

ASSOCIATIONS

ASSOCIATIONS ADVANCE THE WORLD



Boating Industry Association: navigating member needs

President Andrew Fielding on water safety, advocacy and hosting Sydney International Boat Show



- ◆ Institute of Public Accountants is Association of the Year™ 2023
- ◆ Change Management Institute is Small Association of the Year™ 2023
- ◆ Forestry Australia awarded Association Turnaround of the Year™ 2023
- ◆ AMA awarded Association External Campaign of the Year™ 2023





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President, Boating Industry Association Ltd

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Since 2004, Associations Forum has:
Presented 5,385 hours to 35,755 delegates
Provided 863 associations training presentations

The Value of Constitutions for Associations and Nations



The Australian government conducted a national referendum in October 2023. Whilst most Australians are unlikely to have read their national constitution, the team at Associations Forum have had the pleasure of reading many hundreds - and perhaps 1,000 - association constitutions.


The Australian referendum was a reminder of the stability of constitutions. There are certain rules for an entity that are worth preserving in a special document, which requires a special majority to change. In Australia's case, it is a double majority – more than half the voting population and more than half the states. For non-Australian readers, the result was that the referendum failed as 39% of the overall voting population and none of the six states supported the proposed change.

The Australian constitution sets out how Australia is governed. There are eight chapters of the Australian constitution covering the Governor-General, Parliament, Executive Government, Judiciary, Finance and Trade, and the States. For associations, constitutions describe the similarly dry topics of Objects, Voting Members, General Meetings, Boards of Directors plus the mechanics and processes of governing the association.

The super majority required to change the constitution of an Australian association is 75% of the votes cast by members who vote in person or by proxy once quorum is reached. Voting in an Australian election or referendum is compulsory, whereas voting is optional for members of an association.

Importantly, the Australian constitution does not address policy and political matters which are left to Parliament to decide – and electors can democratically change the Government. Similarly, association constitutions do not proscribe what a Board of Directors can do. Governments and Boards can decide according to their opinions at the time as long as they do not breach the fundamental rules set out in the constitution.

Good constitutions mean the system of government or governance works well. Should a government or association disobey constitutional rules, courts and the law may intervene and overturn unfair decisions. To state again, constitutions should be about process, not policy. Association constitutions should not include transient matters such as subscription fees and member services. As well, they should be clearly written to follow relevant legislation.

If your association needs constitutional change, talk to Associations Forum or our colleagues at our connected law firm, Governology. The methodology to successfully change a constitution is advantaged by the experience of Governology, who sometimes achieve an impressive 100% vote in favour of members. 



John Peacock AM
Chief Executive Officer, Associations Forum
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ABEA unifies business event associations


In the biggest shake-up of the business events association landscape in over a decade,

the Association of Australian Convention Bureaux (AACB), the Australian Convention Centres Group (ACCG), and the Exhibition & Events Association of Australasia (EEAA) have combined to become the Australian Business Events Association (ABEA). For many years, the industry has made calls to unify the sector, with 84% of research respondents wanting stronger representation to the government and the broader business community. New Chair Peter King stated that “A consolidated and united association can commission much-needed research, create policy, train its people, tackle sustainability, and powerfully advocate to government.” ABEA has launched a 90-Day Plan detailing a short-term roadmap to quickly bring to life its five core pillars of industry development, community, research, professional development, and advocacy. 



AFTA becomes ATIA in major industry rebrand

Australia's travel sector has seen its biggest reform ever with the launch of the Australian Travel Industry Association (ATIA). Founded in

1957, the Australian Federation of Travel Agents (AFTA) has rebranded to accurately reflect the existing membership of travel agents, corporate agents, tour operators, wholesalers and ITOs. ATIA has been developed after two years of extensive review of AFTA members and a significant review and public consultation of the peak body's Constitution and operations. Reforms announced so far include a fairer, more balanced voting structure and new objectives for the Association which reaffirm commitment to the Australian Travel Accreditation Scheme (ATAS). ATIA Chair Tom Manwaring said, “the world of travel has transformed since AFTA was created in 1957 and to better reflect who we are and what we do, we have created ATIA. One voice, one future.” 



Governology

Whatever your association or charity's cause, Governology can assist with your governance, constitutional and Board matters.

Contact Kathy Nguyen kathy@governology.com.au for Australia where we are a law firm.


Contact Tom Cadman tom@governology.co.uk for the UK and the European Union.

Super Members Council of Australia formed

The Australian Institute of Superannuation Trustees (AIST) and Industry Super Australia (ISA) have merged to become the Super Members Council of Australia. The new body combines the two industry bodies, establishing a new “big eight” group of funds that will dominate the \$3.5 trillion system. These funds are Australian Retirement Trust, AustralianSuper, Aware Super, Cbus Super, HESTA, Hostplus, Rest Super and UniSuper. Representing over 10 million Australians, the foundation funds have each nominated a director to the governing board and will add three further directors chosen by the small-to-medium sized profit-to-member funds. An employee and employer representative will each join as non-voting directors. The merged body seeks to “protect and advance the interests of members throughout their lives” to ensure they receive all retirement benefits and entitlements. 

ACXPA to improve customer service


Executives from big Australian brands have joined forces to back the Australian Customer Experience Professionals Association (ACXPA), including SEEK,

Red Energy and Yarra Valley Water. The new industry association has launched to reverse Australia's poor customer service standards and ensure customer experience (CX) is recognised by the C-suite for its profit-making potential. 26 industry leaders have joined to provide a space for 1.4 million Australians working in the sector to connect, form ideas and improve the industry, which is in freefall. 



APPEA now Australian Energy Producers

Previously known as the Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association (APPEA),

the peak body has unveiled its new name as Australian Energy Producers. The rebrand reflects the evolution of Australia's oil and gas industry and its important, long-term role in the transformation of the nation's energy system. Chief Executive Samantha McCulloch said: “The world is changing; the energy system is changing, and our industry has already expanded its focus beyond oil and gas to also cover low-carbon fuels and net zero technologies.” 



Association Rebrands



130 years of AusIMM

Founded in 1893, the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy



(AusIMM) has advanced professional practice in the resources industry for the benefit of the community. People are at the centre of AusIMM, working across geoscience, metallurgy, engineering, environmental management and community engagement. There are few comparable organisations in Australasia and a proud celebration of 130 years reaffirms the commitment of AusIMM to deliver world-class professional development for members and resources professionals globally.

Marking 50 NSLA years

The National and State Libraries Australasia (NSLA) celebrates in 50th anniversary in 2023, marking



five decades of continuous service to the library sector in Australasia. Library services in Australia and New Zealand were revolutionised by this long-running partnership, particularly through its 'big bang' program in the early 2000s and numerous professional networks and sector partnerships. Members have collaborated to deliver policies, guidelines, resources, and major projects including the Culturally Safe Libraries Program and National edeposit service (NED).

ARA hits 120 years

Australia's oldest, largest and most diverse national retail body, the



Australian Retailers Association (ARA) is proudly celebrating its 120-year anniversary. Today, ARA represents retailers large and small from food to fashion, hairdressing to hardware, and serves as a \$400 billion sector employing 1.4 million Australians. CEO Paul Zahra says "This anniversary is a significant milestone. The pandemic tested our resilience as a sector and our members have come out stronger than ever, ready for another decade of challenge and opportunity."

ADA NSW turns 95

The Australian Dental Association New South Wales (ADA NSW) celebrates its



95th anniversary by honouring its highly valued members and highlighting the crucial role dentistry plays. ADA NSW launched in 1928 with 70 members and now has about 5,250 members across NSW and the ACT, including 70% of registered dentists. In its 95 years, ADA NSW has made a significant impact in the progression of oral health in Australia.

