



**Lead, represent, develop and support Australian critical care nurses**

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*Editor*

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*ANUM – ICU North West Regional Hospital, Tasmania*

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ACCCN



@ACCCNAUST

Winter is upon us and the cold weather is well and truly here.

In this edition, we hear about how the COVID-19 outbreak in Victoria made way to establish the Victorian Nurse Unit Manager Community of Practice (VIC NUM CoP) in critical care. The purpose was to create a community of support, sharing knowledge, experience and resources. Read more about the success of the VIC NUM CoP (critical care).

Each monthly newsletter from now on will spotlight an ACCCN Board Member. This month we e-meet, Rand Butcher, ACCCN CEO. Rand joined ACCCN in the 1990's and was appointed ACCCN CEO in 2017.

Each June, The Queen's Birthday Honours List, recognises Australians for achievement or meritorious service. Congratulations to Ian Baldwin, a long standing ACCCN member who has been awarded Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the General Division for significant service to critical care nursing, and to medical research. ACCCN also congratulates the other 19 nurses named on the 2021 Queens Birthday Honours List.

As we head into July, we are delighted to have a number of upcoming state seminars in final planning stages. Registrations are still open for:

- [QLD Paediatric Critical Care Seminar – Kids on the Mind](#)
- [SA/NT Critical Care Seminar – When the War is Over](#)

Planning is still underway for seminars to be hosted later this year so check out the [ACCCN website](#) and the events calendar for what's coming up.

We are also pleased to confirm that the next ANZICS/ACCCN Intensive Care ASM will be held from **27-29 April 2022** at the International Convention Centre, Sydney. For further information please visit the [ASM website](#).

The Australian College of Critical Care Nurses (ACCCN) is seeking expressions of interest from ACCCN members or other interested critical care professionals wishing to take on the roles of Editor-in-Chief and Editor for *Australian Critical Care*.

Stay warm, keep safe!  
Enjoy the [June Newsletter](#).

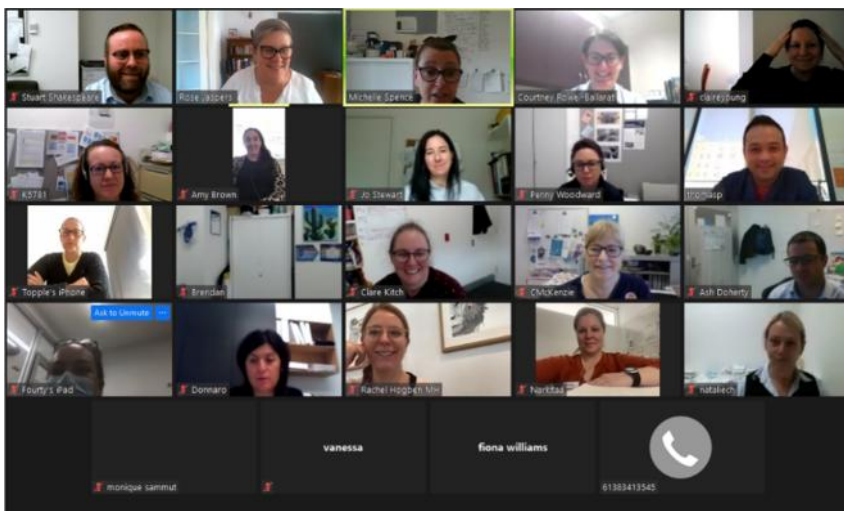
## Victorian Nurse Unit Manager Community of Practice (Critical Care) - VIC NUM CoP

Critical Care staff are very familiar with the implications of COVID 19, working in ICU throughout 2020 has been extraordinary. Across Australia, as news of the health impacts of COVID 19 spread we began preparing for a surge in cases. As infection rates increased in Victoria pressure on health services grew and Victorian nurses pulled together in a difficult and uncertain environment, concerned for their patients and colleagues and for their own health. They were also confronted with the very real risk of taking the virus home to their family and friends.

