



NEW ZEALAND  
**WOUND CARE  
SOCIETY**

# Annual Report

1 July 2023 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024

The New Zealand Wound Care Society Incorporated

Society Registration: 671834

Charities Commission: CC44360

Website: <http://www.nzwcs.org.nz>

Contact: [administrator@nzwcs.org.nz](mailto:administrator@nzwcs.org.nz)

# INTRODUCTION

The New Zealand Wound Care Society Inc (NZWCS) is a voluntary organisation made up of health care professionals from a variety of disciplines who share a common interest in wound management. As an organisation it gives members an opportunity to share experience, expertise and knowledge providing a forum to network with other members throughout Aotearoa.

The aims of the society include:

1. Improve outcomes and quality of life for patients with wound and skin integrity problems.
2. Provide and encourage best practice wound management across all health care settings.
3. Be a recognised voice at national and local level in any issues relating to wound healing or maintaining skin integrity.
4. To participate in relevant or appropriate national and international forums and guideline development.

To achieve this, we focus on education and professional development, as well as fostering and encouraging an evidence-based approach to wound management. We hold regular local education sessions and study days, organised by Area Coordinators, and a biennial national conference.

Currently, there are thirteen NZWCS areas across Aotearoa: Northland, Auckland, Waikato, Rotorua/Taupo, Bay of Plenty, Manawatu/Palmerston North/Wanganui, New Plymouth/Taranaki, Gisborne/Hawke's Bay, Wellington, Marlborough/Nelson, Christchurch, Dunedin, and Southland.

The NZWCS is a registered Incorporated Society (No. 671834)

Registered Charity (No. CC44360) and has Donee status with the Inland Revenue.

President	Rebecca Aburn
Vice-President	Sasha Drennan
Honorary Treasurer	Emil Schmidt
Administrator	Lee-Anne Stone
National Education	Sue Lee (on leave) Sasha Drennan

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# EXECUTIVE AND SOCIETY REPORTS

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It has been a privilege representing the NZWCS as president for the last year. It is humbling to work with members who are enthusiastic and passionate about improving the lives of patients who are faced with wounds. Special thanks to our working groups, area coordinators and committee for attending night meetings, supporting your colleagues and providing much support and guidance for the Society, it has been a privilege to work with you all.

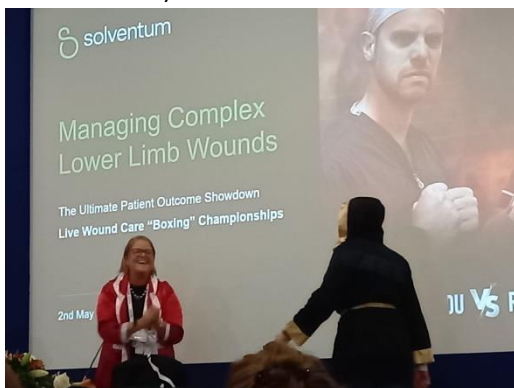


The Society's roles and responsibilities continue to grow, we are well supported by Lee- Anne (administrator) and Sasha (educator) both are part-time paid roles and are the backbone of the society. I am personally grateful for all their support and patience.

This year we were supported by EWMA to attend the London 2024 conference by giving us free registration for myself, as president, to then attend various meetings and AGMs. I used my CME money to get me over to this conference and meetings. I went to the international partner organisation meeting where we reviewed the EWMA strategic plan;

1. Improve partnerships with international organisations.
2. Improve industry involvement.
3. Raise the profile of EWMA internationally.
4. Work with government to improve outcomes for patients with wounds.
5. Embark on more joint ventures such as support international organisations with webinars and conferences.

Current new documents that are being released by EWMA, and can be adapted and used by partners, are the NPWT update, Cold Plasma Strategic Document, Lower Leg Ulcer Diagnosis and Treatment. Also, several new webinars are free to view on the EWMA website. To be released 2024/25 Palliative Wound Management, Home Care Wound Management TOOLKIT- (this is focused on family and carers delivering the care in the home).



I met with Dr Kylie Sandy-Hodgetts who is the Institute of Skin Integrity and Infection Prevention director, this group is pitching for the 2030 World Union Wound Healing Society in Perth. NZWCS remain members of the World Union Wound Healing Society (WUWHS) enabling us to share our experiences and education in wound care worldwide. The WUWHS Congress meetings occur every 4 years and for the 2026 meeting, the NZWCS will be invited to attend in Kuala Lumpur.

I also attended the international compression club meeting where there was much discussion on what constituted a good study on compression. Reviewing the current literature there are some inconsistencies and Professor Giovanni Mosti proposed that we try to standardise the way in which we approach the research. This generated much discussion in the room. The proposal was that we ensure we get properly powered, systematically and constantly collected real-world data collected by all. This would help us to create guidelines for compression and oedema management. I look forward to seeing what they eventually come up with and how we can consistently measure compression success.