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Has your association outgrown the state Associations Incorporation Acts?

By Kathy Nguyen, Senior Lawyer, Governology

Associations in Australia are commonly incorporated either as an incorporated association under the various state and territory Associations Incorporation Acts or as a public company limited by guarantee (CLG) under the Commonwealth Corporations Act 2001. When associations are established, the initial volunteers may simply choose a legal structure based on the location of a key volunteer. As associations expand their activities, membership, and resources, they may come to 'outgrow' the state or territory Associations Incorporation Act and consider converting to become a CLG. CLGs are generally the appropriate legal structure for national associations or those that are charities. Recently, we have assisted the following associations convert to become a CLG.

Hypertension Australia

The Board of Hypertension Australia embarked on a growth strategy in 2021. As part of that strategy, a review and update of the organisation's governance structure was required, as well as a rebrand. "Becoming a CLG elevates our status and supports our expansion plans. As a charity, it also means that we now report only to the ACNC."

Australian Chicken Meat Federation

ACMF undertook a major restructure involving the amalgamation of the various state Chicken Meat Councils into ACMF, a new constitution and the transfer of ACMF's incorporation under NSW legislation to become a CLG. "The restructure and transfer of incorporation is a significant milestone for ACMF. Under the new improved structure, we look forward to focusing on pursuing our vision of a prosperous, sustainable and innovative industry."

Defence Teaming Centre

The South Australian Associations Incorporation Act is designed to regulate small scale not-for-profit organisations. This contrasts with DTC's growing commercial and industrial significance and geographic scope. Hence, the Board considered that being a CLG under the Corporations Act was the more appropriate legal structure. "The new governance and legal structure not only strengthens our commitment to our mission of scaling Australia's defence industry sector but also provides a robust foundation for future growth and enhanced governance."

For more information, contact kathy@governology.com.au

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Association Events Survey returns post-COVID

Associations Forum analyses the results of the 2023 Association Events Survey in which 183 organisations participated.

The Association Events Survey examines event types, attendance, factors influencing decision-making processes and event locations. This edition is particularly important as Associations work to reintroduce events, post Covid. As a major provider of practical association events training and advice, Associations Forum makes the following observations:

- ♦ 50% of respondents report a return to pre-Covid levels in event attendance, however, the significant event growth in 2019 has eased
- ♦ Covid has created a change in attendee patterns with many delegates booking much later for events than they did pre-Covid
- ♦ Conference organisers are also booking venues much later than previously with the majority now only looking one to two years ahead
- ♦ Cost and financial support have become key drivers in venue selection with delegate focused amenities taking a back seat in 2023
- ♦ 59% of respondents are unaware of the services provided by Convention Bureaux, but those who are aware use multiple services.

To obtain the full report or to find out how Associations Forum can assist your association with events, please contact info@associations.net.au 



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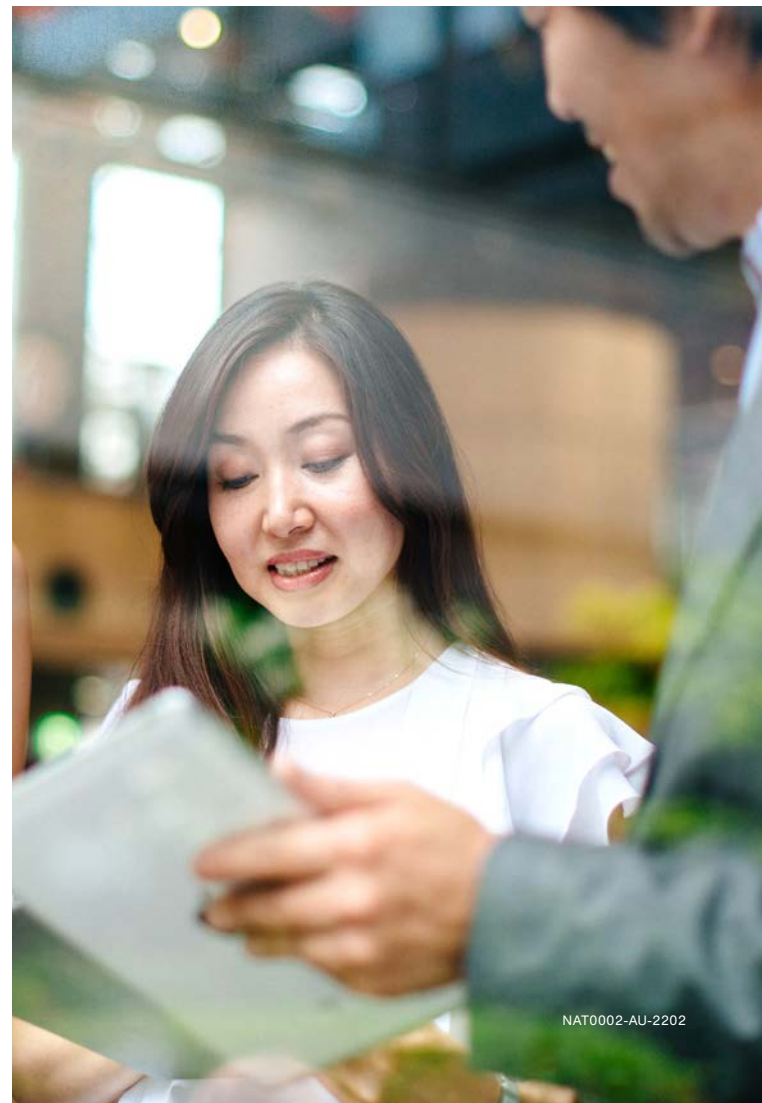
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Former PM becomes new IHA President

Malcolm Turnbull, Australia's former Prime Minister, has been appointed President

Designate of the International Hydropower Association (IHA). Turnbull replaces long-standing President Roger Gill, who oversaw IHA's transition to an external-facing, values-based, advocacy organisation to advance sustainable hydropower. "With Malcolm's personal commitment to sector, I can't think of a better leader to drive this forward", said Gill. On his appointment, the former PM noted, "Hydropower is the largest renewable and has the additional advantage of backing up solar and wind when the sun doesn't shine, and wind doesn't blow. So, I am delighted to be taking up this role." ◡



AVA names Dr Diana Barker new President

The Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) Board has elected Dr Diana Barker as President,

following Dr Alistair Webb's decision to step down. After being elected Director in 2021 and Vice President early 2023, Dr Barker takes on the AVA presidency during a challenging time in the veterinary sector. "The AVA is doing great work advocating on behalf of the profession and I look forward to helping build a stronger, more progressive AVA so that we continue to be part of the solution," Dr Barker said. Prior to being elected to the AVA Board, Dr Barker represented the profession at a regional and state level. ◡



Dominic Aouad named ADA NSW President

The Australian Dental Association NSW Branch has elected previous Vice-President Dr Dominic Aouad as the association's new President.

