



ANZGOSA

Australia & New Zealand  
Gastric & Oesophageal  
Surgery Association

# NEWSLETTER

Issue 16

January 2013

## President's Report

I hope all had a peaceful time at Christmas with their families and I wish everyone a fruitful 2013. We start the year with our biennial IsDEAS meeting in February in Melbourne. Wendy Brown along with Ahmad Aly and Gary Crosthwaite have put together a good programme that should allow the usual indepth discussion in a casual environment. I comment this meeting to you all as it has always been a very popular format.

Later in the year, in October, we will combine the other gastro-enterological surgical groups and the Australasian Gastro-intestinal Trials Group (AGITG) and participate in two days of the Gastro-enterologist major conference in Melbourne. Each group will have a major overseas visitor and we will integrate our programme with the other groups.

We are fortunate that **Karl Fuchs** has agreed to attend as our visitor. Karl is a GI surgeon based in Frankfurt. He is the Chief of Thoracic and General Surgery at Frankfurt am Main, in Frankfurt, Germany. He was the President of the European Society of Esophageal Diseases (2010), President of the European Association of Endoscopic Surgeons (2011) and he has been on the board of EURO-NOTES since 2007. The theme of the meeting is malignant disease, and Karl will be able to give significant European insights into the management of gastro-oesophageal neoplasia. As well he has personal experience with POEM -

Per-Oral Endoscopic Myotomy for achalasia. The issues surrounding this procedure and the present role for NOTES surgery will be addressed during the conference. We are presently working on the programme.

2013 is the year that ANZGOSA organises the Trainees weekend. This will occur on the weekend before the combined meeting in October. Karl Fuchs will attend along with the overseas visitor invited by ANZHPBA. I am sure the meeting will be the usual high standard and be a highlight for the trainees this year.

Once again I wish promote the ANZGOSA Audit to the membership. There is more on this in the newsletter. Sarah Thompson has taken over as the chair (although having a small sabbatical due to the arrival of her first child – congratulations Sarah). We continue to explore ways to maintain funding for this very important entity. We are now an approved audit in the RACS Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Program (annual letter of confirmation to be sent out to participants in February of each year).

Later in the year we will undergo the process of selection of the trainees for 2014. This will be lead by Gary Crosthwaite and training committee. If you have colleagues interested in our programme please direct them to our website. The training committee continues to inspect and accredit the training units in Australia and New Zealand.

As always the Executive is open to any suggestions that the membership may have to improve what we can offer as an organisation.

I look forward to catching up with you in February and later in October.

*Associate Professor Mark Smithers*

*President*

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## **Future Dates**

### 2013

February 8 and 9  
IsDEAS Meeting  
Royce Hotel, Melbourne

October 7 – 9  
Combined meeting ANZGOSA, ANZHPBA, CSSANZ, GESA  
Melbourne  
ANZGOSA International visitor is Karl Fuchs

### 2014

October 1 to 3  
Combined meeting with ANZGOSA  
Millennium Hotel, Queenstown  
2 ½ days meeting



## **Secretariat**

Please feel free to contact our Executive Officer, Leanne Rogers, should you have any queries.

Contact details are: 08 8278 1249 (phone), 08 8278 1249 (fax), or, [anzgosa@gmail.com](mailto:anzgosa@gmail.com).

Postal address:

P.O. Box 374, Belair S.A. 5052

## **ANZGOSA Members**

We welcome all our new members –

Mr Matthew Henderson  
Mr Ulvi Budak  
Dr George Kalogeropoulos  
Dr Tuck Yong

## **Financial Report**

A full financial report and Treasurers' report was provided, and emailed, to all members after the AGM on September 8th, for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

ANZGOSA continues to be in a good position. Three industry partners are secured in three year contracts and membership numbers continue to grow steadily. Industry partnerships will be renegotiated in 2013 for 2014 and beyond.

