



Yvonne Falckh  
NT Branch Secretary

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## MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

As we approach Christmas and New Year I would like to take the opportunity to wish all nurses and their families a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

I would like to share with you some of ANF NT's achievements for the year. The introduction to Nurse Practitioners is almost a reality. Nursing Hours per Patient Day has been introduced in the acute sector, with the areas of most need being addressed first. Successful negotiation outcomes have been achieved for Katherine West Health Board and Sunrise Health Services with nurses receiving wages in line with the Public Sector Nurses wage rates. ANF NT has for the first time ever offered scholarships to its members. The Branch has also paid off the loan for the purchase of its current offices and enters the New Year in a sound financial position.

ANF NT has achieved its highest ever membership numbers. There is strength in numbers and as we grow it is important to remember that the ANF NT is not us in this office, but it is you the membership. It is the membership that drives the changes that affect where nursing is going in the future. The branch is always looking for more Job Delegates, so if this is something that you may have considered in the past, speak to your colleagues and have them nominate you to this very important and integral role within your union. Every worksite should have at least one Job Delegate to provide support to the members and be the conduit to the Secretary and Organisers. It is important to note that the Branch does not appoint JD's, it is you the membership that do this.

I wish to advise all members that the office will be closing down from 23rd December 2008 and will reopen on 5th January 2009. For urgent matters please ring the office on 8920 0700 and contact the person identified on the recorded phone message. Be safe.

### Llorabel Reynolds Scholarship

In the last insert I congratulated Michelle Walding for being our first recipient of the Llorabel Reynolds ANF NT Scholarship. I am pleased to announce that we have two further recipients of the scholarship. Ronnie Taylor and Cherrie Whitbread, who are in the process of completing their Masters of Nursing (Nurse Practitioner), were successful in being awarded a scholarship from the ANF NT.

### Branch Council Elections

Outcomes of the recent Branch Council elections have been officially declared by the Australian Electoral Commission. Your Branch Council for the next two years is:

President	Shirel Nomoa	
Vice-President	Mick McClellan	
Branch Executive	Frank Pearson	Karen Brown
Branch Councillor	Ian James	Simon Murphy
	Leslie Gay	Richard Sherwill

Two vacancies still exist for Branch Executive and four vacancies for Branch Council. The Branch has lodged a request with the Australian Industrial Registry (AIR) to hold another election to fill those vacancies. At the time this insert has gone to print, no confirmation has been received from the AIR.

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**MembersEquity**  
The Super Funds Bank

## from the branch office

### Message From The Secretary (continued)

#### Nurse Practitioner Conference

I was fortunate to attend the National Nurse Practitioner Conference in Melbourne in October 2008.

It was great to see a number of our NT nurses who have either completed their studies or are near completion of their studies at the conference. They included Cheryl Wirtanen, Nick Ploegsma, Beth Amega, Jenny Byrne, Simon Stafford and Ronnie Taylor. Professor Sandra Dunn presented an informative paper at the conference.



*Photo: (L-R) Cheryl Wirtanen, Sandra Dunn, Yvonne Falckh, Nick Ploegsma, Beth Amega, Jenny Byrne, Marianne Shanahan and Ronnie Taylor at the National Nurse Practitioner Conference in Melbourne*

### Message From The President - Shirel Nomoa

Where has this year gone? Christmas is just weeks away. I would like to thank our Branch Secretary Yvonne, Organisers Angela and Kat, Membership officer Karen and Admin officer Jay. I can't believe the workload in the office has had this year, all I can say is well done everyone.

To the Workplace delegates, for the time you give freely in support of your colleagues and the ANF branch, thank you, the Branch could not do what we do without your valuable contribution.

To the Branch Councilors who left us this year, thank you for your good work and direction over the last two years.

Welcome to the newly elected Branch Councilors, I look forward to meeting you all in the New Year.

I would like to thank our valuable sponsors that support the branch: HESTA - Tony; Members Equity - Steve; and Industry Fund Financial Planning – Sharyn. We look forward to your continued support next year.

To the members, have a safe and happy Christmas and see you next year.

Remember united we stand divided we fall. YOU are the UNION, ALL STAND TOGETHER.



#### Organiser's Report

Katherine Savvas | [Kat.ntanf@octa4.net.au](mailto:Kat.ntanf@octa4.net.au)

Darwin Private Hospital's current agreement expires on 1st February 2009. A survey was sent out to members to assist us in finding out what nurses employed at Darwin Private Hospital want. We are currently collating data from this survey and putting together a log of claims.

As we enter a new bargaining period with Darwin Private Hospital, we urge our members to nominate their colleagues within work areas to become Job Delegates. This is crucial, as our members ARE the union, and will be of huge assistance during the bargaining period. Job Delegates can assist by disseminating information to other staff members and bringing issues to our attention. We also require Job Delegates to be part of the bargaining team. So come on members this is your workplace so participate and be an integral part in achieving better outcomes for your fellow members at DPH. As said earlier - YOU are the UNION.

