



L A D S
LEARN - STRIVE - THRIVE



ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Learning and Attentional Disorder Society of WA (Inc.)

ABN: 45 591 912 210

Table of contents

INTRODUCTION TO LADS	3
PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD	4
PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY BODY (PAB).....	5
A MESSAGE FROM OUR PATRON	6
SERVICE DELIVERY	7
SUPPORT AND INFORMATION LINE	7
THE BETH DUNCAN (LADS) LIBRARY SERVICE	8
WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA	8
PARENT SUPPORT GROUP	9
ADULT SUPPORT GROUP	10
PSYCHOLOGY SERVICES	11
TEEN GROUP COUNSELLING – ONTRAC PROGRAMME.....	12
COACHING SERVICES	13
PARENT COURSES - RESPONSIBLE PARENTS – RESPONSIVE CHILDREN 2017.....	14
SEMINARS 2017	15
MARCH 2017: ADHD – EMPOWERING PARENTS	15
JUNE 2017 – PARENTS AND TEACHERS AS PARTNERS.....	16
NOVEMBER 2017. THE ADHD BRAIN CONFERENCE.....	17
VALUED TEACHERS AWARDS.....	18
WEBINARS	19
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.....	20
MEMBERSHIP	20
FUNDRAISING AND DONORS.....	20
RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY	21
LADS STAFF 2017	21
OBITUARY.....	21
VOLUNTEERS	21
GRACE DA CAMARA - PROFILE	22
BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.....	23
PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY BODY	26
FINANCIAL REPORT	30



INTRODUCTION TO LADS

LADS, is a not for profit organisation, which provides support for people dealing with the effects of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

Operating since 1993, LADS has been providing counselling, advocacy and information services to families, teens, adults and professionals in Western Australia. LADS uses an evidence based approach to the help it provides and is supported by a Professional Advisory Board (PAB) comprised of ADHD medical, allied health, educational and coaching professionals. LADS have identified the strong benefit to those dealing with ADHD of early intervention, support, self-help and education. Through our work we have helped thousands of adults and families to develop skills to better manage the impact ADHD has on their lives.

ADHD is a very complex, life-long condition. ADHD also brings with it many positive qualities and it is important to recognize and nurture these attributes to the benefit of the individual and society in general.

Through support, counselling and education, LADS has assisted thousands of families and children who have faced a diagnosis of ADHD. Our activities encourage individuals to be empowered through access to information about ADHD, its treatment and self-management. LADS supports empowerment, by providing access to an extensive resource library, as well as seminars, workshops, webinars and online resources. We also offer a volunteer run information and support line to anyone seeking support or advice. LADS, is an important first contact for many people who are seeking a better understanding of those with ADHD.

Our organisation has long standing professional networks, linkages and referral pathways across a broad range of services and providers associated with support and treatment of ADHD and associated mental health issues.

*We work with
children, teenagers
and adults living
with ADHD, their
families and
partners.*

*We also support
those who treat,
teach and work
with people living
with ADHD.*

*LADS is a support,
information and
advocacy agency,
founded in 1993 for
people with ADHD
and associated
conditions.*

PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD

Dear Members,

Over the past 12 months the rejuvenation of LADS has continued, and the organisation is, once again, a busy and effective support group for the ADHD Community in Western Australia. This success is due to the efforts of a small group of people who have dedicated a great deal of time and energy to our cause.

Our Board of Management welcomed Susan Hughes and Glen Young, who worked alongside the other Board members to increase our services and strengthen our financial position. As we are a Working Board, we actively engage with volunteers and staff to design, oversee and supervise activities and services. Our counsellors have Martin Exell as mentor, and support group facilitators are backed by Roger Paterson. Zyon Krupenia and Susan Hughes managed the parenting courses, made possible by a WA Police grant. Seminars and webinars are also co-ordinated by the Board, with Jordan Koroveshi taking responsibility for marketing and website maintenance. Glen Young, who provided valuable governance advice also managed our technical requirements at seminars. Our Secretary, Kim Dixon supported and ‘project managed’ the Board through a year packed with action items and outcomes. Sarah Ozanne provided valuable legal perspectives throughout the year. Marcia De Almeida guided us through the process of reducing expenditure and creating additional income, enlisting the support of Alan Colyer who volunteered his time to maintain our accounts. All Board members are owed a huge vote of thanks for the hours they have committed to LADS and the ADHD community.

We remain the only support group in Australia to have a Professional Advisory Body (PAB). Chaired by Roger Paterson and comprised of professionals across disciplines they ensure that information we provide our members is always backed by research. They volunteer their time to attend support group meetings, and as presenters at our seminars and webinars. Many PAB members have been with LADS since it started 20 years ago. We are grateful to each and every PAB member for their ongoing support.

In addition to the services provided, the Board and PAB have actively worked to report and reduce stigma in the media. We have communicated with State and Federal Health Ministers who both responded in a supportive and informed manner. This work is ongoing, but not always publicised.

Sinead Wilson has continued to step up in her role of Office Administrator. As we have increased our membership and services the office has become busier, and Sinead has risen to the challenge, embracing the opportunity to develop LADS into a vibrant and sustainable organisation. Thank you, Sinead, for your hard work.

A special word of thanks goes out to Akvile Gvildyte, who worked at LADS on Marketing and Media. Due to financial constraints we were unable to renew her contract this year. However, Akvile has continued to be involved with LADS as volunteer, and currently maintains our Facebook page.

Speaking of volunteers, LADS has a small but dedicated group of members who answer the helpline calls, facilitate support group meetings, manage the library, assist at functions, write grants and co-ordinate fundraising activities. The ADHD community benefits greatly from the time and energy they donate.

Over the past year, we have often asked our members what they want from LADS, and we have worked, with our limited resources to provide what you have requested. Today I have another question:

“What are you prepared to do for LADS?” Please consider becoming a LADS volunteer or making a financial donation. We can continue in our quest to make life better for people with ADHD – if we have your support. Your life will be richer for the experience.

Michele Toner, Chair

PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY BODY (PAB)



Part of LADS PAB. From left to right: Elizabeth Spencer-Fawell, Dr Roger Paterson, Shelley Blakers, Zyon Krupenia, Dr Michele Toner, Prof Stephen Houghton

The LADS Professional Advisory Body (PAB) has continued to meet quarterly and remain available at all times for consultation from the Board and the LADS Administration since the last AGM in May 2017.

The main issues that have arisen include:

1. Active involvement by PAB members in the LADS seminars and webinars.
2. Regular attendance at the Adult Support Group to support the facilitators.
3. Development and participation in the new Parenting Course Programme, with particular expertise from Zyon Krupenia.
4. Advice on how to respond to negative media about ADHD.
5. Advice on the register of professionals in WA available to treat ADHD.



