



AUSTRALIAN PARAMEDICS ASSOCIATION

QLD

February 2017 Newsletter

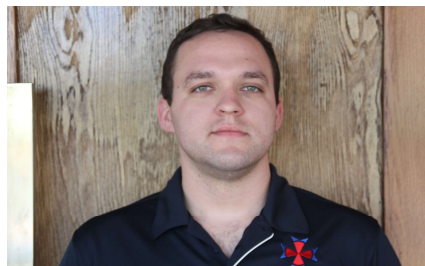
Peter Evans would like to thank all ambulance staff for their support over recent times.

Remuneration Enquiry

Members please be advised the APA QLD is taking a measured response to any information regarding the Remuneration Enquiry as not only do we believe it is great to see action being taken in regards to ambulance pay rates in Queensland, but we believe there is a need to let the process take its course. APA QLD is remaining highly vigilant to any developments and the Executive do share members concerns about the process. Once the findings have been delivered APA QLD will be examining the outcomes in close detail and will respond accordingly.

As for reports of non-UV QAS employees not being invited to partake in meet and greet station visits by Mercer, we would encourage all members to actively seek out times and dates of the visits and pressure UV delegates to include all staff who wish to be a part of the process.

APA QLD has formally submitted this concern to the Health Minister and the Shadow Health Minister and we are yet to receive any communication from Health, although the Shadow Minister requested we keep him apprised of the situation. APA QLD Executive.



Patrick Tomkins, ACPII, Assistant Secretary

APA QLD Liaison Officer, Bundaberg LASN

I have worked for QAS since 2012, starting in Metro North as a casual university student paramedic then working at Ningi station before I moved to Mount Larcom in Central Queensland. Following working at a single officer station for 16 months I moved to Bundaberg, where I currently work. I share both American and Australian citizenship, however spent most of my life living outside of Washington D.C. I came to Australia in 2007 initially for a holiday and catch up with relatives, however ended up meeting my wife and starting a career as a paramedic here in Queensland.

I am passionate about Australian Paramedics Association Queensland and the organisations commitment to serving its members and advocating for improvements to our work environment. I am excited about the future of APA QLD and what our organisation will become in the coming years. I personally believe that industrial registration of APA QLD is the next step for our organisation to not only provide support for members but have a strong voice when it comes to bargaining for our entitlements and wages. Like many of our colleagues, I was drawn to APA QLD by its commitment to remaining apolitical, as I believe that the self-interest of our political parties can/will impact negatively upon our profession.

I became an LO after noticing what little the current union were doing in the year following the EB and change of government. It became abundantly clear that the only way to enact change within our environment was to become a more active member of APA QLD, thus supporting our members and colleagues.

Patrick Tomkins

LIAISON OFFICERS TRAINING SESSION 27th and 28th MARCH

On the 27th and 28th March Liaison officer training sessions will be held in the Springwood area, (location and times to be confirmed). We would like to see as many of you as possible and if you have already attended a session you are welcome to attend this one as well however your travel and accommodation will not be funded by APAQld. For those Liaison officers that did not attend either session in 2016 your travel and accommodation may be funded by APAQld. Please contact Raymond Joy vice.president@apaq.com.au

SAFETY FIRST

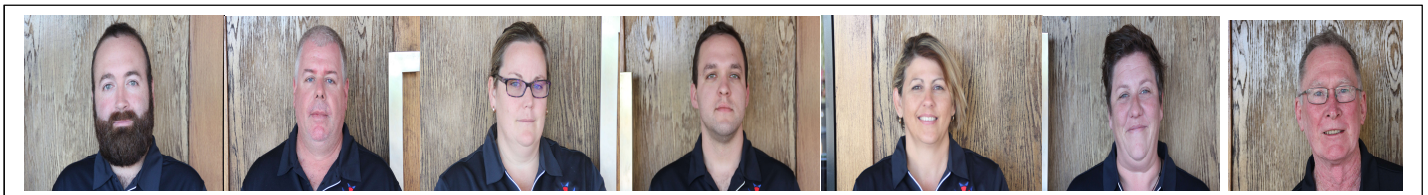
Stretcher related accidents can result in injury and in some cases death of patients, leading to litigation for ambulance employers and employees. These incidents have a significant likelihood of resulting in compensation for patients due to negligence and have the potential for reprimand within the workplace. It is rare for a paramedic to be specifically charged with negligence, unless it is considered gross or malicious in nature however the consequences for paramedics in the workplace can be severe. This said, it is imperative members are aware of the importance of utilising all QAS issued and mandated harnesses as well as adhere to both manufacturers and QAS guidelines when operating each piece of equipment. This ensures that if an incident is to occur, risk of injury to the patient and likelihood of administrative action is minimised.

In the event of a stretcher related incident such as a stretcher collapse, it is imperative to:

- Advise the SOS immediately and remove the stretcher from active service
- Inform the receiving hospital during handover
- Complete a SHE report and enter a note on the ARF
- Advise your OIC and CSO
- Notify your local liaison officer for advice/support and lodge an enquiry via APAQ.com.au

It is imperative that all members recognise the majority of ambulance bays/waiting areas around the state are monitored 24/7 via your local communications centre and in Kedron.

APA OLD Executive



Adam Gett	Raymond Joy	Simone Outred	Patrick Tomkins	Sue Standley	Althea Dorsett	Peter Evans
President	Vice President	Secretary	Assistant Secretary	Treasurer	State Liaison Officer	Assistant SLO

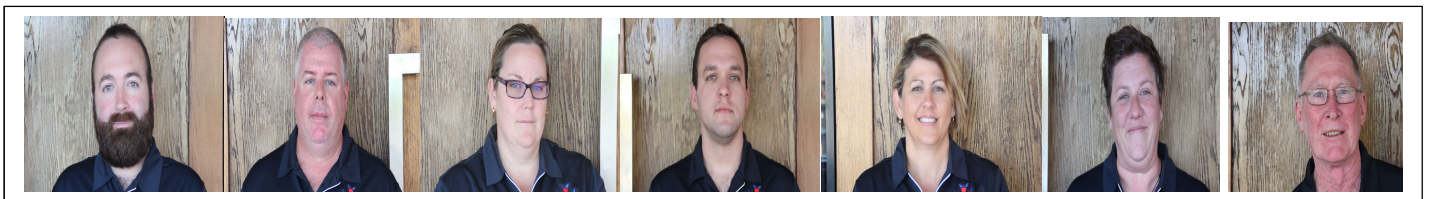
Have you seen our new PPE Kits?

Think you might like one?



Get in quick as there are less than 50 left at the \$15 price.

If interested email Raymond Joy vice.president@apaq.com.au, be sure to advise him on the name you want embroidered on your bag and confirm your mailing address. Payment details will be given on receipt of email.



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