

transplant australia

the national charity for organ
donation and transplantation



2020
**Members
Update**

Our **Vision**

Committed to promoting organ donation and improving the quality of life of all Australians on their transplant journey.



Chairman's Report

This year we have moved to a Members Update as opposed to an Annual General Meeting in line with our obligations to the Australian Charity and Not For Profit Commission.

No matter the forum, the underlying message is one of concern for our members across Australia during this unprecedented COVID-19 Pandemic.

For the general population this interruption to our daily lives is unprecedented. Lockdowns, home schooling, difficulties with work and restricted opportunities for physical activity and sport, it is a strange time we live in.

But it is also worth acknowledging the resilience of transplant recipients who, for the majority, would be very familiar with such type of interruptions.

The journey of waiting for a transplant is different for every individual but I imagine the challenges the general population are facing look very similar to the lives of anyone waiting for a transplant. Interruptions to careers, challenges with finances, restricted to home, I can't really begin to appreciate the very personal difficulties our members faced.

And so if there is one group of the population that knows how to navigate through these times, I imagine it is our members.

I am pleased Transplant Australia has been at the forefront of trying to make that journey somewhat easier with the release of a series of

videos about How to Stay Healthy during the Corona Virus Pandemic.

Matty Hempstalk has also been working hard to connect our community through social media and both Matty and Julie Edwards take many calls from recipients needing help, advice or just someone to chat with or to ask questions.

This advice is part of our ongoing core assistance to the nation's transplant recipients. It is almost a 'silent' or 'hidden' undertaking that gets no acknowledgement and certainly no funding. But it is crucial to helping people along their transplant journey.

We are fortunate to have Matty Hempstalk, a two-time kidney recipient, as our Membership and Sports Administrator. He has an understanding that cannot be learned, it must be lived. Equally Julie Edwards as our Office and Donor Support Manager, provides a valuable insight from her own life as a living donor. She takes regular calls each week from people considering living donation and can share with them her own real-life experience.

There is much more than can be done to promote living donation in Australia. If you like it has been the missing ingredient in the reform of organ donation and is still very much hospital or transplant unit based.

Transplant Australia has recently taken under its wing the Living Kidney Donor Program which

emanated out of Royal North Shore Hospital. We are very excited by this work.

As our nation emerges from COVID-19 there will need to be significant focus on re-engaging with the public about donation. Donation numbers are significantly down this year. We will need all Governments, both State and Federal, to recommit their energies and focus to helping Australia to get back on track.

Transplant Australia, with our advocacy and communication skills, with the leadership of our CEO, Chris Thomas, and the support of the whole Board is ideally placed to underline this work.

Yes, we too are facing some challenges. However we have a committed staff in Chris, Ian Atkin our very professional Finances Consultant, Julie, Matty and the support of Vivienne Lee, a kidney transplant recipient, who is helping with fundraising and administration. We have also been joined by Kristen Finnigan who is helping to keep our Games' dreams alive.

We look forward to emerging on the other side of this pandemic. In the meantime know our team is here to help you and everyone affected by organ donation and transplantation.

Jason Ryan
Chairman



CEO's Report

This Members Review covers the period of January 2019 through to June, 2020. And what a contrasting period of time.

The year was punctuated by the Australian Team's participation in the World Transplant Games, Newcastle, heralded as one of the most professionally run games, particularly from the sports management point of year.

There were brilliant performances from two juniors at the Games – Dana Carroll with five gold and Jemma Neilson, three gold. And three adults – Michelle Daley (five gold), Robert Kirkbride (one gold) and Ross Minichilli (four gold). Ross was a wonderful new addition to the team.

Overall Australia ranked ninth out of 43 countries.

Transplant Australia continued to develop our Living with a Transplant resource last year and this is available online at transplant.org.au.

We also had a full football calendar while our State Committees held many events to engage our members.

I was privileged to be invited by Julie Edmonds, our WA State Committee Chair, to participate in the WA Family Getaway in the Margaret River. It was a wonderful

opportunity to connect with our membership and see the successful of the WA Committee. It is a team effort no doubt but led brilliantly by Julie.

In my capacity as President of the World Transplant Games Federation I attended the World Winter Transplant Games in Banff, Canada. Arriving home in early February, the world changed.

Between February and June (and through to September when this report was compiled) our role has been two-fold – to support our members through the COVID-19 Pandemic and to navigate through the pandemic to ensure the ongoing viability of Transplant Australia.

I am pleased with the work to help recipients in their journey and we continue to develop tools to complement the Living with a Transplant Program.

