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Pulse

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Australian
Music
Therapy
Association

From the Editor



Dear AMTA members,

I would like to introduce myself as the new Editor of Pulse. I have been an RMT based in Queensland for over ten years and most recent AMTA work has been on the Education committee. I would like to thank Monica for her dedication and hard work for the Publications committee, she has been editing and formatting all editions for Pulse for this year and has done an exceptional job. Monica is very experienced and is kindly teaching me everything she knows. We would be very interested to take on one more volunteer who has a passion for Publisher. The position would be very manageable for anyone who enjoys formatting and working in Microsoft Publisher.

Please contact Monica or myself if you have an interest.

Please enjoy reading the AGM edition of Pulse. The AGM is your link with every facet of your professional association, so I do urge you to take some time to go through this one thoroughly.

We take this opportunity to wish you and yours a happy and safe Christmas, as the final edition of Pulse for 2009 won't be received until early in the new year.

Anne Flood, RMT

Editor

anne@evolutionmarketing.com.au

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Congratulations, Professor!



Denise Grocke has been promoted to full professor at the University of Melbourne, effective January 1st 2010. The promotion is based on four areas of activity: teaching and supervision; research grants and publications; knowledge transfer (engagement with the community), and service to the university and professional organisations, such as the Australian Music Therapy Association, and the World Federation of Music Therapy.

Congratulations, Professor Grocke!

Minutes of the 2008–2009 Annual General Meeting of the Australian Music Therapy Association Inc.

Saturday, September 19th 2009. 1:40pm Venue: Citigate Hotel, Haymarket, Sydney

Present:

Janet Andrews, Susan Ashley- Brown, Olwen Assheton, Yolanda Au, Sally Banks, Phillipa Barry, Scott Benning, Linda Blyth, Karen Bolger, Natalie Bower, Ruth Bright, Kathy Butcher, Anna Chapman, Shuyi Che, Ya-Chi Cheng, Isabel Chua, Miriam Cromie, Andrea Crompton, Christie Cula-Reid, Freya Dalgeish, Allison Davies, Robert Devlin, Caroline Dunn, Linda Safajou Dunne, Michelle Fisher, Katherine Fletcher, Lucy Forrest, Allison Fuller, Susanne Gee, Libby Gleadhill, Denise Grocke, Catherine Haining, Rowena Harris, Lauren Hayes, Shaw Herron, Meagan Hunt, Sarah Hylton, Yuko Lijima, Bev Jordan, Jeanette Kennelly, Helen (Ho-Jung) Kim, Hamish King, Fiona Lamb, Glen Lawrie, Alison Ledger, Crystal Hai-ning Lee, Ann Lehmann, Annette Macdonald, Ann Martin, Simone Mastrillo Armstrong, Rebecca May, Paul McEvoy, Katrina McFerran, Rob McGrigor, Joanne McIntyre, Elizabeth McLean, Louise Miles, Hayley Miller, Kayoko Minglis, Christobel Moore, Christine Morson, Rachel Nendick, Lucy O'Grady, Dorothea Newland, Lucy O'Grady, Florence Navaranjini Olegasegarem, Oliver O'Reilly, Julia Oreopoulos, Katie Peterson, Frauke Petri, Garry Price, Mary Rainey Perry, Patricia Reck, Imogen Rees, Joanne Rimmer, Kirstin Robertson-Gillam, Amy Robinson, Rachel Shelley, Helen Shoemark, Alison Short, Rosemary Signorelli, Lisa Taylor, Louise Terry-Clark, Stephanie Thompson, Meg Toon, Jacqueline Trott, Jessica Watkins, Kym Weatherley, Claire Weller, Mei-Lei Wong, Patricia Zancanaro.

2. Apologies

Kate Williams; Natalie Jack; Catherine Threlfall; Anya Tait; Nyssa McPhail; Catherine Wilmot; Toni Day; Felicity Baker; Monica Zidar; Rebecca Crappsley; Carolyn Hart; Alkeiya Brown; Amy Thomas; Beth Dunn; Janeen Bower; Barnetta Lester; Annette Baron; Helen Menzies; Margaret McDonald.

Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2008 AGM

These minutes were published in the 2008 AGM special edition of Pulse and were taken as read.

The following amendments to the 2008 AGM minutes were made as some of the figures pertaining to the 2006-2007 financial report were incorrectly reported in the AMTA Treasurer's Report for 2008 AGM.

In the section Statement of Income and Expenses - National, Income, paragraph one, it states "Total income for 2007-2008 was \$135,925 which appears to be significant less than the previous year. This difference has occurred primarily because in 2007 all of the conference transactions were brought into the accounts, whereas this year, only direct transactions between the PCO and the Association were brought into the AMTA accounts along with any transactions the AMTA made directly, a total figure of \$26,838. This includes a \$3,000 profit from the 2007

conference, whilst the 2006 conference netted the AMTA around \$18,000."

This final sentence will be amended to read "This includes a \$3,000 profit from the 2007 conference, whilst the 2006 conference netted the AMTA \$6619.34."

This discrepancy was due to the 2006-2007 financial report listing conference income at \$83160 and conference expenses at \$64781 which appears to indicate a profit of \$18000 for the 2006 AMTA conference in NSW. This figure however is not correct as it also includes seeding funding and other financial transactions for the 2007 conference.

It was also noted that the NT report had been added to 2008 AGM minutes.

Motion : "That the minutes from the 2008 AGM with amendments outlined be accepted."

Proposed: Louise Miles

Seconded: Ruth Bright

The motion was passed unanimously

Annual Report –

National President: Louise Miles

President's Annual Report
AMTA Inc. 2008-2009

It has been a year of growth and diversity for the AMTA. Our membership base has remained solid despite the global financial crisis which I believe reflects the view of members that the Association is a worthwhile advocate of music therapy.

In last year's report, I referred to renewed efforts to lobby for music therapy in the wider allied health field, including government agencies. We are still working closely with the Nordoff Robbins association to develop a strategy for targeted lobbying in key areas. Our thanks go to Catherine Wilmot as the chair of GR for her efforts in maintaining these links and driving this goal. The AMTA has also been able to re-establish connections with the National Allied Health Casemix council and we will continue to be represented by Liesel Higgins on this committee into the coming year. This includes being able to have a voice in such projects as the "indicator for intervention" and maintain links with other allied health professions. This has also included Anja Tait's representation of the Australasian region on the committee of the WFMT. I would encourage those with an interest in any of these issues to regularly check the AMTA

website for updates.

I trust that most of you are now enjoying the new website and that you are able to appreciate the countless unpaid hours which the publications committee spends in making this run smoothly. Monica Zidar is succeeded by Lorna Sherwin this year and National Council have been able to support Lorna financially to undertake website development and maintenance training which will allow us to maintain this website internally rather than constantly out-sourcing this requirement. It has also allowed AMTA position holders to be trained internally to input into their areas of the website which it is hoped will make the site a much more vibrant resource for RMTs and the general public. I would encourage you to continue to read *Pulse* and perhaps even consider whether you could step-in as editor of this publication – it is a valuable tool of networking for all RMTs and is effectively able to inform you about the activities of YOUR association, providing unlimited opportunities for connecting with each other and sharing ideas once the conference each year is over.

Our other publication, the AJMT celebrates a significant milestone this year and led by Felicity Baker, the team has been able to put together two editions of the journal in this calendar year. We celebrate the launch of this anniversary edition, which everyone will have received in their conference satchels at the reception this evening. Also at this time, NC have chosen to acknowledge the growing list of honorary life members of the Association – earlier this year, Richard Thompson accepted this award. This is an honour given to individual RMTs for their service, promotion of and commitment to the profession of music therapy in Australia.

