



# ANNUAL REPORT 2018

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# Chairperson's Report

By Julie Judd



I am pleased and proud to be able to provide you with the Chairperson's report for the 2017/18 membership year. It has been extremely busy at both the state and national level with many of you contributing your time and energy to what is an ever-changing landscape!

The ASLIA board has been meeting every 4 – 8

weeks over the last twelve months to ensure the work of ASLIA is conducted in an efficient and productive manner. I wish to sincerely thank our board members for making the time in their busy schedules to serve members.

Members who have served on the Board of ASLIA over the past twelve months:

## Executive Committee

- Julie Judd – Chairperson (Vic)
- David McQuiggin – Vice Chairperson (NSW)
- Kylie Scott – Secretary (current) (NSW)
- Eliza Allen – Secretary (TAS)

## Board Members

- Michelle Ashley (Vic)
- Bernadette Chapman (QLD)
- Sheree Murray (ACT)
- Suzie Scott (WA)
- Karen Boocock (WA)
- Julie Tait (QLD)
- De Brown (SA)
- Liz Temple (NT)
- Katie Hinton (NSW)

## Vacancies

- TAS – 1 rep
- NT – 1 rep

I wish to thank Liz Temple and Katie Hinton who both ceased their board positions during the last 12 months, for their valued contribution to the association.

The following activities have taken place over the past 12 months:

- Regular meetings with AUSIT and NAATI
- Contributions to the Hearing Health agenda run by Deafness Forum

- Liaison with Deaf Australia
- Establishment of Media sponsorship package with organisations employing interpreters
- Attempts to engage with the NDIS
- Launch of the new ASLIA website
- Formulation and progress of the ANC18 Organising committee
- Monthly E updates distributed to members
- Nationally coordinated PD program including Live streamed events
- Change to the membership fees to ensure ASLIA is financially viable into the future
- Surveys sent to members on several topics including Strategic planning, Insurance, Educational Interpreting and Professional development
- Annual General Meeting held in Sydney in 2018

I would like to thank Peter Davies ASLIA's Manager who has been tireless in his role. The continuation of the manager role was possible as state associations kindly contributed financially to support this position until June 30th 2018. Due to the financial position of ASLIA and projected expenses needed to run ASLIA in the years to come, the board proposed a rise in the membership fees for the 2018/19 financial year. Members at the Special General Meeting held in June 2018 endorsed this increase.

The ASLIA Board conducted a strategic planning day in November 2018 with the expert assistance of Len Bytheway who guided us towards the development of the new strategic plan.

The Policy and Procedure Sub-committee too have been hard at work finalizing a number of documents and streamlining templates. Bernie Chapman is heading this committee and contributing significantly on behalf of members. I also wish to thank Danielle Ferndale who has been working hard behind the scenes to support Bernie.

The Educational Interpreting Sub Committee led by Kerrie Christy have been working hard on a new survey that will hopes to gather important information that we can utilize to support

interpreters working in educational settings. Thanks to Christy and the sub committee members for your input and energy.

ASLIA are extremely grateful to Auslan Alliance, Auslan Connections, Auslan Services, Deaf Can Do, NABS, The Deaf Society and West Australian Deaf Society for their support as Media sponsors over the past 12 months, we look forward to continuing this relationship in 2018/19.

ASLIA's e-Update Editor, Paul Heuston, and layout/design extraordinaire Christa Jonathan dedicate many hours voluntarily to ensure members receive regular interesting articles and news updates. I thank both Paul and Christa for their contribution.

I extend gratitude to the ANC Organising Committee led by Meredith Bartlett and Megan Bytheway, who have been extremely busy doing an extraordinary amount of work behind the scenes to bring you what promises to be a fabulous conference in Brisbane.

I am pleased to report that for the 2017/18 financial year, the membership comprised of

- XXX Associate members
- XXX Ordinary members
- XX Corporate members
- XX Honorary members

ASLIA State associations continue to provide valuable PD opportunities and there has been an increase in the number of online PD opportunities available to members over the past year. Thank you to the hard working state members who make events a reality.

The recent logo for ASLIA Live events has been launched and I thank Michelle Ashley and Christa Jonathan for their work bringing this to fruition. Look out for the logo that will be used for online events arranged or endorsed by ASLIA and ASLIA state associations.

I also wish to thank ASLIA members who have directly engaged with the board. Your ideas and interest is valued and appreciated.

All the changes facing our industry with the rollout of the NDIS, ASLIA predicts that the next 12 months will see the supply issue as a challenge for interpreting practitioners, deaf participants and agencies. With direct employment now becoming more common with the introduction of the NDIS, ASLIA with the help of Kerrie-Ann Viitalla (Victorian member) has negotiated a group policy offering for Professional Indemnity and Professional Liability insurance. We hope to be able to support members in this area by alleviating the cost and ensuring you are covered.

Please continue to communicate with ASLIA on issues that you believe ASLIA need to address. I look forward to another productive year ahead as we embark on another year serving members.

In conclusion, I wish to thank all ASLIA members for the support provided to ASLIA and to me personally in my role as Chairperson.

*"There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work and learning from failure"*  
Colin Powell

## Board Directors for 2017-2018

On behalf of the membership, ASLIA gratefully acknowledges the contributions of the people that have served on the Board in the last financial year.