The PAB continues to ensure that all advice that LADS offers to its members is evidence-based and of good quality.

Part of LADS PAB. From left to right: Derek Cohen, Prof Desiree Silva, Prof Wai Chen

Dr Roger Paterson.

Chairman

Professional Advisory Body.

I would like to congratulate and thank Michele Toner and the current board for the tremendous work they have done to re-invigorate LADS over the last year. This has involved much dedication and long hours taken away from their personal time. They have been supported by an enthusiastic and hardworking team of counsellors, office staff, the Professional Advisory Body, and others who have voluntarily given of their time to give advice on legal, technical and monetary matters. We should all be grateful that such people exist with a common aim of improving the quality of life for those with ADHD - children, adults and families.

From a professional point of view, Michele and Roger Paterson have started and stimulated significant inter-professional discussion right across Australia in all aspects of managing ADHD through the lifespan. There has been a significant exchange of views, treatments and advice between all professionals as well as requests for assistance and a lot of learning. It is comforting for many to know that the advice they are getting from LADS has been tested and proven.

Getting the message to the people is of prime importance and when I ask if they have heard about LADS more and more are answering "yes" so the combined effort from all concerned is working.

I would like to re-enforce Michele Toner's comments about the good work that LADS does which relies upon volunteers and donations and without either many lives would be the poorer.

*Dr Ken Whiting
LADS Patron*

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PATRON

The Patron of the Learning and Attentional Disorders Society, Dr Kenneth Whiting – Paediatrician received his undergraduate degree from the University of the Witwatersrand and undertook postgraduate training at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School, Hammersmith Hospital, The University of British Columbia, Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital (Cape Town), Princess Margaret Hospital and the State Child Development Centre of WA.

He has a long-standing interest in childhood development and learning difficulties, particularly Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. Formerly a Paediatric Consultant at Fremantle Hospital, he ran the Overseas Adoption Clinic for a number of years.

Dr Whiting was a member of the WA Stimulants Committee and is a member of the LADS Professional Advisory Body. He was the Australian member on the Global Consensus Group which prepared an international algorithm for the diagnosis and treatment of ADHD, as well as being a keynote speaker at the 2nd and 3rd Asian ADHD Conferences.

Dr Whiting was involved in research into Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder with the Graduate School of Education at the University of Western Australia and has co-authored many published papers on ADHD. He is now semi – retired practising mainly in rural and remote Australia and advocating for children and adolescents with ADHD.

SERVICE DELIVERY

SUPPORT AND INFORMATION LINE

The support and information service is daily between 9.30am and 12.30pm and our dedicated team of volunteers address a range of issues, by telephone, email and visits to the office. This team has a depth of knowledge and experience which comes from both professional and lived experience with ADHD.

Of the 431 emails or calls to the LADS Support and Information Line, more 55% were regarding adults with ADHD, confirming that LADS plays a vital role in continuing to support this group in the ADHD community. The remaining calls were 33% child and 12% teen related.

Our support and information line volunteers dealt with a range of questions from callers including providing information on professionals who treat ADHD, advice on how to get help for problems with school, behaviour management problems and interventions, and how to begin the diagnosis process for ADHD. Other callers are looking for information on medication, how to access support, information and LADS services, how to get help with study or work, issues caused by other learning difficulties and relationship support. The most popular reason for contacting LADS support line was to find information on which professionals diagnose and treat ADHD in WA.

Many thanks to all our support line volunteers in 2017 and to Dr Roger Paterson's professional advice and support when needed.

'I just wanted to thank you for your help in finding a psychiatrist to help my partner. I really appreciate what you've done for us, as I could tell that my partner was struggling and needed professional help but I didn't know where to start so you guys have been an amazing help.'

'I just wanted to thank you for speaking with me a couple of weeks ago. I now have an appointment and a meeting with the school who have been super-helpful.'

'I just wanted to thank Robyn and the others at LADS for advice about paediatrician options for my son. We managed to get an appointment so thank you for getting us started.'

SUPPORT LINE

CALLS and EMAILS

431

PSYCHOLOGY COUNSELLING SESSIONS

419

GROUP MEETINGS

22

THE BETH DUNCAN (LADS) LIBRARY SERVICE

The Beth Duncan (LADS) Library has 611 items; books, CDs and videos that members are able to borrow for a 30 day period. This allows members to educate themselves on many aspects of ADHD. 15 items were added in 2017, with donations from authors and donors. Thank you to those who have replaced or paid for library books which were damaged while borrowed.

In 2017, around half of loans were from the section about adult ADHD; a quarter was from the sections about parents, teens and children; 18% were from the general information section and 8% were from the education section.



The Beth Duncan (LADS) library

This valuable service would not be possible if it weren't for our dedicated volunteer Kaye Dransfield who currently manages the library and loans. LADS would also like to acknowledge the valuable support from *Lotterywest*, over the years.

WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

LADS continued to use modern technology to support its members and supporters, including keeping an active Facebook Page. LADS team is working to reach the people with ADHD through social media. In the year of 2017, the number of people, who have liked LADS page on Facebook has increased from **974** to **1,297**. In addition to that, during the year LADS posts have reached more than **15,000** people. While some posts have received bigger reach, and some lower, LADS team is committed to analyse the data and provide the content which is actual and can help and support people with their ADHD journey. If you want to receive a daily tip/advice or reminder about various ADHD topics, please join LADS Facebook page Learning and Attentional Disorders Society (@lads.org.au).

Many thanks to Akvile Gvildyte for her work on Facebook this year.

Our website now offers recordings of webinars and seminar talks for members. Many thanks to Jordan Koroveshi.

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

The most often repeated comment that is made by newcomers at the parent support group, is “how good it is to be with people who understand”.

That is one of the more valuable aspects of providing the opportunity for parents to actually meet with others in the same situation – putting people in touch with others who really do know what it all means. By sharing tips, finding out that your situation is not unique – that others have “been there and done that”, but also sharing the joys and successes, which all children bring. It can be a very comforting experience to be with others who can provide non-judgemental support and often suggest strategies to find a way around the difficulties.

ADHD is a journey. At the beginning the way may not be at all clear as families struggle to come to terms firstly, with what ADHD means and then try to discover how best to manage the situation. There can be a lot of trial and error, not to mention frustration as the way ahead does not seem to be straightforward. However, the parent support group provides advice and information and it is most encouraging to see

the development of confidence as attendees re-discover their strengths and are then able to reach out to others.

It is heartening to observe the progress that many people make after several meetings from a point of anxiety and uncertainty to a position of confidence with the ability to extend a hand of friendship and support to others. Friendships are made, the contacts extend beyond the monthly meetings through phone calls and catching up in between meetings.

Parent Support Group/Coffee Mornings: are held on the first Wednesday of the month during school terms, from 10am - 12 noon at The Niche.