The input of Sara Hood, Ian Harvey and Annette Pearce at Morton Group has enabled ongoing smooth running of the administrative processes of the association and once again a full complement of executive enabled many tasks to be shared and allowed us to move forward with many of our goals. As I enter the final year of my presidential term however, I would ask the membership to again consider whether there is any amongst us who would be willing to take up roles on National Council. Many of you would remember, we reached a critical time in the running of the association just a few years ago when there was a significant lack of people willing to step forward. The succession planning task force have been hard at work developing strategies to avoid this situation recurring and with the help of committee chairs, we have been able to re-fill all positions for the coming financial year.

Since the implementation of the new state branch structures, it has been a goal of NC to improve communication between each of these groups and the national body. We are continuing to maintain twice yearly formal contact with state branches and representatives and with the help of Nyssa McPhail, have observed greater interest in forming special interest groups across states and also a keen interest from states to learn what PD opportunities might be available to members. NC is also continuing to support those seeking to develop a special education advocacy brochure similar to the aged care brochure which was published last year, the work of the

Paediatric Reference Group in developing standards of practice for acute care settings and we also hope to be able to revise other publicity documents produced by the AMTA for the promotion of music therapy in the coming year.

I would like to sincerely thank all the current members of the executive who have been more than supportive. We are being joined this year by Rowena Harris to assist in the role of minutes' secretary as Ann Lehmann reduces her tasks during maternity leave. Rowena has been a very valued member of national council over the past two years and has, amongst other things, been involved in the succession planning task-force.

I encourage you to listen closely to the reports which will shortly be read by members of the National Committees. It is a constant inspiration to see the dedication and effort that these volunteers make on behalf of your Association. It has also been encouraging to me to see that networking has occurred and that this year we will again have all the positions filled. When I reflect on those who are involved, I see a breadth of people with new ideas and differing levels of experience getting involved in the life of the association and enabling us to be rejuvenated and challenged in our mandate to support and promote music therapists in Australia.

Last year, I welcomed Robyn Booth as the new chair of the registration committee. This year, we bid her farewell due to family commitments and welcome Katrina McFerran as the new chair. I would like to thank Robyn for the fantastic job she has done in taking on this role and enabling us to iron out many of the issues surrounding not only new registrations but also applications for re-registration. This is a small committee, fulfilling an extremely important role within the association.

Also this year, we bid farewell to Lucy Forrest who has chaired the CPD committee for more years than she would maybe care to remember. She has fulfilled this role with empathy and efficiency and many of us owe her – and in fact the whole committee - a debt of thanks for helping us through the process and helping us to ensure that we as a profession receive the same recognition as other allied health professions for our dedication to ongoing learning and development. Hand-in-hand with this, we need to acknowledge another revered RMT, Denise Grocke. Denise steps down from her role as the chair of the education committee this year after many years of service to AMTA. We will all of us on National Council miss her attention to detail, her knowledge of the association as well as the profession and her dedication to ensuring that music therapy training in Australia has maintained the high standards which it continues to uphold.

Last but not least, we need to recognise the efforts of the conference taskforce, headed by Meagan Hunt. This group of driven individuals was set the task by NC to review the processes and procedures surrounding both the annual PDS and conference and present recommendations for future change and growth. This they did with aplomb and the results were presented at this year's PDS. I look

(Continued from page 3)

forward to future events which strive to meet the needs of a changing membership base which now encompasses such a breadth of experience and knowledge.

As you look at the year ahead, I would encourage you to consider your involvement in your association at both a national and state level – the saying that “many hands make light work” rings very true for those of us that currently hold active positions. There are many tasks at both a state and national level that individuals here this afternoon could undertake. Even if you are new to the profession, there is always room on the national and state committees. Whilst it is not possible to mention each of these people by name, the association would not exist without the work that they do. Being actively involved in your association can be a richly rewarding experience.

Finally, I would like to thank all the members of the AMTA for your support as I continue in the role of president and wish each of you well as you represent the profession of music therapy in your respective work-places.

Motion: “That President’s report be accepted”.

Proposed: Louise Miles

Seconded: Lucy Forrest

The motion was passed unanimously

Financial Report –

National Treasurer: Rachel Nendick

The financial position of the Australian Music Therapy Association Incorporated (AMTA) continues to show prudent and consistent financial management on behalf of the committee. The net profit of \$31,463 is a better result than the budget forecast of just under \$27,000. AMTA continues to invest cash in an ANZ V2 Investment Account which couples immediate access to our funds with earning a modest interest rate (2.75%). National Council (NC) continues to maintain this type of investment account which, in hindsight, may have safeguarded against loss of income considering recent events which have affected the global financial markets.

AMTA’s representative council and committees are made up volunteers who put a great deal of work into the running of our association. NC is proud to be able to support all committee activities which enable committee members to travel interstate for review meetings and weekends, validate University courses, continuously update and disseminate information via Pulse and the website, lobby Governments and provide CPD, Ethics and Registration programs for RMT members. As expected, committee expenses, Publications including the new website, and training expenses have all increased which are part of the investment in new capabilities for the organisation.

AMTA also plays an important role in the *Music. Play For Life* campaign, in partnership with the Music Council of Australia. *Making Music; Being Well* will be on again in 2010 under the leadership of Catherine Threfall and

promises to be bigger and better than ever. In 2008, National Council accepted a proposal from the chair and chief editor of AJMT and agreed to fund a Special Anniversary Edition of the AJMT to celebrate the 20th year of publication of the Australian Journal of Music therapy.

States are in a healthy financial situation and are committed to providing exciting and relevant PD and networking events in your area. Teleconferencing is now available in all states and territories to enable remote members to join branch activities. Ask your local branch President to find out how. Each year the conference host state is encouraged to provide seeding funding for the conference. The 2008 conference made a loss which unfortunately meant that the Queensland branch was only able to recoup 70% of its grant. NC currently contributes \$10,000 of seed funding to conferences and bore the remainder of the 2008 conference loss (\$3074.42). This does highlight the fact that National Council and the Conference committee must always be mindful of minimising the cost of the annual conference to all members.

The 2008-2009 year has seen the conference brought back into the AMTA accounts. It was previously outsourced (i.e. Fox Events). This has resulted in some significant variations between the 2008 and 2009 accounts. For instance Conference income in 2008 was just \$26,800 but in 2009 is \$73,000. Conference expenses were similarly varied. This, along with an increase in membership subscriptions and bank interest received, accounts for a \$55,000 jump in income (\$205,285 vs \$150,220) in the consolidated accounts.

Bad debts written off are down compared with the previous year which is a good result, and about 98% of invoiced memberships were collected. It did however take the administrator several months to chase up memberships that were still outstanding at July 31st. This costs the association more in administration fees with TMG having to chase up outstanding invoices, not to mention that RMTs are technically unregistered if fees are left unpaid. Membership fees that have not been received by July 31st incur a late fee.

Overall expenses have been well managed as most account lines are either down or have modest increases only.

Statement of Income and Expenses - National Accounts

AMTA Inc achieved a surplus of \$ 69,958 for the 2008-2009 financial year.

Income

Total income for 2008-2009 was \$195,044, which is \$60,000 more than for 2007-2008. This difference has occurred largely because the 2008 conference transactions were brought into the accounts, as mentioned earlier in this report. Membership subscriptions are up by nearly \$12,000, and fees for copyright subscriptions collected from RMTs on behalf of APRA/ARIA increased threefold. Income, however, from Advertising (jobs and website) was down nearly 75%.