Chairperson  
Julie Judd (Vic)



Vice-Chairperson  
David McQuiggin  
(NSW)



Secretary  
Kylie Scott (NSW)  
Sep 2017 - present



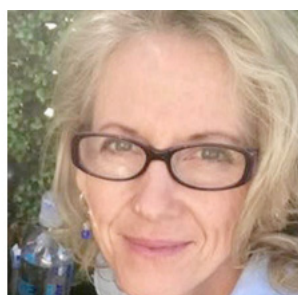
Treasurer  
Amy Blaylock (SA)



Director  
Michelle Ashley  
(Vic)



Director  
Sheree Murray  
(ACT)



Director  
Bernie Chapman  
(Qld)



Director  
Julie Tait  
(Qld)



Director  
Suzie Scott  
(WA)



Director  
Karen Boocock (WA)  
Nov 2017 - present



Director  
De Brown (SA)  
Mar 2018 - present

### Resigned Directors

Liz Temple (July 2017-March 2018)

Katie Hinton (July 2017-September 2017)

Adrienne White (October 2017-January 2018)

Eliza Allan (July 2017-August 2017)



# Strategic Plan 2018 – 2021

## Vision

To lead and promote sign language interpreting across Australia

## Mission

ASLIA is the peak body representing Auslan/English & Deaf interpreters through:

- Partnerships and engagement with ASLIA state associations, member practitioners and stakeholders.
- Promoting and providing on-going professional development and best practice in Auslan/English & Deaf interpreting.
- Providing a professional framework, including a Code of Ethics, policies and guidelines.

# Strategic Objectives

<b>Excellence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognised for professionalism, innovation and best practice</li> <li>• Accessible quality training and professional development</li> <li>• Maintenance of standards through guidelines, policies and procedures</li> <li>• Effective communication using appropriate technologies</li> <li>• Maintaining a reputation for leadership, quality and integrity</li> </ul>
<b>Presence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respected and valued by members and Interpreters reflected in strong membership</li> <li>• High public visibility of ASLIA with a strong brand recognition and increased membership base</li> <li>• Comprehensive industry support, providing guidelines, policies and procedures</li> <li>• Inclusive practices within the membership and the community</li> </ul>
<b>Collaborative</b>	<p>Partnerships and relationships with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deaf community</li> <li>• Professional bodies relevant to ASLIA</li> <li>• Service providers and agencies</li> <li>• Governments</li> <li>• Other funders and sponsors</li> </ul>
<b>Sustainable</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good governance</li> <li>• Excellent management</li> <li>• Strong, well-resourced representative Board</li> <li>• Financially strong, well-managed and viable with a reliable income stream</li> <li>• Responsive to members</li> </ul>



## Queensland Report

Our 2017 AGM was enriched by a presentation from Peter Bonser on the Development of Professional Ethics. Peter took us all on his journey to the ethical standards we all work by today. My, how the field of interpreting has changed! In November, the committee met to plan out PD offerings for 2018 at a beautiful café on Moreton Bay with one member zooming in from Vietnam. The wonders of technology. We finished the year with our End of Year Party at South Bank and we then started 2018 as always, with the annual Wine & Sign Night. Guest speakers, Mark Cave and Gavin Rose-Mundy shared their experiences of interpreting televised emergency situations. Our very own 'Sign Guy' talked about the 'Positives and Pitfalls of Emergency Interpreting', whilst Gavin spoke about the national course he and others attended in Melbourne to develop skills for television interpreting.

In April, Julie Lyons led an entertaining Visual Vernacular workshop with participants travelling far and wide to attend. In May ASLIAQ was pleased to donate \$500 towards the travel and accommodation costs of Patricia Reynolds from Cairns to present at the first Auslan X in Brisbane. PD in May continued with an intriguing presentation with 'What's New in Deaf Studies' by the acclaimed Dr. Breda Carty. Topics including the use of d/Deaf and notions of perspective. The first, in the 'Cradle to Grave' series by Green Door Auslan was also live streamed in May. The panel took the participants from pregnancy though to the end of school. The next in the series will cover adult working years and all that entails. In July, in time for NAIDOC Week, we had an interactive workshop considering the important factors when working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples including acknowledging traditional owners, hidden histories, protocols and generational trauma. Presenters were in Brisbane and Cairns with participants from all over Queensland. ASLIAQ is anticipating our next PD during Mental Health Week and will target Credentialed Provisional Interpreters in preparing to work in Mental Health settings.

In 2018 ASLIAQ also began promoting Book Clubs which have been held at local libraries around Brisbane with ever increasing attendance. Book Clubs have looked at varied readings from Street Leverage and discussion has been both thought-provoking and robust. Our next Book Club will be held concurrently on the Gold Coast as well as in Brisbane.

Brisbane will be hosting the upcoming Street Leverage and ASLIA National Conference in September. Street Leverage – Live Australia will be facilitated by Brent Phillips and endeavours to spotlight interpreters and industry stakeholders who courageously share their ideas and perceptions in an effort to rethink the way we understand, practice and tell the story of the sign language interpreter. This will be an Auslan only event and is a session NOT to be missed.