Planning for WAW 2024 is well underway and thanks to Sasha and her enthusiasm to get this up and running, Wound Awareness Week 2024 (WAW 2024) aims to focus on the unique challenges and considerations associated with wound care for individuals with Frail or Aged Skin (Dermatoporosis). The primary goal is to enhance awareness, knowledge, and best practices among healthcare professionals, caregivers, and the community to promote effective wound management and improve patient outcomes.

The Financial Governance Group provide additional support for the committee. The committee continues to improve our financial governance and create a sustainable financial future for the society. We have launched our plan to partner with industry to help create a sustainable income that does not rely on our conference. Thanks to our gold sponsors Convatec, Solventum and Smith & Nephew and our silver sponsors Essity, Lohmann & Rauscher, Intermed, Coloplast, and Toomac Solutions. I hope that we can encourage more of industry to work with us in the future.

Planning is already underway for speakers, venue and dates for our conference in 2025 and yet again we hope to have another innovative conference. I met with the new CEO of Wounds Australia Jeff Antcliff while we were in London, and we will start to meet on a regular basis. Jeff has also committed to two free registrations to the Wounds Australia conference this year in October. The Society was committed to sending the President and Vice to these conferences but unfortunately, this has not been able to be done since 2019. I look forward to this for 2024, the networking and relationships that are developed, cemented and achieved at a face to face are invaluable for the society moving forward.

Our working groups continue to be very productive.

Our Education Advisory Group provided excellent Tissue Issue newsletters for our membership and oversight of scholarships. As a result of the face-to-face meeting in Wellington, it was decided to move these tasks away from EAG so they may focus on developing educational resources.

The Leg Ulcer Advisory Group continues to work under Mandy's leadership and is working with the Pan Pacific group to develop the latest guidelines. This takes a lot of time and dedication from Mandy and her team, and we look forward to supporting these guidelines as they develop.

We are now in our third year of the wound debridement certificate at Otago Polytechnic Te Pukenga; We have worked hard to set up Auckland and Dunedin for face-to-face practicums to help reduce costs to learners. The feedback has been very positive and the rewards for patients and end users are invaluable. For the Society, the financial returns are improving and this is a positive as we look towards a sustainable future.

Again, I acknowledge the soul of the society our faithful Lee-Anne whom we all respect and admire for her calming influence, tenacity, kindness and support she provides to us all in the volunteer work we do.

Last but not least, thank you to Emil our Treasurer for monitoring our finances and to Sasha, Vice-President, for her continued support, energy, and vision that she will continue to provide to the Society in her vice president role. Also a big thank you to all the members who support the National Committee by attending education evenings, webinars, symposiums and conferences.

Noho ora mai, **Rebecca Aburn**

## TREASURER REPORT

The NZWCS must provide end-of-year financial details in a set format called the Performance Report to the Charities Services, these are prepared by PKF Dunedin Ltd, Chartered Accountants. It is a legal requirement that Joint Ventures be consolidated. As the Conference is managed by a joint venture with AKB Conference Management Ltd, the Performance Report shows these figures integrated within the Society. Because of this, it is difficult to easily pick out the figures from this lengthy 18-page document to see the day-to-day running of the society, given this, below is key information regarding the running of the society from the report which we think members will be interested in. The full report is available freely on the Charities Services website, or in the member section on the NZWCS website.



### Taken from the NZWCS 2024 Performance Report

	2024	2023
<b>Revenue</b>		
Sponsorship (WAW, Pressure Injury Symp, Industry)	47,285	7,332
Seminars/Workshops/Courses	35,447	35,215
Subscriptions	24,818	25,427
Interest Received	5,222	2,463
Sale of Pressure Injury Guidelines	331	626
Trade Display	2,100	4,200
Other	0	300
<b>Volunteer and contractor-related costs</b>		
Administration Fees [overlap of new administrator 2023]	32,128	48,008
Travel Expenses	18,375	9,244
<b>Scholarships, Grants and Donations</b>		
Gifts	297	266
Scholarships	8,917	6,500
<b>Other Expenses</b>		
Accountancy Fees	4234	5,051
Bank Charges	562	378
Insurance	1990	1,895
Stationery	417	15
Sundry Expenses	1,672	2,801
Website Expenses	3,427	4,072
Consultancy [mostly Wound Debridement]	19,379	37,940
Education Coordinator Fees	16,538	7,254
Guideline Development Expenses	533	-
Postage	562	204
Pressure Injury Advisory Expenses	0	429

Printing Expenses [includes banners 2023]	65	6,952
Seminar Expenses [symposium/study days]	10,965	(40)