The investment in the term deposit account has again netted significant interest payments for AMTA of \$13,705, an increase of \$2,700 on 2008 figures. As a consequence capitation fees paid to the States rose by \$780 to \$4,995 in 2009. NB: Capitation fees are calculated annually whereby bank interest earned is divided between the States depending on the

number of RMTs residing in each state.

Expenditure

Total expenditure increased by \$36,671 to \$125,086. The major reason for the increase was the incorporation of the Conference into the accounts.

Decreases are seen in expenses such as accountancy fees, the write off of bad debts, general expenses, insurance, subscriptions and membership, and travel. AMTA changed to a new provider for teleconferencing and the result has been a saving of \$1000 for the financial year. The most significant increase in expenses is for publications, which includes the costs of the new website design.

Statement of Income and Expenditure - Consolidated Accounts

Consolidated income for the association totalled \$205,285 and expenses \$173,822. The resulting surplus of \$31,463 is around \$5000 higher than anticipated in our operating budget. All expenditure relating to the 2009 Conference (to be held in September 2009) was deferred and will be included as expenditure in the Association's financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2010, in accordance with proper accounting standards.

Expenses relating specifically to State and other committees include committee expenses, which have jumped by \$5000, although this is offset by a comparable fall in general expenses, staff training and seminars (which relates to training for use of the new website) and Website design expenses.

Balance Sheet

While the majority of AMTA funds are allocated to the National account, the balance sheet reflects the consolidated and streamlined banking, which includes State and Territory funds. Net assets of the Association, comprising of cash and debtors, are up by 10% from the 2008 result.

Assets:

Total cash assets are \$336,697.42, consisting of \$299,458.05 in the investment account and \$24,764.32 in the trading account. A further \$12,475.05 sits in the Conference account as of June 30th. A total of \$35,557.08 belongs to the state branches. Trade and other receivables have increased by nearly \$13,000 for this financial year.

Liabilities: Income in advance is \$100,729.88 and is listed as a liability as membership renewals are invoiced in May and received between May and July for the 2009-2010 year.

Reconciliation of Retained Earnings: The breakdown for this is listed on page 6 under point 4. This is a new element added to the financial report this year which outlines the retained earnings of the branches and as well as National. It tells us where the retained earnings of \$336,697 actually belong; therefore it is a break down of balances for each of the State Branches and Territory Representatives.

The retained earnings of the NSW branch have dropped from \$13,000 to \$8,000. This variance is due to \$5,000 seed funding toward the 2009 conference. This will presumably be returned (with a profit dividend)

following the conference. Similarly, the return of the seed funding from last year's conference is the cause of increase in the QLD branch figures.

Conclusion

To wrap up, the surplus AMTA Inc has achieved from ordinary activities amounts to \$31,462.83 for the 2008-2009 financial year. As we look ahead, the 2010 budget anticipates a \$29,719 surplus in the consolidated accounts. Bank interest continues to produce a useful dividend for the Association, accounting for nearly 7% of income despite weakening interest rates. The global financial crisis and low interest rates may still negatively impact on our earning capacity in the coming year, however the strength of the Association's financial position should put members minds at ease, sound in the knowledge we have sufficient funds to pursue Government relations endeavours and continue to support and grow the profession of music therapy in this country.

Once again I would like to thank The Morton Group for their terrific support and sound administration of the Association's finances.

Motion: "That the 2008-2009 financial reports be accepted."

Proposed: R. Nendick

Seconded: Rob McGrigor

The motion was passed unanimously

Appointment of the Auditor

Motion: "That Page Harris & Co., Chartered Accountant, be appointed Auditor to the AMTA Inc. for the 2009-2010 financial year."

Proposed: R. Nendick

Seconded: K. Bolger

The motion was passed unanimously

Appointment of the Public Officer

Motion: "That Julie Wright be appointed Public Officer to the AMTA Inc."

Proposed: Louise Miles

Seconded: R. Nendick

The motion was passed unanimously

National Committee Reports

Registration Committee-

Chair: Robyn Booth read by Kat McFerran

New re-registration guidelines are now in place. The new system requires applicants to complete tasks worth a certain number of points, with the amount of points required increasing with number of years for which registration has lapsed.

Over the past 12 months 28 new music therapists have been registered,

3 RMT's have successfully re-registered after having their registration lapse, and 2 overseas trained music therapists have successfully been registered with AMTA Inc. There is currently one overseas application in the pipeline with several others recently requesting information about registration requirements.

I will be stepping down as chair of the registration committee as of the AGM and Katrina McFerran-Skewes has agreed to take on the role of Chair. Kat's knowledge of both Australian and overseas training and competency standards will be a very valuable asset to the registration committee. I will be able to return as a committee member in 2010 and Anne Thompson has agreed to stay on as a committee member.

The 2010 registration cut off dates for music therapists graduating from and AMTA accredited course are January 8th, March 12th and August 13th.

Education Committee- Chair: Susan Ashley-Brown

This year the Education Committee conducted the validation of the music therapy Masters course provided by the University of Western Sydney. A full review of the course, including a site visit to UWS, was conducted and the course was granted validation for a further 5 years.

As no course was scheduled for validation in 2009 the education committee met in June in Sydney for two days to review all the documents. These included the Accreditation and Validation documents, and the Competency Standards. Some changes have been made and the documents are currently being revised to reflect the changes.

At this meeting there was a hand over of the position of Chair from Denise Grocke to Susan Ashley-Brown. The committee would like to thank Denise for her commitment to music therapy education standards and hard work on this committee.

Currently the committee is considering an application from the University of Melbourne to offer the Masters course by flexible delivery to remote students and students in states where there is no training course.

The Education Committee is seeking ratification for two new members: Kylie Morgan representing the University of Queensland and Jacinta Calabro representing the University of Melbourne.

8.3 Publications Committee- Chair: Monica Zidar read by Ann Lehmann

1. The Publications Committee has had another busy and successful year. As of the AGM I will be resigning as Chair and welcome Web Editor, Lorna Sherwin to the position. Lorna will continue in her roll as Web Editor and I will continue editing Pulse. Otherwise, the **committee** members remain the same: Linda Blyth and Alana Falk.

2. We have published and distributed four issues of **Pulse** this year: Post-AGM edition (2008), December (2008), April (2009) and August (2009).

3. The **website upgrade** is complete. We hope that you all think it was worth the wait.

4. In regards to **networking**, the new website features a facility which allows people to 'comment' on live news stories. Hopefully, members will use this to communicate with each other about specific topics. There are also pages on the website available for SIG coordinators to manage,

where they can advertise meeting times, post topics for discussion, place information regarding resources etc. In the coming year, we will look at ways of putting these areas to good use.

8.4 Ethics Committee- Chair: Toni Day read by Jeanette Kennelly

The role of the Ethics Committee remains to promote, monitor and maintain ethical conduct of music therapists and associate members of the association. This is achieved through offering consultation and clarification when concerns or complaints arise, and by responding in confidence to communications from AMTA members and members of the general public regarding matters of an ethical nature.

After a busy 2008 reviewing the AMTA documents of Standards of Practice, Code of Ethics and Grievance Procedures, the ethics committee has had a quiet year in 2009. The main task has been to review proposals for research projects requiring access to the AMTA membership. The committee has also produced guidelines for presenting images at AMTA conferences and for gaining informed consent to use digital images on the AMTA website. Copies of these forms have been uploaded to the website for RMTs to access.

After three years on the committee, Ann Martin has resigned her position. I'd like to thank Ann for her work over the past few years. Jeanette Kennelly (QLD), Carolyn Hart (SA), and Denise Grocke (VIC) as advisor, will continue on the committee for the coming year. We are seeking new committee members and would love to hear from anyone who is interested in being involved.

