

## **Chairperson's Report**

It is good to see that we are getting back to normal operations even with COVID still lingering.

Having an opportunity to meet face to face with members at our recent information day in the Newcastle region was a pleasure after a long break in offering this support to members.

I would like to thank our General Manager Mary Egan and our staff have done a great job of continuing to provide quality service despite the difficulties of managing through COVID. It has not always been easy, but they have managed the difficulties well.

The board has continued to ensure that NSW Stoma maintains a high standard of governance and stays in a sound financial position. We are still performing well financially despite no increases in the level of funding from the Federal Government. Member donations have helped to allow us to continue providing extra support to members such as information days, our Journal, stomal therapy nurse support etc. Thank you, members, for your ongoing support.

The board will have two members retiring at this AGM Ken Batten and Kingsley Liu. A great thank you to Ken who has made a great contribution to ensuring the good governance as a board member and Treasurer.

Kingsley has been a valuable board member as a lawyer providing legal support. He has generously offered to continue to volunteer to provide valuable and much appreciated pro bono legal support to the board after leaving.

We will also have three new board members joining us this year: Ian Niccol, Graham Lawson, and John Hickey. Ian Niccol was appointed as Treasurer and brings valuable experience as a qualified accountant with his own accounting firm.

Graham Lawson brings valuable experience having held several senior positions in health administration and John Hickey has held senior positions in education.

Members can feel confident that we have a strong board who are committed to members service and support as well as ensuring good governance going forward.

As we continue to grow our membership, we will at some point soon need to consider our premises as we are getting close to capacity. This will be one of the issues the board will be considering over the next year.

The other major change over the next year will be the need to covert our primary computer system to the SAMS system that is utilised by most of the other Stoma Associations which will come with a very good member interface to make ordering supplies easier for members.

Overall, I am pleased to summarise our position as having a growing membership, sound finances, with sound governance policies and procedures in place.

Allen Nash  
Chair - NSW Stoma Ltd