"I'm deeply honoured to lead ADA NSW and extend my heartfelt thanks to our outgoing President, Dr Rohan Krishnan, for his exemplary service,"

Dr Aouad said. As Chair of the Filling the Gap dental charity, Dr Aouad also serves on various ADA committees and has previously been a professional officer and authorised person with the Dental Council of NSW. ADA NSW also elected Dr Jodie Olivier as the new Vice-President to work alongside recent CEO appointment Jae Redden. ◡



Alison Creagh AM CSC is new PA President

Paralympics Australia (PA) is pleased to announce the appointment of Alison Creagh AM CSC

as its new President. Ms Creagh succeeds Jock O'Callaghan who has served as PA President since 2018 and will continue to serve on the board until his maximum term ends. "I am humbled and excited to lead this wonderful organisation which plays such a critical role to develop the Para-sport community and to enable Australia's Paralympic Teams to excel against the world's best" Ms Creagh said. The appointment comes at an important time in the lead up to Paris 2024, Milano Cortina 2026 and ultimately the Brisbane Paralympic Games in 2032. ◡



Christian Frost new AOHSEAB Chair

The Australian Institute of Health & Safety (AIHS) is pleased to announce Christian Frost as the new

Chair of the Australian OHS Education Accreditation Board (AOHSEAB). Christian takes over the role as Chair from inaugural member Angela Seidel who stepped down after a productive five years leading the board. Frost joins AOHSEAB as an industry leader and the Group Executive, SHEQ at Ventia. AIHS Chairperson Naomi Kemp welcomed Frost to the role saying, "We are thrilled to welcome Christian as the new Chair of AOHSEAB, we look forward to him bringing a fresh dynamic and entrepreneurial approach to the Board, with experience across industry and industry training." ◡



New President Angela Falkenberg announced at APPA


The Australian Primary Principals Association (APPA) has announced Angela Falkenberg

has been unanimously elected as new President by the National Advisory Council. As a current board member, Ms Falkenberg comes to the position after building an impressive career in education across the Northern Territory and South Australia. Speaking on behalf of the APPA board Deputy President Sally Ruston AM welcomed the appointment. "Angela brings a wealth of experience in primary education, understands the pressures that school leaders face and is passionate about working collaboratively with all stakeholders to improve the quality of education in our nation." she said. ◡



Debbie Johnson new HIA National President

The Housing Industry Association (HIA) has appointed Debbie Johnson as National President from Building Suncoast Green.

Johnson is a highly experienced development consultant, designer and builder who has run her business for nearly 40 years, providing knowledge and experience to a diverse range of industry and government committees and boards. She was appointed as HIA's Queensland regional president in 2013 and appointed to the Association's national board in 2017. The association also appointed a new National Vice President, Ian Hazan from i2 Homes. 



David Jochinke elected President of NFF

Victorian grain and livestock producer David Jochinke has been elected President of the National Farmers' Federation (NFF),

succeeding Fiona Simson who stepped down from the role after seven years. Since 2017, Mr Jochinke served as Vice President of the NFF and previously served as President of the Victorian Farmers' Federation.

"I want to thank the members for trusting me to lead the NFF at such an important moment. Australian agriculture has so much opportunity ahead of it as we continue striving for our \$100 billion vision, despite facing enormous challenges," Mr Jochinke expressed. 



Jill Chapman to lead Ag Shows

As only the second elected female President, Ag Shows NSW is excited to appoint Jill Chapman of Hay.

Immediate Past President Peter Gooch said the newly elected executive is set to bring a wealth of experience and dedication to the organisation, promising to continue fostering the rich legacy of agricultural shows in the state, while ensuring their prosperity for years to come. Chapman commented, "As president, I look forward to working closely with our Board, volunteers, and stakeholders to ensure the sustainability and growth of the 192 agricultural shows across NSW. These shows play a vital role in promoting agriculture, fostering community spirit, and providing valuable educational experiences." 



Dale Pinto new CPA Australia Chair

CPA Australia has elected Professor Dale Pinto FCPA as President and Chair of the Board.


Speaking on the changes to the Board, Professor Pinto said, "I am deeply honoured to be elected as President and Chair of CPA Australia and I extend my congratulations to Warren McRae and Louise Cox on being elected as our Deputy Presidents". Dedicating six years as a director and office bearer, Pinto replaces past President Merran Kelsall, who "left an indelible mark on the organisation, its members and helped promote the value of the CPA Australia designation". 



Nicola Roxon new SMC interim Chair

The Super Members Council of Australia has appointed Nicola Roxon as interim Chair of the


newly merged 'super' association that unites the Australian Institute of Superannuation Trustees (AIST) and Industry Super Australia (ISA).

The directors selected Ms Roxon, who chairs Health Employees Superannuation Trust of Australia (HESTA), stating the "long-term interests of millions of Australians will be well served by a new collective body that can be a strong, thoughtful, and compelling voice about superannuation policy, advocating to all levels of government and industry". 



Dementia Australia's Graeme Samuel resigns

After 10 years as the Chair of Dementia Australia, Professor Graeme Samuel AC has notified the

Board of the end to his tenure. Samuel will leave the organisation after a decade of change marked by the unification of the former federated body, the impact of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety, and the resulting \$229.4 million investment in dementia care. He will remain involved and connected with Dementia Australia and associated entities continuing as Chair of Dementia Australia Research Foundation, the Australian Dementia Network (ADNet) and the National Comprehensive Dementia Centres (NCDC). 



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Scandal-hit CBI secures emergency funding

The Confederation of British Industry (CBI) has received an emergency funding package to avoid collapse after a series of scandals surfaced earlier this year. Subsequent to cancelling its annual general meeting due to cash flow limitations, the CBI has “secured the financing necessary to overcome the short-term cash flow challenge,” said a spokesperson. Banks such as Natwest, HSBC, Lloyds Banking Group, and Barclays are said to be involved.

The CBI's difficult financial position has emerged after numerous businesses stopped paying their membership and abandoned the group following major sexual misconduct claims. In addressing these allegations, the CBI has publicised a number of reforms with members overwhelmingly backing the organisation in a key confidence vote about its future. This is critical in the business' long to medium-term position as it is largely reliant on membership fees to fund its operations; £22m of its £25m is reported income as per the most recent public accounts.

Former Chief Economist Rain Newton-Smith has returned as new Director General, stating that a rebranding of the CBI would be a necessary set of steps to rebuild trust after more than 50 large businesses, including John Lewis and British Telekom, suspended or cancelled their membership.

“The CBI that emerges from this is not going to be the CBI of the past, that is clear. It needs to be a new, a different, organisation,” Newton-Smith said. ◡



Rain Newton-Smith

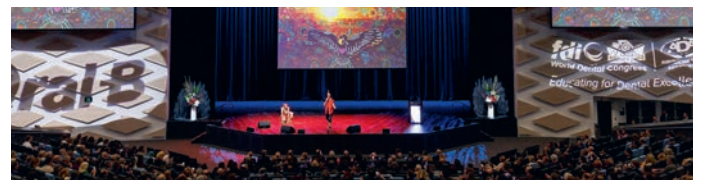
Eight associations unite against IR changes

Eight prominent Australian associations have come together to form a joint media statement against the ‘Same Job, Same Pay’ industrial relations changes. The Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association (now Australian Energy Producers), Business Council of Australia, the Council of Small Business Organisations Australia, Master Builders Australia, Minerals Council of Australia, the National Farmers Federation, and the Recruitment, Consulting & Staffing Association all stand together to raise awareness of the risks of this Federal Government initiative. The associations say the Federal Government must put the interests of the community and the broader economy ahead of this overt pursuit of giving more power to unions. Speaking on this issue, Andrew McKellar, CEO of the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry noted that “Same Job, Same Pay is a misnomer. It's the opposite of fair by restricting reward for effort and experience. It will take away the flexibility that workers want and businesses need.” ◡

World Dental Congress hosted in Sydney

With over 10,000 registered guests in attendance, the World Dental Congress

at Sydney's International Convention Centre (ICC) proved to be a monumental international event. Dental professionals, researchers, and enthusiasts from 129 countries had the opportunity to learn, investigate and grow, bringing life to the “Educating for Dental Excellence” tagline and enriching the practice of dentistry for many years to come. Highlighting the effect of an expansive congress, was the exhibition space showcasing the latest advances in dental technology and service offerings from industry professionals. ◡