**Cash & Bank Balances**

**Bank Account Balances**

Total Society Transactional Accounts BNZ	83,163	31,016
BNZ Term Investment	63,974	60,425
<b>Total Society Bank Balances as at 30<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>146,705</b>	<b>110,248</b>

Cash paid to NZWCS from the proceeds of the 2023 conference totalled \$46,700

Regards, *Emil Schmidt – NZWCS Treasurer*

**AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS, GIFTS**

Please see the new application process for scholarships and awards under Education:

<https://nzwcs.org.nz/education>

**Awards** – Glenda Dagger \$100 Tissue Issue, Sharryn Cook \$100 Tissue Issue

**Scholarships (financial year 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024)**

Amanda Pagan to attend EWMA Conference \$4,000

Sharryn Cook to attend EWMA Conference \$2,000

Registration only for the NZWCS Conference Oct 2023 Total \$3,125

Elizabeth Frost, Desley Johnson, Kathleen Henderson/Whelan, Jackie Atkins, Sandi Burleigh

**Gift Register**

Life Membership at the 2023 AGM for Emil Schmidt, Mandy Pagan and Kate Grey. Total \$297.80

**RESEARCH GRANT**

The NZWCS has once again demonstrated its support for the education and professional development of health professionals involved in wound management in New Zealand by providing Awards and Scholarships for 2022-2023.

On offer are Awards for Articles and Publications, as well as Scholarships for undergrad, and post-grad studies and National & International conference attendance.

Please see the website for full details. <https://nzwcs.org.nz/education/research-grants>

## EDUCATION COORDINATOR REPORT

Tēnā koe members of NZWCS and Stakeholders,

### Wound Awareness Week - July: Asepsis and Aseptic Technique

Under Sue's guidance, the Wound Awareness Week held in July 2023 was a resounding success. With the support of ACC, we organised an educational webinar focused on Asepsis and Aseptic Technique. We are delighted to report that we had a remarkable turnout, with 344 attendees and a total of 627 registrations.



Planning for the 2024 Wound Awareness Week, Dermatoporosis and Frail Skin has been my main focus. We have two national online events thanks to the support of our major sponsor, Sigvaris Group. We also are sponsored by Mölnlycke and supported by Mobile Health for the second session. This year we will significantly widen our audience. This ensures that valuable knowledge is accessible to a wider audience, promoting education and awareness in the field of wound care.

My other focus is the ongoing improvement of the content and layout of the website.

### Sasha Drennan Temporary Education Coordinator

## ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Fine-tuning the website to get a cohesive look is ongoing and a big job, ensuring that all links are active and easily accessible. Certainly, this year was an easier year than last year as I slowly document and update systems. I aim to make member interactions with the Society as smooth and positive as possible, this year saw improved event registration and member access. There is always something happening behind the scenes with the Society, logistics, planning, meetings, events and tech rescues!



My appreciation goes to members, particularly those in advisory groups, area coordinators and committees who are the engine of the Society. Your dedication and enthusiasm for making the world a better place is simply inspirational. Even though I am working from home I have a strong sense of community with you all.

**Members come and go during the year but the last two years show a steady annual number.**

Membership Report	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Full	310	310	280	390	300
Corporate Accounts	25	30	26	32	26
Up to 20members/account		(166)	(520)	(640)	(520)
Commercial Members	11	6	6	10	6
Students		6			



**Interest in pressure injury resources is apparent from page views**

Google Analytics Snapshot – Top 10 Website Page Views

Total NZWCS website views for 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024	94,631
Home page	18,954
Pressure Injury Clinical Resources	15,347
NZWCS Study Days and Seminars	6,187
Members Login	4,110
Education	3,199
Conferences	3,137
Wound Awareness Week	2,847
Who We Are	1,832
Pressure Injury Public Resources	1,769
Members Portal	1,767

***Lee-Anne Stone – NZWCS Administrator***

## NZWCS WORKING GROUPS

### FINANCIAL GOVERNANCE GROUP FGG

The purpose of the group is to provide support and guidance to the NZWCS Treasurer and the Administrator on all financial matters concerning the running of the society. Budgets for various initiatives are passed by this group, such as;

- Conference planning
- Guidelines development
- Pressure injury symposium, WAW
- Conservative Sharp Wound Debridement Course
- Industry partners
- Scholarships

The Group meets every 3 months.

#### **Current Members:**

Rebecca Aburn (President), Emil Schmidt (Treasurer), Sasha Drennan (Vice President), Kate O'Dwyer (Education Advisory Group Member), Lee-Anne Stone (Administrator)

### EDUCATION ADVISORY GROUP (EAG)

The EAG is a group of NWCS members appointed to provide expert advice on wound related topics and projects in relation to the education and professional development of the membership and stakeholders associated with the NZWCS.