We have now received deductible gift recipient "DGR" status through the Australian Taxation Office. ***The Association can now accept donations.***



## **Facebook**

Check out ANZGOSA on facebook. See pictures, latest news and announcements. Together with our website [www.anzgos.org](http://www.anzgos.org) we are keeping you up to date with the latest regarding our Association.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Anzgos/304387776331914>.



## **Membership**

Membership numbers are steadily growing with a membership now around 166.

Full membership is available for Medical practitioners with an interest in Upper Gastrointestinal, Gastric and/or Oesophageal surgery practice who hold FRACS or equivalent. Full members are entitled to full voting rights, and may stand for office. Associate membership is available to trainees or retired Upper Gastrointestinal surgeons, and other health professionals working in the area of Upper Gastrointestinal, Gastric and/or Oesophageal practice. Associate members do not have voting rights, and are unable to stand for office. A discount on membership fees is available to members who are also members of ANZHPBA. Please contact the Secretariat for an application for membership.



## **Website**

[www.anzgos.org](http://www.anzgos.org)

We do have the "Find a Surgeon" section on the website. The aim of this is to have most of our ANZGOSA members listed.

If you would like to be included could you please email me the following information -

SURNAME  
FIRST NAME (and title)  
LOCATION  
PHONE  
WEBSITE.



*We are happy to hear of any suggested improvements to the website or any errors you may see. We do endeavour to keep it as up to date as possible.*

# NEWS

## **ANZGOSA Hospital Unit Accreditation**

We invite you to apply for ANZGOSA board recognition as a training centre.

The ANZGOSA Post Fellowship Training manual can be found on the ANZGOSA website. This document outlines the requirement to become an Upper GI training centre. .

Advertisements for potential 2014 Fellows will be placed in the 2013 February Surgical News and the ANZGOSA website. Interviews and ranking of Fellows will occur early June 2013. A matching process, taking in to account Fellows preferences and unit requirements, will then take place. Ultimately accepting a Fellow will be at the discretion of the training unit. Hospital Unit site inspections will occur once you receive a Fellow and Fellow offers occur from late June.

Please note that if a training unit requires accreditation for both HPB and Upper GI then separate applications will need to be made to both ANZHPBA and ANZGOSA.

Could each unit applying please submit a letter addressing each Hospital Unit criteria (available on website) and nominate a future programme director (with contact details). All future communications will be to that director.

Applications should be either emailed or posted to:

Leanne Rogers  
Executive Officer ANZGOSA  
P.O. Box 374  
Belair SA 5052  
[anzgosa@gmail.com](mailto:anzgosa@gmail.com)

## **Post Fellowship Trainees Weekend**

The 2012 Post Fellowship Trainees' Weekend, hosted by ANZHPBA at the Emporium Hotel Brisbane, was an outstanding success. The weekend had Industry support from Covidien.

2012 ANZHPBA and ANZGOSA Fellows attended. As part of the two year Fellowship they are required to attend the Post Fellowship Trainees Weekend. The weekend had significant local faculty and international visitors Professor James Garden and Professor David Flum. Each Fellow had one presentation topic focused on their specialty, HPB or GI. The 2013 Post Fellowship Trainees' Weekend is being hosted by ANZGOSA. This weekend is scheduled for October 4 and 5, at The Langham Hotel, Melbourne.



## **Post Fellowship Training in Upper GI Surgery 2014**

Applications are invited from eligible Post Fellowship Trainees for training in Upper GI Surgery.

ANZGOSA's Post Fellowship Training Program is for Upper GI surgeons. The program consists of two years education and training following completion of a general surgery fellowship. A portion of the program will include clinical research. A successful Fellowship in Upper GI surgery will involve satisfactory completion of the curriculum requirements, completion of research requirements, minimum of twenty four months clinical training, successful case load achievement, and assessment. Successful applicants will be assigned to an accredited hospital unit.