These gatherings are a great opportunity for parents of children with ADHD to meet and support each other, and to learn strategies to make (ADHD) life a little easier. Then, after coffee, visit our library and borrow one of our excellent books or audio-visual materials.

Thanks go to Elena Trethowan and Susan Hughes for facilitating these groups, and Prof Stephen Houghton's representing the Professional Advisory Body support.

Attendance: c15 parents per month



ADULT SUPPORT GROUP



LADS has long recognised that ADHD often does not end in childhood; rather it can be a lifelong journey. This can impact individuals in the workplace, in education and learning, socially, in relationships, as well as financially. The impulsivity, poor decision making and sometimes substance abuse, as well as co-occurring conditions such as depression and anxiety that can coexist with ADHD, often result in disproportionate contact with the judicial and health systems. We see the empowerment of adults to manage ADHD as key to providing equal access to a meaningful, constructive life – the adult support group is a key component within our service delivery.

The Adult Support Group provides a unique opportunity to help deal with the everyday issues faced by adults with ADHD. Meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm, attendees learn from other's real experiences. Partners and relatives are also welcome, often finding these meetings a useful resource to strengthen and build better relationships. The group sometimes invites expert presenters

to cover topics of specific interest to adults with ADHD that help improve their work, health and personal lives.

'The last meeting, my first, was such an incredible eye opener. I learnt more useful info there than I have in years of counselling.' P.S.

Our thanks go to Joel Green and Lesley O'Brien for facilitating this group. Dr Roger Paterson who co-ordinates a roster of PAB members who attend the group each month.

Attendance: c20 adults per month

PSYCHOLOGY SERVICES

2017 was an exciting year for LADS psychology counselling services. For the first time, this professional service was provided by two fully registered Psychologists who were able to offer counselling with a Medicare rebate for individuals with ADHD across the lifespan (children, adolescents and adults). In addition to face-to-face appointments, Skype counselling was offered for the first time to allow as many people as possible to access LADS.

Grace da Camara continued to offer counselling services at LADS, as a fully registered Psychologist. The aim of this service is to improve the quality of life of those impacted by this condition and its comorbidities, by focusing on the development of specific skills and time management strategies, building individual understanding of ADHD and teaching the individual to maximize adaptive thinking in times of stress; recognise when their thinking is overly negative and challenge that thinking with more adaptive alternatives

The team was joined in 2017 by psychologist Trina Michailidis, who in particular provided services to young children and their families through her Parenting Together Program. Children as young as 4 were able to benefit from this program. LADS was delighted to be able to offer this new service to our families in need of support.

The LADS office provided an onsite instant rebate service, and a professional booking and reminder system. Many thanks to PAB member and clinical psychologist Martin Exell for volunteering his time and expertise to supervise and advise our psychologists. Thanks also to Dr Roger Paterson's office for training our team in the intricacies of the HiCaps system for instant Medicare rebates.

Counselling appointments 2017: 419

'Thanks Grace, it was great to get some useful feedback and to press the "reset button". You guys are always so informative and understanding about our ADHD journey. It's wonderful to talk with professionals who really "get it" when it comes to raising a spirited ADHD kid!'

'Trina is amazing - highly recommend her. She's truly helped me and my son deal with his behaviour issues.'

Thank you so much to everyone today for an excellent welcome to LADS. We really appreciate your help in navigating the world of ADHD. Such a caring and understanding environment. Your notification service for appointments is excellent - emails, SMS... so many other service providers could learn from your team!

TEEN GROUP COUNSELLING – ONTRAC PROGRAMME

LADS was delighted to introduce a new service in 2017 – a group counselling course, especially aimed at Teenagers, a group that traditionally did not engage with support.

OnTrac is a CBT based program that assists Teens with ADHD. Adolescence is a time when psychosocial interventions are important because children transition from close supervision, to increased independence, less adult supervision, and less structure. Typical struggles include, academic difficulties, familial conflict, higher risk for substance abuse and relationship difficulties.

OnTrac was developed by psychologist Grace da Camara for offering to Teens with ADHD through LADS. It is a skills-building program that focuses on using a collaborative approach to help build skills relevant to the lives of Teens with ADHD and their transition to adulthood. The focus is on helping the ADHD teen learn compensatory skills needed to manage the many transitions that happen during this important developmental phase.

The first session of **OnTrac** was held in 2017. 6 teens took part in a 10-week program, with a Medicare rebate. In our pilot we found that the environment played a major role and that forming strong healthy alliances with the adolescents was a very important factor. We approached the program delivery with the idea that adolescents could take an active part in tailoring what worked and did not work for them. While they were still accountable to the school and their parent, we found, for the purposes of OnTrac that adolescents were more cooperative and there was more room for compromise when felt they had some control over how the skills were used. Acknowledging the importance of incorporating their parents, it was the adolescent who had to be the chief collaborator. The measures that we took to ensure that the teens felt that this was all about them was firstly, to communicate directly with the teens by e-mail or other social media rather than via their parents, secondly a planned “professional session” where a psychiatrist, a GP as well as a nutritionist were invited as guests for a Q/A session. This facilitated psychoeducation, and teens assuming responsibilities especially in terms of their medication, and an opportunity to build confidence by mastering skills through gaining knowledge.

We also found that the inclusion of the module adaptive thinking was of great importance. This component was helpful in addressing the negative thoughts that arise from repeated failures and/or comorbid anxiety or depression. It was also helpful to address unhelpful thinking patterns observed in individuals with ADHD. Values work was made relevant to this age group and it was well received. The student facilitators were a great asset to the program.

Many thanks to Grace da Camara for developing and delivering the programme. Thanks also to our volunteers Thomas Griffies, Oliver Dearsley and Anthony Ponte, as well as the professionals, families and young people who took part. Ontrac will continue to be offered in 2018 and beyond.



COACHING SERVICES

ADHD Parent coaching was a new support service introduced for LADS members in 2017. Coaching is a unique method of providing support for parents of children with ADHD, teaching new skills and strategies in an emotionally supportive manner, which helps the parent solve problems and find new solutions. Parent coaching is a collaboration between the parent and the coach. This can improve the parent-child relationship and increase parent confidence.

Coach Susan Hughes is Susan is passionate about supporting parents to be the parents they wish to be. Susan is on the LADS management board and has previously served on the International Coach Federation Australia board for a number of years. Susan is supported and mentored in her role by Michele Toner.

One of our clients commented:

'Great first parenting coaching session with Susan. I learned a lot of specific strategies that I can use with my 17 year old son to keep him on track and to prevent our relationship deteriorating. Look forward to ... learning more in the weeks to come. Susan was incredibly supportive and non-judgemental. I'm feeling stronger and more empowered already!!'