World Dental Congress opening ceremony in Sydney

NFP sector in Canberra talks cyber security

Leaders of acclaimed charities have met with senior federal government cyber security officials in the nation's capital to discuss the impact of cybercrime, following recent complaints and data leaks. Assessing the current climate, the Fundraising Institute of Australia (FIA), Public Fundraising Regulatory Association (PFRA), Australian Council for International Development (ACFID), Infoxchange and the Community Council for Australia (CCA) met with the Department of Home Affairs to discuss cyber safety support for charities and not-for-profits. The meeting follows a ransomware attack in which some of the worst hit organisations were WWF Australia, the Australian Conservation Foundation and Plan International Australia. ◡

AMA + AIDA sign historic MoU

The Australian Medical Association (AMA) and Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (AIDA) have signed an inaugural memorandum

of understanding (MoU) cementing a shared commitment towards addressing significant health inequities affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. AMA President Professor Steve Robson signed the agreement alongside AIDA President Dr Simone Raye, with Professor Robson stating, “this memorandum of understanding will accelerate collaboration between the AMA and AIDA as we work towards closing that gap.” The agreement includes a strong commitment from both organisations to tackle racism within the medical sector and improve culturally appropriate care. ◡



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Associations Forum connects top leaders at the Association Leaders Symposium 2023

Introduced to a brand-new Western Sydney Conference Centre in Penrith, decision-makers across the not-for-profit sector met to discuss the dynamic needs of association leaders.

Associations Forum was pleased to host the 17th annual Association Leaders Symposium at the Western Sydney Conference Centre in October. The interactive symposium tailored content to the needs of association CEOs, Chairs, Presidents, and senior leaders who discussed the intricacies of effective Board and CEO relations, successful strategic planning and how to boost association performance in modern times. The symposium featured multiple educational, collaborative sessions from James Holloway, Deputy Head, Reserve Bank of Australia about current and future economic conditions, Jennifer Moltisanti, Assistant Commissioner, NFP Centre, Australian Taxation Office about further NFP developments in taxation, and Megan Motto, CEO, Governance Institute of Australia about observations of association leadership of the past 20 years.

For the first time, interactive workshops by Associations Forum's key leaders were hosted the day prior and framed a deep dive into various essential topics: 'Association Leadership Dynamics' and 'Leading Membership Strategies'. Networking functions gave delegates the opportunity to build connections and provide a collegiate environment for association professionals to learn about skills to boost the performance of their association. 

"I really enjoyed meeting other association leaders and found all the presentations very interesting and worthwhile."

Samantha Rawlings, CEO, Breast Surgeons ANZ



James Holloway, Deputy Head, Reserve Bank of Australia



Welcome from Western Sydney Conference Centre at the opening session

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Interactive Association Databases & Systems Summit hosted

With cybersecurity, cloud migration and customer relationship management (CRM) tools becoming familiar phrases amongst association professionals, the Association Databases & Systems Summit 2023 equipped delegates with the most up-to-date information about these topics. The one-day summit, held at **Sydney Masonic Centre**, saw CEOs educate attendees about upcoming trends and relevant issues surrounding technology and databases, and interactive showcases on an array of solutions to meet the technological demands of associations. Thank you to our sponsors Causeis, SwiftFox CRM, ECLEVA, ToucanTech, Bond and Sydney Masonic Centre. 



CRM showcases during the summit

Association Innovation Summit in Melbourne

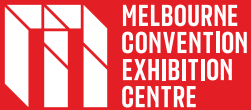
Associations Forum was delighted to host its inaugural Association Innovation Summit at **Rydges Melbourne** in August 2023.

Association CEOs and policymakers shared their effective strategies, and tactical approaches for driving innovative thinking throughout NFP organisations. Prominent speakers at this one-day summit included Natalia Centellas, Secretary General and Group CEO, Australian Medical Association, describing 'innovation to turbocharge political impact' and Stephen Durkin, CEO, Australasian Institute of Mining & Metallurgy, who highlighted a need for associations to shift their post-pandemic paradigm from the 'race for relevance' to the 'need for innovation'.

Thank you to our sponsors Rydges Melbourne, Survey Matters, CredShare, OurCatHerder, Governology and Trybz. 



Stephen Durkin, CEO, AusIMM



Make your next event extraordinary



Discover the difference

Boating Industry Association Ltd: Supporting community water safety, advocacy and delivering Sydney International Boat Show

Boating Industry Association Ltd, the peak marine association in Australia, supports the responsible and safe enjoyment of recreational boating, plays a crucial advocacy role for boaters, and owns the impressive Sydney International Boat Show.

Andrew Fielding, President of the Boating Industry Association Ltd (BIA), lauds the association's role as promoters for boating as a positive and rewarding lifestyle. "Boating is a standout option in leisure for people from all walks of life, ages, and abilities," says Mr Fielding. "As an association comprising all aspects of the world of boating, we are proud to campaign for boating and water safety advocacy."

As well as supporting public safety and a healthy community lifestyle, Mr Fielding notes the role of the Boating Industry Association Ltd in supporting commercial interchange between boating industry manufacturers, designers, brokers, and buyers of boats of all size and purpose. "The association supports the big picture of the sector as well as the need for economic growth and profitability", says Mr Fielding. "We do this every year at the world-famous Sydney International Boat Show – now in its 54th year."

Bringing together Buyers and Sellers

Held every year at International Convention Centre, Sydney (ICC Sydney) and at Sydney's Darling Harbour, Sydney International Boat Show had significant numbers in 2023:

- ♦ 646 boats were displayed from over 230 exhibitors.
- ♦ 426 vessels were housed in the exhibition halls of ICC Sydney from over 150 exhibitors.
- ♦ 220 of these vessels were placed in the purpose-built marina on Cockle Bay, Darling Harbour, representing 82 on-water exhibitors. With all spaces in the marina sold out, this accounted for the largest on-water display since 2018.
- ♦ Attendees totalled 46,919 - an increase from last year.



Andrew Fielding, President, Boating Industry Association Ltd

Following a hiatus during COVID, the Show is booming again.

"We're delighted with the diversity of the offering, quality of the displays and the enthusiasm of the public attending the Sydney International Boat Show" says Mr Fielding. "As well, the Show is a large contributor to our income to support other member and community services.

If our association did not run the Show, a commercial operator would undoubtedly have filled the void."

Across the four days in August 2023 celebrating the Australian boating lifestyle, exhibitors at the Show reported significant sales. With a show turnover reaching hundreds of millions of dollars, the annual economic contribution of the boating industry to Australia was reinforced.

Boost to Government and Community Engagement

Sydney International Boat Show's success helps BIA strengthen government advocacy and support its marine industry members through opportunities in career pathways and professional development.

"Our intention this year was to showcase all that is great about recreational boating. The positive spirit and strength of boating is demonstrated by the Show overflowing with boats, gear and accessories across the ICC Sydney halls and Marina," said Mr Fielding.

NSW Minister for Transport, the Hon. Jo Haylen MP, and the NSW Minister for Police, the Hon. Yasmin Catley MP, along with various other NSW State Members of Parliament, toured the Show. During this walk-through, politicians were introduced to exhibitors and engaged in discussions concerning the boating industry's importance and requirements, ranging from infrastructure to job opportunities.



426 vessels showcased in the ICC exhibition halls



Sydney International Boat Show also celebrated family participation, through the Discover Sailing and Paddling Hub and popular Fishing Masterclasses, as well as a dedicated Women in Boating Event highlighting the significance of women throughout the industry. The Discover Sailing and Paddling Hub was a new initiative from BIA for 2023, showcasing a range of boating opportunities and ways Australians can participate across the industry, for the first time. Capturing the next generation of recreational boaters is a continuing goal of the association, evident through the Show's graduation ceremony for NSW TAFE students of marine certificate courses and over 300 young people attending the Careers Day.