What has been more challenging is keeping the Australian Transplant Games alive. A significant portion of our income is derived from sponsorships associated with the Transplant Games yet as we report to the members the games have been postponed from 2020 right through to 2022. We continue to monitor the situation but it is just simply not possible to bring transplant recipients together safely

to celebrate the gift of life through at this time.

We remain committed to staging the Games in Launceston, Tasmania, and are very thankful of the support we continue to receive from the Organ & Tissue Authority and Events Tasmania.

We also continue to develop our capacity to deliver the World Transplant Games in Western Australia in 2023 and look forward to providing members with an update on those plans.

Chris Thomas
CEO



World Transplant Games Newcastle Gateshead England 2019

Team Manager Report: Margaret Hill

These games were second that I represented Australia as Team Manager.

Pre-Games Organisation:

The pre games registration was very good.

Ordering uniforms through the online shop seemed to work well.

Uniforms were received in plenty of time to be posted out, I only had to take a few items with me.

Working with Ian Atkin on the financial side worked well.

I think having Julie, Matty, Ian and myself working together worked well.

Travel:

This year the Team did not travel together.

It was agreed that everyone would do their own travel arrangements.

The main reason for this was the cost, as now you can purchase Airline tickets online it works out a lot cheaper than going through a travel agent.

Activity Review



Transport:

Transfers to and from the Airport & Train Station were excellent.

The metro, train & buses were used to get to most of the sporting events, which seemed to work very well.

Pick- ups at accommodation were used for Golf, Ten Pin Bowling, Cultural Evening and Gala Celebration.

The LOC should be congratulated the transport.

Accommodation:

These games were the first that there was a choice with the registration system.

That being Accreditation only, University, Standard Hotel, 4* Hotel, Family Self Catering Apartments.

The Australian Team chose the following:

Accreditation Only:	5
University:	24
Standard Hotel:	42
4* Hotel:	3
Family Self-Catering Apartments:	14

These options were good and made it more affordable, some members commented that they missed the Team staying together.

Registration:

Registration was up to the individual. This worked quite well and was well organised on registration days.

Accreditations were much better than Malaga 2017.

Team Managers had Team Manager on their accreditation which made it possible to gain access to sporting events.

Functions:

Thank you to Transplant Australia for sponsoring the Australian Team welcome dinner, a great night was had by all. The joint Flag Bearers were named – Josh Yates & Nigel Goldsworthy.

The Opening Ceremony, Cultural Night and Gala Dinner were enjoyed by all. The Opening & Gala Ceremonies were good as the speeches were not as long, as at previous games. The food was a problem i.e. At the opening ceremony the ques were very long for the food trucks and at the Gala there was not enough food.

Sporting Events:

Overall the sporting events were run very well.

Darts - There was a problem with only having 8 dart boards, it was not enough. I had to pull our triple team out of the competition as it was 7pm and the singles had not finished. They had been there most of the day and had no medication with them that they needed to take.

Activity Review - continued

Swimming - A 9am start would have been better than a 10am and only half an hour for lunch rather than 1 hour.

All sports facilities were good.

Uniforms:

All athletes liked the dress shirt that was chosen this year.

I think maybe we stay with the same shirt for the next World Games.

The whole team wore the full-dress uniform proudly.

Most of the Athletes wore their Australian shirts throughout the games whether competing or sightseeing which was great, raising awareness of organ and tissue donation.

Medical and Physio:

Dr Richard Allen was the Team Doctor for these games. This was Richard's first games as Team Doctor.

These games were different to previous games as the LOC had organised Clinic and Physio sessions to be run daily at two different locations.

If required, Richard would see any athlete or supporter that was not feeling well and assess them, if required they would then attend the clinic.

This worked well and fortunately no one was very unwell during the games.

Richard also attended different sporting events getting to know the members.

There was no need for a Physio as there were Physio's supplied.

The team really appreciated having a Team Doctor on hand and should happen for the 2021 games.



Team Meetings:

Team Meetings were not held every night during the games. The reason for this is that staying at different accommodations made it hard, also with some sports finishing late.

For these games every competitor received a competitors Guide before the games outlining all the rules, practice times etc. This should be done before all games.

Team Manager meetings were not held every night so usually there was nothing to report.

The Australian Team - 88:

- 2 Female Junior Athletes
- 10 Female Athletes
- 35 Male Athletes
- 35 Supporters
- 3 Donor Families/Living Donors
- 3 Team Management

The Australian Team should be congratulated on their performance.