Government Relations Committee- Chair: Catherine Wilmot read by Louise Miles

The last 12 months have been a time of learning as I have had to define the scope of the Government Relations Committee. I would firstly like to thank Peta Williams, previous Chair. She did a huge amount of work on submission to Government, and has given us a solid base to work from.

Subsequent to Peta's recommendation (and ratified by National Council), the Government Relations Committee operates slightly differently. With a range of tasks to focus on, the Committee consists of sub-committees and several individual members working on specific tasks.

The past year has seen several steps taken to bring music therapy to the attention of government. Part of this has involved bringing music therapy firmly into multiple arenas. The first step involved canvassing RMTs for their input into what areas they believed the Committee should focus. From these responses, relevant sub-committees were established.

The Arts and Health Sub-Committee have been working on promoting music therapy in the arts health arena and have presented at this year's PDS. The Education Sub-Committee will be looking at options for promoting music therapy in education. Others will be looking at areas of Aged Care which still need consideration.

In working towards the promotion of music therapy, it has also been decided that AMTA will update the "Sound Practice" brochure which was originally produced by the Victorian Branch. The content is currently being reviewed and we will also look at design before publication.

In addition to the work of the sub-committees, I have been liaising with several individuals to look at the issues of GST exemption and inclusion in the Medicare Allied Health and Dental Care Initiative. Extensive discussion has led to the conclusion that the best way forward is to appoint a lobbyist to work on our behalf and to train a number of RMTs as advocates to work with the lobbyist. We have gained the support of APRA through Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapy Australia who are willing to loan us the use of their lobbyist. The details of how this will work are yet to be sorted out.

Thanks to the many individuals for their work on specific Government Relations tasks. In addition, there are several RMTs who have put their names forward for future roles within the committee and I thank them for their willingness.

In the next 12 month period I hope to move forward more definitely towards lobbying the federal government and promoting music therapy among health and education arenas.

Continuing Professional Development Committee- Chair: Lucy Forrest

During 2009, the CPD Committee has undertaken the first full review of the CPD Program since the implementation of CPD in 2004.

The Review has provided opportunity to audit the CPD Program and look at what has worked well, and aspects of the program that need adjustment in order to maintain a rigorous, fair and professional program of Continuing Professional Development for Music Therapists registered with the Australian Music Therapy Association Inc.

The first step of the Review was to seek feedback from the membership about CPD, and this was done via a survey that was forwarded to all RMTs in late 2008. More than 40 responses were received, and this feedback was crucial in assisting the CPD Committee in their task of reviewing procedures, documents and processes. The Committee thank all those RMTs who responded to the survey or wrote to us with their thoughts and suggestions.

The Committee met in Melbourne in July 2009 to complete the Review process, which included an audit of: the documents used for CPD (the Handbook and Logbook), the procedure for CPD submissions, the submission review process, and eligible activities and their point allocations. A summary of the outcomes of the Review and information about the changes that have been made to the CPD Program will be mailed to all RMTs in the coming weeks.

I am standing down from the position of Chair of CPD, effective at the 2009 AGM, and it is with great pleasure that I announce that Anne Thompson will be taking on the role of Chair.

I am very proud of the work that the CPD Committee has accomplished over the past five years in establishing and developing a comprehensive and rigorous program of CPD for our membership. I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to both past and present members of the CPD Committee, with whom I have had the pleasure of working over the past five years: Robin Howat, Helen Shoemark, Louise Miles, Maggie

Leung, Vicky Abad, Stephanie Thompson, Tanya McKenna, Helen Petering, Anne Thompson and Rowena Harris. The professionalism, commitment and hard work of this dedicated team has been invaluable, and I thank each of them for their support & friendship over the past five years. I also wish to extend my thanks to Sara Hood and Annette Pearce, our Administrators, for their continued support and assistance with the many administrative tasks of CPD.

Australian Journal of Music Therapy

Editor: Felicity Baker read by Kat McFerran

During the past year, AJMT committee members have continued to work towards improving quality of the articles published in the volumes. We have received a significant increase in submissions during the past two years but only a small number of these have managed to make it to publication as our excellent editorial review board have been investing time and effort into providing detailed critical appraisals of the submitted articles.

To accommodate the increase in submissions, I have increased the size of the AJMT board and have purposefully invited international scholars to the board. The decision to invite non-Australian RMTs was to 1) raise the profile of the journal as an international journal which may lead to a) increased submissions and b) lead to increased subscriptions by individuals or their university institutions, 2) include a broader range of experts who have the academic expertise to critically appraise articles, 3) To assist in raising the quality of the journal. The board currently comprises:

ASSISTANT EDITORS : Wendy Magee, Katrina McFerran

EDITORIAL BOARD

Jacinta Calabro
Barbara Daveson
Lucy Forrest
Denise Grocke
Susan Hadley
Jinah Kim
Kevin Kirkland
Robert Krout
Dianne Langan
Clare O'Callaghan
Amelia Oldfield
Helen Shoemark
Alison Short
Jeanette Tamplin

I'd like to thank all of these people for their contributions in reviewing submitted papers. In particular, I have been very appreciative of the time people have invested into ensuring authors receive useful and detailed feedback.

2009 celebrated the 20th volume of AJMT and today a special issue will be launched to celebrate this significant event. I would like to thank all of the previous editors - Sandy Curtis, Helen Efron, Wendy Taylor, Denise Grocke, and Clare O'Callaghan for their commitment to developing the journal and facilitating what is inarguably a world class

journal. The commitment to publishing works by Australian authors has been encouraged and many of the editorial board members have worked as mentors to young authors. A special thanks also to NC who kindly agreed to fund the publication of the celebratory issue. This publication gave AMTA the opportunity to showcase some leading authors in the field within Australia.

I now move into my third and final 2-year term as editor. During the next year I will be working with NC to ensure that I have someone with new and interesting ideas, as well as expertise, to take over as editor for AJMT.

External Liaison Report – MMBW-

Catherine Threlfall, read by Ann Lehmann

The External Liaison position for the year 2008-2009 has continued to be an interesting and varied role. The main emphasis of the role has continued to be liaison with the Music Council of Australia and Making Music Being Well.

I attended the Music Council of Australia Assembly in September 2008 in Adelaide. There is growing interest and activity within the assembly in the burgeoning arts and health sector.

Making Music Being Well is undergoing some significant changes. Work will soon be underway to introduce a web-based registration process in time for the event in May 17th – 23rd 2010. The Music Play for Life team and Ian Harvey from the Australian Music Association have been working on AMTA's behalf to secure ongoing funding for MMBW. This has not been successful to date.

There has been a steady flow of enquiries throughout the year, from music therapists, community musicians, educators, performers and arts health practitioners. The next year will see the build up to the 3rd MMBW event.

Internal Liaison

read by Louise Miles on behalf of Nyssa McPhail

Newly Registered RMT packs were reviewed and are currently being uploaded onto the AMTA website. Materials that states which to give to new RMTs such as merchandise and brochures can be done so by the branch/rep. This format for the packs was selected to cut down on paper usage and time associated with distributing the packs. States currently using new grad packs will be asked to discontinue these and instead offer RMTs a welcome letter directing them to the website with hardcopies of brochures or items as required.

State report guidelines were established to ensure that information presented at the AGM was relevant and adhered to the time restrictions.

I would like to highlight that a **phone linking system** is available to those geographically isolated from attending meetings and other groups. Assistance has been given to states wishing to use this facility. Please talk to myself or Annette if you would like to do so.

National SIGs are being established, particularly for those unable to

attend local SIGs and to provide easier communication between states. There is space on the website for this and we need people to chair the pages of each group. This person will be responsible for updating the page and others can contribute ideas in a forum style.