Wide ranging services for a key Australian industry

Whilst Sydney International Boat Show is widely acclaimed as its flagship event, there is much that the association does in advocating for the industry's strategic priorities to influential decision-makers within the State Government. The Show brings together many strands of community and development activities plus recognises the substantial social and economic impact that boating delivers to Australia. President Andrew Fielding sums it up by saying "Our pinnacle event is an appropriate celebration of and for the industry - and due acknowledgement of all our members achieve for Australia through the Boating Industry Association Ltd." 



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Gareth Martin
Business Events Perth, CEO





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Presented to an exemplary association that has achieved overall excellence

Associations Forum was pleased to announce the **Institute of Public Accountants (IPA)** as recipients of the **Association of the Year™ Award 2023** at the dedicated **Association Awards™** dinner on Tuesday, 21 November at Sydney Masonic Centre.

In a year that celebrates the organisation's 100-year anniversary, IPA has unveiled significant achievements that underpin its mission to stand as a relevant, adaptable, and global professional accounting body that continually enriches members' lives.

Embarking on a journey of growth and innovation, IPA welcomed over 2,800 new members and forged impactful international partnerships that reverberated their global influence. With a membership base of 49,000 individuals, the association's focus for the future is highlighted by the influx of over 1,000 new talented students.

Throughout its centenary of work, IPA has championed its commitment to directly impacting small businesses by engaging 450,000+ enterprises with a robust IPA practice network that employs over 13,000 accomplished public accountants and technicians. This long-term vision has fuelled economic growth.

The membership now comprises 49,000 individuals, with a focus on tax reform, precise regulations, seamless skill transitions, and sustainability promotion. Additional framework pieces include simplifying intricate workplace relations, prioritising mental health, and igniting innovative policies.

With an unyielding commitment to IPA's values and strategic themes, the organisation marches forward as a beacon of support and innovation for small businesses, empowering members to create a brighter and prosperous tomorrow.

"I am looking forward to the results of the current research projects which promise to take our thought leadership to another level."

Prof. Andrew Conway, Chief Executive Officer, IPA Group

About the Association Awards™ Judges:



Sally Sinclair, former CEO, **National Employment Services Association (NESA)**, has a track record of successful governance and leadership in non-government organisations, which she established as a volunteer into the peak body for the employment services sector in Australia. She was inducted into the **Associations Hall of Fame™** in 2020.



Carl Gibson, former CEO, **Complementary Medicines Australia**, has retired from a career spanning over 35 years, specialising in Regulation, Public Policy, and Campaign Communications. He led senior leadership teams that transformed UK electricity generator British Energy and the USA healthcare software company Allscripts. CMA won **Association of the Year™** in 2019.



Annette Tasker, Director, Institute of Public Accountants accepts the award

Associations Forum congratulates the other nominees:

- ★ Aquatics and Recreation Victoria
- ★ Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy
- ★ Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists
- ★ Australian Association of Social Workers
- ★ Australian Information Security Association
- ★ Change Management Institute
- ★ Exercise and Sports Science Australia
- ★ Financial Counsellors' Association of Western Australia
- ★ Frame and Truss Manufacturers Association of Australia
- ★ Internet Association of Australia
- ★ Master Builders Association of the ACT
- ★ National Disability Services
- ★ New Zealand Marketing Association
- ★ Occupational Therapy Australia
- ★ Swimming Pool and Spa Association of Australia
- ★ Weld Australia

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SAVE THE DATE

Associations Forum National Conference
30 April - 1 May 2024
National Convention Centre, Canberra



Change Management Institute awarded Small Association of the Year™ 2023



Presented to an exemplary small association that has achieved overall excellence



Presented for the second time, the **Small Association of the Year™ Award 2023** was awarded to Change Management Institute on Tuesday, 21 November 2023.

As a small association predominantly run by volunteers, the Institute has expanded to reach a global member presence in 35 countries. Change Management Institute has become the first and leading change management not-for-profit organisation and prides itself in being a 'by member for member' professional association.

The growing Institute is renowned for operating as a global leader in strengthening, connecting, and advancing the change management profession and centres its member offering around assistance to develop capability, credibility, and connection in their pursuit of professional excellence.

Starting small, this offering has continued to develop, with membership increasing by 32% to reach over 1,770 members.

Originally incorporated in 2005, the Institute pioneered industry standards through change management competency models, created the first accreditations against these competencies, and released an inaugural body of knowledge guide that educates over 10,000 change professionals per annum.



Jane Judd, Global President (centre) and team from Change Management Institute

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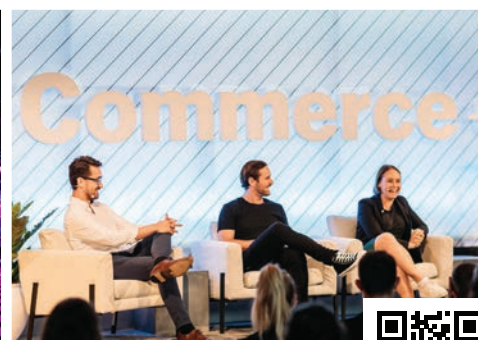
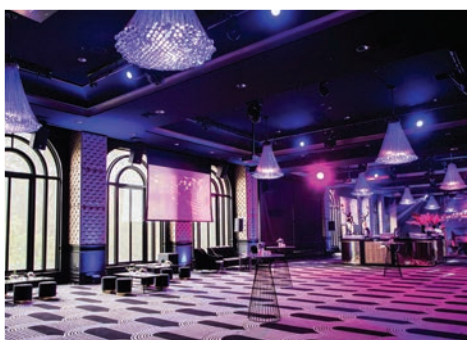
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Forestry Australia is Association Turnaround of the Year™ 2023

For successfully turning around an association that was in crisis or on the brink of closing down in recent years

The award for **Association Turnaround of the Year™ 2023** was presented to Forestry Australia on Tuesday, 21 November 2023.

Forestry Australia is a professional association with over 1,200 members – encompassing forest scientists, specialists, managers, and farmers throughout Australia – that is governed by a volunteer board and part-time CEO.

Following decades of financial and member decline, the association has undergone significant transformation in the last five years that saw membership and member satisfaction increase, financial stabilisation, and the introduction of new member benefits.

Key strategic decisions to secure its future included:

- ◆ Merging with the also declining Australian Forest Growers (AFG)
- ◆ Appointing Professionals Australia to provide secretariat, finance and member support functions
- ◆ Appointing a strong Chief Executive Officer, Jacque Martin

This turnaround has created positive momentum for Forestry Australia, raised its profile, and empowered the association to plan and dream of a brighter future for the forestry industry.

Thank you to our sponsors



CEO Jacque Martin (third from left) and her team

Associations Forum congratulates the other nominees:

- ★ Australasian Association for Institutional Research
- ★ Australasian Society of Lifestyle Medicine
- ★ Australian Association of Social Workers
- ★ Blue Mountains Basketball Association
- ★ Nursery and Garden Industry NSW and ACT
- ★ Swimming Pool and Spa Association of Australia



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Australian Medical Association awarded Association External Campaign of the Year™ 2023



Presented to an association that has made an outstanding achievement though an external campaign



This year's Association External Campaign of the Year™ Award was presented to the Australian Medical Association (AMA) for their 'Clear the Hospital Logjam' campaign.

Aimed at tackling Australia's public hospital crisis, the 2022-2023 Clear the Hospital Logjam campaign was one of AMA's most widespread and impactful campaigns. It spoke directly to the public about the continued, deadly decline in performance of Australia's public hospitals, and sought a complete overhaul of how public hospitals are funded.

