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# CONFERENCE ROUNDUP



Acorn Conference was held at Royal Randwick Racecourse on 28- 20 November. AS you can see from the picture above a number of South Australian delegates were in attendance. It was a fantastic conference with the theme of “Uniting and Igniting” bringing us all together. There were many highlights throughout the program including a keynote address by Julia Baird, and the Judith Cornell Oration by ACORN stalwart Phyllis Davis.

If you have yet to attend a conference, please take note of the SAPNA State Conference being held at the Entertainment Centre this coming September- and note that after two years of membership you are eligible for SAPNA and ACORN grants to attend conferences or help fund your research projects.

Check out the website for details.

## **Judith Berry Perioperative Nurse Excellence Award**

Every year the Judith Berry Award is awarded to a Nurse who has demonstrated excellence in Perioperative Nursing in relation to Care, Vision and Excellence. The Award is a \$500 monetary prize to be used in furtherance of the winner's perioperative career, professional development, study or research including travel costs and personal expenses related to supporting these activities. You may self-nominate or nominate a worthy colleague.

For 2025, this Award has been doubled to **\$1000!!!**

Please see our website for details and to download an application form. Nominations will be judged by a SAPNA Awards sub-committee and the winner announced at the SAPNA State Conference in September.





## **Working overseas in Indonesia with Adelaide's Craniofacial Surgical Team.**

Hello, my name is Cathy Cross and the newest member of SAPNA's committee 2025.

Some of you will recognise me, as I've been on the committee before a few years back, and I've worked within the Perioperative nursing field for more than 30 years, both in private and public.



I have specialised over the years with Plastics and Craniofacial, and since 2012 I have been travelling overseas to Indonesia, working with Adelaide's Craniofacial Consultants, to teach and support our international colleagues.

Currently I am working at the RAH in the Technical Suites, and working overseas once a year supported by OSSAA, *Overseas Specialist Surgical Association of Australia*.

This report details the work that Dr. Walter Flapper and Nurse Cathy Cross conducted during a recent trip to Indonesia 2024, specifically Jakarta and Manado. We were first invited to the region in 2012 by Dr. Mendy Oley, the only Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon for North Sulawesi, and her husband Dr. Maxi Oley, a Neurosurgeon. This visit in 2023 is the first time we have been back since Covid and 2021.

Since 2012, we have visited every year, teaching, and supporting both the surgical doctors and nurses of Siloam Private Hospital and Kandou Public Hospital.

Jakarta Craniofacial Patient Clinics were established by Professor David David and we have continued to provide service and support to these patients.

Our visits are planned out to include running patient clinics where we usually see past patients for ongoing reviews and surgical planning and new patients, surgical procedures both planned and trauma cases.

The Craniofacial patients typically have syndromic conditions such as-

- Hemifacial Microsomia
- Crouzon Syndrome
- Apert Syndrome
- Cohen Syndrome
- Rare Tessier Clefts

Craniofacial surgeons work closely with multidisciplinary teams to individually plan and coordinate each patient's surgical journey as they grow and mature to ensure the best outcome for each patient. This is an important part of sharing knowledge and experience with the Indonesian Surgeons to impart the surgical protocols used to map out each patients planned surgery as they grow, during these clinics.

Follow up appointments included-

- Orthodontics
- Physio
- ENT or Orthopaedics
- CT and MRI scans
- Ophthalmologist

Future surgical plans and scheduling included-

- Lefort 1 and 3 procedures
- Malocclusion and Apnoea concerns
- Rhinoplasty and Rib Graft
- Abbe flap
- Canthopexy
- Bimaxillary Advancement

Kandou General Hospital theatre environment has improved dramatically since 2018 and 2019. The theatres have been renovated with the installation of booms that convey power outlets as opposed to multiple power packs and extension cords traversing the theatre floor. They are cleaner, have easier access to surgical instrumentation and consumables. In the past I was required to scrub as the primary scrub nurse to assist Dr. Flapper and Dr. Mendy, but I was inspired to see that my influence and education has made in roads to the theatre staff, and I was only required to guide and translate in many instances. The nurses

whom I have worked with in Siloam Private Hospital also work in Kandou theatres. My main teaching areas then focused on sustainable and realistic clinical techniques and safety. Safe sharps management, manual handling techniques and pre-emptive and intuitive instrument nurse clinical skills.