ADHD Parent Coach Susan Hughes

PARENT COURSES - Responsible Parents – Responsive Children 2017



Zyron Krupenia, Elena Trethowan and Susan Hughes

In 2017, LADS was delighted to be able to offer a series of free Parent Courses specifically tailored for parents of children with ADHD aged 6-16 years. ADHD is not a result of bad parenting or lack of discipline. However, if children are not provided with the tools to manage their condition their lack of attention and impulsive behaviours can impact on their self-esteem and life skills. The six-week evidence-based program provided effective and achievable strategies to parents and caregivers. Developed and facilitated by health and education professionals, parents and caregivers were taught a range of practical techniques to assist with behaviour management of ADHD children. Two free

six-week courses were run in 2017, as well as a six-week online version of the course. 110 parents participated in this opportunity. With a waiting list of over 100 people who were unable to access the courses this time, LADS realised huge need in the community and will continue to look for funding for this essential support for families affected by ADHD.

This massive achievement was due to the support and hard work of many people. LADS would especially like to thank **Elena Trethowan**, who designed the course, as well as **Susan Hughes** who co-facilitated. **Zyron Krupenia** provided clinical input. We acknowledge the financial support of the WA Police Crime Prevention Grant Scheme, without which we could not have offered this wonderful series of courses for free to our community. We were very fortunate to have student intern and LADS member **Annette Brown** who co-ordinated many aspects of this program well beyond the hours prescribed by the internship requirements.

'I just wanted to express my thanks and gratitude for the work and effort given in the development and presentation of the ADHD Parenting Course.

This course was exceptional in every aspect... intelligently structured to focus on the condition and worked through ways to deal with it. The value of having Elena and Susan delivering the information, both having children with this condition, really enhanced their credibility and understanding. I have nothing but praise for everyone at LADS for their efforts in setting up this course. Prior to attending, both of us were unsure as to where we were heading, and what, if anything we could do. I now find my whole attitude has changed. I would like to commend those at WA Police that took the initiative to support this parent training.' J.G.

Attendance per course: Average of 40 parents

Overall attendance: 110 parents

SEMINARS 2017

LADS held three seminars in 2017. Particular thanks are due to Michele Toner for organising our talks, workshops, seminars and conferences, as well as to the professionals who donate their time and expertise per gratis to the benefit of LADS and the ADHD community.

March 2017: ADHD – Empowering Parents

This seminar empowered parents by providing research-based information to bust the common myths about ADHD, and helped attendees understand some of the science behind ADHD to enable them to better advocate for their child. Prof. Wai Chen spoke about everything parents need to know about medications for ADHD and associated conditions. Finally, we looked at how to be sure you have the best diagnosis for your child, the development of a treatment plan, what a parent could expect in a diagnostic assessment and psychology-focused treatment.

SPEAKERS: Prof Desiree Silva, Prof. Wai Chen, Derek Cohen

ATTENDANCE: 55

No who rated the event as GOOD or EXCELLENT: 100%

FEEDBACK:

Another excellent LADS event

Derek Cohen saying look at the big picture - for so long I've been focusing on academic area instead of just helping my children to be happy.

All - 3 excellent speakers! Complemented each other

I am overwhelmed with so much WONDERFUL information.....Information is 'empowering'.

Being reassured as a parent that the myths really are myths! This has given me a push to seek more help and learn more myself.

SEMINARS 2017

3

PARTICIPANTS

215

WEBINARS 2017

3

PARTICIPANTS

99

"We not only water the garden but protect it."

Prof Wai Chen



June 2017 – Parents and Teachers as Partners

This seminar provided parents with the skills and information they need to communicate effectively with schools, and partner with teachers. ADHD causes serious and ongoing challenges for children at school. As a result, children with ADHD face academic underachievement, school suspensions, and sometimes drop out of school. In many ways, ADHD is an invisible condition, and unless teachers are well informed, they may not be aware of their students' struggles.

Parents play a vital role in the education of children with ADHD. They are often well informed when it comes to ADHD and how it affects their child, and they can be a great resource for teachers. However, they sometimes find it hard to establish effective lines of communication with teachers, especially during the high school years. Children with ADHD benefit greatly when parents and teachers work as partners to support them through school. Our seminar gave parents valuable tools to do just that.

Shelley Blakers, LADS PAB member set the scene for parents in the primary school environment. Chantalle Chapman, school psychologist, with a post-graduate qualification in Education outlined the role parents play in the high school setting and how best to communicate with the school to ensure that Students with ADHD are supported. Susan Hughes, specialist ADHD parent coach provided the parent perspective. The seminar will concluded with a panel of all 3 speakers, plus Psychiatrist Dr Roger Paterson, who answered a broad range of questions on this important topic.



Chantalle Chapman and Roger Paterson

*Lots of practical advice and
information, about High School.
Thanks!*

SPEAKERS: Shelley Blakers, Chantalle Chapman and Susan Hughes.

ATTENDANCE: 46

No who rated the event as GOOD or EXCELLENT: 92%

November 2017. The ADHD Brain Conference



Dr Bonnie Furzer PhD/AEP, Dr Ashleigh Thornton PhD, and Ms Kemi Wright

The Neuroscience of ADHD and Medications – Professor Wai Chen provided an overview of the brain receptors and neurocircuits relevant to ADHD.

The ADHD Brain and Learning – Associate Professor David Lawrence & Mr Benjamin Goodsell shared findings of The Young Minds Matter Survey which examined NAPLAN records of 5,000 adolescents. Students with mental disorders have poorer academic outcomes than their peers. Students with ADHD and conduct disorder had the lowest academic performance of all.

The ADHD Brain and Sleep – Professor Desiree Silva and Mr Martin Exell focused on case presentations, practical questions and solutions to consider when children and adults with ADHD have sleep issues.

The ADHD Brain and Computer Addiction – Mr Derek Cohen shared information about the ADHD brain's vulnerability to the lure of screens. And provided strategies to combat the problem.

The Brain and Exercise – Dr Bonnie Furzer PhD/AEP, Dr Ashleigh Thornton PhD, and Ms Kemi Wright provided an overview of the role of exercise for the developing brain and focused on the role of exercise in children and adolescent mental health.

The Second Brain (Microbiome) – Professor Susan Prescott shared fascinating insights about how our diet and environment can affect our mood, anxiety and ADHD symptoms, which are now thought to be directly related to our gut bacteria.

Conference recordings are available for purchase on the LADS website.

Some of the attendees commented:

Keep doing such a good job providing support services for people with ADHD and their supporters

Presentations were well-paced and MC did a wonderful job. Thank you for an informative day.

Brilliantly organised .. excellently structured and a huge privilege to be part of so many empowering, intelligent people!

Excellent day. I gained a lot of info. Thank you to every speaker and the organisers. Great to know there is support from a lot of avenues!