It was against this setting that the ACCCN established the Victorian Nurse Unit Manager Community of Practice (CoP) (Critical Care). The purpose was to create a community of support, sharing knowledge, experience, and resources. The group grew from nurses' interest in the successful ANZIC consultant CoP. Communities of Practice, although not commonplace in health, have been around for over 20 years. The idea is that a collective of people, with a common interest connect regularly to share ideas and resources, and to learn and work towards solutions to shared issues and/or problems.<sup>1</sup>

Recognising the potential benefits, the ACCCN Victorian Committee connected with Nurse Unit Managers from Victorian critical units and developed a strategy to create a program that would be of value during the pandemic and beyond. During the COVID outbreak in Victoria the meetings connected NUMs who shared the same, or similar experiences and pressures. Using Zoom for the meetings helped by-pass the isolation of distance that was exacerbated by the pandemic, lightening the load, and helping to create a community amongst people who might otherwise rarely get the chance to meet.

Success didn't happen overnight, while the initial idea was floated in August 2020, the first meeting occurred in late October. This was primarily because time and effort were focused on building connections and making sure strong support structures were in place. By the time meetings were in full swing, the worst of the pandemic infection rate had passed, and many lessons had been learnt regarding managing COVID 'the disease'.



There is still a lot to discuss in the aftermath - staff wellbeing and attrition, PPE management, and vaccine roll out to name a few. As Australia, at least, moves beyond COVID the focus of the group is shifting towards topics that include mentorship, collaboration, resource sharing and a solutions approach to common issues across critical care.

As with many areas in life, the pandemic has highlighted strengths and weaknesses, and judging by the success of the Victorian NUM CoP

(Critical Care) perhaps it is filling one of those 'gaps'? ACCCN is expecting that the CoP will change over time and we are interested to see where how it develops.

For more information about the CoP contact Rose Jaspers (ACCCN Vic President): [vic@accn.com.au](mailto:vic@accn.com.au).

<sup>1</sup>Pyrko, I. Dörfler, V. & Eden, C. 2016 Thinking together: What makes Communities of Practice work? Human Relations 2017, Vol. 70(4) 389–409 Sage Journals  
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/0018726716661040>

## Meet the ACCCN Board



### Rand Butcher, ACCCN CEO

Rand first joined ACCCN in the 1990s has been an active member presenting at numerous conferences and education meetings. In 2017 Rand became Chief Executive of ACCCN. In this role Rand provides operational support to the National Board and assists the National Office staff in the daily running of the College. Rand continues to work clinically as a Registered Nurse in the Intensive Care Unit at The Tweed Hospital in Northern New South Wales. Rand's clinical interests are mechanical ventilation, clinical information systems, renal replacement therapies, advanced haemodynamic monitoring and evidence-based practice. He has also been active in a number of state-based committees within NSW. On the weekends Rand enjoys keeping active and enjoying the ocean with his family.

## 2021 Queen's Birthday Honours List

### Ian Charles Baldwin AM

Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the General Division  
Diamond Creek, Victoria

For significant service to critical care nursing, and to medical research.

Ian, has been an ACCCN member since the establishment of the college and is an ACCCN Fellow. With over 120 peer reviewed publications, author of over 25 text-book chapters, many awards, and membership of the IRRIV (Italy) and CRRT.org (USA) faculties for acute kidney injury management, and 30 plus years' as ICU Post Graduate Co-ordinator and Clinical Educator at Austin Health, Ian is highly respected and well deserving of this prestigious award in Australia. Congratulations to Professor Ian Baldwin (R.N, PhD, AM), and all the nurses who were recognised for their contributions on the 2021 Queens Birthday Honours List.



A special acknowledgement also to the Chief Nursing & Midwifery Officer, Professor (Practice) Alison McMillan who recently presented at the opening plenary at ACCCN's AEM in Canberra. Alison received the Public Service Medal (PSM) for outstanding public service to driving the Government's national health response priorities during the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly to infection prevention measures.

## SA/NT Members' Professional Development Grant

Are you ACCCN member in SA or NT? Are you interested in funding assistance to attend the SA/NT Critical Care Seminar in July or perhaps another educational activity relevant to critical care?