The ANC Gala Dinner will take place in the gorgeous, heritage listed Brisbane City Hall. The theme of the evening will be 'Partners in Crime'. This theme can be taken to mean partners in solving, or in committing, crime....let your creative juices flow and dress to the nines! ASLIAQ look forward to seeing you here in sunny Brisbane!



## New South Wales & ACT

By Sheree Murray

2017 – 2018 ASLIA New South Wales has continued to work in collaboration with partners to provide valuable professional development for our members.

We partnered with Auslan Stage Left to hold a Children's Theatre workshop in July which was well attended and had rave reviews.

In September, in cooperation with The Deaf Society, we hosted Feedback is Not a Dirty Word workshop facilitated by Chevvy Sweeney. It was an invaluable opportunity to learn how to receive feedback as well as how we can give it, and raised awareness that as interpreters we need to cultivate feedback as an chance to learn and grow, not a negative experience.

At the end of September, we held our AGM and welcomed a new committee with several fresh faces and used the night to raise a glass to Kathy Wright and thank her for her amazing 20-year contribution to ASLIA New South Wales.

October brought with it the Deaf Festival 2017, where several state members volunteered their time as interpreters as well as manning the ASLIA stall.



Social Media was the focus for November, “#terplife and online ethics” was held in collaboration with the Deaf Society. An interactive conversation was held about the use of social media and the ethical issues facing our profession and the community. A panel session brought different perspectives from deaf, hearing, customer and interpreter sides and feedback was given to take back for ASLIA National in reviewing the Social Media Policy.

We rounded the calendar year off with an amazing shared end of year party with Sweeney Interpreting, Auslan Services and the Deaf Society.

With the new year, we looked as to how we could work with ASLIA National to increase presence and provide support to our state members as a whole including how we could better support our regional members too. Policies and procedures started going under review and being streamlined.

In April, we held our Whine and Wine night in Sydney, Canberra, Central Coast and Newcastle on the same night at the same time. It was a great opportunity for members to come together, network and feedback to ASLIA New South Wales what we can do for them. The discussions were valuable and all were in agreement that these should happen again. Sadly, also in April we had to farewell our E-Secretary Linda Finucane who stepped down after 7 years of awesome service and a revamped Fab Five newsletter.

Finishing the financial year off, we held our annual Tax Tips workshop with Carnegie Financial Services followed by networking opportunity with a Wine and Whine session. The Q&A session and information provided was a great assistance to our members in getting ready for tax time.

Thanks to the Deaf Society, Auslan Services, Sweeney Interpreting and Auslan Stage Left for your partnerships in providing events for our membership.

Many thanks to the committee for their hard work in providing valuable professional development, information sharing and networking opportunities for our members. Lastly, and most importantly, thank you to our membership who have supported our work this year. We look forward to continuing to provide and improve access to professional development and networking events to you all in the year ahead.



# Victoria & Tasmania Report

By Michelle Ashley

In the first half of the 2017-18 year, ASLIA Victoria was welcoming a brand-new committee and was hard at work behind the scenes in contributing to the development of member benefits, responding to industry issues of concern raised by members, and planning for a slate of important projects. To date, these have included:

- consultation with Professionals Australia ahead of the Victorian Language Services Procurement Implementation;
- collaboration with Monash University and Deaf Victoria to establish a mental health interpreting short course;
- dialogue with multiple signed and spoken language interpreting agencies and departments regarding employment issues, such as the appropriate allocation of work, emergency contact policies and changes to working conditions;
- contribution to the Victorian Language Services Workforce Development Framework;
- representation on the Victorian Mental Health Tribunal;
- dialogue with various stakeholders concerning a wide range of issues including NAATI Certification, the NDIS, representation of interpreters in the media, the appropriate recruitment and application of pro bono interpreters, and a proposal to ASLIA and Deaf Sports Australia for revising the recruitment and allocation processes of volunteer and team interpreters;
- contribution to the Vicdeaf/DHHS analysis into the Auslan interpreting supply and demand issue;
- engagement with Professionals Australia and Translators and Interpreters Australia regarding the Andrews Labor Government announcement concerning the funding boost for interpreting and translating services in Victoria;
- contributing to the development of the new ASLIA website.

ASLIA Victoria feels it is important to offer transparency in our activities, decisions and position with members, as well as add value where we can. The monthly Out and About e-newsletter includes our committee meeting minutes and financial reports, member generated content and links to relevant literature that can be used for NAATI Recertification points. Further member benefits ASLIA Victoria has initiated includes a free webinar for all renewing and new financial members, free quarterly social and networking events (to come in 2018), free use of the ASLIA Victoria library, members only access to the mentoring program and ASLIA Victoria produced webinars both hosted on the ASLIA website. Our social media presence is strategic and interactive, with all platform's statistics monitored to inform future campaigns.

Also important to ASLIA Victoria is ongoing engagement and sharing with the deaf community with which we work. Where appropriate we have invited members of the deaf community to attend our events free of charge, to encourage more collaboration and sharing of perspectives. This is strengthened by our close working relationship with Deaf Victoria with whom we have collaborated on a few projects with this year.