Thank you for speaking up for us!

As a parent trying to navigate through the multitude of inputs from various specialists as well as education systems, to work out how best to support my children, I find it extremely helpful to have access to reliable scientific information - thank you!!

VALUED TEACHERS AWARDS

As part of the seminar, LADS awarded their Valued Teachers Awards 2017. Once again LADS invited members to nominate an educator who made a difference in their child's life. Nominated teachers were invited where they were acknowledged by our current patron, Ken Whiting, and Hon Keith Wilson, past patron and inaugural president of LADS.



This year our winners were:

Ken Whiting, Heath Pazzi, Jessica Hennah, Emily Barr and Hon Keith Wilson

Kylie Barron & Janine Crouch

Samson Primary School

Heath Pazzi

Christ Church Grammer School

Jessica Hennah

Ashfield Primary School

Emily Barr

Palymra Primary School

WEBINARS

Thanks to a grant from Connect Groups *Pay It Forward*, the LADS team was delighted to offer a series of 3 free webinars for LADS members in September. Members participated by logging in to our 'Zoom Room' no matter where they were located. It was important to offer this opportunity to members who may live remotely, or have difficulty attending our seminars in person. LADS would like to thank the following speakers who donated their time:

Ms Pauline Pannell, Disability Support Officer, UniAccess UWA & Dr Michele Toner, ADHD Coach, who discussed University Students with ADHD

Ms Grace da Camara, Psychologist & Dr Madalena Bennett, GP, who covered: Teenagers with ADHD – the role of the GP and Psychologist.

Ms Chantalle Chapman, School Psychologist whose topic was Parents partnering with high schools (back by popular demand).

LADS will be continuing and expanding our webinar series in the future, in order to support more people in the ADHD Community

Living regional the webinars keep me in the loop of what is happening down in Perth

I now know how to approach this with my GP

Yes, opened up a new understanding in what high school can do to accommodate a child with learning difficulty.

I had no idea that the school would be able to help and put some things into place for us.

Tips provided by both speakers were invaluable

Because it was available at home I was able to get my 16 year old son who has ADHD to watch it with me. I would struggle to get him to attend a meeting.



ConnectGroups
helping support groups & individuals

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of LADS continues to grow and by April 2018 has passed well over 300 members. This growth was helped by the increasing provision of cost effective seminars and conferences, where professionals shared their expertise and advice about ADHD. In 2017, Members also benefited from exclusive access to our ADHD Parent Coaching sessions and webinar series, as well as our Library.

Our Members help to support LADS financially, as well as providing a strong community and voice for people affected by ADHD.

LADS welcomes all our new members in 2017, and hopes that they stay engaged for many years to come, benefiting and contributing to LADS. A special thank you also to all our renewed members who continue to support LADS in our work.

FUNDRAISING AND DONORS

LADS would like to acknowledge and thank all who make donations throughout the year. Your support is invaluable to the work that we do.

To our generous anonymous donors, your faith in LADS and support for the people to whom we offer services enables us to offer our members what are often life changing services. While we currently do not receive any government funding, your ongoing support is invaluable. Without every contribution we receive, we would be unable to assist all the individuals and families who reach out to us for assistance. On behalf of all individuals and families living with ADHD, we would like to thank you for your generosity.

Groups who supported LADS with project grants in 2017:

WA Police Community Crime Prevention Fund

Shire Australia Pty Ltd

Connect Groups

MEMBERS 2017

297

**NEW MEMBERS
2017**

175

**INCREASE IN 4
YEARS**

50%

RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY

LADS and our members supported several academic research projects into ADHD in 2017, including

UWA – Professor Wai Chen – ‘Factors that help young people with ADHD enjoy a healthy and engaged life’

University of Queensland - Jane Nikles – ‘Sleep study for children with ADHD’

The LADS Board and PAB spoke out against misrepresentation and misinformation about ADHD, as well as representing LADS and ADHD at the Western Australian Association of Teacher Assistants Conference.

LADS STAFF 2017

Sinead Wilson (Office Administrator)

Sinead Wilson has provided Administration and Operations Support for LADS since Sept 2015.

In 2017 she was appointed as Office Administrator of LADS. Sinead has worked in administration and management roles for over 15 years mainly in the Heritage sector. She has particular experience in database, event and financial management. She has a personal interest in ADHD and helping members of the community. She particularly enjoys meeting the members and clients of LADS.

Akvile Gvildyte (Marketing Assistant)

Akvile Gvildyte has her Master of Marketing from Vilnius University and Bachelor of Information and Communication. Akvile joined LADS in January 2016, through the international student exchange program AIESEC. She has been working with marketing, sales and project management. Akvile is interested in raising awareness of ADHD and LADS, so people, touched by ADHD, would know that they are not alone. Akvile was employed by LADS until August 2017. She now volunteers in the role of social media management.

OBITUARY

Sarah Holt-Foreman

LADS former Operations Manager/Executive Officer (2014-2016) passed away peacefully at home on 9.1.2018. Our deepest sympathies to Lynn and Kyle on the passing of Sarah.

VOLUNTEERS

LADS is the organisation it is today because of the dedicated service of volunteers. These include Helpline volunteers, library administration, social media management, fundraising, bookkeeping, support group facilitation, serving on the Board and PAB, and presenting at seminars and webinars. Over 35 volunteered for LADS in 2017.

We will be running a volunteer training course very soon and would encourage those interested to consider giving some of your time and expertise to LADS.

GRACE DA CAMARA - PROFILE

Grace da Camara, has contributed to LADS since 2008, when she joined us as a helpline volunteer. She was studying Psychology at the time.

Between 2013 and 2016 changed roles, having completed her studies, and progressed to volunteering as a Provisionally Registered Psychologist at LADS and Communicare.

In 2016 she started working at LADS as a registered Psychologist, offering Medicare rebate-able counselling to children and adults with ADHD.

After close to 10 years of involvement with LADS, in different capacities, Grace has decided to move the focus to a different domain of my life, that of family.

In Grace's words: "***I am very grateful for my association with LADS, as it provided me with an opportunity to grow, research and learn about ADHD – a condition that is very close to my heart. To all those that I have served a big thank you for making me part of your ADHD journey.***"

Grace will continue to deliver the 'Ontrac' program for teens and tweens, populations, in need of services targeted at the individual. Her hope is that from 'Ontrac' a mentoring program will be born, where teens will come together monthly, in a supportive and caring environment, to build upon concepts and ideas addressed during the program and build on social skills and networking.

LADS is very grateful to Grace for the 10 years of commitment and dedication. She brought compassion, professionalism and integrity to every task she completed. Our organisation has been enriched by the contribution she has made on several fronts. We wish her well as she focuses on her family, and will always hold her dear as part of the LADS family.