Interesting how they adapt with a lack of consumable choices. The nurses created a 'guarded diathermy tip' by cutting the very end of the plastic sleeve that covers the spatula tip, thus achieving the very same guarded diathermy tip.

Surgical Time Out or Surgical Safety Check is conducted between all the staff, and they pray for the patient, with heads bowed. The difference being their patient is already asleep, anaesthetised, whereas our patients actively participate in surgical time out and vocalise with their name, date of birth, surgical procedure and allergies.

This visit has been very insightful into the benefits of regular and sustainable surgical clinics in Indonesia. We are seeing a large growth in plastic surgery surgical trainees across Indonesia, and a growing population to sustain them in the Craniofacial surgical specialty with trauma and syndromic birth defects and the necessary surgical interventions. We are now teaching another generation from the years of visiting and passing our skills and knowledge to the colleagues we meet and work alongside in the operating theatres of Indonesia.





**WESTERN**  
YOUR HOSPITAL THAT CARES

Western Hospital in conjunction with Stryker invite you to a  
day of

# **Orthopedic Equipment and Small Bone Trauma Education 8th March 2025**

Held in the newly renovated state of art theatre at  
Western Private Hospital Henley Beach

**9 am - Sign in.**

**9.15– 9.45am – Power equipment** with Michelle Hogan

**9.45 -10.45am- Small Bone Fractures/Plating** with Scott Tampalini

**10.45-11.15 am – Condrotomes & Scopes/Cameras** with Catlin  
Watson

**11.15 – 12pm Morning tea and CPD Certificate collection**



Please register to confirm your spot

<https://www.trybooking.com/CYMWF>



## Conferences around Australia and the Globe

At SAPNA, we are committed to providing exceptional educational opportunities for our members. To support ongoing learning and professional development, we are pleased to share both local and international opportunities that align with your educational goals.

Looking ahead, we aim to promote not only our own committee and educational initiatives but also those of other organizations relevant to Perioperative Nursing.

This month, we are excited to highlight the **International Conference for PeriAnaesthesia Nurses (ICPAN 2025)**, taking place in **Dublin, Ireland, from September 10–12, 2025**.

As a reminder, members with a minimum of two years' membership are eligible to apply for study grants to support their educational pursuits.

The poster features a teal background on the left and a green shamrock pattern on the right. The Irish Anaesthetic and Recovery Nurses Association logo is in the top left. The ICPAN logo, featuring a globe of flags, is in the top right. The main text is centered over the shamrock pattern.



7<sup>th</sup> International Conference for  
Perianaesthesia Nurses



**Embracing Diverse Global  
Perianaesthesia Practices**

**10 - 12 September 2025**

**Shake Your Shamrocks**  
with international colleagues in Dublin, Ireland!



# **Behind the Mask: Showcasing our Teams**

As part of an exciting new initiative, the SAPNA Committee is proud to showcase perioperative teams from across our beautiful state. For our inaugural feature, we are highlighting the dedicated team at Western Hospital, who have recently undergone significant changes and shared their inspiring journey with us.

If you would like to see your team featured in an upcoming edition and have your photo included in our newsletter, please contact Katie Morgan at [secretary@sapna.org.au](mailto:secretary@sapna.org.au).

## **Western Adelaide Private Hospital – A New Chapter for Our Theatre Team**



Western Adelaide Private Hospital has recently emerged from a lengthy administration period and is now under the new ownership of a dedicated

group of doctors and Amplatzer Health. This transition marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter for both the hospital and its perioperative team.

Amidst these changes, one of the most significant developments is the opening of Theatre 4—a brand-new, state-of-the-art facility purpose-built as a dedicated orthopaedic theatre. With this expansion, we are thrilled to welcome two new orthopaedic surgeons, two new gynaecologists, and one gastroenterologist to our growing team.

Further improvements are also underway. We are set to relocate the DOSA (Day of Surgery Admissions) unit, consolidating the perioperative journey for day-stay patients into one streamlined department on a single floor. Tennison Private Ward will also expand as we are adding 10 extra overnight beds, increasing our capacity to accommodate post-surgical patients in a comfortable and modern setting. Additionally, renovations will soon commence on two of our existing theatres, ensuring we continue to provide the highest standard of surgical care. These upgrades will also extend to our CSSD (Central Sterile Services Department), with new washers to be installed.