A main focus of our energy has been on the broad issue of supply and demand, and the quality standards of interpreter provision. In looking at how to address this issue, ASLIA Victoria has taken on a number of initiatives, including:

- early collaboration with Vicdeaf about a native signer interpreting pathway (thanks to Susan Emerson, Julie Judd and Stephanie Linder for bringing the idea to the forefront);
- a quarterly Roundtable to discuss industry concerns, the first being specifically around the issue of supply and demand and the second regarding interpreter education and training;
- revamp of the ASLIA Victoria mentoring program and streamlining its process.

ASLIA Victoria has delivered a healthy amount of professional development in 2018, every event carefully planned in accordance the wants and needs of our members. We are grateful to our partners for their generous sponsorship and support of our PD calendar, specifically: Auslan Connections, Auslan Services, Echo Interpreting, Auslan Stage Left, DeafconnectEd, VDEI, Tasdeaf and Deaf Victoria.

Julie Judd and I were delighted to travel to Hobart to deliver the 'Tasmania Roadshow' in June 2018. Thank you to the 10 Tasmanians who travelled from all over the isle to be with us, and for sharing valuable feedback as to how ASLIA Victoria can further engage with them. Moving forward, Teale Nicholls will take on the lead role in supporting networking and PD opportunities for our Tasmanian members, starting with quarterly online "hangouts".

As we move into a new financial year we will see a change in the committee. Kerrie Ann Viitala, Julie Judd, Monique Stern and Kate Gordon will not be continuing with us, and I thank them all for their contributions over the last year. I would also like to thank all who have served not only on the committee, but on various sub-committees, projects, on the Roundtable and as volunteers at our various events. Thank you to those who have shared ideas and feedback with ASLIA Victoria, as it is this what drives our activity.



## South Australia Report

ASLIA SA has been active over the last year with our highest membership to date, 32 local members including ordinary, associate, life and a Corporate membership.

The beginning of the year was spent focusing on updating our constitution, bringing it in line with the newly adopted ASLIA constitution and South Australian regulations. Other changes were made to make ASLIA SA more sustainable for our smaller membership numbers. On the 10th February we held a Special General Meeting and Annual General Meeting to adopt the revised constitution. A relaxing afternoon was then spent doing a therapy ball workshop under the guidance of Deane Kong from Flex Yoga, followed by Chocolate and Chia afternoon tea.

March 15th was our first live-streamed Professional Development event as part of the national calendar. "Medical concepts in Auslan" which was run in partnership with Deaf Can Do saw an amazing number of ASLIA members attend online. The event involved a panel of Deaf professionals unpacking frequently used medical terminology, and was highly relevant to many working within the community. Being our first livestreamed event there were some technical issues, but as a state we were very happy with this PD opportunity and grateful to Caroline, Brenton and Cheryl for teaching us, and Deaf Can Do hosting of the event.

Our second online event was hosted on the 11th of July. We were very proud to present Professor Jemina Napier giving a lecture on "Omission production in tertiary lectures – An update". We had 12 participants onsite and an equal number online. Again there were technical issues and the patience of our online members was appreciated. We have learnt from these experiences and will continue to improve our processes in order to provide high quality PD that is accessible for all members locally and across Australia.

ASLIA SA has also hosted two Street Leverage Book Club events. These were opportunities to discuss, in Auslan, an article relevant to the industry, and to socialise with our peers in a relaxed setting. Attendance was varied and over the coming year we are investigating changing venues so more members can attend. ASLIA SA wants to welcome new interpreters to the industry, so a celebration is being planned for students completing the Diploma of Languages course. We look forward to working with these new colleagues.

We would like to acknowledge our state members Carolyn Buhren, Claire Morrison, Sarah Lewis, Pip Cody, Chelsea Turner and Tanya Chaplin for their contributions to the E-update over the last 12 months. We also value the contributions of the outgoing committee members of Sarah Bird, Sarah Dempsey, Gerry Shearim and Adrienne White to the state committee.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Amy Blaylock, our current president, for her ongoing extraordinary commitment and contribution to our small state community. Without her ASLIA SA would not be in existence let alone functioning as well as it is. Gratitude and thanks also goes to Chelsea Turner (Treasurer), Claire Morrison and De Brown (Secretary) for their ongoing service on the committee.



# Western Australia Report

By Suzie Scott

Reflecting on the past year, the ASLIA (WA) has remained fairly stable throughout. We have held a number of PD's with local and interstate presenters. We've held social community events. We've presented to students at North Metropolitan TAFE. We've attended numerous external committee meetings and information sessions. But most importantly, we have listened to our members and had their concerns at the forefront of everything we do.

