

## President's Report to SAANZ AGM 2018

The 2017-2018 year has been a productive one for SAANZ. We have considerably reduced the time spent on administration by committee members, and continue to increase the support to members through the website and the subsequent interaction with those seeking information and support.

One face to face committee meeting was held in Auckland on May 2nd and "Zoom Room" meetings have been held in Oct 2017, August and November 2018. Email has largely been used to deal with any issues at other times. While this may seem somewhat infrequent, the real work of the organisation goes on very efficiently. Until we get some fresh energy into the committee, and new directions set, I would prefer to see the time spent on support to members and the wider community of sleep apnoea sufferers rather than committee meetings and administria.

Two support meetings were held in Hamilton this year. I would like to thank Adrienne Agnew for her work to set these up. I attended and spoke at both sessions while visiting family and really good discussions took place with attendees very satisfied with their "coffee morning" at the Hamilton Gardens.

I was also asked to speak to the Hamilton Diabetes Assn in June and despite the weather we had a much bigger turnout than usual. Those present found the session interesting and informative and some were definitely off to get checked out for sleep apnoea. I have also been approached by Torpedo 7 to talk to their staff at some point.

Recently I was phoned by Ralph Evans, coordinator of the Waikato Wellbeing Show to be held in April 2019 re setting up a display about sleep apnoea. This has also been added for discussion in general business as there would be a cost involved and of course only focuses on the Waikato area.

Four newsletters have been sent to members and posted on the website. Rachel and I have contributed to the Facebook Page and I have had some queries from people as a result of this interaction. The website contact page generates regular emails and phone calls which I respond to very quickly. I have added more about this in the Editors report, but suffice to say this has probably been our major area of support to apnoea sufferers. People get help and support as and when they need it, rather than a once in a blue moon support meeting in their region. There are also no costs in providing this support even though I sometimes phone people when they have left a message for me.

Rod has again maintained the financial accounts for us over the past financial year. The \$0 subscriptions work very well and we ended the year with a healthy balance only a little over \$1500 less than last year. I hope that the committee will see fit to continue subscriptions at the same level for the next year. Thank you Rod for your work with the accounts.

We are losing two members from the committee this year. Vince Driscoll and Adrienne Agnew are both withdrawing. I would like to thank them both for their time on the committee and the work they have undertaken. We have at least one more member who has put his name forward for election to the committee and two others have expressed an interest that I hope will turn into a commitment tonight. We would certainly value their skills.

Fisher & Paykel Healthcare have again supported SAANZ wonderfully over the past year. They attend our meetings, provide the venue for face to face meetings, and tonight they have also provided us with food. Pru will be speaking at our support meeting that follows the AGM, and Jonathan and Kevin are always so positive of our organisation. Kevin left this year to set up his own business, and Sandra Mackay has filled his shoes and we look forward to working with her in the future. Thank you all at Fisher & Paykel Healthcare for your support.

Dr Alex Bartle, our honorary advisor, has also provided much support to the organisation, both in terms of his responses to apnoea sufferer inquiries, and contribution to the committee discussions. Thank you Alex for this continuing support.

Finally I would like to thank all of the committee for their continued work for the organisation.

Jill Hammonds  
November 2018