The campaign's four-point plan aims to:

- ◆ Improve hospital wait times
- ◆ Increase patient bed numbers
- ◆ Keep people in the community and out of hospitals
- ◆ Introduce 50-50 funding between Commonwealth and state/territory governments and remove the 6.5% cap on funding growth (costing \$20.5 billion).

By August 2023, the campaign had gathered over 300 patient and healthcare worker stories, along with 200 letters to local MPs.

Associations Forum congratulates the other nominees:

- ★ Australian Medical Association
'AMA's plan to Modernise Medicare' campaign
- ★ Australian Physiotherapy Association
'Veterans' healthcare is suffering' campaign
- ★ Crohn's and Colitis Australia
'Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Month 2023' campaign



Secretary General and Group CEO Natalia Centellos (left) and her team

- ★ National ELT Accreditation Scheme
'Ukraine Workshop Series' campaign
- ★ Nursery and Garden Industry NSW and ACT
'A Career in Horticulture' campaign
- ★ Professional Teachers' Council NSW
'PTC NSW challenges NESA' campaign
- ★ Swimming Pool and Spa Association of Australia
'Last Piece of the Puzzle' campaign

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7 new Associations Hall of Fame™ inductees



PAMELA LEE has worked at Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand for over 37 years in a variety of roles from NSW State Director to Community Investment Relationship Manager. She has persistently managed members in small-medium practices in NSW and became an honorary member as an FCA in 2016.



GEORGE WALL joined the Water Industry Operators Association of Australia (WIOA) in 1989 and was elected Secretary-Treasurer in 1995, a role he still undertakes today. As Executive Officer he became the association's first paid employee and founded its frameworks along with being a significant driver in taking WIOA truly national.



STEPHEN HUGHES has been associated with the Australian Society of Rehabilitation Counsellors since 1993, providing legal advice and guidance on organisational and member matters for over 30 years. He has also provided legal advice in the public, private and NFP sectors and assisted a variety of associations with their constitutions.



LORETTA KIRKOVSKI has the distinct honour of being the longest-serving employee at the Australian Physiotherapy Association (APA), working for the organisation for over 40 years. Joining APA at 17, she has formed a deep connection with the membership base, which has grown from 600 to 32,000 during her time at the association.



BARBARA CONNELLY has been a valued member of the Building Service Contractors Association of Australia (BSCAA) for over 30 years and has made significant contributions to the industry. She has always been dedicated to the BSCAA's success and has worked tirelessly to create a positive working environment for all members.



DAVE CLARK is a long-standing member, volunteer and office-bearer of Australian Institute of Mining & Metallurgy who was President during a critical transition to be a more effective and influential organisation. His democratic leadership approach and commitment to build a 'shared leadership' culture has helped shape the sector.



CLAIRE HEWAT is a proactive leader who has held senior executive positions as CEO of Dietitians Australia and Allied Health Professions Australia, along with non-executive governance roles across numerous national and international boards. She chairs the Ethics Review Committee for an Australian allied health profession and continually provides mentoring to other NFP CEOs.



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Empowering Association Boards and Committees for Success: TAS eLearning Academy

As the pillars of Association strategy, board and committee members play an integral role in steering the organisation toward its goals and ensuring its success. To support the effectiveness of board and committee members, The Association Specialists (TAS) has created the *TAS eLearning Academy – Empowering Boards for Success*, an innovative initiative that offers essential, timely and cost-effective training to Board Directors, Committee Members and Executive Officers of Associations, Not-For-Profits, and member-based organisations.

Enhancing knowledge and effectiveness

Over many years TAS has worked closely with for purpose and not-for-profit organisations. Our experience shows that often representatives are experts in their field but may not have had any formal education regarding Board responsibilities and duties. The aim of the eLearning Academy is to provide the basics to help your team operate more effectively and with increased knowledge.

An Association's success hinges on good strategic leadership at the top. Board members need to rise above operational activities and focus on strategic planning, risk management, robust financial management, good governance, a healthy culture and future-oriented decision-making.

Introducing TAS eLearning Academy

The TAS eLearning Academy delivers a series of bite-sized online courses designed to quickly enhance a board members capability. These courses are the result of extensive research and collaboration with Association partners and have been reviewed by subject matter experts to ensure high-quality content delivery at an affordable price.

Course Offerings

The TAS eLearning Academy commences with six eLearning modules, each one taking approximately one hour to complete:

- 1. Risk Management:** This course guides board members through the risk management process, outlining their responsibilities in developing and approving a risk management strategy. It equips board members to make decisions in the best interest of the organisation's financial and operational performance, reputation, and sustainability.
- 2. Finance Fundamentals:** Designed for directors without a financial background, this course provides an understanding of and analysis of financial reporting enabling board members to fulfill their financial responsibilities effectively and "ask the right questions".
- 3. Effective Boards:** This course offers insights into different board structures, the skills required for effective board governance, and strategies for board leadership and accountability. It also addresses board performance and succession planning.

- 4. Strategic Planning for Boards:** Equips board members with tools and knowledge for engaging in strategic discussions, setting organisational goals, and aligning decision-making with the Association's mission and vision.
- 5. Governance Fundamentals:** Provides insights into various not-for-profit organisation structures and the obligations of directors in governing these organisations, focusing on mandatory responsibilities of all Board members.
- 6. Investment Strategy for Boards:** Covers aspects of investment strategies, including understanding various investment options, assessing risks, constructing an investment policy, and managing and reviewing the plan regularly.

Benefits of the Courses

Taking these courses empowers board members and benefits Associations in several ways:

- **Equipping Board Members:** Board members gain fundamental tools and knowledge to effectively fulfill their roles.
- **Meaningful Participation:** Board members can participate meaningfully in discussions, leveraging their expertise to drive positive outcomes.
- **Strategic Focus:** The courses help board members differentiate between strategic and operational actions, enabling them to concentrate on high-level strategies.
- **Legal and Civic Understanding:** Board members become well-informed about their obligations, making informed decisions while upholding high standards of governance.
- **Adding Value:** With new skills, board members can identify opportunities, address challenges, and contribute to the growth and impact of their Associations.
- **Role Success:** The courses equip board members to achieve success in their roles by providing a solid foundation of knowledge.

A Path to a Prosperous Future

In a time when Associations face unique challenges, TAS offers the eLearning Academy as a strategic tool. It equips board members with knowledge and skills for successful governance and organisational growth, reflecting TAS's commitment to empowering Associations and those who serve them for a prosperous and impactful future.

The eLearning Academy is hosted on PointsBuild, Australia's leading marketplace for on-demand training and self-guided eLearning courses.

To find out more or book a course instantly, visit:

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Why Revise? To *re-vise* is to make new, amend, improve and/or update a version of something existing. It's not just about recruitment. It's about understanding the pulse of the industry and evolving alongside it. In forming Revise Recruitment, we had a mission to continually evolve the recruitment engagement experience and adapt efficiencies to the ever evolving needs of clients, the sector and candidates alike.

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Our strength? Undeniably, our people and our extensive network. These two powerhouses are our pillars, enabling us to offer tailored, specialised recruitment services that work for you. Relationships, for us, aren't just about connections - they're heartfelt commitments. We're deeply rooted in this sector, and our passion is palpable.

Our founder, **Louise Roper** has extensive experience working with peak bodies and membership associations and her passion for the space inspired her to create Revise Recruitment. Her unwavering commitment to ethical behaviour, professionalism, and spreading the love of knowledge is what sets the tone for our entire business. Louise continuously works relentlessly to push the boundaries of the recruitment industry.

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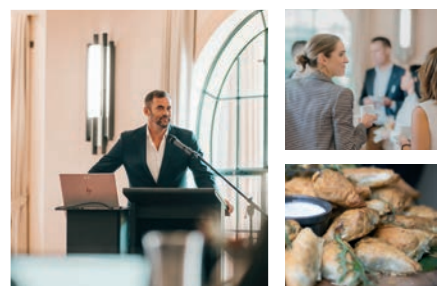
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Wellington ideal destination for crustacean experts

Experts who study hard-shelled aquatic creatures found Wellington the ideal place to delve deeper.