#### **Current Members**

Katie Cunard – Surgical ward and admissions, Nurse Forte health

Sasha Drennan – Clinical Nurse Manager, Primary Health Care, Te Whatu Ora Waitemata

Kate O'Dwyer – Nurse Practitioner, Aged Residential Care, Cicada Health Ltd., Tauranga

Maria ten Hove – Nurse Educator, Plastics and Burns, Wound Nurse Consultant, Te Whatu Ora Canterbury

Chinwin Gamao – ICU Nurse, Wellington Regional Hospital

Dr Lea Whittington (PhD) – Regional Specialist Podiatrist, Te Whatu Ora Mid Central

Dr Althea Carruth - Dr Althea Carruth (PhD) - Podiatrist Central Otago (on sabbatical)

Sue Lee - NZWCS Education coordinator also joins us for meetings, currently on maternity leave, Sasha is the Interim NZWCS Education Coordinator.

Chinwin Gamao has joined EAG, providing his expertise in Surgical Nursing.

Lee-Anne Stone, Administrator provides admin support for meetings during the year.

#### **Review of Activities:**

The EAG had a fantastic opportunity to meet together in Wellington in June. This allowed us to reflect on current EAG activities, to celebrate and recognise the contribution and value of the EAG to the

NZWCS strategic plan, and to review the EAG purpose/vision and TOR. The EAG has a large and varied workload and is often called upon to do extra tasks for example at conference, scholarships etc., with the main workload of Tissue Issue. This day was a great opportunity to review and reset the EAG aims and goals collectively, and how these fit with the wider NZWCS strategic plan. It was the first time we had all met in person (except for Kate via video call, as her flight was cancelled), and a pleasure to have NZWCS president Rebecca attend, providing her support, and insights into prior EAG history.

**Tissue Issue:** Following The EAG strategic meeting, it was decided that Tissue Issue was a large undertaking that better fitted the NZWCS educator role, given the new direction of the EAG. The Tissue issue will continue to be produced bimonthly and circulated to members, and continuing on from previous years to match events organised by the NZWCS where possible. The NZWCS educator role fits well with attending EAG meetings and is an opportunity to share insights/updates, that are relevant for Tissue Issue.

**Overview of Awards and Scholarships:** In the past, the EAG have reviewed applications for Awards, Scholarships and research. Providing monetary support is to encourage and assist members to enhance their wound-care-related education and research. This year a review of the NZWCS scholarship process has been undertaken, to ensure clarity and transparency around the application process, timing, and scholarship assessment process. This work was undertaken by Sasha Drennan, and Lee-Anne Stone, with input from the executive team and the EAG as needed. Updates to the scholarship process, can be found on the EAG website.

**Evaluation of Educational Material:** Several organisations apply to the NZWCS for recognition and circulation of their materials. Although the Society does not support any product or commercial organisation as such, the EAG does evaluate educational material and webinars that may be of benefit to the membership. Following the EAG strategic meeting in June 2024, education was really where the EAG needed to have a stronger focus, and we have exciting developments in the pipeline. A new focus for the EAG is to develop a NZWCS wound education platform. This is very much in its infancy, but we look forward to exciting changes and opportunities to grow as an organisation and provide a national platform for wound care education in NZ. This provides a great opportunity for wider stakeholder engagement and to standardize wound care education nationally. Watch this space!

**Contribution to the NZWCS strategic plan:** EAG have revised the terms of reference, and had a face-to-face meeting in Wellington, in June 2024 with President NZWCS Rebecca Aburn. The focus for 2025-2026 is to revise Fundamentals of Wound Care and provide modules on the NZWCS platform. Furthermore, EAG are exploring what other tertiary education such as Te Pukinga or Universities are providing for the Undergraduates in Fundamentals of Wound Care. The aim is to be completed prior to NZWCS conference 2025. To encourage membership and education for undergraduates free student NZWCS subscription was proposed, which is to be voted on at the 2024 AGM.

**Partnering with Organisations:** We assist with general enquiries from the membership, product representatives and external enquiries, and ensure that they are directed to the most appropriate NZWCS group or team member. Our EAG members continue to be involved with other NZWCS education opportunities. Chinwin, Kate and Maria contributed to the July 2023 WAW, alongside Sue Lee (NZWCS Education Coordinator). In 2024's WAW, Sasha Drennan in her dual role lead the organisation of this, with Kate also presenting from EAG. We wish to extend our thanks to the wider membership for the support for these events, and to all others involved in the organising and presenting, it couldn't be done without you.

Thank you to all members for your support over the year. Lastly, thank you to Lee-Anne and Sasha for your valued contributions to the EAG.