Psychologist Grace da Camara

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The Board Members who volunteered their time and expertise to run LADS in 2017 are introduced below. We appreciate the work they do for LADS and the ADHD community.

CHAIR 2017 Dr Michele Toner	Trained as a high school teacher, Michele was awarded a Master of Special Education Degree with Honours in 2001 and won the University of WA prize for Best Research in Special Education. Entitled "Adults with ADHD; living in chaos and striving for control". In 2009 she completed her PhD, entitled "University Students Diagnosed with ADHD and their first year at university: a theory of developing empowerment". This was awarded the Cameron Prize for best research in the education faculty for that year. Michele now works in private practice.
VICE CHAIR Jordan Koroveshi	Jordan is a professional town planner who has developed his skills in finance, law, and business improvement. He constantly seeks great outcomes for the community and always strives to improve his skills. Jordan brings to the board a rigorous eye for detail and new ways to solve problems.
TREASURER Marcia de Almeida	Marcia is a senior manager with a proven track record of successfully establishing and leading large scale projects, transformations and improvement programs around the world. She has held senior positions for major multinational organisations, owned strategic planning processes, managed multi-million dollar budgets and large, geographically dispersed, multicultural teams. Her assignment as a senior management consultant for the WA Department of Corrective Services enabled her to experience the impact of ADHD and associated comorbidities on individuals, families and communities. She feels privileged to make a contribution to LADS by serving as Treasurer.
SECRETARY Kim Dixon	Kim joined LADS as Secretary in September 2016. She has a background in management consulting and law and has made a career over the last 15 years in IT Project Management. She is focused on the delivery of organisational strategy using the discipline, transparency, stakeholder empowerment and inter-team collaboration that can be achieved by applying project principles. She has a BA LLB and a Graduate Diploma in Psychology. She is professionally accredited through the Project Management Institute and the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Kim feels privileged to be involved in LADS as an organisation that enables the achievement of individuals and provides meaningful support within a community.

MEMBER Martin Exell	Martin is a clinical Psychologist who has worked in the area of child development for the past 30 years. He has been involved with children and adults with ADHD for the past 20 years both in public service, while Clinical Psychologist at the State Child Development Centre, and also while in private practice for the past 18 years working with children with ADHD and their parents. He is previous President of the Suzuki Talent Education Association of WA.
MEMBER Susan Hughes	Susan Hughes qualified as a personal and business coach in Ireland in 2007 and is training in the “Parent as Coach” way since 2011. It is through her own personal challenges as a parent that she was drawn to parenting coaching. She has her own coaching practice and presents parent training workshops. Susan has worked with Clan previously. Susan graduated from ECU in 2017 with a Masters in Education by research. The research examined the effect parenting coaching had on parents of children with ADHD. Themes relating to mindfulness in parenting, changed parental cognitions, awareness of parenting styles, improved parent-child relationships and improved self-efficacy emerged from the research as being positive outcomes of parent coaching. Susan is passionate about supporting parents to be the parents they wish to be. Susan is on the LADS management board and has previously served on the International Coach Federation Australia board for a number of years.
MEMBER Zyron Krupenia	Zyron Krupenia is trained as a Clinical Psychologist, and worked for many years in a Community Health Centre dealing primarily with child-related behaviour and developmental problems and problems related to marriage and family life. Zyron has been in private practice since 1984 and is the principal clinical psychologist at Premia Consulting Psychology in Scarborough, Perth. Zyron is a member of the following professional organisations: The Australian Psychological Society (APS), The APS College of Clinical Psychology, The Institute for Private Clinical Psychologists of Australia (IPCPA), and The Association of Clinical Psychologists of Australia (ACPA). He has been on the Professional Advisory Board of LADS since its inception and is now also on the LADS Management Board.
MEMBER Sarah Ozanne	Sarah is a commercial lawyer specialising in commercial drafting, tax and wills and estates. She left private practice in October 2017 and started working as an investigator for AHPRA. Sarah was diagnosed with ADHD at the age of 11, therefore she is familiar with what it is like to grow up with ADHD and the problems that it causes at school, university and the workplace and with other struggles people with ADHD are dealing with. Sarah is interested in helping others to reach their full potential, using her personal experience to suggest and discuss the best way to help and support people with same condition. Sarah offers legal experience and knowledge to the LADS Board.

MEMBER Dr Roger Paterson	Roger is a Consultant Psychiatrist in full-time private practice. He worked in combined public and private practice from 1989 to 1996, and from 1997 onwards has been exclusively in private practice. He was the principal author in 1999 of a published study showing that dexamphetamine was useful in the treatment of adult ADHD – a world 1st. He has been a member of the WA Stimulants Committee and continues to advocate for the multimodal treatment of ADHD within both the public and private sectors, for all age groups. He has been a member of the LADS Professional Advisory Board since its inception in 1994, and been a Board Member of LADS since May 2016. He and Dr Michele Toner started AusPAN (Australian Professional ADHD Network) in 2011, and he became an inaugural Board member of the Australian ADHD Professionals Association in July 2017.
MEMBER Glen Young	Is a LADS member, and currently employed as a Board Support Officer at the Department of Commerce. Mr Young has extensive experience in providing executive and administrative support to two Government Regulatory Boards and has a wealth of knowledge relating to compliance matters regarding legislation, regulations and legal processes. His current role requires him to prepare and quality-assure agenda papers, attend monthly board meetings and liaise with many internal and external stakeholders. Mr Young believes he can utilise his strong understanding of Board Governance to further improve and strengthen previous governance reviews undertaken by the LADS Board.

PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY BODY

The Professional Advisory Body (PAB) is an integral part of LADS past, present and future. We thank the current and previous members for their ongoing dedication and passion to improve the lives of people living with learning and attentional disorders.