In 2008 all states and territories revised their **setup** options and WA and SA are now branches, with the ACT, TAS and NT electing a representative.

The **National Council newsletter** has been sent to the chair of each state although it is hoped that this will be more widely distributed so that members in each state hear of what National Council is doing. A copy will now be sent to the secretary of each state to ensure this happens. I have offered assistance to all states/territories in updating their pages on the **website** and have encouraged them to put up information on their state's **job register**. This is so that all RMTs can see what smaller jobs are available in the country after being notified by WA that there are a number of small jobs there that need filling.

A **Rate of Pay Taskforce** has been established in response to queries received from RMTs. With just a few members we are investigating awards in each state, current pay rates and how we can advertise recommended rates. The taskforce has been a bit slow to start due to a number of people dropping out and the time commitments of other members but we will get underway before the end of this year. We will likely be surveying RMTs for current rates of pay information, I would like to encourage you to assist us with this when it arrives as it will help us inform all RMTs, current and future on this essential matter.

I continue to receive many inquiries from RMTs nationwide in regards to many things and I would like to encourage all RMTs to use the facility of the IL to communicate with other RMTs and NC - amta.internal.liaison@gmail.com

Conference Liaison- Meagan Hunt

The Conference Liaison role has now been in action for 2 years now. Since the development of the Conference Liaison role it is felt that the conference has been organised in a more streamlined and supportive way. This position has enabled each conference to begin being organised at least a year before the date and has so far allowed the next conference dates to be announced at the current conference. The Conference Liaison has been able to provide each conference committee with ongoing support, guidance and advice on how procedures have worked in the past and the best practise in the organisation of the conference but also help to develop the growth of the conference and PDS while being able to hold some organisational memory. In addition the National Conference Liaison has acted as a good connection between the conference committee and the national council.

For the past year there have been three roles for the National Conference Liaison:

1. Assist the organisation of the 2009 conference.
 2. gather the committee and begin organising the 2010 conference
- Gather together a task force to review the conference model and develop an AMTA Conference MAP.

The 2009 conference was initially budgeted for 100 delegates at the conference and 60 at the PDS. This expectation was completely underrated and we have over 150 delegates at the conference and 80 at the PDS. This could be due to the accessible program of the conference, the excellent PDS program and also the continuing affordability of the conference. Thank you to Joanne McIntyre, Oliver O'Reilly, Rob Devlin and Christine Morson for their wonderful efforts.

The 2010 Melbourne conference organisation is well under with the committee already formed and thinking about themes, keynote speaker, venues and sponsors. The committee consists of:

Karen Bolger: Convenor

Kate Teggelove: PDS Convenor

Janeen Bower: Chair of Social Program.

Chair of scientific committee: yet to be invited.

The main focus of the past year was to get a task force together to review the way the conference is organised and to come up with a new conference model. Thanks to Helen Shoemark, Clare Kildea, Toni day and Fiona Lamb for spending a weekend to review the model and develop the conference manual. Thank you also to Sara Hood for coming along to talk about the financial side of the conference and to National Exec for funding the weekend. The New Conference Model is attached to this report. The new conference model is expected to make the conference organisation more streamlined and less of the 're-inventing the wheel' phenomenon. It is also hoped to break down the 'them and us' feeling between the National Council and the Conference committee that has been evident in past years.

The Conference manual and the suggested timeline are almost complete and will be completed in the near future.

As the new National Conference committee comes into fruition I pass the baton onto Maggie Leung as the National Council Chair and welcome Clare Kildea as the National PDS Advisor. I will be staying on as an advisor to the National Conference Committee and will make it one of my tasks to finish the manual and mentor Maggie along the way.

Motion: "That all National Committee reports be accepted."

Proposed: L Miles

Seconded: H. Shoemark

The motion was passed unanimously

L Miles stated: The following positions have been ratified by the National Council:

Chair of Education- S. Ashley- Brown

Chair of Registration- K. McFerran

Chair of Publications- L. Sherwin

Chair of CPD- A. Thompson

Chair National Conference and PDS Committee – M. Leung

State Branch Reports

New South Wales Report read by Dot Newland

This year the NSW Committee has met regularly on the 1st Tuesday of the month and the meetings have been attended by a group of eleven committee members from all over Sydney, including two students from UWS and UTS. They have volunteered to represent the interests of music therapy students and help the committee overall.

Educational seminar days: The first workshop a guitar skills and music therapy workshop run by Robert Krout (Professor and Director of Music Therapy at Southern Methodist University in Dallas) was held on Saturday 7th March at Westmead Campus Metro Residences and was attended by 22 participants who rated the workshop highly. On August 1st, two presenters Samantha Schoeler-Jones and Frauke Petri conducted a very successful one-day seminar, titled "Schwabe meets Australia" This workshop was attended by at least 16 participants, who commented that the seminar was highly regarded and enjoyed by all attendees.

Conference Sponsorship: Four sponsorships were provided to help new RMTs, Regional RMTs and two students attend the Conference.

Support Group: A new initiative for an inner-western Sydney support Group for Registered Music Therapists called "CONNECT" has already had several meetings and support workshops for local music therapists in the area. There are at least 10 or more music therapists supporting this group and the group has regular meetings once a month. There have been at least four or five successful presentations to group members here and they have included an Autoharp workshop, a Drumming and Therapy workshop, a presentation on the 7-Tone method for Therapeutic outcomes, improvisation and music-making. Currently the group is preparing an AMTA publicity display stall for a day long Festival at Marrickville on Sunday, 27th September.

With the challenges faced by the local NSW Branch Committee this year, there has been some amazing input with respect to time, energy and money from many of the Music Therapists working in the area around Sydney. And there have been definite gains and steps made in creating new networks, organising a National PDS and Conference and in also in helping Music Therapists get recognition with new award structures such as at DADHC. Both Clare Hogan and Oliver O' Reilly have now effectively put the Music Therapist's Award structures on to a new level, where Music Therapists are now recognised with other professionals in the Public Service sector and in the Health area.

There are many other challenges faced by the NSW Branch in developing the status and professional recognition of Music Therapists.

1. The introduction of a more structured and compulsory style of clinical supervision for individual, practicing Music Therapists.
2. The formation of Special Interest Groups (SIG) in the area of Disability Needs is very important.
3. The re-introduction of a Job List or Listserv is also needed.
4. The directions from the Strategic Plan need to be implemented.
5. The roles of the State Committee Members need to be delineated, understood and communicated to the state committee members.
6. And new members need to be co-opted onto the existing

committee for the following year as there will be at least three committed role positions to fill in the coming year.

With these objectives in mind for the following year, there is much work to be done in NSW and the Branch will warmly welcome any new input from supportive music therapists who are willing to give their time to this process.

If you want the Music Therapy profession to change and develop, please come and put some energy into this process....You are most welcome....

..... "Shoot for the Moon....Even if you miss it...you will land among the Stars"

Queensland State Report – Chair: Rob McGrigor

In 2008/09 AMTA-QLD has endeavoured to provide a sustainable committee, responsive to the varied and expressed needs of its wider membership. We have redistributed delegated roles within our committee to reduce burnout, provided supported opportunities for members to gain experience and confidence to factor for productivity and succession planning and, sought feedback and direction from our members.