## Summary of Events

A snapshot of our PD's:

- ASLIA (WA) AGM and Quiz Night – We raised \$1250 for the Sea Star Signers with this fun community event.
- Transition to Certification Information Session – NAATI's changes will have a profound impact on our industry and this session ensured members understood the changes and were ready for the new system
- Xmas social and Extraordinary General Meeting – Due to changes to the Associations Law, this EGM was required to ensure our Constitution was compliant with the Act. Thanks to everyone for their votes.
- Signoke – This event was tremendous fun, we had a great turnout from the Deaf Community and a great night was had by all! This event, was part of our dedicated fundraising efforts for the Creating Opportunity Fund.
- Deafblind Interpreting Perspectives – Allyship was on display in this PD with WA Young Person of the Year Vanessa Vljakovic and experienced Deafblind Interpreter Suzie Scott presenting together.
- Kirri Dangerfield on Team Interpreting – We were delighted to host Kirri in WA to discuss her research and share experiences and strategies in team interpreting.
- Scavenger Hunt – Our Scavenger Hunt was another event dedicated to fundraising for the Creating Opportunity Fund. We had 6 teams in their best Detective outfits vying for the prize and combined with our Signoke raised \$2000 for CoF
- Family and Domestic Violence – An important issue, this PD also had a number of spoken language interpreters join us to learn more about FDV from Lifeline. Followed up with a short session on self-care by ASLIA (WA) member Bonnie Bellenzier, to ensure all participants were supported.
- Julie Judd on Demand Control Schema – We were honoured to have ASLIA Chair Julie Judd in WA and presenting to a packed room of interpreters on Demand Control Schema.
- Quarterly Street Leverage Book Clubs – And of course, our quarterly Street Leverage Book Clubs, held around the metropolitan area allowing members to read and discuss a variety of articles related to professional practice, often as a springboard to discuss burning issues within the interpreting community.

## Summary of Fundraising

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all our members for their contributions. We have supported our community both locally and internationally with \$3250 raised and contributed to the local Sea Star Signers for their trip to England, and the Creating Opportunity Fund for participants to attend the WASLI Oceania Conference. For a small organisation of around 50 members, that is a considerable amount raised from specific events, and from our traditional raffles.

## Summary of meetings attended by committee

We have attended monthly meetings here in our state, but each committee member has additional duties from time to time. From representation on the ASLIA National Board and sub-committees, the Deaf Community Centre Committee, NAATI's Regional Advisory Committee, WADS's Centenary Celebration committee, to attendance at information sessions pertinent to the Deaf Community, such as the future of the WA Deaf Society, and the NDIS.

We are grateful to all committee members we have on board, as we all have busy lives but still manage to ensure ASLIA (WA) is well represented with all stakeholders.

## Acknowledgements

A huge thanks to our dedicated committee members, looking back we have achieved a great deal. We are always ensuring we are well represented within our community, contributing to the important discussions that impact interpreting and our allies and above all taking the amazing feedback from our members and turning it into strategies, of how we can best accommodate and engage you, our members.

It's taken all our perspectives and hard work to achieve everything we have this past year, and I look forward to the strength that ASLIA (WA) continues to represent in the years to come.

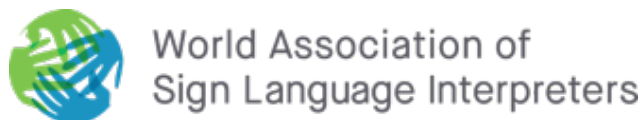
Many thanks,

Suzie Scott  
President  
ASLIA (WA)



# WASLI Worldwide Report

By Debra Russell



Dear ASLIA Members,

Our WASLI Board of Directors would like to congratulate you on another successful year of outstanding achievements. It is clear that there are many activities that have kept your association busy over the past year as you advocate for standards and work on the larger issues affecting interpreters and Deaf people in your country. Allow me to comment on just a few of your many successes this year, beginning with your ASLIA Newsletter, which is an excellent model for so many countries to learn from. I appreciate the range of content, from board updates, to ethical decision-making discussions, and reviews of the workshops and conferences hosted. It is not a small undertaking to produce such a quality product and I commend the committee members that produce it. As well, I continue to be impressed with the range of professional development available to your members and the ways in which your members can access the training, be it remotely or in person. The topics and updates in your ASLIA Newsletter demonstrate how actively engaged your committees and members are in creating and participating in meaningful opportunities for continuous learning. I had the pleasure of presenting a workshop to several ASLIA members during the post-FIT workshop hosted at Brisbane last August 2017, and I so enjoyed the opportunity to meet you and learn from your perspectives and experiences. And, thank you to ASLIA for your role in supporting the FIT congress planning committee and the provision of such high-quality conference interpretation in Auslan. It was a joy to watch and listen to their work! As always, I thank ASLIA for their warm hospitality each time I am fortunate enough to visit Australia.

I also want to sincerely thank your members for their generous support of the upcoming and first WASLI Oceania Regional Conference that will soon take place in Fiji. The outstanding financial support you have offered to ensure interpreters and Deaf participants from the Solomon Islands can attend is amazing! I am also aware that many of your members have supported registrations for delegates and played key roles in working with our Fijian hosts to ensure the conference is a huge success.

WASLI is very proud to have ASLIA as a national member. Your region is key to WASLI's success in advancing interpreting. Thank you for your leadership and generosity in sharing your knowledge and experience with other associations and interpreters around the globe. Enjoy your annual general meeting and national conference and celebrate the amazing people, who have done amazing things with, and because of, ASLIA. Congratulations and well done, ASLIA!

With my warmest regards

Debra Russell, WASLI President, on behalf of the WASLI Board of Directors

# WASLI Oceania Report

By Angela Murray

## Summary of activities over the past year:

Represented WASLI at the conferences below:

### XXI FIT Congress 3-5 August, Brisbane, Australia

The congress drew a large number of sign language and spoken language interpreters and translators from all over the globe. One of the keynote addresses was in Auslan by Jemina Napier, a first for a FIT Congress. This was a great networking and PR opportunity for WASLI and the sign language interpreting profession. At this congress I was also able to meet with WFD president Colin Allen regarding WASLI and WFD Oceania.