The 10th International Crustacean Congress held at Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa attracted carcinologists from 24 countries. The event showcased New Zealand's capital's ability to deliver knowledge, experiences, field trips – and a little taste of its off-agenda specialties – into a highly focused menu of conference activity.

Carcinologists study the world of crustacea, which are a group of arthropods that include lobster, crayfish, shrimp, and krill.

Co-hosted by The Crustacean Society and the International Society of Invertebrate Reproduction and Development (ISIRD), the event was organised by Conferences & Events Ltd.

Seasoned conference manager Kerry South chose Wellington based on the city being home to both Te Papa and Crown Research Institute NIWA (The National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research), with both offering their own crustacea collections with more than 10,000 specimens. “It put Wellington top of the list of destinations. “Wellington is a great location. It's also easy to get to from the rest of New Zealand and has international connections. It's a good jumping-off point for those travelling to other parts of New Zealand before or after.”

Local experts add Wellington flavour

NIWA marine biologists and New Zealand's only active carcinologists Rachael Peart and Karen Schnabel were instrumental in bringing the congress to Wellington.

“This was Aotearoa New Zealand's very first international crustacean meeting — and they have been going since the 1960s — so this was our opportunity to put our little corner of the map onto people's radars and showcase our beautiful part of the world,” says Schnabel.

The congress featured three keynote speakers including New Zealand expert Dr. Tara McAllister, a total of 142 talks, two workshops and 11 symposia on all aspects of crustacean biology.

The congress also coincided with a special ‘clever crustaceans’ exhibition at Te Papa. On one of the exploration days, some lucky guests even got to visit the back-of-house humanities collections with Te Papa staff.

NIWA also conducted tours of its collection.

“When delegates weren't in session many of them were straight into the museum which was as much a highlight for some as the congress itself,” says South.

Visitors enjoy the Wellington experience

Shed22 adjacent to Te Papa made it easy for organisers to plan an informal meet and greet before the congress itself began. It allowed delegates to reconnect and chat over food.

Participants also had the chance to visit the Island Bay Marine Education Centre, the historic Island Bay Bait Shed, and the habitat-based exhibit of local marine life with a field trip to the south coast, just a short drive away. They then enjoyed walks along the south coast to the Taputeranga Marine Reserve.

A number of delegates also stayed on after the congress to take part in an add-on workshop led by NIWA.



Craft brewers embrace crustaceans

Visiting carcinologists got to experience first-hand why Wellington is New Zealand's craft beer capital through a fun pairing of local beer inspired by crustacea.

Conference organisers and Beervana joined forces to encourage local breweries to create ‘cray-zy’ crustacean-inspired beers to highlight the event's visit to the city. Voted by the public and carcinologists alike, the overall winner Fork And Brewer is now waiting on the formal naming of its crustacean creation.

Delegates impressed with compact capital

The dual nature of Te Papa as both a conference venue and museum, plus its proximity to accommodation and the capital's walkability, left a lasting impression on delegates.

“With a beautiful waterfront full of places to walk and spaces to see, guests could easily navigate once in the CBD and stay nearby to the venue,” says South.

“There are excellent places to eat and coffee shops on every corner, giving plenty of options to satisfy everyone's palate.

“And it's only a short distance from the airport with affordable transport options. Delegates even got out and enjoyed some fresh air on the Flamingo scooters thanks to a voucher for free time.”

Wellington serves up success

Delegates have since recommended Wellington to their colleagues as a destination for conferences, events, and experiences.

“The congress was an excellent opportunity to get to know the city's highlights, the national museum, wildlife reserves like Zealandia Te Māra a Tāne, the waterfront, architecture, and local bars and restaurants,” says one delegate.

Another participant visiting New Zealand for the first time said: “It's a beautiful country, with nature in its full glory. The conference was well-organised, talks were engaging, all meals served were of high quality, and the setting (in Te Papa) was fantastic.”

For more information on hosting your next conference in New Zealand, visit businessevents.newzealand.com

Jodie Long new Speech Pathology CEO



Speech Pathology Australia has announced **JODIE LONG** as Chief Executive Officer, after leading the Australian Sonographers Association for five years. “I am extremely passionate and committed to achieving better healthcare outcomes for all and I look forward to working with the dedicated team and their 14,000 members, as we work together to strengthen access to speech pathology,” said Jodie. She succeeds Gail Mulcair who was the CEO for 18 years.

Martin Fahy steps down after 7 years at ASFA



The Association of Superannuation of Australia (ASFA) has announced that CEO **DR MARTIN FAHY** has resigned his position after seven years. Taking up the role in 2016, Dr Fahy led ASFA through the PYS reforms, Your Future Your Super (YFYS) performance measures, and the 12% Superannuation Guarantee. Chair, Gary Dransfield said “Martin has provided outstanding leadership and has ensured that ASFA has played a pivotal role in addressing the policy and regulatory changes occurring during his tenure.”

Bran Black to lead BCA



A new leader has been announced at the Business Council of Australia, with **BRAN BLACK** appointed as Chief Executive. Most recently, Mr Black served as former NSW Premier and former Treasurer Dominic Perrottet’s chief of staff. Outgoing Chief Executive Jennifer Westacott AO praised the appointment of Mr Black: “I know Bran is committed to ensuring Australia is a prosperous and fair country that can position itself well to address the many challenges and capitalise on the opportunities it faces in coming decades.”

Lauren Streifer announced as new PTAANZ CEO



The Public Transport Association Australia New Zealand (PTAANZ) has appointed **LAUREN STREIFER** as their new CEO. Chair Sally Stannard says Ms Streifer brings extensive experience and expertise in the sector, with a proven track record of driving innovation, growth, and effective partnerships globally. “Lauren shares our passion for emerging professionals and with her leadership, we are confident that PTAANZ will achieve new levels of success”

Luke Achterstraat takes reigns at COSBOA



The Council of Small Business Organisations Australia (COSBOA) has announced a new CEO, **LUKE ACHTERSTRAAT**, who brings a wealth of experience in various leadership capacities. The Board was impressed by Luke’s commitment to ensuring small businesses in Australia are not left behind and stated he “will bring fresh perspectives and ideas to the table, which will benefit our members, partners, and industry stakeholders, as well as help to achieve COSBOA’s goals.”

Inaugural ABEA CEO Melissa Brown appointed



The Australian Business Events Association (ABEA) has announced its inaugural CEO, **MELISSA BROWN**. Brown brings to ABEA an impressive professional background ranging from start-ups and non-profit organisations to medium-sized enterprises and multi-nationals; Melissa’s diverse international experience and exceptional skills align perfectly with the Board’s vision of bringing a unified approach to the role.

ALGA appoints Amy Crawford as new chief



The Board of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) is pleased to announce **AMY CRAWFORD** as its new CEO. Ms Crawford, previously the senior adviser to Federal Local Government Minister Kristy McBain, said she was excited to work with the organisation’s member associations who represent Australia’s 537 councils. “I have always admired the drive of local governments to deliver for their communities and I look forward to using my knowledge of cross-government programs and negotiations to deliver for members,” she said.

ADA NSW names Jae Redden new CEO



JAE REDDEN has been appointed as the new CEO for the Australian Dental Association of NSW (ADA NSW). Holding experience in professional membership-based organisations and providers of health information, she served as a board member of the Australasian College of Paramedicine and held senior roles with Royal Australasian College of Physicians, Association for Tertiary Education Management and Elsevier Health.