Maintaining a strong commitment to professional development opportunities, we have largely funded and facilitated 3 separate Creative Arts and Music Therapy workshops, a presentation on use of creative guitar loops by Professor Robert Krout and, fully funded a workshop in music therapy research conducted by Dr Barbara Wheeler. Following significant expenditure in 2007/08 and relatively low RMT attendance at both PDS and social events, we sought feedback from our members in 2009 through survey and expressions of interest. Whilst respondents indicated that they would like to attend social events such as breakfast and, PDS events focussing upon: intermediate and advanced counselling skills; other therapies including dance, drama, movement and voice etc; music and guitar skills; grant application writing; and, research, a consistently low response rate has prevented us from effectively acting in the interest of the majority of our members. In order to adequately represent and equitably provide for our electing membership, members are reminded that their State Branch requires timely responses to requests from the elected Chair and/or Secretary.

A number of streamlining processes were initiated at committee level. In response to regular public requests, our enquiry line coordinator has sought to create a register of RMTs conducting community music therapy programs and, a register of RMTs who are interested in supporting work experience students and/or volunteers. In addition, previously attended by the Chair, a delegated role was created within our committee for the position of music therapy representative for the Queensland College of Allied Health Professionals who, provide a regular newsletter which we have begun to distribute to all members along with our newsletter.

AMTA-QLD regrets to advise that our enquiry line coordinator email account fell victim earlier this year to hackers, resulting in large volumes of spam to some members. We are pleased to have resolved this and a new address is posted on the AMTA website. On a more positive note, I would like to acknowledge and congratulate our South Australian colleagues on establishment of AMTA-SA.

I am also very pleased to report that with approval from our National Committee, on Saturday 31st January 2009, AMTA-QLD was able to present the first 'Richard Thompson Award for Peer Excellence in Music Therapy'. Inaugurally presented to Richard himself, this award serves to recognise Richard's outstanding service to the profession. Sadly, we extend our thoughts to Richard's family on his passing on Thursday morning 17th September. On a positive note I would like to thank AMTA-NSW for their efforts in hosting this year's conference.

Victorian State Report- Chair Rebecca Crappsley read by Rebecca May

Vic Branch has had a busy and productive year. The year began with a review of the Special Interest Groups currently run in Melbourne. SIG facilitators were involved in discussions around the best way to continue providing this service, and how to maintain attendance throughout the year. There are currently 6 active SIGs in Victoria, and each of these groups plan and run an exciting and innovative program of discussions, panels, workshops or guest presenters each year. The SIG facilitators at this meeting also agreed that the Big SIG was a worthwhile event that should continue to be held every two years. The Big SIG is designed to encourage RMTs to join a SIG, allow opportunities for RMTs to meet the SIG facilitators and ask questions, and also for facilitators and attendees to share valuable feedback and suggestions.

In February, Vic Branch in collaboration with Melbourne University, co-hosted a visit from Professor Brynjulf Stige, Head of Music Therapy Research, University of Bergen, Norway. Brynjulf presented a lecture at Melbourne University on community music therapy which was attended by about 40 people, representing a broad cross-section of professional areas including music therapy, the arts, education, science and medicine.

Robert Krout, Professor and Director of Music Therapy in the Meadows School of the Arts at Southern Methodist University (SMU) in Dallas, Texas, visited Melbourne in late March and was involved in a number of activities during his stay, including a palliative care Special Interest Group meeting, the NaMTRU weekend, and visits to various music therapy departments and health care facilities. Vic Branch hosted a full-day guitar skills and song-writing workshop facilitated by Professor Krout, attended by 25 RMTs and music therapy students.

In May, Vic Branch hosted a workshop by Anne Thompson, Director of Music Therapy at Wantirna Health, exploring effective interview techniques, including how to prepare for interviews, questions to ask the potential employer and tips for increasing your confidence when responding to typical interview questions. This was attended by a mix of students and new graduates. Anne's wealth of experience in managing music therapy departments and interviewing RMTs gave participants a fantastic opportunity to learn some essential skills when it comes to interviewing for music therapy positions. Vic Branch plans to run a similar workshop again next year.

Vic Branch was pleased to be able to offer a conference bursary scheme for the first time this year. Two \$250 bursaries were awarded to Melbourne University Music Therapy students Michelle Fisher and Freya Dagleish to assist them to attend the national conference in Sydney this year. We hope to offer the bursary again next year, and to open this up to RMTs as well as students.

Western Australian State Report

Chair: Linda Blyth

In February 2009, AMTA-WA proudly gained the status of a State Branch of the Australian Music Therapy Association Inc. The executive comprises Linda Blyth (Convenor), Catherine Wilmot (Secretary) and Holly Bartley (Treasurer).

On 6th February we met via teleconference together with our colleague Louise Miles (President of AMTA) for our first official meeting. Our plan was to have a least one public event this year, possibly inviting an interstate colleague to be a guest speaker. As a result, we organised a workshop in early August for high school students and community members interested in learning more about Music Therapy, featuring Lucy Forrest (visiting from Victoria) and Louise Miles talking about their work in palliative care and oncology.

Twenty people attended the workshop, and many expressed interest in training options, with some already looking into the flexible delivery mode through Melbourne University.

Our mailing list is growing and in June we produced our inaugural AMTA-WA newsletter, sent out to all WA members. We continue to maintain our job register, documenting all requests for Music Therapy consultation or therapy from individuals and organisations within WA. We continue to receive enquiries however none of us have capacity to take on any more contracts or clients. Again, we encourage a pioneering-spirited RMT to come and settle in WA to take up these and many more exciting work opportunities.

South Australian State Report- read by Jeanette Milford on behalf of Caroline Hart

SA State Branch was re-instated in March, with a committee of 5 RMTs jumping to action to meet the professional needs of our 7 RMTs. The initial focus has been to build our own supports, and we have set a number of goals to guide our efforts in 2009. They are as follows:
PEER SUPERVISION/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

For RMTs

We will provide opportunities for RMTs to support each other in exploring their professional needs and goals and to develop the skills they need to reach their potential by providing a minimum of 3 CPD events per year.

For AMTA-SA Members

We will offer information and support to all members, general and professional, both informally and by scheduling at least 2 events per year.

IDENTITY

We will develop materials to present a professional image at all times.

ALLIANCES

We will promote the profession of music therapy within a variety of sectors by forming ongoing links with specific organisations. This may include formal or informal partnerships and targeted representation on committees.

VENUES

We will explore opportunities /advantages relating to a flexible centralised music therapy venue.

We began the year with a social event to meet all members, followed soon after by our first CPD event; a forum titled "Learning from our strengths". The event was a very positive experience for all, as we had the opportunity to reflect on our own achievements and get a much better understanding of each others' work.

When we can, we also respond to visits by interstate RMTs for extra CPD or social opportunities. We recently enjoyed dinner and a presentation with Kirstin Robertson-Gillam who generously shared her research on depression, spirituality and choir therapy in dementia. The SA branch is keen to hear from any other experienced RMTs that might be visiting Adelaide and be interested in offering a CPD workshop and presentation. One of our goals is to develop AMTA representation within organisations that support key client populations. With this in mind, we recently represented the association at the Disability & Ageing Expo in Adelaide. Reports from RMTs involved on the day were very positive, with much spontaneous music making, requests for information and potential new client leads to follow up. Weekend Warriors – a keen supporter of music therapy - generously donated a state branch name banner for our stall, which we now have available for any future events.

There has been some growth in music therapy in SA, with 2 new positions either planned or underway in major hospitals, and one long-vacant position in disability finally being filled. We remain constrained by our small numbers, but are buoyed by these new developments.



Carolyn Hart
Chairperson, AMTA-SA

Tasmanian State Report- Chair: Caroline Dunn

Our first meeting of the year was held on the 21st February with 8 members present. From this meeting we established several ideas that focussed around education of Music Therapy within the state.