For further information please contact the Executive Officer at [anzgosa@gmail.com](mailto:anzgosa@gmail.com)

To be eligible to apply, applicants should have FRACS or sitting FRACS exam in May 2013. Any exam fails will not be offered an interview.

Applicants should submit a CV, an outline of career plans and nominate four references, one must be Head of Unit, (with email addresses and mobile phone numbers), to Leanne Rogers, Executive Officer ANZGOSA, P.O. Box 374, Belair S.A. 5052, or email [anzgosa@gmail.com](mailto:anzgosa@gmail.com).

Applicants will need to be able to attend interviews which will be held early June 2013 in Melbourne.

Applications close 5pm, Friday March 29<sup>th</sup> 2013.

## **IsDEAS Meeting 2013**

**\*\* REGISTER NOW \*\***



The 2013 IsDEAS meeting is being held at the Royce Hotel in Melbourne. Ideally located on Australia's most famous boulevard, St Kilda Road, the Royce is within walking distance to the fashionable shopping and restaurant precincts of Toorak Road and Chapel Street, Melbourne CBD, Royal Botanic Gardens, Shrine of Remembrance and Albert Park Lake.

This previously well attended meeting is the 2013 annual meeting for ANZGOSA.

Traditionally, the IsDEAS meeting has a comprehensive program which focuses on oesophageal disease and it is well supported by Australian and New Zealand Upper gastrointestinal surgeons. The meeting is held in a less formal and residential environment. The meeting is held in such a forum so that topics can be discussed that are not normally dealt with in larger forums. The scientific programme committee has put together a comprehensive programme. The meeting will follow a similar format of 2007, 2009, and 2011. Both Thursday night welcome drinks and Friday night conference dinner are included in the registration cost.

### **Registration details**

Registration fee of \$475 includes –

- Thursday evening Welcome Drinks and canapés
- Friday evening Conference Dinner
- Friday and Saturday meeting



## Saturday February 9

### 0800-1000 Session 5 – GORD and Hiatus Herniae

- 0800 - 0815 Fundoplication and oesophageal motility disorder. Should it be done?  
– David Watson
- 0820 - 0835 Predictors of poor outcomes following anti-reflux surgery - Edwin Beenen
- 0840 – 0855 Investigating recurrent reflux symptoms – Rob Finch
- 0900 – 0915 Post-operative symptoms but a “perfect” operation – what now?  
– Les Nathanson
- 0920 – 0935 Revisional surgery – how and how many times? – David Gotley
- 0940 – 1000 Panel Discussion

1000 – 1020 Morning Tea

### 1020-1230 Session 6 – Interesting cases and the Cockeral award

1230 Closing remarks and presentation of prize for best free paper

1240 Lunch



## Congratulations

Congratulations to our ANZGOSA Board Member, Dr Sarah Thompson, on the safe arrival of *Amelia Rose Benny*.



## IsDEAS meeting

Royce Hotel, Melbourne  
February 7 – 9, 2013

### Registration Form

#### PERSONAL

Title:

Surname:

First name(s):

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

Address:

Email:

Telephone Business:

Pager:

Mobile:

Other:

Facsimile:

#### For catering purposes, please indicate attendance at the following functions:

Yes, I am attending the drinks Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February *Partner Attending Yes / No*

Yes, I am attending the dinner on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February *Partner Attending Yes / No*

Yes, I am attending the lunch on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February *Partner Attending Yes / No*

#### PAYMENT OPTIONS

Cheque (please enclose a cheque made out to the Australia and New Zealand Gastric and Oesophageal Surgery Association).