### ASLIA post FIT workshop 6 August, Brisbane, Australia

This was a one-day workshop on Police interpreting (Jemina Napier) and Collaboration and Communication (Debra Russell). I was able to meet with ASLIA president Julie Judd and discuss WASLI Oceania matters and the regional conference. I also met face to face with the regional conference planning team which was a golden opportunity since we all live in different countries. I was given an opportunity to speak to all the participants about WASLI and the regional conference in Fiji.

### Signs of Professionalism Conference, 24-26 November, Auckland NZ

The scope of the Signs of Professionalism Conference drew a number of delegates from around New Zealand and the Pacific. At the conclusion of the conference a meeting was held with Deaf and hearing people from Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Fiji, New Zealanders who had worked or volunteered in the Pacific and other interested parties. In the meeting we discussed initiatives, areas of progress and the need for development in Oceania. Deaf Aotearoa and Fiji spoke on behalf of WFD Oceania and I spoke from a WASLI perspective. Volunteers and those from the islands were able to give us their insights into lives of Deaf people in Oceania.

## Preparation for the WASLI Oceania Conference in Fiji.

The preparation for the inaugural WASLI Oceania Conference has been the focus of my year. The conference theme is 'No interpreter is an Island'. Often in this field interpreters feel like they work in isolation or without support and this can be particularly true for interpreters in the Pacific Islands. This conference will address the need for collaboration and connection. There will be opportunities to share and learn from one another and come together as a community of interpreters in this corner of the world.

The conference will be held at the Tanoa International Hotel in Nadi, Fiji from the 17th-19th August 2018. A workshop for just the emerging Pacific Island interpreters will be held on the 20th and 21st August 2018. We are having our annual WASLI board face to face meeting prior to the conference in Nadi on the 15th and 16th August. We are thrilled to have Debra Russell and Nigel Howard as keynotes and a wonderful line-up of presenters- a large number being from New Zealand.

At the moment we are looking at around 130+ participants which is wonderful and more than we anticipated. Registrations closed on the 31st July. More information can be found on our website: [www.2018oceaniaconference.com](http://www.2018oceaniaconference.com)

We have been fortunate to obtain a funding grant for some Pacific Island interpreters and a Deaf leader to attend the conference. ASLIA has been outstanding and donated a considerable amount to sponsor Pacific Island delegates from Samoa, PNG, Kiribati and Solomon Is to attend the conference. Grateful thanks to all our sponsors and those who have donated, especially to ASLIA for being a major sponsor of the conference.

In order to make this conference a success a collaboration model is essential. Fiji Association of the Deaf, WFD Oceania, Sign Language Interpreters Association Fiji, ASLIA, SLIANZ and the Pacific Disability Forum have all been influential and provided input and support into making this a true Oceania conference.

While there are challenges working in a project team across a number of countries, I strongly believe it will be an enriching and unifying time for interpreters in our region.

### **WASLI Conference 2019**

The WASLI 2019 Conference will be held in Paris from the 15-19 July 2019. The conference theme is "Honouring the Past, Treasuring the Present and Shaping the Future". At this conference we will celebrate collaboration amongst interpreters and Deaf communities around the world. The WASLI Board has carefully considered the keynotes to reflect the theme of the conference, with each keynote being a Deaf-hearing team in Liisa Kaupinnen and Raili Ojala-Signell (Finland); Selman Hoti & Enver Kurtalani (Kosovo); and Marianne Rossi Stumpf and Ronice Müller de Quadros (Brazil).

The call for papers was recently opened which you can find on the conference website:

<https://wasliparis2019.wordpress.com/>

Registrations will open in late August for early bird pricing.

### **Sign Language Interpreters Association Fiji**

The association are still in the process of being official registered body. Over the past year Fijian interpreters have had training on educational interpreting (a three month course) organised by the Fiji Ministry of Education. An Deaf volunteer from England spent some time in Fiji sharing his knowledge and expertise with the Fijian Association of the Deaf and the Sign Language Interpreters Association. The volunteer was able to help the associations with structure, strategic planning and the creation of a manual for sign language teaching.

A Fijian Deaf and hearing team delivered sign language and leadership training in PNG and interpreter Gael Seru (Fijian interpreter) met with a number of sign language interpreters.

### **Training in Papua New Guinea**

Zane Hema led a second phase of sign language interpreter training took place in Port Moresby 10-15 June 2018, following on from the 2017 training. The course brought in sign language interpreters/teachers of the Deaf and Deaf leaders from all over the country to undergo a further week of training. Sign language interpreting as a profession is very new and in its early stages of development. The role of interpreting is provided in the main by Teachers of the Deaf so the focus was about not only making a distinction between the two, but also addressing some of the challenges they face and providing the knowledge to enable them to be more effective as sign language interpreters.

### **Change of name**

The name of our region with WASLI has changed from Australasia Oceania to Oceania. This is because the WFD name for this region is Oceania and it is good to be in line with them, Australasia Oceania is a mouthful and Oceania appropriately reflects who we are. My email address remains austoceania.wasli@gmail.com as it was easier to keep this until the end of my term.