While management diligently oversees these transformations, our small yet incredibly close-knit theatre team has remained unwavering in their dedication through these testing times. Their loyalty and adaptability have been instrumental in the hospital's success, and their hard work does not go unnoticed. The camaraderie among staff fosters a supportive and professional environment, where nurses, surgeons, and anaesthetists work seamlessly together.

At Western Adelaide Private Hospital, we take great pride in cultivating a strong sense of community within our theatres. Our team thrives on collaboration, professionalism, and mutual respect, creating a workplace where both staff and patients feel valued. With increased surgical throughput, we are looking to expand our team and dedicated perioperative staff are encouraged to apply.

As we move forward, we remain committed to delivering exceptional perioperative care and are excited about the positive changes ahead.

# Member Survey Summary & 2025 Planning

Recently, we conducted a member survey to gather feedback on key priorities and your expectations from the SAPNA committee. Below is a summary of the responses and how they will shape our plans for 2025:

- **Session Timing:** Members showed a strong preference for Saturday morning sessions, with weeknight sessions as the second most popular option. In 2025, we will continue to schedule Saturday morning sessions and introduce one weekday evening session.
- **Session Locations:** While there was a slight preference for traveling to the southern suburbs, preferences for northern, western, and central locations were nearly equal. We will continue to host most sessions at the SPF Hall at the Repat and plan an additional session at the Royal Adelaide Hospital.
- **Session Format:** Members expressed a strong preference for interactive workshops or a combination of presentations and hands-on activities. In response, our 2025 sessions will dedicate more time to interactive learning and engagement.
- **Networking Opportunities:** Feedback highlighted a desire for more networking and peer-learning opportunities. We will ensure that each education session includes dedicated time for members to connect and share knowledge.
- **Newsletter Value:** The SAPNA newsletter is considered a valuable resource, and we will continue to provide this to our members.
- **Education Grants:** There was significant interest in an education grant as a potential member benefit. The committee will continue working on this initiative.
- **Online Sessions:** Members indicated moderate interest in online education sessions. To assess participation, we will host an evening online session in March and evaluate engagement.
- **Topic Suggestions:** Thank you to everyone who contributed topic ideas! Based on your feedback, we will ensure our sessions cover anaesthetic, recovery, and day surgery topics, along with content relevant to those working in private hospitals.

We always welcome members who are interested in presenting at an education session. If you have a new practice, research findings, a quality improvement project, or any topic of interest, we encourage you to reach out to us at

**[education@sapna.org.au](mailto:education@sapna.org.au)**.

Thank you for your valuable feedback—we look forward to an engaging and informative year ahead!

## **Upcoming SAPNA Sessions**

***Saturday, 22nd February, 0830 – 1300.***

Interactive, hands-on session with J&J Med Tech.

***Tuesday, 18th March, 1900 – 2000.***

Webinar in collaboration with patientsafety.org: "Empowering Perioperative Professionals to Enhance Staff & Patient Safety: The Story of the Rider, the Elephant & the Path".

Register via the SAPNA website: [SAPNA Combined Online Education Session 18th March 2025 - SAPNA](#)

***Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> May, 0830 – 1300.***

Anaesthetic / Recovery / Day Surgery focus TBC

***September Conference, 19-20 September***

Adelaide Entertainment Centre.

***November session -TBC***





STAFF  
AND  
PATIENT  
SAFETY

**SAPNA**



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN  
PERIOPERATIVE NURSES  
ASSOCIATION

A collaborative webinar with the South Australian  
Perioperative Nurses Association (SAPNA) and  
[StaffAndPatientSafety.org](http://StaffAndPatientSafety.org)

# Be the Change You Want to See in Staff & Patient Safety: *The Story of the Rider & the Elephant*

In this webinar you will learn to:

- Describe key barriers and facilitators for the successful implementation of projects to improve perioperative staff safety.
- Identify a perioperative staff safety risk that could be addressed and prepare a change management project plan based on recommendations.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of safety improvement projects within perioperative units to ensure sustainable change is maintained.

**Register via the QR Code**

**Date: 18 March, 2025**

**Time: 6.30 - 7.30 pm**



Dr Michael Sinnott  
(MBBS, FACEM, FRACP)



Dr Chamindika Konara (PhD)



Dr Shreya Singh (PhD)

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

SAPNA STATE CONFERENCE • 2025

# NAVIGATING EXCELLENCE

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19–20 SEPTEMBER  
ADELAIDE ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN  
PERIOPERATIVE NURSES  
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