

# Presidents report November 2018

2017-18 has been a year of significant growth and development for the Australian Men's Health Forum. While it has not been without minor ups and downs, I am very happy to report that the organisation has strengthened its foundation and built a significant infrastructure from which to continue to grow our influence and help to affect greater focus and efforts on improving health outcomes for men and boys.

The significance of the task has in some ways become all the more apparent. Who makes up the men's health sector? Who do we know and who don't we know that we should? How do we build these important partnerships and relationships in this huge country?

This AGM is another time of significant transition. We are losing two of the most significant contributors to AMHF over many years. Both have been involved from long before I have been involved. Anthony Brown has been the secretary for many years, has been central to our ongoing strong connection with the Men's Health Information and Resource Centre at the University of Western Sydney. He has taken the lead on AMHF's support and involvement with Global Action on Men's Health, the international organisation that is bringing the sector together at an international level.

Gary Bryant has been our administrator and Executive Officer in a voluntary and paid capacity for many years and in many ways been the backbone of the organisation in terms of our governance and administration. Gary has also been instrumental in securing Tax-Deductible Charity Status with the tax office.

Grant Westthorp has also been a significant contributor since joining the board three years ago, and particularly in the last year as treasurer. It's exciting to see Grant seeing new opportunities and potential with his work through the Men's Resource Centre in Albany, and we wish him all the best with those growing endeavours. In his treasurer role Grant has been working with Chris Johnson, who has managed the day to day business of the books for the organisation for several years now both in an unpaid capacity and unpaid at different times. With our changing staff structure Chris's role with us is now also coming to a close, and I wish to express my gratitude to Chris for his competent management steering of the organisation's finances.

Thanks also of course to Glen Poole and the rest of the board for the fantastic work over the last year.

As AMHF grows we are looking forward to welcoming two new staff in the coming weeks. Welcome to Sharon Philp as our administrator and Kim Trengrove as content manager.



*The peak national forum promoting a social approach to male health and wellbeing*

The challenges ahead remain significant. While our three-year funding from the Government is fantastic and certainly, we would not be where we are now without it, our challenge for the remaining 18 months of the contract is to expand our financial base, and to look beyond the funding, plan for the worst that this maybe our lot, and of course work towards and hope for the best. Our mission must continue no matter where our funding comes from, we must remain focused on our mission As the Peak National Forum, to expand the use of social determinants to improve male health and wellbeing.

Jonathan Bedloe  
President - AMHF