Medal Tally

- 9th from 43 countries
- 18 Gold
- 13 Silver
- 12 Bronze

Gold Medals:

- Juniors:
- Dana Carroll (5)
- Jemma Neilson (3)

Adults:

- Michelle Daley (5)
- Robert Kirkbride (1)
- Ross Minichilli (4)

Silver Medals:

- Adults:
- David Colman (1)
- John Coman (1)
- Sean Horsburg (1)
- Maurice Howe (1)
- Robert Kirkbride (3)
- Ross Minichilli (1)
- Esther Scott (3)
- Troy Scudds (1)
- Relay – Freestyle 200+ - Michelle Daley, Robert Kirkbride, Ross Minichilli, Michael MacKinnon

Bronze Medals:

- Adults:
- David Colman (1)
- David Howard (1)
- John Coman (1)
- David Drewitt (1)
- Richard Hayes (1)
- Robert Kirkbride (1)
- Michael MacKinnon (2)
- Margaret Martin (1)

Activity Review - continued

Esther Scott (1)

Tamaryn Stevens (1)

World Transplant Records: 10

Dana Carroll –50m Freestyle, 100m Freestyle, 200m Freestyle

Michelle Daley – 50m Breastroke, 200 IM, 800m Sprint (Track)

Robert Kirkbride – 100m Breastroke

Ross Minichilli - 50m Freestyle, 100m Freestyle, 200m Freestyle

Team Management:

Team Manager – Margaret Hill

Team Captain – Matty Hempstalk

Team Doctor – Richard Allen

Thank you to the team for the work they did leading up to the games.

During the games, Matty and myself split the sports we were attending so as someone could cover as many as possible.

This year we had 2 Junior and 22 Adult Athletes attending their first world games, so it was important for someone from the management team to attend the sports they were competing in.

Summary:

It was a pleasure being Team Manager for the Australian Team competing at the World Transplant Games in Newcastle Gateshead 2019.

It was great to see the Athletes competing and displaying great sportsmanship in all sports.

All members attending their first games fitted in quite well with the team and when help was required the oldies came forward.

Overall, these games were very enjoyable. I feel that members staying in different accommodation was good for affordability, but it did seem to split the Team a bit. Through feedback quite a few are already preparing for the upcoming games - ATG in 2019.

The World Transplant Games Federation and LOC should be congratulated on the organisation of these games.

Transplant Australia Football Club

Three matches were played in Melbourne and Sydney in 2019 with two wins and 1 loss. No matches have been played in 2020 due to COVID-19.

Trials were held in January and February 2020 for the Australian National Transplant Football Team to attend the inaugural World Cup scheduled to be held in Italy

this year from August 30th to September 5th. The trials were open to organ transplant recipients over the age of sixteen and promoted by DonateLife, Kidney Health Australia and the Transplant Australia membership.

In November 2019, the Transplant Australia Football Club committee appointed Josh Rose as the national coach to be in charge of running the trials and selecting a squad of 22 players to participate in the World Cup. Josh, who runs his own football academy on the Central Coast, has played in the A-League for the Central Coast Mariners and Melbourne City as well as for Romania. Trials were offered in all states but only players attended from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane.

Transplant Australia met with the FFA (Football Federation Australia) in March this year who agreed to officially recognise and support the Australian national team. Meetings were held with the Chairman of the PFA (Professional Footballers Australia) to form a partnership and to help the team with promotion and potential funding. The Transplant Australia Football Club Committee launched a campaign to raise funds to support the Australian team \$22,000 to date has been raised, with the aim of raising \$80,000 to cover costs to attend the training camps and World Cup.

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, the World Cup has been postponed with a proposed date yet to be announced. The squad continues to try and stay fit during this restrictive time and are looking forward to the new date to be released.



Australian Transplant Games

The games were scheduled to take place in Launceston in Tasmania from 26th September – 3rd of October but have been postponed until April 2021 due to COVID19.

Registration was opened in late 2019 but suspended in April this year with refunds issued to those who had made payments. Transplant Australia had locked in venues for April 2020 and accommodation providers were going to offer special deals to registrants. The plan now is to re-open the registration system in October 2020 but this is subject to the board and the Tasmanian Government agreeing that the Games can be held in April 2021. Transplant Australia and the stake holders are committed to running the Games in April 2021 or any other time in 2021 subject to borders being open and the safety of those attending.

Membership

In February this year, the State Chairs held a face-to-face meeting to discuss the Membership strategy moving forward, where it was recommended that a sub-committee be formed to work through a new plan for membership to be presented to the Board. The

sub-committee included Brooke Huuskens and Julie Edmonds (state chairs of VIC and WA), board members; Richard Allen, Lisa Gavin and Holly Tyrell and Chris, Matty and Julie from the national office. The sub-committee recommended a plan and in June this year work began on updating the membership system and designing new marketing material such as posters and flyers. The new membership system is now ready and will be launched in late September.