### SA/NT Members' Professional Development Grant - now open for applications!

Closing date – Friday 9 July, 2021

For more information and to apply - <https://www.acccn.com.au/grants-awards/state-funding>

### Report by Breanna Fish, recipient of the SA/NT Members' Professional Development Grant, Round 1.

The ACCCN conference was a pleasure to attend. The conference presented many insightful topics and evidence-based presentations focused on the experiences and scenarios from COVID-19 within the critical care environment. Additionally, there were many other topics discussed and overall the conference did

an exceptional job at bringing a plethora of clinical focuses to our attention as nurses. The ability to network with passionate, like-minded clinicians and companies from around the country was an incredible opportunity.

As the clinical nurse educator for my private hospital's angiography department, this conference allowed me to refresh and expand my knowledge base beyond my specialty. I found many of the topics were still very applicable to me. As recently identified by the Cardiac Society of Australian and New Zealand (CSANZ) in 2017, angiography is considered to be a part of the critical care family. As our patient population continues to age and their list of comorbidities appears to grow longer and longer, critical care and angiography are finding themselves working closer together. With many procedure techniques progressing toward lesser invasive percutaneous approaches, such as Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation (TAVI), and the future looming effects of "long COVID", angiography's relationship with critical care will likely only become even closer. With this, I felt a great importance to represent a lesser known area of nursing at the ACCCN's AEM conference. In the future, I would infer that there will be an increased need to consider angiography representation in the ACCCN community. Not only will this strengthen the bonds between these clinical areas, but also provide another level of insight and knowledge about the care we provide to our patients. After all, we are united in one goal - to provide the best possible care to our critically ill patients.

With the contacts and professional connections made at the Cardiac Advanced Life Support (CALS) workshop, I have been able to initiate interest from my department in participating in the REACT program, an angiography focused subset of CALS.

Overall, the ACCCN AEM conference was a valuable experience and I thank the ACCCN for giving me the opportunity to attend. I would strongly encourage any healthcare providers to attend this conference in the coming years.

*By Breanna Fish  
Clinical Nurse Educator  
Angiography Department  
Ashford Hospital – Adelaide*

## ANZICS/ACCCN Intensive Care ASM 2022



We are pleased to confirm that the next ANZICS/ACCCN Intensive Care ASM will be held from **27-29 April 2022** at the **International Convention Centre, Sydney**.

The Annual Scientific Meeting will be the preeminent critical care conference in Australasia for the calendar year and will be an important platform that will allow doctors, nurses and allied health practitioners to meaningfully connect and discuss new developments and research in the field of intensive and critical care

The theme of the meeting is “**Harbouring Excellence in Intensive Care and Beyond**” and will focus upon the excellence and innovation achieved in the intensive care sector throughout Australia, New Zealand and the world.

For further information please visit the [ASM website](#).



## 2021 Events Calendar

		 <b>QLD Paediatric Critical Care Seminar</b> <b>KIDS ON THE MIND</b> Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2021 Queensland Children's Hospital  Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service
	SA/NT CRITICAL CARE SEMINAR <b>'WHEN THE WAR IS OVER'</b> FRIDAY 30 <sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021 SALIMRI*, NORTH TERRACE, ADELAIDE <small>*SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE</small>	 
	 <b>A Change of Heart</b> Deteriorating Cardiac Patient Adult and Paediatric Study Day Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> November 2021 Hyatt Regency, Perth 	
SAVE THE DATE	 VIC SYMPOSIUM ICU: 'BACK TO BASICS'	SAVE THE DATE Friday 29 October 2021 @ Oakes Melbourne on Market Hotel 

**Australian Critical Care**  
 Official journal of the Australian College of Critical Care Nurses Ltd

### Call for Expressions of Interest

Editor-in-Chief, *Australian Critical Care*  
 &  
 Editor, *Australian Critical Care*

The Australian College of Critical Care Nurses (ACCCN) is seeking expressions of interest from ACCCN members or other interested critical care professionals wishing to take on the following roles for *Australian Critical Care*.