Bushby replaces Gill at CAFBA after 11 years



DAVID BUSHBY has been appointed as CEO of the Commercial and Asset Finance Brokers Association of Australia (CAFBA). He replaces David Gill after an 11-year tenure at CAFBA, who oversaw the increased level of professionals within the industry.

Bushby noted, "I look forward to working with CAFBA members to reinforce and build on their existing professionalism and the value of membership for brokers and their small business clients".

Dr Ali Drummond appointed CATSINaM CEO



The Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives (CATSINaM) has welcomed **DR ALI DRUMMOND**, a Meriam and Erubam man of Zenadh Kes (Torres Straits) and Wuthathi man from far north Queensland as new CEO. "As CEO, my

priority will be to continue the growth and support of the workforce and create more professional development opportunities for CATSINaM members" he said.

John O'Doherty new CMA CEO



JOHN O'DOHERTY has been appointed as new Chief Executive & Public Officer of Complementary Medicines Australia (CMA) to lead the peak body for the complementary medicines industry supply chain. Following Carl Gibson's retirement, the CMA

President said "John will build on our healthy foundations and take the organisation to the next level with his outstanding communication and his proven track record in government advocacy."

IPWEA NSW & ACT names David Elliott CEO



The Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (NSW & ACT) is pleased to announce **DAVID ELLIOTT** as CEO of the peak organisation. Mr Elliott revealed he was thrilled to return to the engineering fraternity at a time when disaster recovery, road construction, and the skills shortage are at the forefront of public policy debates. "Professional associations and peak bodies are very much the lifeblood of any vocation, and I will be working to make sure the Institute has a bigger seat at the infrastructure table," said Mr Elliott.

Diane Harapin new CEO at ACORN



The Board of Australian College of Perioperative Nurses (ACORN) have announced **DIANE HARAPIN OAM** as new Chief Executive Officer. Mrs Harapin, who was recently awarded the Medal (OAM) of the Order of Australia in the General Division for service to children

through adoption reform, is an experienced CEO who has committed the past 15 years to leading charitable organisations. She has established both not-for-profit and commercial entities with a passion for supporting members and scaling peak bodies and looks forward to her new role.

Andrew Hunter resigns after 5 years CPA Australia



After over five years as CEO of CPA Australia, **ANDREW HUNTER** has tendered his resignation to the Board of Directors. Mr Hunter showed a willingness to take risks, move forward and demonstrate compassion for CPA Australia members and led the development of

an ambitious 5-year strategy to equip members with future skills. The Board also thanks Andrew for his strong leadership during the difficult period of restoring member pride in the Certified Practising Accountant designation and trust in the organisation.

Maree McCabe to leave Dementia Australia



After 7 years as CEO of Dementia Australia, **MAREE MCCABE** has chosen to step down from her role in July 2024. Ms McCabe said as CEO she has continually been inspired by the many passionate people she has worked with. McCabe continued that she has also

"been impressed by the genuine commitment by all the federal, state and territory Ministers who have used their influence to bring about once-in-a-generation changes to our system of dementia care".

Philip Armstrong departs after 25 ACA years



PHILIP ARMSTRONG is stepping down as Australian Counselling Association (ACA) CEO to pursue personal interests as ACA transitions into its next chapter under a new Board. "I know I am stepping away at the right time for ACA. I'm excited to see ACA grow during its next phase as an ongoing member," said Mr Armstrong. Incoming ACA President Dee Hardy thanked Philip for his leadership and contribution to ACA over many years and revealed the association has appointed Deputy CEO Jodie McKenzie as the new CEO.

Is your association at risk by not having an all-in-one management software?

By Jason Morris, Managing Director, Membes

In an era defined by technological advancements, it's vital for Associations to embrace new developments to ensure they can keep up with demand and remain competitive. One of the key technologies is an Association Management System (AMS) - an all-in-one software designed to meet the unique needs of membership organisations. Management Systems deliver high value to Associations by streamlining processes, and bringing together the functions of membership management, a database, eCommerce, finance, events, communications, website and reporting into one platform.

If Associations *do not* adopt an AMS, there are potential risks - ultimately getting left behind and not delivering for their professional community.

Inefficient membership management

Managing memberships is one of the most vital jobs for Associations as these often make up the majority of their income. Without an AMS, managing data can be extremely labour intensive with staff required to update offline documents such as Excel spreadsheets and needing to manually confirm information is accurate across different systems. During renewals periods, an AMS offers huge advantages as it can automate the process and remove the need for staff intervention, allowing you to refocus your precious team resources on more valuable and meaningful strategic membership tasks and not administration. All notices can be scheduled to automatically email members so they can easily action the required steps to renew.

This opens opportunities for Associations to move away from traditional cyclical memberships and move to an anniversary structure meaning membership income can come in all-year round.

Difficulty with event management

Events are a huge part of Associations and a key income generator, but they do tend to require a significant amount of resources to organise, manage and promote. An AMS provides tools to streamline event planning, registration and supports with attendee tracking (essential for reporting). Poorly managed event registrations and follow-up can damage an Association's reputation which can ultimately impact its ability to grow and attract members.

Inability to grow at speed

If your Association is relying on offline tools to manage membership data, or working on siloed platforms, it is difficult to adjust to an increase in demand. Managing an influx of requests can put excessive strain on your team and, in some cases, cannot be managed effectively which results in missing out on growth opportunities.

A quality AMS will be able to grow with your Association easily as it can automate processes such as membership communications, significantly reducing the administration burden on your team. The advantage with this is your staff can focus on tasks that deliver greater value such as developing comprehensive strategies to move the Association forward.

Financial inefficiencies

Management systems can allow for automation of some financial processes to ensure items are sent on time. Integrating your financial platform and management system can save your team time with invoices able to be automatically issued to members so they can make payments without needing to contact your organisation.

Reporting challenges

Associations have a responsibility to report to the Board and its members on its performance, particularly membership and campaign results. Completing these reports manually can be extremely time consuming and there is also a risk of inaccurate information as calculations are made manually.

Management systems are designed to simplify reporting with dashboards, making it very easy to export reports or even share a live reporting link with the Board so they can check in on progress. Accurate and detailed reports can be pulled with the click of a button.


Data security concerns

Having an Association Management System adds an additional layer of security for your organisation on top of internal cybersecurity processes. Protecting your member information is highly important as data leaks can significantly impact your Association and result in mistrust from your members and the industry.

Quality management systems are regularly updated with best practice security features to ensure the system remains secure if the organisation has strong internal security processes.

Investing in an AMS means investing in your long-term success

Associations are under increasing pressure to deliver value to their members - this can be difficult to do without a dedicated system streamlining processes and allowing your team to focus on the Association rather than working "in it".

With growing competition and demand, Associations can't afford to not offer members a superior experience to ensure long-term organisational success. 

Ready to take your Association's management to the **next level?**

Membes Association Management System is designed to meet the needs of all Associations from small to large across Australia and the globe!

How the Membes Association Management System can support you:

- Connects all your information for real-time visibility and insights
- Allows staff to focus on more complex issues with increased automation
- Latest technologies mean your system is secure and remains available
- Simple to learn with ample online training courses and an AI-powered assistant
- The system meets you where you are today and can grow with you
- Your members will feel valued with more personalised communication

Features:

Membership Management (CRM)

Event Management

Website (Integrated CMS)

Marketing & Communications

CPD & Auditing

eCommerce & Finance

Reporting

Community

"The platform has created new opportunities for the organisation that they didn't have before; saving time and money. It's a very cost-effective system and really does have 99% of what Associations need as a technology solution. If you are managing your Association processes manually, then you have to use the Membes system moving forward!"

JODIE PARKER, Managing Director & Secretariat, Iceberg Events

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