Please debit my [Mastercard / Visa]

Card number:        /        /        /        Expiry Date:

For the sum of \$AUD: \$475

Name on card (please print):

Signature:



**A N Z G O S A**

Australia & New Zealand  
Gastric & Oesophageal  
Surgery Association

Please return your completed registration form to the ANZHPBA Secretariat,  
P.O. Box 374 Belair, SA, 5052 or fax to 08 8278 1249

## ANZGOSA Audit

### REMINDER

To further our aim of improving the surgical management of diseases of the stomach, oesophagus and upper gastrointestinal tract, the Australia and New Zealand Gastric and Oesophageal Surgery Association (ANZGOSA) has launched a bi-national audit of surgical cancer treatment for its members. The ANZGOSA Audit was officially launched on August 31 2010 through an online portal which can be accessed via the ANZGOSA website: [www.anzgos.org](http://www.anzgos.org) . As a practising member of the Association, we would like to invite and encourage you to participate.

Participating in the audit demonstrates both an appreciation of the importance of quality surgical care in this area and a commitment to achieving such quality. Participation will be acknowledged on the ANZGOSA website and participants will receive an annual participation certificate.

Through the reporting feature of the data entry portal surgeons have access to instant reporting on key areas against aggregated peer results and be able extract their own data for personal analyses. Audit staff will also be able to provide customised analyses if requested.

Collated bi-national data will provide the ANZGOSA opportunities for research into surgical treatment in the two countries. Participants can also make an official data request to gain de-identified information from the database for their own research.

The audit is being conducted on behalf of the ANZGOSA by the Research, Audit and Academic Surgery Division of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. **College Ethics Committee approval was granted in June 2010** and an application has been made to recognise the audit as an approved activity so that participants can use this to claim points in the College Continuing Professional Development program.

Protection as a Quality Assurance Activity has already been applied for under the relevant legislation in Australia and New Zealand. Being declared a quality assurance activity gives individual surgeons protection from having their data and/or any comparative analysis subpoenaed from the audit.

***For further information or to become part of this initiative and gain access to the online portal, please contact the College managers of the audit:***

**Ph: +61 8 8363 7513**

**Audit helpdesk: [anzgos.audit@surgeons.org](mailto:anzgos.audit@surgeons.org)**

Upon joining the audit, you will be issued with a user manual and data dictionary, as well as a copy of the audit patient information sheet.

### **New to the Audit –**

- **Institutional downloads available early 2013**



## ANZGOSA Board and committees

The current Board is:

<b>President</b>	Mark Smithers (Qld)
<b>President Elect</b>	Ross Roberts (New Zealand)
<b>Secretary</b>	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Tim Bright (SA)
<b>Board members</b>	John Jorgensen (NSW)
	Gary Crosthwaite (Vic)
	Rob Bohmer (Tas)
	Sarah Thompson (SA)
	Wendy Brown (VIC)
	Krishna Epari (WA)
	Andrew MacCormick (NZ)
	Neil Merrett (NSW)
	Ahmad Aly (VIC)

### Training Committee

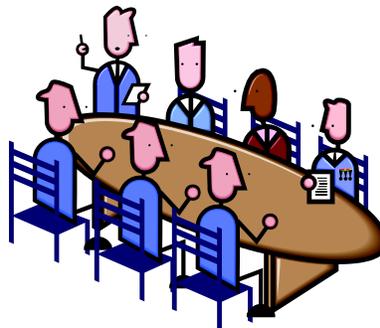
Gary Crosthwaite (Chairman)  
Ross Roberts  
Tim Bright  
David Martin  
Gary Crosthwaite  
Neil Merrett  
Simon Bann  
Emma Johnston  
Richard Cade  
Mark Smithers (ANZGOSA President)

### Audit Committee

Sarah Thompson (Chairman)  
Ahmad Aly  
George Kiroff  
Andrew Barbour  
Peter Cosman  
Krishna Epari  
Mark Smithers (ANZGOSA President)

### Research Committee

Mark Smithers (Chairman)  
Wendy Brown  
Tim Bright  
Andrew Barbour



## Industry Partner Pages

### Major Industry Partners



**COVIDIEN**

**Applied**  
Medical



*A New Generation Medical Device Company*

### Industry Supporter

**Johnson & Johnson**  
MEDICAL