Authors – Maria ten Hove Co-Chair EAG and Kate O’Dwyer

## LEG ULCER ADVISORY GROUP (LUAG)

### **Introduction:**

The LUAG consists of NZWCS members with expertise and a special interest in preventing and treating lower extremity wounds.

### **Current members:**

Maria Schollum: Nurse Practitioner Te Whatu Ora Waikato, Becky Dawson: CNS Wound Te Whatu Ora Taranaki, Alice Cowie: Older Adults, Nurse Practitioner Intern, Te Whatu Ora Capital, Coast And Hutt Valley, Rebecca Aburn: Nurse Practitioner Vascular Te Whatu Ora Otago, Mandy Pagan: CNS Wound Te Whatu Ora Southern DHB.

### **Activities:**

Tēnā koutou kātoa, we are pleased to report an active and productive year working towards the update of the Pan Pacific Clinical Practice Guideline for Prevention and Management of Venous Leg Ulcers 2nd Edition.

The Pan Pacific Venous Leg Ulcer Alliance Group (PPVLUAG) consist of Emily Haesler our methodologist, the NZWCS, Wounds Australia, Hong Kong Enterostomal Therapist Association, and the Wound Healing Society of Singapore. Unfortunately, Judith Barker has had to stand down as chair of the group; hence Mandy has taken on the Chair alongside her secretary role. Shown below is the group’s logo developed by Emily.



The guideline will be presented in three sections, Assessment, Treatment (including compression therapy), and Prevention. We are excited to release the first section on ‘Assessment’ for consultation. We have incorporated more cultural considerations into this document, and we hope you have taken the opportunity to review and make comment. Consultation closed on the 23 June 2024 and the group look forward to reviewing your contributions.

Critique and extraction of the literature for the ‘Treatment’ section is to commence in June 2024.

**On a final and important note, we seek your assistance with providing images of venous symptoms in persons with darkly pigmented skin (e.g. pigmentation skin changes, leg ulcers, atrophie blanche, varicose eczema), if you can assist with this, please contact Mandy so I can provide the PPVLUAG consent form that is required for patient consent and use of these images.**

Special acknowledgement to our LUAG members who provide their expertise and mahi in their own valuable time, the national committee for supporting our work, and Lee-Anne who continues to provide essential support.

Ngā mihi nui Mandy Pagan – Coordinator LUAG  
[mandy.pagan@southerndhb.govt.nz](mailto:mandy.pagan@southerndhb.govt.nz)

## PRESSURE INJURY ADVISORY GROUP (PIAG)

NZWCS Pressure Injury Advisory Group (PIAG), consists of NZWCS members with expertise and a particular interest in pressure injuries. **Chair of PIAG – rotating six monthly.**

### Members

Wendy Mildon, Sharryn Cook, Emil Schmidt, Jan Johnstone, Paula McKinnel, Anj Dickson, Pam Mitchell, Althea Carruth, Lee-Anne Stone. **Outgoing members** Wendy Mildon and Pam Mitchell. **Incoming**, Shannan Miller

We would like to thank the PIAG committee for their work this year, Pam Mitchell and Wendy Mildon have resigned from the group after many years of hard work and contribution to The New Zealand Wound Care Society. Pam is a life member who has contributed over 24 years to the Society and worked tirelessly on the international pressure injury guidelines group. Pam has left a legacy that will be hard to fill. We welcome new PIAG member Shannon Miller from Invercargill who brings a wealth of knowledge, we look forward to her contribution to the group.

Althea continues her work on the GGG group and we are looking forward to the new guideline release in 2025

### August 2023 Pressure Injury Symposium

The focus for the August 2023 pressure injury symposium was *Exploring Challenges in Preventing Pressure Injury in the Community*. The symposium aimed to understand achievable, equitable and sustainable care across the care continuum for future care provision, particularly in the community. The 126 delegates came from a range of backgrounds in tertiary and community settings. Their roles included clinical, management and education across both nursing and allied health.



The amazing keynote speaker Mr Lee Taniwha presented his lived experience as a tetraplegic and with passion for the Care Agency he has established, due to personal awareness of the gaps in care. He enthralled us all and set the scene for the day. He inspired participants to share successes and challenges in the afternoon workshop, explore improvements and define barriers. Other speakers included stakeholders and members from PIAG to build on Lee's hard act to follow.



