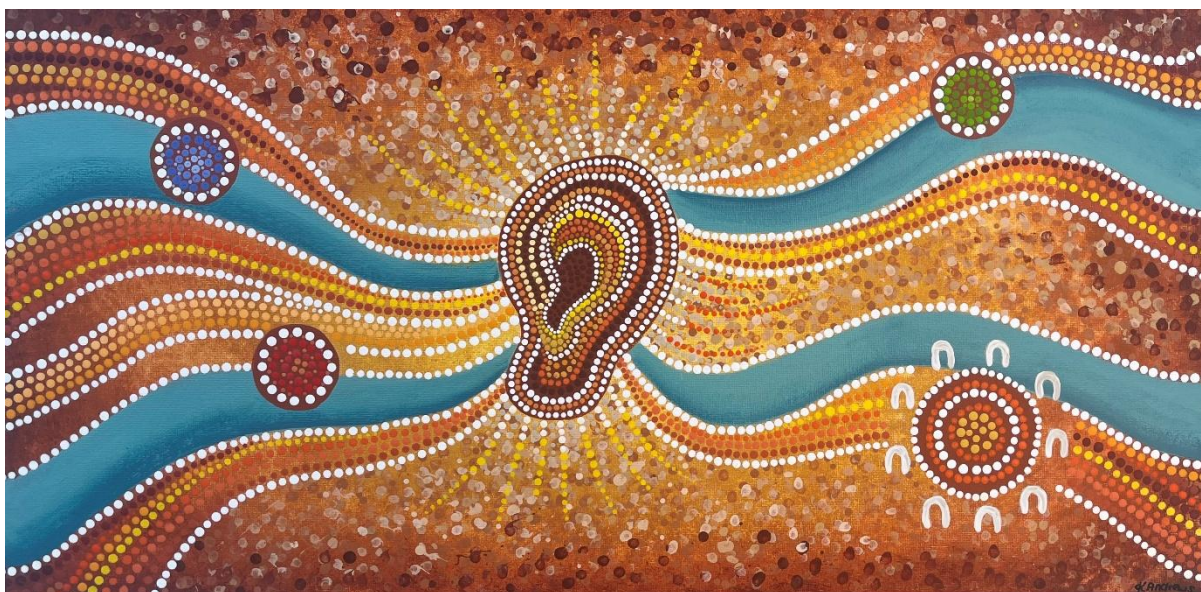




'Ear 'Tis

2026 Volume 38 Edition 2

Newsletter for Audiometry Nurses

www.anaa.asn.au

Audiometry Nurses Association of Australia Inc.

'The professional association for Audiometry Nurses'

Welcome to this issue of the ANAA Inc newsletter

Presidents Report 2026

Dear Members,

Thank you to everyone who has jumped on board advocating for Audiometry Nursing in the new and upcoming Single Digit Patient Record rollout in NSW. Those of you in certain areas will have found out that Audiometry Nursing was not included in this record, only Audiology. We are hoping with the many meetings occurring and your input, the transition to this new record keeping system will eventually be more relevant to us as well as easier for others to transition.

Remember our online Education Day on 22nd September. We are currently sourcing potential presenters. We plan to include case studies and discussion session. A draft program is not available yet, but please save the date. Remember to think about 2027 – would you like to host our conference?

We will hold the AGM online on the 20th October 1-2.30pm. Some current committee members are not going to stand again this year, particularly editor & treasurer. So please consider nominating this year. Forms will be sent out later.

I have also followed up with the Ministry of Health regarding the progress of our updated report and history forms. The forms are finalised but will not be printed until current stocks are used in Finsbury Green.

We are pleased to announce we have allocated one scholarship for the upcoming ACN Audiometry course commencing in July. This is to Megan Donovan from Newcastle. Congratulations.

The OMOZ 2026 Conference—a national event held every two years—will take place from 4–7 August at the Brisbane Convention Centre. This conference provides an important forum for researchers, clinicians, and health professionals involved in the investigation and management of chronic ear disease in Australia. Registrations are now open. Cost is \$700 ex GST.