CHAIR Dr Roger Paterson Psychiatrist	Roger is a Consultant Psychiatrist in full-time private practice. He worked in combined public and private practice from 1989 to 1996, and from 1997 onwards has been exclusively in private practice. He was the principal author in 1999 of a published study showing that dexamphetamine was useful in the treatment of adult ADHD – a world 1st. He has been a member of the WA Stimulants Committee and continues to advocate for the multimodal treatment of ADHD within both the public and private sectors, for all age groups. He has been a member of the LADS Professional Advisory Board since its inception in 1994, and been a Board Member of LADS since May 2016. He and Dr Michele Toner started AusPAN (Australian Professional ADHD Network) in 2011, and he became an inaugural Board member of the Australian ADHD Professionals Association in July 2017.
Shelley Blakers Educator	Shelley has more than 40 years experience in the Education sector, and currently works for the Department of Education. She is working in the specialist area of speech and language difficulties and disorder in the North Metropolitan and Mid-West Education Regions. Shelley's specialisation areas include learning difficulties, disabilities and language disorders. She has post-graduate qualifications in the area of special education, as well as educational computing.
Sylvia Byers AM Educator	Sylvia is a casual teacher of distance learners, volunteer teacher with REVISE with Isolated Children's and Parents' Association. Sylvia is a past president and current member of the national association Learning Difficulties Australia, past state president and current member Australian Literacy Educators' Association, foundation member LADS. Sylvia as well is past District Governor and current member of the Rotary Club of Mosman Park, technical advisor basic health and education with The Rotary Foundation, member of Rotary Aboriginal Reference Group.
Prof Wai Chen	Professor Wai Chen (BM, DCH, MPhil(Camb), PhD, MRCP, MRCPsych, FRANZCP) is Professor of Child Psychiatry, UWA; and the Head of Service, Complex Attention and Hyperactivity Disorders Service (CAHDS), DOH, WA. Since his appointment in December 2014, CAHDS was nominated as one of the finalists for WA Health Excellence Award in 2016. He read medicine at Southampton University, then a master's degree at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge University, before completing a PhD at the Institute of Psychiatry. Prof Chen received his psychiatry and child psychiatry training as a lecturer at the Maudsley Hospital and Institute of Psychiatry, as well as

	<p>gained clinical experience in adult ADHD at the National Adult ADHD Clinic (Maudsley Hospital) during his research fellowship. He was jointly awarded with other co-authors a BMA Medical Book Award in 2010 for 'Living with ADHD'. Between 2012-2014, he also served as a Peer Reviewer for the DSM5 Clinical and Public Health Committee (CPHC) during DSM5 revision. Prof Chen's research is in the areas of ADHD, neurodevelopmental disorders, emotional dysregulation, their treatments, resilience, subjective well-being and social recovery in CAMHS.</p>
Derek Cohen Clinical Psychologist	Derek has been working with children and families for over 30 years. He has worked as a senior clinical psychologist with the Health Department Child Development Clinics for 10 years, a couple of years with the Autistic Association of WA, has returned to full-time private practice in 1998. Derek has been a member of the Professional Advisory Board at LADS for over 20 years. He was also a founding member of the WA Registry for Autism Spectrum Disorders in the mid-90s, which set up the diagnostic protocol that is currently in use in Western Australia, and has been the model for the rest of Australia. In the area of ADHD, Derek has worked intensively with ADHD children and their families for 25 years.
Martin Exell Clinical Psychologist	Martin is a clinical Psychologist who has worked in the area of child development for the past 30 years. He has been involved with children and adults with ADHD for the past 20 years both in public service, while Clinical Psychologist at the State Child Development Centre, and also while in private practice for the past 18 years working with children with ADHD and their parents. He is previous President of the Suzuki Talent Education Association of WA.
Elizabeth Spencer-Fawell Dietitian (APD) Nutritionist (AN)	Elizabeth has worked at the Princess Margaret Hospital for Children and the Community Welfare Department of WA. She has been the Clinical, Community & Regional Dietitian for the Hamilton Base Hospital, Victoria, employed as a teacher of health, nutrition and life skills to "at risk" indigenous and other under-educated students, plus mature aged students at the Kalgoorlie College of Curtin University. Since 1989, Liz has been in private practice and has been a member of the Dietitians Association of Australia since 1980. In 1995, she became an Accredited Practising Clinical Dietitian (APD) and later Accredited Clinical Nutritionist (AN).
Dr Helen Frearson Paediatrician	Helen has worked as a Developmental Paediatrician for 20 years. She maintains a small private practice focused on care for children with ADHD, Learning Disorders, Autism and Behavioural Problems, engages in student teaching and works at the State Child Development Centre. Helen has completed degree at The University of Western Australia and undertook further training at Princess Margaret Hospital, The Mayo Clinic (USA), Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, Royal Children's Hospital (Melbourne) and The Telethon Institute for Child Health Research.

Prof Stephen Houghton	<p>Stephen is Professor and Director of the Centre for Child & Adolescent Related Disorders at The University of Western Australia and a Visiting Professor at the University of Strathclyde, School of Psychological and Health Sciences, Glasgow, Scotland. He is a registered psychologist with an international reputation in the leadership of multi-site large-scale research projects in child and adolescent developmental psychopathology. He has been Chief Investigator on over 20 externally competitive funded research projects and has 170+ high quality journal publications, two books, and a major test (PsychProfiler) to his credit. Professor Houghton has successfully supervised 130+ Higher Degree thesis students to completion and has conducted numerous invited international conference presentations. His is widely reported in the international media. He is a recipient of a National Australian Learning and Teaching Council (ALTC) Excellence in University Teaching Award (Social Sciences Category), and an ALTC Citation for Outstanding Contribution to University Student Learning. He was recently a recipient of the Vice Chancellor's Senior Research Award for distinguished achievement in research, scholarship, and sustained career excellence.</p>
Zyron Krupenia Clinical Psychologist	<p>Zyron Krupenia is trained as a Clinical Psychologist, and worked for many years in a Community Health Centre dealing primarily with child-related behaviour and developmental problems and problems related to marriage and family life. Zyron has been in private practice since 1984 and is the principal clinical psychologist at Premia Consulting Psychology in Scarborough, Perth. Zyron is a member of the following professional organisations: The Australian Psychological Society (APS), The APS College of Clinical Psychology, The Institute for Private Clinical Psychologists of Australia (IPCPA), and The Association of Clinical Psychologists of Australia (ACPA). He has been on the Professional Advisory Board of LADS since its inception and is now also on the LADS Management Board.</p>
Dr Andrew Savery	<p>Andrew Savery is a consultant General Paediatrician, who has been in full time private practice in the Southern Suburbs of Perth since 2003. He graduated and trained in Paediatrics in WA, with extensive training in developmental paediatrics, both in urban and regional settings. He has a strong interest in the management of neurodevelopmental and behavioural disorders of children and has extensive experience in ADHD, autism, developmental disorders and learning problems.</p>
Prof Desiree Silva	<p>Desiree is professor of paediatrics at the University of Western Australia and Joondalup Health Campus. Desiree qualified as a doctor in the UK and completed her paediatric specialist training in Western Australia. She has a strong interest in neurodevelopmental disorders with over 20 years experience in managing children diagnosed with ADHD, autism, anxiety and developmental disorders.</p>

Dr Michele Toner
ADHD Coach

Trained as a high school teacher, Michele was awarded a Master of Special Education Degree with Honours in 2001 and won the University of WA prize for Best Research in Special Education. Entitled “Adults with ADHD; living in chaos and striving for control”. In 2009 she completed her PhD, entitled “University Students Diagnosed with ADHD and their first year at university: a theory of developing empowerment”. This was awarded the Cameron Prize for best research in the education faculty for that year. Michele now works in private practice.