An internal contact list with specific areas of work for all Music Therapists in Tasmania was compiled in hard copy to promote better and easier contact and knowledge of Music Therapy in the state. Our second outcome of the meeting was to create an *aged care information pack* including the new Aged Care Brochure, a brief outline of Music Therapy in Tasmania and a contact for further information. This pack has been posted to Aged Care facilities throughout the state with several inquiries growing from this initiative.

In the South there has been a growth in Music Therapy programs. Music Together, supported by The Uniting Church, are planning a second Music Therapy Program. The Allannah and Madeline Foundation are providing funding to establish a child and adolescent program, through the Women's Shelter. A Community Choir will also be established through the Community House.

In the North The Ashley Detention Centre (correctional service for minors) Music Therapy program has continued to develop. Seniors week will be celebrated through a concert featuring choirs from aged care facilities.

Sing and Grow continues to be an integral part of Tasmanian Music Therapy with a paper being presented at the recent Play Therapy Conference.

Education has been provided to PEPA (palliative care program for General Practitioners), Gearing Up (an information and options expo for adults with a disability) and Speak Out State Conference (an Advocacy group for adults with a disability).

Tasmania hopes to use the teleconferencing option in the future to enable us to meet on a more frequent basis and continue to grow Music Therapy in the state.

Northern Territory Representative Report- State representative Hailey Miller

The past year has seen Music Therapy programs across the Northern Territory expand and move in new directions.

The *ArtStories* research project has acquitted core funding and the team is preparing a book manuscript for publication with CDU Press. The *ArtStories* approach has now been embraced by the library sector. In remote community libraries and Knowledge Centres throughout the Northern Territory, Indigenous communities are developing arts-based family literacy resources in collaboration with Northern Territory Library, community musicians and linguists.

New music therapy positions have been created at a mental health drop in centre, a disability service organization and community work with mums and bubs.

Sing and Grow is now funded for one program per term across the Northern Territory and programs this year have been focused in the Darwin urban area with culturally and linguistically diverse families, young mums, and indigenous families with parents undergoing alcohol and other drug rehabilitation.

Music Therapy services continue to be provided at Carers NT, Territory Palliative Care and Hospice, and Royal Darwin Hospital's acute Mental Health ward.

Northern Territory is keen to host music therapy students. This year a student from the University of Technology Sydney was jointly supervised by Registered Music Therapists in a number of different settings.

Australian Capital Territory Representative Report- read by Ann Lehmann on behalf of Alkeiya

Our small band of music therapists continues to use music, both for our well being and the well being of others. In this big country town there is really only one degree of separation and we have a very supportive network amongst the creative arts fraternity. Our expertise is being used extensively in disability, dementia, and early intervention. We are pursuing opportunities in head injury, in palliative care, in schools and in the wider community. Our work is highly regarded and supported by other local musicians.

Our main difficulty is that it is not possible to grow the profession here without more registered therapists. We know Canberra gets bad press but in fact it is a great place to live and work (don't listen to the polliie-waffle). So if anyone is thinking of a change, we'd be happy to make you welcome.

We wish to thank all the music therapists throughout Australia in their continued efforts to create the highly regarded music therapy profession in Australia. May our profession continue to gain recognition, respect and value in the ever widening community.

Motion: *"That the State Branch and Representatives Reports be accepted."*

Proposed: L. Miles

Seconded: M. Toon

The motion was passed unanimously

Election of Office Bearers

Louise states: The following people are continuing in their terms:

Louise Miles: President

Ann Lehmann: Secretary

Cath Threlfall: General Council Member- External Events

Nyssa McPhail: General Council Member- Internal Events

Louise states: The following people have finished their terms

Rachel Nendick : Treasurer

Kate Williams: Vice President

Meagan Hunt: General Council Member- Conference Liaison

Louise states: The following nominations have been received:

Rowena Harris: General Council Member- minutes secretary

Rachel Nendick : Treasurer

Kate Williams: Vice President

As there are fewer nominations than the positions No election is required.

The following positions remain vacant:

2 General Council Members

Other Business

The foreshadowed motion regarding students attending the PDS was discussed.

It was noted that only financial RMTs members may vote. Financial RMTs may carry up to three proxy votes signed by a financial member of the AMTA. Voting cards were allocated to enable voting to be counted.

"That final year students be permitted to attend the annual PDS"

Proposed: J. McIntyre

Seconded: D. Newland

The majority voted against this motion

Foreshadowed motions for the 2009 AMTA AGM relating to the Constitution regarding State financial reporting,

a) The constitution will need to be changed to reflect current practice in relation to state financial reporting. The Treasurer would like to propose that point 6 under Section H in the

constitution be deleted. This reads "The Treasurer of regional or State groups will maintain proper books of account and provide a copy of the annual financial report to the National Treasurer within 30 days after the end of the financial year and provide financial reports as requested by the Nat. Treasurer". This detail is no longer relevant as the administrator maintains the books of account for all State Branches and Territory Representatives.

b) The Treasurer would also like to recommend that point 8 in the same section (which currently reads "All financial assets of regional or State groups are included in the consolidated accounts of the Association") be changed to read, "The financial assets of Regional and State Groups are included in the consolidated accounts of the Association and are available to State Treasurers, Representatives and office bearers as required."

This change to the constitution is being foreshadowed at the 2009 AGM and will then need to be voted on by the membership at the 2010 AGM.

Two foreshadowed Motions were proposed by **Rachel Nendick, AMTA Treasurer.**

Foreshadowed motions:

1. "It is proposed that point 6 under Section H in the AMTA constitution be deleted."
2. "It is proposed that point 8 under Section H in the AMTA constitution be changed to read 'The financial assets of Regional and State Groups are included in the consolidated accounts of the Association and are available to State Treasurers, Representatives and office bearers as required'."

L. Miles declared that the 35th Conference closed at 3.10pm

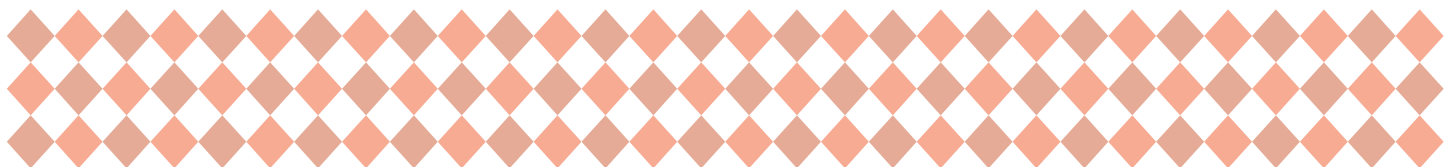


Author's Deadline

The deadline for the December edition of **Pulse** has passed.

Items for the following edition of **Pulse** (April) should be emailed to

anne@evolutionmarketing.com.au
by 28 February 2008.



Pulse is published by the Australian Music Therapy Association Inc.

Editor: Anne Flood

Production Editor: Monica Zidar;

Committee Members: Lorna Sherwin (Chair), Linda Blyth & Alana Falk

Opinions expressed are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of the Australian Music Therapy Association Inc. or the editor.

All correspondence should be sent to

'The Publications Committee'

c/o Administrative Office of AMTA Inc or e-mail to anne@evolutionmarketing.com.au

AUSTRALIAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
A.B.N. 11 881 946 262

FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 JUNE 2009

AUSTRALIAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

A.B.N. 11 881 946 262

COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Your committee members submit the financial report of the Australian Music Therapy Association Incorporated for the financial year ended 30 June 2009.

National Executive Members

The names of committee members at the date of this report are:

Louise Miles	-	President
Kate Williams	-	Vice President
Ann Lehmann	-	Secretary
Rachel Nendick	-	Treasurer

National Council Members

Catherine Threlfall	Nyssa McPhail
Meagan Hunt	Rowena Harris

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year was that of a registration body to provide professional development, communication and furthering the course of music therapy practice.