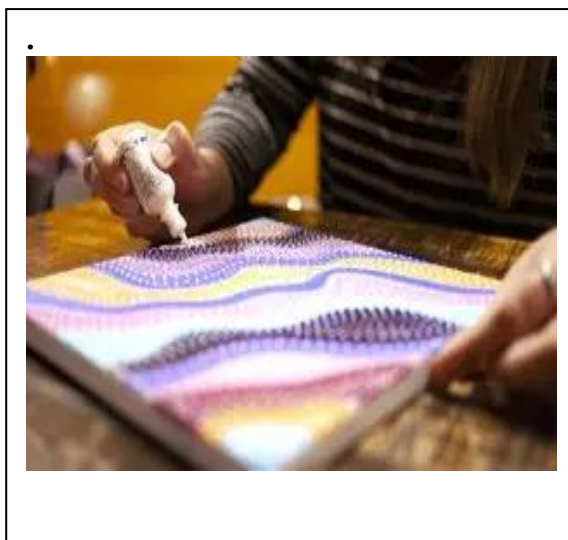
Lee Lewis and Belinda Wilson are busy updating the 2021 Clinical Practice Standards. If there is anything you feel needs amending, please let Lee Lewis or any of the committee know.

Remember if you know someone who is retiring, or you are doing something interesting in your workplace regarding Hearing Health, please send the editor in a little spiel along with some photos. We all love reading these in our newsletter.

Kind regards,

Kate

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Our stunning new original artwork.

I hope you are all admiring the stunning original new artwork at the start of this newsletter created for our association by the talented Koreen Andrews. We commissioned this piece for use by the association and it is copyrighted for association use.

Hearing Pathways

By Aboriginal Artist Koreen Andrews

My painting tells a story about our hearing journey. The ear in the centre represents respect, patience and understanding and reminds us that hearing is more than just sound and we listen deeply to each other, we help keep our culture and communities strong. The circles along the pathways represent community gathering places Each circle holds voices, stories, laughter and wisdom. The flowing blue pathways are the rivers of sound and knowledge representing the services that reach out and embrace our people and communities with support, care and hearing health. The warm earth colours remind us that Country is always listening too. The land hears our footsteps, our songs and our stories. When we listen to each other and to Country, we remain connected.

Koreen has told us a little of her story below.

My Story By Aboriginal Artist - Koreen Andrews I am a proud Kamilaroi woman born and raised in the small rural community of Tingha. Growing up in this community surrounded by my culture and my family empowered me to explore my artistic talents that would keep me connected to my culture. Aboriginal art has always inspired me and its ability to tell our stories through our art. I started to study Aboriginal art in depth and received my first opportunity at the age of 9 to demonstrate my artistic ability by painting a didgeridoo and donating it to become part of the grand opening of the Tingha Multipurpose Centre (MPS) and to symbolise our people's connection to this Health facility. This didgeridoo still sits pride and place in the entrance to the MPS today. When the opportunity arose again to become involved in a community project to design and paint Aboriginal artworks on the concrete wall at the Tingha Park, I jumped at the chance and I proudly received the job of creating the design for the interior wall of this art work. I came up with a design that reflected our community, the land, the waters that flow alongside the park and more importantly the meeting places these parks were used for by our people and the entire community. My most recent artworks are proudly displayed at Armajun Aboriginal Health, Sydney University and Inverell Community Health. The artwork I designed and painted for Armajun Aboriginal Health and Sydney University was to encourage our people to make better choices when it

comes to Lung Health in our communities and demonstrate how we can come together and support our mobs to make positive health choices for now and our future generations, so our culture remains strong. My artwork for Community Health was designed and painted to focus on the healing journey of Child and Family mental health and how the connection to totems, culture and community can make this journey positive and enhance this experience for our people. I have always designed my artwork with passion and pride for our culture, and every piece is done to tell a story of inspiration and encouragement. My latest artwork was for John Hunter Hospital in Newcastle where I worked with a National Design Agency to develop a design that they wanted to use in a Reflection Garden to bring culture and healing to this space within the hospital grounds. I have also just held an Exhibition of my artworks at the Armidale Culture Centre Art Gallery

Letters to the Editor

This column provides a forum for discussion and an exchange of ideas. The letters page gives members the opportunity to comment on newspaper and journal articles. You are invited to submit clinical case studies, questions or queries for discussion. Send any comments or concerns that you would like to go to the committee to this column. Photos of events that our audiometry nurses attended also welcome.— Lee

New Invoices for Membership

Dear Members,

We would like to advise that ANAA is implementing Xero as our new accounting and invoicing system.