**Editor-in-Chief, Australian Critical Care**

The Editor-in-Chief reports to the National Board of ACCCN and leads an editorial team of Editors and Editorial Board Members to guide and advise on production of *Australian Critical Care*.

**Qualifications**

The Editor-in-Chief will have a relevant background in critical care clinical practice, education and research. Applicants should be engaged in clinical, educational and research activities directed toward the development of the discipline of critical care clinical practice. Applicants must have a strong research track record and have experience in peer review and publishing. Experience as an editor and/or Editorial Board member would be desirable. Excellent communication and time management skills are essential.

**Applications close Friday 16 July, 2021**

**For further information regarding duties, selection criteria, term of office and how to apply - [CLICK HERE](#)**

**Editor, Australian Critical Care**

The Editor works alongside the Editor-in-Chief and other Editors to guide and advise on production of Australian Critical Care.

**Qualifications**

The Editor will have a relevant background in critical care clinical practice. Clinicians with an allied health background are strongly encouraged to apply. Applicants should be engaged in clinical, educational and research activities directed toward the development of the discipline of critical care clinical practice. Applicants must have a strong research track record and have experience in peer review and publishing. Excellent communication and time management skills are essential.

**Applications close Friday 16 July, 2021**

**For further information regarding duties, selection criteria, term of office and how to apply - [CLICK HERE](#)**



Continulus is a video-learning platform bringing you fortnightly lectures with leading critical care researchers and educators from around the world. All lectures for ACCCN members are FREE and come with a certificate and CPD - <https://www.continulus.com/acccn>

Upcoming lectures on Continulus:

**Virtual family visiting – Life Lines as an example of rapid innovation during the COVID-19 pandemic**

In this presentation I will present the story of the rapid development, scaling and sustaining of the Life Lines virtual visiting philanthropic innovation over the pandemic. I will discuss the impact on family and clinicians of visiting restrictions necessitated by the pandemic. I will also highlight the growing body of evidence for virtual visiting including unanticipated benefits. Finally, I will discuss considerations for how to optimise the delivery of virtual visiting, both during ongoing visiting restrictions and as a routine option for ICU families.



Professor Louise Rose

**Live webinar:** Wednesday 7 July, 2021 @ 10pm AEST



Dr Naomi Hammond, RN,  
PhD

### The BASICS of Fluid Management in the ICU

Over the last two decades there has been several landmark fluid resuscitation trials published. These trials have provided evidence that the type of intravenous fluids we choose for resuscitation can impact on important patient-centred outcomes. This presentation will look at what we know from these trials focused on fluid resuscitation in sepsis and septic shock; specifically, an overview of the principles of fluid resuscitation, types of fluids, review the fluid resuscitation evidence, and describe changed in fluid resuscitation practices over time.

**Live webinar:** Wednesday 21 July, 2021 @ 9pm AEST

### Clinician Communication and patient safety

The purpose of this lecture is to provide attendees with the tools they will need to improve inter-disciplinary communication in healthcare, a primary source of patient safety errors and adverse events. Numerous examples from recent research will be provided so that attendees will leave the session with actionable information and insights that can be applied to their own practice.

**Live webinar:** Wednesday 4 August, 2021 @ 10pm AEST



Milisa Manojlovich

## Employment Opportunities

TASMANIAN  
HEALTH  
SERVICE



### Associate Nurse Unit Manager – ICU North West Regional Hospital (NWRH)

Are you an experienced nurse with an interest in leadership and management?

#### Details of Appointment

Position - 1 x Permanent Part Time position working 56 hours per fortnight

Work pattern - Shift Worker

Salary - \$92,321 - \$97,577 pro rata per annum + 10% superannuation + access to salary packaging

#### How to apply

Access statement of duties and apply at -

<https://careers.pageuppeople.com/759/cw/en/job/1060752/associate-nurse-unit-manager-523301>

Submit your resume and a 1-2 page document outlining your leadership experience and your view of the role as it relates to supporting the Nurse Unit Manager daily.

#### For more information contact

Trudy Segger (NUM, ICU)

Contact 0364936324, [trudy.segger@ths.tas.gov.au](mailto:trudy.segger@ths.tas.gov.au)