Fit for Life Walks

Walks were held in Hobart and Melbourne in 2019 and this was also opportunity to promote the Transplant Games 2020. Queensland and Western Australia continue to run walks either weekly or Monthly for membership.

Transplant Australia embraces the Living Kidney Donor Program

The Living Kidney Donor Program was formed by a group of living kidney donors from Sydney's Royal North Shore Hospital working closely with the renal transplant

team to provide support for living kidney donors pre-transplant, during and post-transplant. The aims were to provide information and advocate for living kidney donation, increase awareness on the benefits of living kidney donation, provide personal support to living donors and raise funds.

Around 12 months ago, the Living Kidney Donor Program organising committee approached Transplant Australia to consider merging their group to operate within Transplant Australia. Transplant Australia welcomed this opportunity to promote and support living kidney donation and subsequently early in 2020 agreement was reached for this merger to take place. All members of the Living Kidney Donor Program will be invited to join Transplant Australia as members.

The Living Kidney Donor Program is now featured on Transplant Australia's website with links to the various ways to get involved in this important program.



NSW

2019:

Training Camp held in March 2019 at Sydney Academy of Sport Narrabeen – 18 attended.

Miracle Dinner held in June 2019 at Dooleys Lidcombe Catholic Club – 80 attended.

Lawn Bowls Weekend held in October 2019 at Lake Cathie Bowling Club (Port Macquarie) – 23 attended.

Christmas Party held in November 2019 at Carrs Bush Park (Kogarah) – 30 juniors plus families.

2020:

Training Camp held in March 2020 at Sydney Academy of Sport Narrabeen – 20 attended.

Queensland

In 2019 the TA QLD walks continued. Each month a group of TA QLD members and supporters would meet to participate in walks that were approximately five kilometres. After each walk, there would be an opportunity to sit and enjoy a cup of coffee and a chat at the nearby cafes. These walks gave people an opportunity to chat, share stories and support one another. Shirts were organised and given to members (at no cost) to wear during the walks or activities to promote TA QLD and Donor Awareness.

Venues for the walks were varied e.g. Gold Coast, Brisbane, Manly, to give members who lived in areas other than Brisbane an opportunity to join in and enjoy the company of fellow transplant recipients. It was

State Highlights

encouraging that some members volunteered to host the different walks. The walks continued during the World Games in Newcastle UK.

TA members also participated in Ten Pin Bowling followed by a lunch. To celebrate the end of year, a Christmas lunch was organised and subsidized by TA QLD.

In 2020, plans were made for many activities which were advertised on the TA QLD webpage. Unfortunately due to the Covi-19 restrictions, we were only able to participate in two walks.

As restrictions in Queensland have eased at this point in time, a game of croquette (originally scheduled for March) and a walk have been planned for September and October. These activities will follow the Guidelines of COVID-19.

Victoria

- Australia Day Parade
- State Dinner
- 10pin bowling
- Trivia night to help members in Geelong get to the WTG.

Western Australia

Yallinup Getaway

Organised by Julie Edmonds, over 100 members of TAWA, recipients, living donors and their families and supporters, enjoyed a wonderful Getaway in Yallingup over three days and nights. Supported by LotteryWest.

Hyde Park Festival

An organ donation awareness stall supported by members..

Mall Yarns

Organised by Paul Turner, these awareness stalls took place in seven shopping malls around the metropolitan area and involved 3 - 10 members on each occasion.

Tawa Street Appeal

Involving 20 TAWA members and approx. 15 students from 6 am – 9 pm in Perth City

Sausage Sizzles

These are fundraisers and organ donation awareness events.

We ran five sausage sizzles in 2019 and one in early 2020. We regularly had 18 to 25 people helping. They included recipients, living donors, family members and high school students doing community service.

All were very successful with money and awareness raised. Lots of registration forms were handed out, with some people registering on the day via the form or on the DonorMate mobile kiosk.

World Transplant Games & New Members Welcome

A farewell afternoon tea was held to farewell those going to the Games and welcome new TAWA members. 65 TAWA members attended.

WTG Newcastle

The WTG in UK were attended by 27 TAWA members and supporters.

Petanque

There were more than 30 sessions of petanque played with members

State Highlights - continued

during 2019 and in December we all met for a Christmas party dinner.

Petanque sessions started again this year but had to be cancelled after three sessions due to Covid. These sessions have just recommenced and involve from 5 to 12 members each week.

Darts

Two very enjoyable darts nights were held at the Belmont Sport & Rec Centre. Organised by George Hobson and Betty Hislop.