As part of this transition, invoices and receipts issued by ANAA will have a new format from now on. Please do not be concerned if they look different to previous correspondence — this is part of our updated system implementation.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the new invoice or receipt format, please contact Sarah, Treasurer, sarah.kemp1@health.nsw.gov.au or 0431534337 who will be happy to assist you.

Thank you for your understanding and support during this transition.

Kind regards,
ANAA

Scholarships for Audiometry course.

We had some very worthy applicants for the audiometry course scholarship once again.

Thank you to those applying. It was a very hard choice to make. Please remember there are other scholarships to apply for if ANAA is unable to help you at this time.

[Edith Cavell Trust Scholarship NSWNMA - The New South Wales Nurses and Midwives' Association](#)

[NSW Health Postgraduate nursing and midwifery scholarships](#)

[Lions Welcome to the NSF - Lions Nurses Scholarships](#)

Education Fund

A reminder that the ANAA has an education fund to assist with costs of education to our members. We have also provided scholarships for the audiometry nursing course. The application is available on the ANAA website.



Don't forget to check out our wonderful Facebook site . There will be more conference photos there. Gisella is doing great work on that site so remember to :



Like it!

IMPORTANT DATES:

ANAA Education day online- September 22nd 2026.

Program will be sent out when finalised.

If you have a case study that you would like to present then please let Kate Norton know.

CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE:

ANAA Annual General Meeting Online.

October 20th 1-2.30pm.

Please attend to support your association and fellow colleagues. All committee positions will be declared vacant.

Sarah, our wonderful Treasurer and myself as Committee member / Editor will not be standing for committee again.

Please think about nominating for one of these positions. Sarah and I are happy to assist the new people if they need help. Sarah has streamlined the treasurer's job to make it a lot

Report forms.

The new Audiometry History and Report forms are finally complete after a lot of hard work from Kate our President. They will be available to order soon after our stockpile of the old forms has been used up. So if you're photocopying, just order the current ones to use them up please.



Research.

A brief search of latest literature on hearing loss showed the following articles which may be of interest to you.:

[An Audiologist's Guide to the Best Hearing Aids of 2026](#)

[Prevalence of hearing loss and tinnitus among school-age children: a cross-sectional analysis of the PICTURE cohort study - OvidDS](#)

[Optimisation of visual reinforcement audiometry: a scoping review. - OvidDS](#)

CONMO Report

The recent CONMO meeting highlighted opportunities to strengthen collaboration across organisations, with a focus on partnering with audiometry services and other related groups. This includes exploring a more coordinated approach to engagement, such as extending invitations to shared conferences and networking opportunities, including ANZSOM, to broaden interprofessional connections and knowledge exchange. Updates were also provided on collaborative conference planning through APNA, with a focus on developing combined opportunities that maximise attendance and shared learning. In addition, the ACN Leadership Series was discussed, continuing to promote leadership as a professional pathway and supporting ongoing workforce development. If you are interested in any of these initiatives or have any comments, please reach out to the committee.
(Sarah Austin represented ANAA.)



Education Opportunity in Sydney



Audiometry Education Day

Enhancing Knowledge in Audiometry, hearing assessment and screening

Date: 22/6/2026

Time: 0830-1500 PM

Location: Narellan Community Health Centre, Group room D 28

Target Audience: Audiometry Nurses,

Program

0830-0900 am - Registration and informal networking

0900-0925am - Tinnitus Presentation - Audiometry Nurse Dawn Pottier

0930-1000am – Dizzy kids Service Provision ,Referral pathway and treatment - Jordan Loveridge -MS Teams presentation

1000-1045 am - Referral pathways Hearing Australia -Sasja Penman



1045-1100am –

1100-12midday -Latest update on Otitis Media with Effusion -Dr Rithvik Reddy -ENT Surgeon

1200-1230 - Next Sense -Rebecca -MS Teams presentation

1230-1300 - Aussie Deaf Kids -Jayne Colys -MS Teams presentation

1300-1400 pm -



1400-1430pm -
can attend!