### **Future developments happening in the region**

There is work being done around a situational analysis to understand the perspectives and experiences of Deaf people in the Pacific. There are a number of stakeholder contributing to this work and WASLI is one. Primary funding for the design phase of this project has been provided by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

I'm looking forward to my final year as your regional representative.

Thank you,  
Angela Murray

## Creating Opportunities Fund Sub-committee

In October 2017, each state generously agreed to fundraise and contribute \$2000 to COF, to support delegates from the Oceania region attend the WASLI Oceania Conference in August 2018. ASLIA Victoria exceeded their fundraising target by almost \$1000 with their extremely successful Trivia Night in April. We are very pleased to be supporting six delegates from Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Samoa and Kiribati.

Rose Launch	PNG
Belinda Hansel	Samoa
Hilda Tuaru	PNG
Tuane Neemia	Kiribati
Rowena Faaiuas	Samoa
Nester Piko	Solomon Island

The funds are covering their registration, accommodation (some are for 6 nights due to flight availability), post-conference two-day workshop (presenters are Deb Russell, Della Goswell from Australia, Rachel McKee from New Zealand, Deb Russell and Nigel Howard from Canada), flights and transfers. ASLIA's funds will also support 3-4 interpreters from the islands with registration and accommodation.

In April 2018, the ASLIA Board agreed to donating \$3680 previously raised by the membership to support the running of the WASLI Oceania Conference – as Conference co-partner, as well as sponsoring access, and two sessions featuring ASLIA members Della Goswell and Zane Hema.

For transparency, ASLIA opened a separate bank account to hold the COF funds earlier this year, which at the end of June 2018 total \$13,790.66. The COF sub-committee has been in recession, with the ASLIA Board agreeing to review the COF policy and the COF sub-committee, after the WASLI Oceania Conference. With this review, we look forward to exploring new opportunities to support our interpreting colleagues in nearby nations.

# Financial Report for the Year Ended 30 June 2018

AUSTRALIAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS' ASSOCIATION INC.

ABN: 90 014 641 341

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## COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Your committee members submit the financial report of the Australian Sign Language Interpreters' Association Inc for the financial year ended 30 June 2018.

### Committee Members

Julie Judd  
Kylie Scott (September 2017- present)  
David McQuiggin  
Amy Blaylock  
Sheree Murray  
Liz Temple (July 2017-March 2018)  
Katie Hinton (July 2017 - September 2017)  
Julie Tait  
Bernadette Chapman  
Adrienne White (October 2017 - January 2018)  
De Brown (March 2018 - present)  
Eliza Allan (July 2017 - August 2017)  
Michelle Ashley  
Suzie Scott  
Karen Boocock (November 2017 - present)

## Principal Activities

There was no significant change in the nature of the activities of the association which are:

- To promote recognition of the professional status of interpreters.
- To promote, foster and improve the skill and professionalism of Auslan (Australian Sign Language Interpreters.)
- To assist in the upgrading of interpreting skills and the development of fluency in Auslan for current students, up and coming interpreters and practicing interpreters.
- To maintain communication with interpreting service stakeholders, including consumers and those who engage interpreting services.
- To support, advocate and protect the rights of interpreters in areas of health, personal safety and working conditions.
- To actively engage with relevant government or other organisations, agency, group or individual to pursue objectives of the interpreting industry objectives led by members and the profession as a whole.
- To promote a collaborative and effective relationship between the deafness sector and interpreting services industry through consultation and sharing of ideas with Deaf community organisations and entities and organisations with an interest in the sector.
- To collate, disseminate and provide relevant information to ASLIA members.

The surplus (deficit) of the association amounted to (\$35,032)

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

**Committee Member:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Julie Judd

**Committee Member:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Amy Blaylock

**Dated:**

AUSTRALIAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS' ASSOCIATION INC.

ABN: 90 014 641 341

## STATEMENT OF POSITION

For the year ended 30 June 2018

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	<b>1</b>	72,478	93,131
Trade and other receivables	<b>2</b>	1,383	1,383
Inventories	<b>3</b>	0	881
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>79,230</u>	<u>95,395</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>79,230</u>	<u>95,395</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and Other Payables	<b>4</b>	40,059	1,358
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>40,059</u>	<u>1,358</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>39,171</u>	<u>94,037</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained earnings	<b>5</b>	39,171	94,037



## AUSTRALIAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS' ASSOCIATION INC

A.B.N. 90 014 641 341

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

For the year ended 30 June 2018

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>Income</b>	<b>6</b>		
Gross Profit from Trading			160
ANC		19,933	0
Grants		10,000	0
Members Fees		47,010	37,400
Other Income		1,123	4,131
Professional Development		5,884	
Sponsorships		15,700	2,100
State Contributions		21,987	2,973
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>121,636</b>	<b>46,764</b>
<b>Direct Expenditure</b>	<b>7</b>		
Conference Catering & Event Hire		22,334	950
Event Expenses		1,702	404
Insurance		4,458	4,904
Interpreters		11,725	920
Membership Fund Transfer		54,097	28,433
Wages & salaries		22,418	11,384
Website Development, Hosting & IT Costs		21,204	2,524
Other		18,730	15,416
<b>Total Direct Expenditure</b>		<b>156,668</b>	<b>64,935</b>
<b>Net Surplus/Deficit</b>		<b>-35,032</b>	<b>-18,171</b>

AUSTRALIAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS' ASSOCIATION INC.