The workshop presented six questions to gain national insight into what participants experience across the nation. Our stakeholders ACC and Te Tahu Hauora (HQSC) supported us, both in person and financially, and we were very grateful for their support. The data collected was rich and copious. A report has been written for stakeholders and the NZWCS National Committee. Symposium participant evaluation provided a wealth of topics to inform PIAG's future symposia.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Pressure Injury Symposium, November 2024 in Christchurch.**

During this financial year, we started planning the theme for this symposium - "Every Contact Counts" used with permission from the Tissue Viability Service, using the Acronym;

#### **C O N T A C T**

Start the CONVERSATION, CONNECT, COMMUNICATE, show that you CARE Consider OPTIONS, OBSERVE, discuss. NEEDS led, NOTICE what's important TEAMWORK, TALKING to people, listening, engaging and TEACHING ASK questions, ADJUST and ADAPT treatment plans Be CLINICALLY CURIOUS - adjust, CHALLENGE, CHANGE TAKE ACTION,

We are grateful for the event's top-tier sponsors Convatec, Smith and Nephew, Mölnlycke and attendance by industry for their pressure injury-related trade displays.

## **NZWCS AREA COORDINATOR REPORTS**

The NZWCS relies on its Area Coordinators and National Committee members, who often work together, to hold regional evening seminars and study days as a way of keeping members and non-members up to date with the latest in clinical practice and knowledge in wound management. Area Coordinators and National Committee members undertake these roles voluntarily, putting a lot of their own time into ensuring education occurs around Aotearoa.

### **AREA 1: NORTHLAND**

**Committee Member:** Karen Devine

**Area Coordinator:** Jessica Waymark, Ruth Carr

## AREA 2: AUCKLAND

**Committee Member:** Sasha Drennan

**Area Coordinator:** Glenda Dagger/Sasha Drennan

We have held a successful Saturday study day on the lower leg chronic wound, with sponsorship from Convatec and Essity. We received great feedback from those who attended. This year we had a good turnout with 47 registering and 40 attending.

Glenda has also given several presentations via Zoom regarding lower leg wound compression therapy and Sasha has given several sessions on the role of assessment and wound dressings.

Both Sasha and Glenda have encouraged health professionals to join the society as members.

Both coordinators have taken an active part in the development of online resources and utilising the resources already offered by the Society.

We have been involved in the recruitment of members and we would appreciate and welcome a third area coordinator, given the size of Auckland but this is still in discussion.

We have both committed to supporting the wound debridement certificate course in Auckland this year and are tutoring this years Auckland practicum.

## AREA 3: WAIKATO

**Committee Member:** Maria Schollum

**Area Coordinator:** Lishelle Holoway (Hamilton) & Ruth White (Thames)

## AREA 4: ROTORUA/LAKES

**Committee Member:** Sue Graham

**Area Coordinator:**

We are seeking an area coordinator!

## AREA 5: BAY OF PLENTY

**Committee Member:** Kate O'Dwyer

**Area Coordinator:** Dawn French

Hauora a Toi Bay of Plenty serves a population of approx. 347,700 people. The area continues to have a level of high population growth. The population tends to be older than the national average. Bay of Plenty has a higher proportion of Māori in comparison to the national average, and a lower proportion of Pacific people. We have a relatively low proportion of people in the least deprived section. As it is a holiday destination the summer months tend to see a population increase

Our focus for the year has been predominantly around pressure injury management as our statistics are of concern within this area. We continue to develop tools to assist clear definition for our coders and have developed a sticker system for clinical notes to give clarity to pressure injury staging and supporting documentation. The director of nursing leads a pressure injury steering group with a variety of audit data being explored This defines we still have a need for pressure injury education and the

evolution of online education has been paramount. We have self-directed interactive learning packages around pressure injury management and assessment these can be accessed in segments and at the participant's convenience.

We continue to see increasingly complex wounds discharged into the community including the use of Negative pressure wound therapy In September 2024 we are providing education to aged care and acute staff together in the hope that we can improve communication between ARC and wards and demystify negative pressure wound therapy.

My role continues to cover both hospital sites (Tauranga and Whakatane), the community and aged residential care. It is very challenging for one individual to cover all these areas. Ward champions are currently being sought to support.

Many thanks, great to work with you all

Dawn French

## AREA 6: MANAWATŪ/WHANGANUI

**Committee Member:** Emma Hall      **Area Coordinator:** Aswathy Sadasivan

Pressure injuries increase hospital stays for patients, ACC treatment injury claims, and care expenses; these factors impact the health system in New Zealand. Mölnlycke and Te Whatu Ora sponsored a two-day Stop Pressure Injury Day in November 2023 to increase public awareness of the risks associated with pressure injuries. We organised this by offering information on ward rounds, putting up pop-up exhibits for the general public, and giving necessary resources for residential care. By offering chocolates and cupcakes, we were able to attract people in.

Several training days covering advanced wound care, pressure injuries, negative pressure wound therapy, and the foundations of wound care have been held for staff members working in residential facilities, district nurses, and wards. We are encouraging some of our district nurses to do wound debridement and are providing them with training to become Doppler proficient. Additionally, leg ulcer guidelines are being encouraged for our district nurses to adhere to. In order to make ward and theatre staff more comfortable delivering Smart Instill Vera flow treatment, we also offer training in conjunction with Intermed. Together with Midcentral, we also want to conduct a NZWCS study evening regarding diabetic foot ulcers.

