



48TH INTERNATIONAL
MENTAL HEALTH
NURSING CONFERENCE
29 OCT - 1 NOV 2024, PERTH

30TH ANNUAL
**Oration and
Investiture Ceremony**

Wednesday 30th October 2024
The Westin, Perth





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PROGRAM

Program commences at 3:45pm.

President, Professor Rhonda Wilson to take the podium and welcome invited guests, Life Members, Fellows, and Members

Investiture of members

President presents the candidates for Investiture as members of the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses Inc. New members are invited to stand as they are formally invested and welcomed into the College.

Investiture of fellows

President introduces members who have met the criteria for Fellowship and invests the new Fellows into the College. Acting President confers the award of Fellowship on the candidates. Fellows are invited to the stage to receive their Fellowship Certificate.



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2024 - Fellows

Dr Brent Hayward
Ms Julia Hunt
Ms Sonia Miller
Prof Rhonda Wilson
Mrs Joanne Wild
Dr Eric Lim
Mr Stephen Haines
Ms Kobie Hatch

2024 - Life Members

Prof Wendy Cross
Ms Cecily Pollard

Board Directors

Prof Rhonda Wilson (President)
Dr Cathy Daniel (Vice President)
Ms Kristy Arroll
Mr Nathan Dart
Prof Brenda Happell
Ms Tracy Tabvuma
Ms Alison Thorn
Assoc. Prof Tanya Park
Ms Tracy Beaton

Acknowledgement of past Board Director:

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Chief Executive Officer

Mr Adrian Armitage

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Mrs Joanne Wild (Deputy Chair)
Mr Robert Silburn
Dr Patricia Bradley
Mrs Bosede Adetifa
Mr Paul Odoemena
Dr Brent Hayward

Acknowledgment of past contributors over the previous 12 months:

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Mr Robert Batterbee
Mr Richard Lakeman

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Ms Alison Hansen
Miss Kate Currey
Mrs Jessica McEvoy
Mr Cameron Marshman
Mr Joseph Niroshkumar
Miss Julie Porter

Acknowledgment of past contributors over the previous 12 months:

Mrs Jessica McEvoy

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Mr Nathan Dart (Chair)
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Mr Adrian Armitage – CEO
Ms Irene Dummett – Operations Manager



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ACMHN Conference Scientific Committee

Dr Catherine Daniel (Chair)
Prof Rhonda Wilson
Mr Adrian Armitage
Dr Brent Hayward
Ms Joanne Suggett
Ms Samantha Hart
Dr Marie Boulianne
Dr Jenny Hamilton

International Journal of Mental Health Nursing

Dist. Prof Kim Usher (Editor in Chief)
Prof Kim Foster (Associate Editor)
Dr Tanya Park (Associate Editor)
Assoc. Prof. Sebastian Gabrielsson
(Associate Editor)
Dr Brett Scholz (Associate Editor)
Prof Rhonda Wilson (Social Media
Editor)
Dr Denis Visentin (Statistical
Consultant)

Council of Branches

Ms Alison Thorn - Chair
Mr Matthew Ireland – Former Chair

Branch Chairs

Mr Matthew Ireland (Greater Sydney)
Ms Janine Max (Central Coast &
Hunter New England)
Mr Evan Player (Northern QLD)
Ms Vicki Green (Southern Queensland)
Mr Martin Musco (Northern Territory)

Mr James Houghton (Victoria)
Dr Marie Boulianne (Western Australia)
Ms Leigh Peterson (South Australia)
*Acknowledgment of past contributors
over the previous 12 months:*
Mr Ciaran Carolan (Northern NSW)
Mr Tom Ryan (Northern QLD)

Special Interest Group Chairs

Miss Julie Porter (Education)
Dr Susan Sumskis (Contemplative
Practices)
Ms Julie Sharrock (Clinical
Supervision)
Ms Sonia Miller (Nurse Practitioners
Mental Health)
Ms Tanya Cottrell (Elderly Care)
Ms Leigh Peterson (Consultation
Liaison)
*Acknowledgement to past contributors
over the last 12 months:*
Ms Claire Hudson-McAuley
(Psychotherapy)
Mr John Forster (Consultation Liaison)

Conference Organising Committee

Mr Adrian Armitage – CEO
Ms Samantha Hart – Conference
Manager
Ms Erika Edwards – Speaker Manager
Ms Emma Wundersitz – Sponsorship
and Exhibition Manager
Ms Paige Durnan – Conference
Coordinator