Lawn Bowls

On a warm sunny Sunday afternoon at the end of April twelve bowlers took to the green at Dalkeith Nedlands Bowling Club. State bowler (and TAWA member) Bernie McNamara ably explained the game to those who had not played before.

A game of Tearaway Triples was then commenced and enjoyed by all. There followed a sausage sizzle prepared by our expert George Hobson and delicious sweet slices baked by Glenda Rayment.

The Color Run

TAWA entered a team into the Color Run, a fun run/walk that raised money for the Starlight Foundation. With 9 team members, and a whole lot of coloured powder, foam,

bubbles and music, they made our way around the 5km course, having a great time along the way.

Walking Groups

TAWA members attend weekly walking groups in 2 – 3 locations giving members a chance to socialise regularly and providing motivation for physical exercise. Organised by Julie Scudds.

Ten Pin Bowling

Members attended a ten pin bowling practice session organised by Pauline Sweeny.

Busselton Jetty Swim

Members did team events and solo swims and some just went along to support those who were competing.

Busselton Festival Of Triathlon

Teams from TAWA participated in a range of events at this festival from half ironman events to Funman team triathlons and they were enthusiastically supported by members in vibrant white shirts and pink DonateLife caps.

Writing To Your Donor Workshop

Run by Paul Turner and Glenda Rayment .

Donateliflife Honour Ceremony

Members assisted as always at this ceremony.

Tree Planting & Thanksgiving Ceremony

Run by the Heart and Lung Foundation and supported by TAWA members.

Christmas Party 2019

A picnic in a playground designed for all the family, an all abilities play area.

This was attended by over 50 members including at least 10 kids.



A message from the Chair of the Australian Sports Commission - John Wylie AM

The start of 2020 has been an extraordinarily tough time for Australians, including all of us committed to sport.

The impact of bushfires and the COVID-19 pandemic have been confronting for communities, where we all know sport plays such an important role.

At the Australian Sports Commission (ASC), comprising Sport Australia and the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), our energy is focused on supporting our partners through these times as we continue to advocate the importance of sport to our economy, productivity, health, wellbeing and culture.

We believe whole-heartedly that when we get through this challenging period, sport will play a prominent role in lifting the nation's energy and spirits again.

Times such as these can also make us more appreciative of what we do have and of the success we have achieved.

Success in sport is always hard fought. But it's a fight Australian high-performance sport welcomes as it continues to achieve success.

Last year the wonderful Ash Barty won the French Open and became our first female No1 tennis player since her idol, Evonne Goolagong Cawley, in 1976. Javelin-thrower Kelsey Lee-Barber set personal bests throughout the year and took the title at the IAAF World Championships in Doha. Dylan Alcott added three more Grand

Slam quad wheelchair singles trophies to the cabinet and Sailing duo Matt Belcher and Will Ryan claimed the men's 470 World Championship. In the pool, our swimmers won seven gold medals at the FINA World Championships, placing Australia fourth on the medal tally.

This year our inspiring women's cricket team won a fifth World T20 title, drawing a record crowd of 86,174 to the MCG. How fitting that this historical moment fell on International Women's Day. These results are a testament to the tenacity and passion of athletes, coaches, sports staff and sporting organisations, which know we have all the skills and abilities to achieve success.

I am proud too of the service our organisation provides to Australian sport each year, on behalf of the Australian Government.

The ASC, through Sport Australia and the AIS, delivers 25,000 grants a year.

The AIS, funds and prepares our Olympic, Paralympic and Commonwealth Games to represent us at the highest level in international competition.

In the past few years, we have enhanced our support to athlete wellbeing and engagement, a move that is essential, especially in the current environment.

Sport Australia invests in sports participation programs, from our national Sporting Schools program for younger children through to the

Better Ageing program aimed at Australians aged 65 and over.

So many of these grants fuel aspirations. Our Local Sporting Champions program supports 9,000 children a year to reach for their sporting dreams.

Our Women Leaders in Sport program and the AIS Talent program provide opportunities for women to progress their professional development in all roles across sport.

We continue to work with sports to modernise traditional governance structures in Australian sporting organisations and we continue to encourage environments that are inclusive, diverse, safe and welcoming, making sport the benchmark for a more equitable society.

This was to be the year of the 2020 Olympics and Paralympics in Tokyo. Instead, it has been postponed to 2021, with the Olympic Games to be held from 23 July to 8 August 2021 and the Paralympics from 24 August to 5 September 2021.

We have already witnessed a great deal of positivity from athletes who now need to re-set. I'm confident, as a united sport system, we will do the same.



This Members Review for
the 2019 Year should be
read in conjunction with the
2009 Financial Statements
available at:

transplant.org.au/annual-report-agm

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