## organiser's report



### Organiser's Report

Angela Phillips | Angela.ntanf@octa4.net.au

#### NTPS Nurses Agreement Negotiations - Campaign 2008

**"NURSES you can't live without them. WHO will care for YOU?"**

I would like to thank all of the JD's, bargaining team and members for their assistance and support throughout the bargaining process. At the time of writing this the outcome for the ballot has not been decided, but which ever way the ballot falls I believe we, as a Union, will continue to forge ahead to keep improving members working conditions in the Northern Territory. And the UCA, if it is agreed to by members, gives the ANF membership a firm platform to work with towards our goals.

#### Christmas / New Year

Again I would like to thank all of the JD's and members who have supported and assisted the office over the last year. The year has gone so fast and before we know it will be 2009.

I look forward to working with you all in the New Year, we will have some pretty big challenges ahead of us and I believe that with our membership being as strong as it has ever been, we will achieve great things in 2009.

I hope you all have a joyous Christmas and Happy New Year.



#### Job Delegate Training Top End Region

We had an excellent number of Job Delegates attend the training, 21 in all. JD's left the training fired up and keen to ensure workplaces were properly staffed and nurses were not forced to work in situations that threatened their ability to provide safe, quality care to their patients.

*Photo: Job Delegate training held in September*

Collective Agreements	Current Situation
Frontier Services and Juninga CA	Current agreement expires on the 1st December 2008.
Kormilda College	Log of Claims has been presented to management.
St Johns	Currently developing a Log of Claims.
Hetti Perkins	Re-establishing a Union Collective Agreement. No movement from management in Canberra.
Congress (CAAC)	Members are getting Log of Claims together.
NT Public Sector Nurses	Agreement voted on and counted on the 1st December 2008, outcomes not available at time of print. If agreement is accepted by NTPS nurses, there is an expectation that they may receive back pay by Christmas.
Marthakal Health Service	Still awaiting response from management to negotiate a union collective agreement.
Anyinginyi	Nil response from Chamber of Commerce - stalled.
Miwatj	Log of claims have been developed and negotiations are underway.
Darwin Private Hospital	Responses from the survey to develop Log of Claims is being collated. Once collated members will review LOC and endorse the LOC.

## news briefs

### 2009 Nurses Pocket Diaries

New 2009 pocket diaries have arrived in the office and are being sold at \$5.00 per diary. We have only ordered 750 diaries so you will need to be quick to reserve yourself a copy. Similar nurses diaries are being sold at newsagents for \$12.50, so this is a really fantastic offer.

### Membership Officer

Karen Shepard | [membership.ntanf@octa4.net.au](mailto:membership.ntanf@octa4.net.au)

Last month was a very exciting month for ANF NT membership. We had a record number of new members join, so I would just like to go over a few basic points.

First, please make sure your mailing address, contact phone number, and employer details are kept up to date. You can do this over the phone, or use the "Review of Details" form in the "Members" section of the website. Secondly, please ensure your fees are paid on time. The easiest way to make sure they aren't forgotten is to sign up for direct debit from a bank account or automatic credit card payments. The authorisation form is located in the "Join Now" section of the website, or you can call us for more information. Thank you.

If you have any questions about your membership, please call 8920 0702.

### Website

The ANF NT Branch website ([www.anfnt.org.au](http://www.anfnt.org.au)) has links to current outcomes and worksite information. The website has membership application, method of payments and review of membership details forms which may be downloaded and either posted or faxed to the NT ANF Branch.

### Important Websites to Visit

ANF NT website	<a href="http://www.anfnt.org.au">www.anfnt.org.au</a>	Industry Fund Financial Planning	<a href="http://www.IFFP.com.au">www.IFFP.com.au</a>
Unions NT	<a href="http://www.unionsnt.com.au">www.unionsnt.com.au</a>	ACTU	<a href="http://www.actu.asn.au">www.actu.asn.au</a>
Members Equity	<a href="http://www.membersequity.com.au">www.membersequity.com.au</a>	YRAW	<a href="http://www.yourrightsatwork.com.au">www.yourrightsatwork.com.au</a>
Hesta	<a href="http://www.hesta.com.au">www.hesta.com.au</a>		

### Professional Development

The ANF is a Nationally Registered Training Organisation (RTO) who offer quality training by professional staff and is committed to maintaining excellence in all fields of nursing.

The ANF Education staff can tailor workshops to suit your workplace needs and staff professional development. These courses can be delivered in your workplace for staff convenience.

Courses available include: manual handling, infection control, medications, wound care, challenging behaviours, documentation and reporting, palliative care, communication skills and many more.

For further information, please contact the ANF RTO at: [rto@anf.org.au](mailto:rto@anf.org.au)

### ANF'S CPE Online - Quality, Convenient, Professional Development

Build your professional development portfolio with ANF's CPE record.

For further details on Continuing Professional Education Online - please follow the link on the ANF NT website.