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ACMHN Staff

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Mr Adrian Armitage | Chief Executive Officer |
| Ms Irene Dummett | Operations Manager |
| Prof Mary Chiarella | Senior Policy Advisor |
| Ms Lauren Tait | Membership and Accounts Officer |
| Ms Jillian Williams | Accounts and Bookkeeper |
| Mr Jackson Borham | Marketing and Communications Officer |
| Ms Kobi Ellem | Administration Officer (Credentialing and Endorsement) |
| Ms Bethany Longden | Former Membership Officer |
| Mr Angus Jolly | Former Marketing and Communications Officer |



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Life Member 2024: Professor Wendy Cross



With great respect and honour, the College is proud to announce that Prof Wendy Cross has been confirmed by the Board as a Life Member of the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses.

As a former President of ACMHN and Board Director, Prof Wendy Cross is also the former Dean, School of Nursing and Healthcare Professions at Federation University, Australia. Recently, she has taken the lead on the Scope of Practice and Capabilities discussion with the Department of Health and Aged Care on behalf of the College.

Wendy has built a successful career in nursing, research, and education. She has been awarded numerous research and teaching grants and has extensive experience in a range of nursing and management roles.

Prof Cross brings a wealth of expertise in strategic and operational management, governance, practice development, clinical governance, policy development, performance management, and workforce planning. In 2007, she joined Monash University's School of Nursing and Midwifery, focusing on mental health nursing research. She was appointed Professor and Head of the School of Nursing and Midwifery in 2009, and in 2016, she became Associate Dean of Nursing and Allied Health within the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing, and Health Sciences.

Wendy holds a Bachelor of Applied Science in Advanced Nursing, a Master of Education by research (Ed Psych) and a Doctor of Philosophy (Transcultural Psychiatry).

Wendy's primary research interests include mental health and mental health nursing, clinical supervision, service evaluation and development, workplace learning and broad-based research methods including both quantitative and qualitative paradigms.



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Life Member 2024: Mrs Cecily Pollard



We are honoured to announce that Cecily Pollard has been confirmed by the Board as a Life Member of the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses.

Cecily has been committed to the promotion of high quality and safe care through the examination and development of better practices, improving quality outcomes and safety for those with mental illness.

Passionate about patient advocacy, Cecily has worked to ensure that practices are respectful, culturally appropriate and delivered in a holistic environment. She has a passion for psychiatry within the general hospital setting and the provision of quality mental health care. Cecily brings experience and a reputation as a leader and pioneer in the delivery of quality mental health services for the community.

Her inclusive approach has fostered strong working partnerships within nursing, mental health, and broader communities. By offering sensitive and insightful contributions, she has helped build effective collaborations that consistently lead to positive outcomes. Cecily's commitment to partnership extends to patient-centred care, particularly advocating for informed consent and supporting those who are seriously ill and unable to consent to treatment.

Cecily has held several mental health-oriented leadership positions, working with multi-disciplinary teams, while focusing on the continuum of mental health care. She has been an active member of various committees and working groups focused on mental health, nursing, and patient safety, bringing a wealth of experience to these settings.

Cecily has consistently provided quality mental health advice to decision-makers. Her passion for education, sharing knowledge, and her dedication to mental health care continues to inspire those around her. Cecily's reputation for discretion, organisational excellence, and her broad understanding of the healthcare and mental health sectors is truly valued by all who have worked with her.



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30th Annual Oration

Orator: Professor Andrew Cashin



Prof Andrew Cashin is Professor of Autism and Intellectual Disability, School of Health and Human Sciences at Southern Cross University. Andrew conducts a Nurse Practitioner clinic for people with autism, their families and those that work with people with autism.

Prof Cashin's research focus is autism and advanced practice nursing, he has published widely on these research areas. Andrew is a Fellow of the Australian College of Nurse Practitioners, Australian College of Mental Health Nurses, and the Australian College of Nursing. He is a life member of the Australian College of Nurse Practitioners. He is also Adjunct Professor at the University of Sydney.

Prof Cashin's Oration is titled Bringing it to words- the potential power of linguistic precision in beginning to solve the mystery of what is every nurse's business, as compared to the business of the specialist mental health nurse: The curious and illuminating example of practice with people with autism and/or Intellectual Disability