

Talkback Association for Aphasia, Inc.

2013 Annual General Meeting

Chairperson's Report: Bev Dodd

This has been a very busy but productive year. At the last AGM we foreshadowed that we would need to co-opt more members onto Committee. Sarah, Deb and Josie all joined the Committee at the end of 2012.

Social Events

We have had a focus on social events and services for our members. Sarah, Vic and Josie took over planning for social events very capably.

In February, the Talkback group shared a fun afternoon at the Adelaide Museum. The group met for a leisurely lunch at the Museum Café. After lunch the group had a private tour of the exhibition 'Built Tough: The Awesome Roman Empire'.

In May, the Talkback group enjoyed its second social outing for the year with morning tea at the kiosk in the Botanic Gardens. This was followed by a tour of the gardens with two excellent tour guides.

In September, the Talkback association held a fundraising movie event at Mitcham Cinema with the film "Now you see me". This was very successful and 130 people attended the event. Thanks to Danny and Romeos for the tasty chips.

In September 2013, we celebrated Wednesday Without Words with a dinner at the Seven Stars Hotel. We had a great dinner and members enjoyed the activities after dinner.

Thanks Josie, Sarah and Vic for organizing a great social calendar for the year

Services for members

We have continued to support Talkback and Other Groups during the year. We have improved links with groups by providing any support requested and by featuring different groups in the newsletter. Thanks to Trevor and Coralie for maintaining contacts with the various groups.

The computer club continued to meet regularly. The group was again supported by speech pathology students. As a result, the students have gained a better understanding of people with aphasia whilst at the same time helping our members. Thanks to Trevor, Peter and Vic for liaising with the group.

The Retune Choir continued to be a valued service during the year for its members and finished the year 2012 with a performance in a combined concert with the Gay and Lesbian Qwire and the Mitcham City Brass Band under the leadership of Justin Gummer. Justin moved interstate at the end of the year and Lauren, a Speech Pathologist took over the Choir Master role. Thanks to Deb and Vic for the ongoing organisation around the choir

The newsletter continues to be a high quality production with members and others commenting on the quality of the presentation and the content. Danny, as Editor, and his family and friends continue to do an excellent job on the newsletter. Thanks Danny.

The website was significantly updated during the year. Committee is now trying to ensure upcoming events are on the website as soon as they are arranged to allow members as much notice as possible. Thanks Tom and Anne for co-ordinating the updates.

Raising the Profile of Talkback and aphasia

This was not a major focus for the year, although we took advantage of some opportunities to raise the profile of aphasia and the Talkback Association.

In November 2012, Anne and Tom met with Hon Kate Ellis, Member for Adelaide, to talk about aphasia awareness and the need for services through the NDIS and provided her with information. Talkback also provided information about aphasia for a Disability Awareness Day at Hampstead Rehabilitation Centre is having a Disability Awareness Day in December 2012.

In August 2013, the Talkback Committee was offered the chance to go on the radio. Josie was the co-host of the radio show "Radiolink". Josie talked about aphasia and the problems members have with their language and also about Talkback. Thanks Anne, Tom and Josie for promoting the Association and spreading the word.

Other Activity

We again sold tickets in the Australian Central Lottery and again raised \$600.00. Thanks to Ingrid for organising this.

Our volunteers are very important in running the office. Thanks to Sandy and David who have continued look after the office and to respond to inquiries. Thanks also to Kate who continued to work on office procedures and to liaise with Committee about these.

This committee has worked very well together and I would like to thank all the committee members for their work over this period.

In addition to helping with the social activities, Josie took on the role of Secretary. Josie has been an exceptional Secretary and has undertaken many of the duties that I previously did. Thanks Josie.

Committee decided in October 2012 to get out of the GST system. Anne spent many hours and a lot of effort on this. We finally received notification that we were out of the GST system earlier this year. Anne will probably say more about this, but I wanted to acknowledge the effort this required and to thank Anne for being a very good Treasurer. Anne also organized internet banking and members can now use this facility when joining or renewing their membership.

Peter and Ingrid have left the Committee. Thanks for your input over the last couple of years

Thanks to all the other committee members who are still on Committee.

To Tom, Anne, Josie, Deb, Sarah, Trevor, Vic, Coralie and Danny.

Nominations have been received for the following positions

President	Bev Dodd
Vice President	Tom Bunning
Secretary	Josie Kemp
Treasurer	Anne Bunning

Committee

Vic Benefield, Sarah Clifton, Danny Dichiera, Trevor Goodwin, Coralie Hayley, Deb Ormerod, Brenda Reeves, John Williams