ABN: 90 014 641 341

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

Note	2018	2017
	\$	\$
<b>1 Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		
Bank - Everyday Account	33,188	12,631
Bank - ASLIA Tas	2,988	
Bank - COF	28,181	
Bank - Savings Account	8,121	80,500
	<u>72,478</u>	<u>93,131</u>
The Bank – COF account includes \$9,291 in direct deposits in addition to \$18,890 in internal transfers		
<b>2 Trade and Other Receivables</b>		
Trade Debtors comprising	5,902	1,383
Ordinary Memberships	90	
Corporate memberships	600	
ANC Gala Dinner	2,500	
ANC Sponsorship	1,000	
State Contributions to web site	1,212	
ANC Kathy Walsh Memorial Sponsorship	500	
Superannuation	98	
BAS	752	
	<u>6752</u>	<u>1,383</u>
<b>3 Inventories</b>		
Stock on Hand		881
<b>4 Current Liabilities</b>		
Trade Creditors comprising	896	945
Membership Funds Transfer	896	
Other Creditors		413
TAS Funds	2,988	
COF Funds	28,181	
PAYG	2,994	
Loan Payable	5,000	
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>40,059</u>	<u>1,358</u>

AUSTRALIAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS' ASSOCIATION INC.

ABN: 90 014 641 341

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>5 Retained Earnings</b>		
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	94,037	112,208
(Net Deficit) Net Surplus	-35,032	-18,171
Prior year adjustment	-19,834	
Retained Earnings at the end of the financial year	39,171	94,037
<b>6 INCOME</b>		
Cup sales		529
Less Cost of Goods Sold		
Purchases		1,250
Closing Stock		-881
		369
<b>GROSS PROFIT FROM TRADING</b>		160
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
ANC	19,933	
ASLIA TAS Funds		2,988
COF - Donations		100
Interest Received	227	653
Interpret - Ed	395	138
Interpreter Grant	10,000	
Members Fees	47,010	37,400
Other Revenue	501	252
Professional development	5,884	
Sponsorship	15,700	2,100
State contribution to ASLIA Manager	12,142	
State contribution to Insurance Premiums	3,327	2,973
State contribution to TAS Roadshow	80	
State contribution to Web Site	6,438	
	121,636	46,604
	121,636	46,764

AUSTRALIAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS' ASSOCIATION INC.

ABN: 90 014 641 341

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

Note	2018	2017
	\$	\$
<b>7 EXPENSES</b>		
Accountancy & Audit Fees	1,195	2,975
Bank Charges	257	200
Conference Catering & Event Hire	22,334	950
Event Expenses - State Profit Distribution	1,702	404
Film & Production Costs		150
Flights & Travel Expenses	8,259	3,102
Graphic Design	728	750
Insurance	4,458	4,904
Interpreters	11,725	920
Meals & Accommodation	623	1,841
Membership Fund Transfer	54,097	28,433
Printing Postage & Stationary	363	3,216
Professional Fees	727	
Refunds	1,435	
Replacement Equipment		68
Sponsorship	688	560
Stock Writeoff	703	
Stripe fees	1,206	695
Office and General Administrative Expenses	2,375	707
Superannuation Contributions	1,779	1,081
Trophies & Certificates		71
Wages & salaries	20,640	11,384
WASLI	171	
Website Development, Hosting & IT Cost	21,204	2,524
	<hr/> 156,668	<hr/> 64,935
(Loss) Profit before Income tax	<hr/> <b>-35,032</b>	<hr/> <b>-18,171</b>

AUSTRALIAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS' ASSOCIATION INC.

ABN: 90 014 641 341

## STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

In the opinion of the committee the financial report as set out on pages 1 to 9:

Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Australian Sign Language Interpreters Association Inc as at 30 June 2018 and its performance for the year ended on that date

At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Australian Sign Language Interpreters Association Inc will be able to pay its debts as 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:

**Chairperson:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Julie Judd

**Treasurer:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Amy Blaylock

**Dated:**

AUSTRALIAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS' ASSOCIATION INC.

ABN: 90 014 641 341

## **COMPILATION REPORT**

On the basis of the financial reports and Quickbooks file supplied by Australian Sign Language Interpreters' Association Inc I have compiled the accompanying special purposes financial statements of Australian Sign Language Interpreters' Association Inc which comprise the statement of financial position and statement of financial performance for the year ended 30 June 2018.

### **Chairperson Responsibility**

These special purpose financial statements were compiled exclusively for the benefit of the chairperson of Australian Sign Language Interpreters' Association Inc who is solely responsible for the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information provided and for the determination that the basis of the accounting used is appropriate to meet their needs and for the purpose that the financial statements were prepared.

### **Audit Comment**

Based on the information provided I am satisfied that the Quickbooks file has been maintained in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and that the financial reports fairly present the financial position of Australian Sign Language Interpreters' Association Inc as at 30 June 2018

Robert Bartlett

CPA