Significant Changes

There were no significant changes during the year.


Operating Result

The profit from ordinary activities amounted to \$31,462.83 (2008 - \$39,032.40)

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee.



.....
LOUISE MILES



.....
RACHEL NENDICK

Dated this 19th day of Sept 2009

AUSTRALIAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
A.B.N. 11 881 946 262

INCOME STATEMENT – CONSOLIDATED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
INCOME		
Membership subscriptions	99,065.33	87,430.68
AMTA conference	73,016.39	26,838.16
Advertising	1,125.39	955.00
Copyright income	3,503.50	3,440.79
Interest received	13,704.82	11,026.89
Sundry income	14,869.23	20,527.98
	<u>205,284.66</u>	<u>150,219.50</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Accountancy fees	4,932.00	5,395.00
Administration costs	27,700.25	27,551.51
Bad debts written off	1,242.73	3,466.32
Bank charges	1,610.96	1,274.79
Capitation fees	4,994.50	4,213.00
Committee expenses	8,717.12	3,660.91
Conferences	81,132.35	23,975.83
Copyright Licences	3,503.50	3,403.40
Depreciation	-	-
General expenses	1,420.39	6,638.23
Insurance	2,855.55	3,113.80
Interest paid	-	2,946.24
Legal costs	-	1,903.70
Loss on conference	6,148.84	
Meeting expenses	187.27	250.37
Printing, postage & stationery	6,990.17	7,189.58
Publications	8,173.69	5,949.19
Staff training & seminars	6,069.69	3,588.92
Storage fees	545.45	525.00
Subscriptions & membership	1,070.94	2,113.23
Telephone & facsimile	2,250.07	3,213.53
Travelling expenses	276.36	794.55
Website expenses	4,000.00	-
	<u>173,821.83</u>	<u>111,187.10</u>
Profit before income tax	<u>31,462.83</u>	<u>39,032.40</u>
Profit for the year	<u>31,462.83</u>	<u>39,032.40</u>
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	<u>305,234.59</u>	<u>266,202.19</u>
Retained earnings at the end of the financial year	<u>336,697.42</u>	<u>305,234.59</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

AUSTRALIAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
A.B.N. 11 881 946 262

INCOME STATEMENT - NATIONAL
AS AT 30 JUNE 2009

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
INCOME		
Membership subscriptions	99,065.33	87,430.68
AMTA conference	73,016.39	26,838.16
Advertising	1,125.39	4,395.79
Interest received	13,704.82	11,026.89
Copyright income	3,503.50	955.00
Sundry income	4,628.51	6,233.87
	<u>195,043.94</u>	<u>135,925.39</u>
EXPENSES		
Accountancy fees	4,932.00	5,395.00
Administration costs	27,700.25	27,551.51
Bad debts written off	1,242.73	3,466.32
Bank charges	1,610.96	1,274.79
Capitation fees	4,994.50	4,213.00
Committees	-	-
Conferences	58,430.03	16,975.83
Copyright Licences	3,503.50	3,403.40
Depreciation	-	-
General expenses	660.85	3,039.72
Insurance	2,855.55	3,113.80
Printing, postage & stationery	6,990.17	7,032.89
Publications	8,173.69	5,949.19
Staff training & seminars	-	436.56
Storage fees	545.45	525.00
Subscriptions & membership	1,070.94	2,133.23
Telephone & facsimile	2,098.64	3,109.98
Travelling expenses	276.36	794.55
	<u>125,085.62</u>	<u>88,414.77</u>
NET PROFIT	<u>69,958.32</u>	<u>47,510.62</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

AUSTRALIAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
A.B.N. 11 881 946 262

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 JUNE 2009

		2009	2008
		\$	\$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents		344,390.83	315,804.59
Trade and other receivables	3	83,609.66	70,820.57
Prepayments - conference		<u>10,916.26</u>	<u>13,416.26</u>
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>438,916.75</u>	<u>400,041.42</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>438,916.75</u>	<u>400,041.42</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
GST Payable		1,489.45	-
Income in Advance		<u>100,729.88</u>	<u>94,806.83</u>
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>102,219.33</u>	<u>94,806.83</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>102,219.33</u>	<u>94,806.83</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>336,697.42</u>	<u>305,234.59</u>
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
Retained earnings	4	<u>336,697.42</u>	<u>305,234.59</u>
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS		<u>336,697.42</u>	<u>305,234.59</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

AUSTRALIAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
A.B.N. 11 881 946 262

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

1 Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act and the following Australian Accounting Standards:

AASB 110: Events after the Balance Sheet Date
AASB 1031: Materiality

No other applicable Accounting Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following material accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report:

2 Income Tax

No provision for income tax has been made as the association is exempt from tax under Division 50-45 of the Income Tax Act 1997.

3 Trade and Other Receivables

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
Current		
Trade debtors	<u>83,609.66</u>	<u>70,820.57</u>

4 Retained Earnings

Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	305,234.59	266,202.19
Net profit attributable to the association	<u>31,462.83</u>	<u>39,032.40</u>
Retained earnings at the end of the financial year	336,697.42	305,234.59

5 Reconciliation of Retained Earnings (including State Branches)

New South Wales	7,956.11	13,401.97
Victoria	12,762.47	12,549.19
Queensland	10,612.55	7,850.42
West Australia	1,326.61	1,222.12
NT	160.50	-
South Australia	2,357.34	2,442.29
TAS	208.90	-
ACT	172.60	-
National	<u>301,140.34</u>	<u>267,768.60</u>
Retained earnings at the end of the financial year	<u>336,697.42</u>	<u>305,234.59</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

AUSTRALIAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
A.B.N. 11 881 946 262

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial report as set out on pages 1 to 6:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Australian Music Therapy Association Incorporated as at 30 June 2009 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Australian Music Therapy Association Incorporated will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

President: 

Louise Miles

Treasurer: 

Rachel Nendick

Dated this 19th day of Sept 2009

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF AUSTRALIAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION
INCORPORATED
A.B.N. 11 881 946 262**

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Australian Music Therapy Association Incorporated (the association) which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2009, profit and loss statement, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes and the statement by members of the committee.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act 1991 and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee's responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditors consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the committee's financial reporting under the Associations Incorporation Act. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF AUSTRALIAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION
INCORPORATED
A.B.N. 11 881 946 262**

Auditors' Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of Australian Music Therapy Association Incorporated presents fairly, in all material respects the financial position of Australian Music Therapy Association Incorporated as of 30 June 2009 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

Name of Firm: Page Harrison & Co
Chartered Accountants

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jason Rochaik', is written over a horizontal line.

Name of Partner: _____
Jason Rochaik

Address: 15 Northcliff Street, Milsons Point NSW 2061

Dated this 19th **day of** Sept **2009**

**AUSTRALIAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
A.B.N. 11 881 946 262**

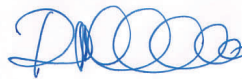
CERTIFICATE BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

I, Louise Miles of 6 Netherby Road, Duncraig, WA 6023 and I, Rachel Nendick of 29 Warwick Farm Road, Olinda, VIC 3788 certify that:

- (a) We are members of the committee of Australian Music Therapy Association Incorporated.
- (b) We attended the annual general meeting of the association held on 2009
- (c) We are authorised by the attached resolution of the committee to sign this certificate.
- (d) This annual statement was submitted to the members of the association at its annual general meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louise Miles", written over a horizontal line.

Committee Member: _____
Louise Miles

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rachel Nendick", written over a horizontal line.

Committee Member: _____
Rachel Nendick

Dated this 19th day of Sept 2009