We would like to express our gratitude to the New Zealand Wound Care Society for its ongoing essential contribution in the development of best practice guidelines throughout the country. We also appreciate all the members of Area 6 and their ongoing dedication in wound care.

Aswathy Sadasivan

## AREA 7: TARANAKI

**Committee Member:** Becky Dawson      **Area Coordinator:** Wendy Walsh

## AREA 8: WELLINGTON

**National Committee Member:** Liz Frost & Claire Todd

**Area Coordinators:** Liz Frost, Claire Todd, Alice Cowie, Lesley Poulson-How

We are lucky to have area coordinators in Wellington, the Hutt and the Wairarapa.



This allows for a wider service base, and each person brings their skillset and often their staff too, to events organised by the NZWCS coordinators.

As a group, we organised a half-study day in May 2024 on the High Risk Diabetic Foot Service. We were very fortunate to have three key players present: Kate Wright High Risk Foot Podiatrist, Heather Schulz CNS Vascular and Mr Kes Wicks Vascular Surgeon.

This event was attended by approx. 50 people with a diverse workplace represented, and gave great feedback was given. The opportunity to speak directly with the speakers was really appreciated. It has been suggested as an ongoing education session for the local High Risk Diabetic Foot Service.

There are 2 nurses completing the CSWD course this year from Capital Coast.

### **Alice**

The Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley Tissue Viability working group has worked to collaborate our knowledge and skills across the district.

The Tissue Viability Education subgroup has been created to amalgamate the wound related education being offered across the district and create resources which our wound nurses and educators can use in these sessions.

The Hutt Hospital had two nurses complete the Certificate in Wound debridement last year, with another nurse enrolled for this year.

### **Lou**

We also have two of our District Wound Clinic Nurses completing the NZWCS CSWD course this year.

As well as myself and Janette our CNS Diabetes have been running our own HRDFC here in the Wairarapa for the past eight months. We are hoping that with a good robust business case this may become a permanent specialist outreach service with the HRDF virtual clinic at Wellington.

We have also initiated Pressure Injury resource nurses in all of our clinical areas within an inpatient service as well as in ARC (aged residential facilities). The inpatient roles have dedicated FTE in this role, the ARC facilities are not so fortunate as yet.

I am also involved in the Lower North Island Pressure Injury Advisory Group which meets twice a year in Palmerston North.

## AREA 9: NELSON/MARLBOROUGH

**Committee Member:** Sharryn Cook **Area Coordinator:** Sharryn Cook, Noreen Sargent

A big thank you again to our area NZWCS members and to Noreen Sargeant who has now retired from the NZWCS committee.

There have been regular visits from company representatives for wound care, including compression bandaging, negative pressure wound therapy, skin tear, pressure injury prevention and management. There have been innovations with the pressure injury decision tree information circulated to Rest homes in Blenheim along with skin tear prevention and management kits.

Upcoming events: Wound management study days have been organised for September and November in Nelson Hospital and Wairau Hospital. Participants will have the opportunity to see presentations and discuss the latest in assessment and management of wound care, scar management, podiatry care, vascular assessment, wound products and wound scenarios.

Pressure Injury Awareness Week will take place in November with activities planned.

Thank you to all members for their support and ongoing interest in wound care. Also, Lee-Anne for her ongoing support.

Sharryn Cook, Area Coordinator

## AREA 10: CANTERBURY

**Committee Member:** Sharon Cassidy/Karyn Ballance      **Area Coordinators:** Committee

We have had a changing committee this year. We have said a huge thank you and farewell to two extremely hard-working and long-standing committee members- Debs Hardy and Lyn Stark, and welcomed in many new members to our already dedicated group. We are Pam Mitchell, Sinead Blee, Caren Bonghanoy, Val Sandston, Maria Gardiner, Fran Chousal, Gwendolynn Johnson, Kathryn Urquhart, Anne Munro, Sara Bray, Jessica Riddell, Fe Taganas; with Karyn Ballance and Sharon Cassidy sharing the Area Coordinator and National committee roles.

In the last twelve months since the last report we have had two education evenings:

November 2023, planned around Stop International Pressure Injury Day we based the evening on the Diabetic Foot.

Guest Speakers: Steve Percival and Karyn Ballance, Podiatrists at the Active Foot Disease Clinic, Diabetes Outpatients, Christchurch Hospital.

Karyn gave an overview of diabetes- of the pathogenesis of diabetes, the prevalence of diabetes worldwide at 10%, and within New Zealand- estimated at 43 per 1000 in our population. She spoke of the complications from diabetes, the importance of glucose control and discussed the different medications used.