Speech Therapist - Mai-Linh and/or Amara

1430-1530- Audiometry -Practicals -Masking and Equipment

Contact Vanessa Smith at [Vanessa.Smith4 @health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Vanessa.Smith4@health.nsw.gov.au)

Vale: Judy Thorne

(Contributed by Kathy Challinor.)

On a sad note Judy Thorne who was originally from Manilla, 30 minutes north of Tamworth, did her Audiometry course a long time ago then took on the CNC position in Lismore until her retirement and Jan Wright (retired) took over. Sadly, Judy was very recently diagnosed with a blood cancer which settled in her brain and despite some initial radiation therapy she did not survive and she died on 21st February. Many of the older Ns Auds will remember her for her slow talk and her fall back on saying “For God’s Sake”. Rest easy Judy



Correspondence and Lovely News

Gisella received this Email from the lovely Faye Yarroll who some of you met at last year's conference with her Hearing Assistance dog Sydney.,

Gisella,

I would like to introduce you and your members to our latest Lions Assistance Dogs Puppy Sponsorship. She is a beautiful 8-week-old Border Terrier.

I mentioned to you at the Conference last year that if I got another sponsorship that I would try and get the name ANA so that I can name the dog after your association.

Well, introducing you to little "ANA" who has been named in appreciation of the "Audiometry Nurses Association".

Ana is a lovely little border terrier who has kept the breeding team on their toes since being born on 19th February. She is one of four puppies born to mum Aria at the Training Centre.

Ana has just been given to her new volunteer home (Forster Carers) on Friday 17/4/26 to start her puppy program journey. She will spend the next 10-12 months just being a puppy and learning basic obedience and manners whilst getting lots of pats and cuddles.

When I receive the monthly Pup Update starting probably in May, I will send it to you to share with your members.

See Birth Certificate attached and some photos of the mother with her puppies. I'm not sure which pup is Ana yet, but will find out soon. Enjoy.



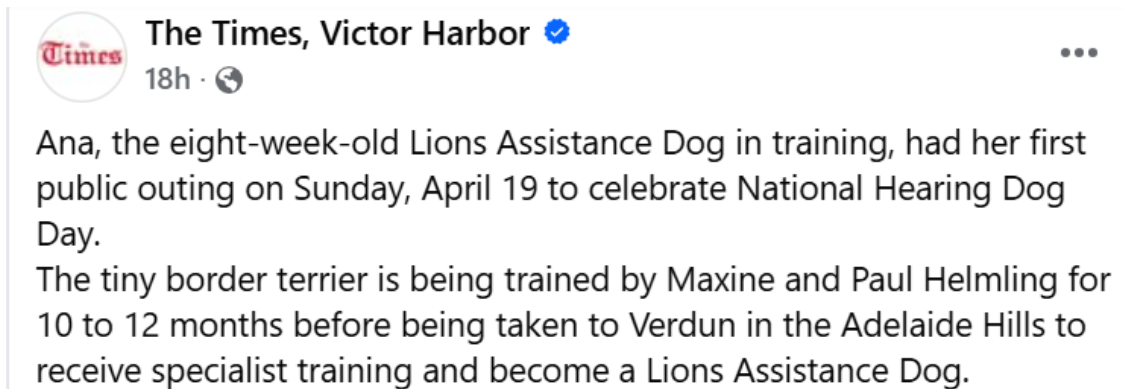


Update from Faye Yarroll:

This is little Ana one of our Puppy Sponsorships. She will be cared for somewhere in the Victor Harbour South Australia area by the looks of it. Beautiful spot and wonderful puppy raisers.

It looks like the Puppy raisers are members of the Lions Club in Victor Harbor.

Found this on Facebook from The Times Newspaper, Victor Harbor



Regards, Faye Yarroll

Bilateral Cochlear Implant Recipient, Advocate Cochlear Volunteer Network, Advocate Lions Assistance Dogs

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