Dr Ken Whiting

Dr Whiting is also LADS patron. His profile is featured earlier.

FINANCIAL REPORT

YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2017

STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
Operating receipts			
Donations received	2	52,182	81,857
Grants received	3	30,785	(3,548)
Membership subscriptions		13,033	8,805
Interest received		811	727
Other receipts		41,083	15,139
		<u>137,894</u>	<u>102,980</u>
Operating payments			
Grant expenditure		(29,814)	-
Cost of Sales		(1,678)	(1,928)
Employment expenses		(40,605)	(85,995)
Consulting fees	8	-	(4,000)
Rent		(13,184)	(12,690)
Insurances		(2,899)	(3,354)
Memberships and subscriptions		(200)	(124)
Website and other public relations		(601)	(1,588)
Stationery, photocopying and printing		(1,111)	(2,340)
Telecommunications		(1,524)	(3,393)
Postage		(91)	(506)
Bank charges		(1,407)	(1,119)
Miscellaneous expenses		(2,163)	(1,243)
Expenses of functions and fundraising		(364)	(3,570)
		<u>(95,641)</u>	<u>(121,850)</u>
Cash operating surplus		<u>42,253</u>	<u>(18,870)</u>
Depreciation		(403)	(1,949)
Total surplus / (deficit) for the year		<u>41,850</u>	<u>(20,819)</u>

The statement of income & expenditure should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	127,821	71,857
GST receivable		-	319
Total Current Assets		<u>127,821</u>	<u>72,176</u>
OTHER CURRENT ASSETS			
Trade and other receivables		-	97
Total Other Current Assets		<u>-</u>	<u>97</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Office furniture & equipment	4	403	-
Total Non-Current Assets		<u>403</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>128,224</u>	<u>72,273</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	6	14,734	1,000
GST Payable		931	-
Employee related payables	7	1,480	2,044
Total Current Liabilities		<u>17,145</u>	<u>3,044</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>17,145</u>	<u>3,044</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>111,079</u>	<u>69,229</u>
ASSOCIATION FUNDS			
Retained surplus from previous years		69,229	90,048
Surplus / (Deficit) from current year		41,850	(20,819)
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>111,079</u>	<u>69,229</u>

The statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of accounting

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared for use by the Management Committee of the organisation. The Management Committee has determined that the organisation is not a reporting entity.

No Australian Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The financial report is prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following specific accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this report:

b) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of the statement of financial position, cash includes cash on hand and in banks, and money market investments readily convertible to cash within 2 working days.

c) Non-current assets

Office furniture and equipment and other non-current assets are carried at cost less accumulated depreciation.

All assets are depreciated over their useful lives to the organisation.

d) Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognised on the issue of an invoice or on the receipt of funds.

NOTE 2: DONATIONS	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Individual donations greater than \$20,000	50,000	80,000
Individual donations greater than \$10,000	-	-
All other donations	2,182	1,857
	52,182	81,857

NOTE 3: GRANTS RECEIVED	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Lottery west	-	(4,048)
General	-	500
Connect Group	1,494	-
Shire Grant	8,591	-
Police Grant	20,700	-
	30,785	(3,548)

NOTE 4: NON-CURRENT ASSETS	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Office furniture & equipment		
Furniture at cost	2,321	2,321
Furniture accumulated depreciation	(2,321)	(2,321)
Equipment at cost	3,143	2,337
Equipment accumulated depreciation	(2,740)	(2,337)
	<u>403</u>	-
Other non-current assets		
Library books & video	13,149	17,335
Accumulated depreciation library books	(13,149)	(17,335)
	<u>-</u>	-
NOTE 5: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
Cheque account	4,798	2,280
Telenet Saver account	120,306	69,577
Petty cash	171	-
PayPal account	2,446	-
Bankwest debit card	100	-
	<u>127,821</u>	<u>71,857</u>
NOTE 6: TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES		
Accrued audit fees	1,250	1,000
Accrued payments to police grant presenters	12,070	-
Accrued payments to book sellers	1,318	-
Accrued parking fees	47	-
Accrued telephone charges	49	-
	<u>14,734</u>	<u>1,000</u>
NOTE 7: EMPLOYEE RELATED PAYABLES		
Pay As You Go deductions	768	876
Superannuation contributions	712	1,168
	<u>1,480</u>	<u>2,044</u>
NOTE 8: CONSULTING FEES		
Marketing & Governance Implementation	-	3000
Other	-	1,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,000</u>
NOTE 9: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS		

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the period which significantly affect, or may significantly affect, the state of affairs or operations of the organisation for the period ended 31 December 2017.

DECLARATION BY THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

In our opinion the Statement of Financial Position and the Statement of Income & Expenditure, together with their accompanying notes, represent a true and fair view of the financial position of the Society at 31 December 2017 and the results of operations for the Society for the year then ended

These statements have been prepared in accordance with the basis of accounting set out in Note 1(a).

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Management Committee on 6th April 2018 and is signed on behalf of the Committee by:



Michele Toner
Chair



Marcia de Almeida
Treasurer

Dated at Nedlands this 6th day of April 2018



Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of Learning & Attentional Disorder Society WA

Qualified Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Learning & Attentional Disorder Society WA, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2017 and the statement of income and expenditure for the year ended on that date, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and management committee's declaration.

In our opinion, except for the matters described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion section of our report, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Learning & Attentional Disorder Society WA as at 31 December 2017 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (WA) 2015.

Basis of Qualified Opinion

Cash donations are not a significant source of fundraising revenue for Learning and Attentional Disorder Society WA. The Learning and Attentional Disorder Society WA has determined that it is impracticable to establish control over the collection of cash donations prior to entry into its financial records. Accordingly, as the evidence available to us regarding fundraising revenue from this source was limited, our audit procedures with respect to cash donations had to be restricted to the amounts recorded in the financial records. We therefore are unable to express an opinion whether cash donations the Learning and Attentional Disorder Society WA recorded is complete.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified opinion.

Bentleys Audit & Corporate (WA) Pty Ltd
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215 St Georges Terrace
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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of Learning & Attentional Disorder Society WA



Basis of Accounting

Without further modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the Board to meet the requirements of the Association's constitution, Associations Incorporation Act (WA) 2015 and the needs of the members. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Association's annual report for the year ended 31 December 2017, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Management and those charged with governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Association's Constitution, Associations Incorporation Act (WA) 2015 and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. Management's responsibility also includes such internal control as Management determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, Management is responsible for assessing the ability of the Association to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of Learning & Attentional Disorder Society WA



As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used based on the accounting policies disclosed in Note 1 and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by Management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of Management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Bentleys

BENTLEYS
Chartered Accountants

Doug Bell

DOUG BELL CA
Director

Dated at Perth this 6th day of April 2018