.



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CARE AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Action: Feedback was given from ARTA reps on the quality indicators for new standards.

MARKETING

Action: Teachable will go through an update. This is your last chance to access content older than 2017 before we remove them from the site.

Action: Looking at expanding and developing higher range of teachable content. This will be a longer term action/goal.

Long Term Goal/Actions: Developing resources and training for organisations around RTs and continuing education/supporting RAOs in their workplaces.

Action: Sourcing members to be part of the CoP group. Please contact enquiries@recreationaltherapy.au if you would like to join.

GOVERNANCE & PROFESSIONAL SCOPE

Action: Keynote speaker has been agreed upon for the conference - watch our socials for announcements!



**AGED CARE
MUSIC RESOURCES**

ARTA are incredibly grateful for the amazing range of sponsors at the 2023 conference. You will be hearing more from these sponsors throughout the year.

Our sponsors were:

- Carolyn from Box and Dice
- Meadhbh from Freedom Solution
- Aged Care Music Resources
- Jacqueline Quirke from Southern Cross Care Living
- Shane from Neurons VR.



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