Steve talked on diabetic foot complications and how they occur. Describing the intricacies of the effects of neuropathy and of vascular impairment.

April 2024: Acute and Chronic Wounds

Guest Speakers: Pamela Mitchell, Wound Consultant Christchurch Hospital- Acute Wounds Stephen Percival, Diabetes Specialist Podiatrist, Active Foot Disease Clinic, Diabetes Outpatients, Christchurch Hospital- Chronic Wounds.

This was the first education evening of the year held by our committee and was very well attended by close to 70 attendees from wide-ranging work areas: ARC, primary and secondary care, podiatry and students.

Steve Percival opened the session with the pathophysiology of wounds; the normal healing process and then went on to discuss how wounds can become chronic. Steve is always a great speaker, with his expertise in chronic diabetic foot wounds, these were then discussed and why they can become so challenging to heal.

Pam Mitchell gave two case presentations about acute wounds. She reminded us all to assess the whole patient following a trauma. And reminded us of the Trauma assessment: Airway Breathing Circulation Deficit- neurological/ intact Exposure.

Included in these two education evenings we invited industry to come along, have displays, and discuss products with our participants and they also kindly provided refreshments. It is a great way to continue with education and mingle with others.

We have two more education sessions planned for the remainder of this calendar year, at the end of July we will have an evening based around Wounds Awareness Week. We will host an evening on the topic of "Frail and Fragile skin" and then in November we will be encouraging attendance at the 4th National Pressure Injury Symposium "Every Contact Counts."

On behalf of the Area 10 Committee

Kind regards, Karyn Balance, BSc, BHSc (Podiatry)

## AREA 11: DUNEDIN/OTAGO

**Committee Member:**

**Area Coordinator:** *Lisa Schmidt.*

A busy year for Area 11 with Dunedin hosting the NZWCS conference October 2023. We were able to access a wound care education fund to support several health care professionals to attend this wonderful event.

Since then, we have been busy with:

- Monthly regional and Otago-wide study days.
- Study days involving practical competency assessments for NPWT/Compression therapy.
- Educational evenings.
- Community education surrounding pressure injury prevention for HCAS and the wider MDT.
- Mentoring of several students undertaking the NZWCS Certificate in wound debridement.
- Planning is also underway for a webinar November 4th/5th this year, topic TBC.

Thank you to all those who have contributed to the above and therefore supported the NZWCS in the Dunedin/Otago region.

Lisa Schmidt

## AREA 12: SOUTHLAND

**Committee Member:** Mandy Pagan

**Area Coordinator:** Shannan Miller

Activities:

Practical wound care training is available through the Southland Hospital weekly Wound Clinic, working alongside expert wound care nurses conducting:

- patient and wound assessment
- conservative sharp wound debridement introduction
- product selection
- skin care
- principles of compression therapy.

Members are able to contact us directly to attend these clinics. At these clinics we provide mentoring for learners enrolled in the NZWCS Certificate in Wound Debridement.

A study morning focused on cavity wounds, defining, and managing the gap! Single-Use Negative Pressure Wound Therapy (PICO) with case studies presented throughout sessions. Many thanks to Ben Cunningham Smith & Nephew.

National STOP Pressure Injury Day: We developed a pressure injury quiz to test health professionals knowledge with prizes which were kindly donated to us by Essentials, Essity, Smith and Nephew and Ainscorp. We had a great response with 138 health professionals completing the quiz in Southland. This was done in conjunction with our colleagues in Dunedin.

Wound Awareness Week on Asepsis and Aseptic Technique was widely distributed to our hospital and community contacts including aged care.

Thank you to all Area 12 members for their support and ongoing interest in wound care.

Mandy & Shannan

#### AREA 13: HAWKE'S BAY /GISBORNE/TAIRĀWHITI

**Committee Member:** Wendy Mildon

**Area Coordinator:**

Local wound care study days have been held at HB Hospital with support from the wound care specialist team, product representatives from USL, Smith and Nephew and Mölnlycke.

Promoting wound care education and the NZWCS as well.

It is essential to strengthen links with Tairāwhiti and the wider HB area to promote wound care education and resources, especially pressure injury prevention.

#### PODIATRY REPORT

##### **Podiatry report (1st July 2023 to 30th June 2024)**

I continue to enjoy this role of maintaining the link between the Podiatry profession and the NZWCS through being on the national committee.

We have developed a stronger relationship with Podiatry NZ with thanks to Sasha Drennan, who presented at our recent mini-conferences.

I feel this role is important to keep the relationship and networking between the Podiatry and Nursing professions who specialise in wound care, and to ensure we keep striving to maintain best practice for those who need our expertise.

Thank you to Rebecca and Lee-Anne for their ongoing support in this role.

**Claire O'Shea, Podiatrist**