

A large, stylized graphic of a leaf or flame, rendered in shades of orange and yellow, curves across the right side of the page. It originates from the top right and extends towards the bottom right, with its base near the center of the page.

2010

epilepsy
queensland
inc

Annual Report



Epilepsy Queensland's Patron Wally Lewis, Chairman Suzanne Greenwood and The Hon Paul Lucas MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for Health at Epilepsy Queensland's 40th Anniversary and Awards Ceremony.

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our business

Epilepsy Queensland's mission is to bring epilepsy out of the shadows and to optimise life for people touched by epilepsy.

We want people with epilepsy and their families to get the assistance that they need, when and where it's needed. We want community attitudes about epilepsy to be based on fact, not fiction.

our goals

- To create a supportive environment for people with epilepsy and their families.
- To empower people with epilepsy and their families.
- To contribute to the scientific understanding of epilepsy through research, education and its application.
- To ensure health, welfare and other services respond appropriately to the needs of people with epilepsy and their families.
- To ensure appropriate policies for people with epilepsy are included in public policies in all sectors.
- To ensure the long-term sustainability of Epilepsy Queensland Inc.

our role

An estimated 90,000 Queenslanders will acquire epilepsy during their lifetime. We will be here for them, providing:

- Information
- Support and counselling
- Community awareness and education
- Inservice training for staff of health, education and disability organisations
- Advocacy
- Resource development
- Research

chairman's report



I am pleased to present my 2009–2010 report as Chairman of Epilepsy Queensland Inc.

Having been supported by the members to be re-elected to the Board of Epilepsy Queensland for over 10 years now, I have reflected on this decade with a view to acknowledging some of the keys to the on-going success of the association.

The passion and dedication of the staff and volunteers has always sewn into the rich and inspiring history of EQI. The unwavering support of the community has seen the association grow and we also now enjoy a new and higher level of support from third-party fundraising events, such as Darren's Day, Ride for Luke, and the Baulderstone Golf Day.

Our CEO, Helen Whitehead, has continued to develop stakeholder engagement and foster relationships with key corporate partners and government sponsors. I am deeply appreciative to acknowledge the grant support received from Queensland Health, The Department of Education and Training, and Disability Services (Department of Communities) – the recognition received from the State Government for the valuable works of EQI is a meaningful commendation to the skills and achievements of our staff.

Again this year we have also been privileged to shine under the patronage of Wally Lewis – a man whose frank and open telling of his own personal story has raised awareness of the challenges of epilepsy in not only our membership, but the wider community.

Our base of programs continues to grow and develop including initiatives such as the Ketogenic Diet Project, regional activities, and camps/retreats.

This year has also seen Jan Taylor continue her dedication to represent Epilepsy Queensland with our national partners.

These reflections also caused me to consider my own journey to EQI. Integral in that story is Andrew Weil, from Canning Weil solicitors – Andrew acted as honorary solicitor for EQI for over a decade and was the first to introduce me, then as his junior solicitor to the wonderful team at Epilepsy Queensland. I therefore wish to take this opportunity, on behalf of all the members and staff, to acknowledge and thank him as one of the quiet achievers who support EQI to make a difference and bring epilepsy “out of the shadows”.

Our term as Charity of Choice for the Queensland Law Society also came to an end during the year – and again I would like to thank the Society for its support which affirmed the role of justice in raising awareness and eliminating discrimination for those who live with epilepsy.

Finally, I am humbled to acknowledge the strongest key to the on-going success and growth of Epilepsy Queensland and that is the members. To you all goes my greatest vote of thanks.

Suzanne Greenwood
Chairman

helping...empowering...



2010 has been a very busy year for the Services team at Epilepsy Queensland as we continue to help to optimise life for those touched by epilepsy.

Our information, support, counselling, education, training and advocacy services have expanded so that we are helping more people in more places with more services. To achieve this we employed some new staff – Kate Marley and Jodie Derriman. Yvette McMurtrie became Client Services Coordinator.

Our core services and priorities have not changed. However additional goals expanded our activities to:

- Increase our presence in regional Queensland – recent visits have included Maryborough, Toowoomba, Warwick, Roma, Emerald, Rockhampton, Mackay, Cairns and Townsville. These regional trips not only gave us an opportunity to provide workshops in these areas but also provided an opportunity to meet with families and explore the challenges they face living with epilepsy in these communities.
- Organise more workshops and groups with common needs.
- Deliver more off-site training for health, disability and education workers.
- Increase the number of “Understanding Epilepsy” workshops. We are grateful for the continued support of Helena Kamppi, Angela Spencer and Sharon Gilchrist for delivering the Midazolam component of the training.
- Coordinate camps for children and retreats and pamper days for carers. Camp E was a new initiative that provided an opportunity for children who live with a sibling or parent with epilepsy to spend time with other children who are dealing with similar situations and to participate in activities that may be restricted by the family’s complex needs and/or financial situation.
- Continue the Ketogenic Diet Support Service in collaboration with the Paediatric Epilepsy Network thanks to special funding from Queensland Health.
- Participate in more interagency working groups and policy reviews on health and disability issues relating to epilepsy.
- Enhance our service delivery administration and systems.
- Increase our on-line profile.



We are honoured to receive grant funding and support from Disability Services, Department of Communities, Queensland Health, and Department of Education and Training. These partnerships are essential for our service provision to the Queensland community.

We acknowledge with gratitude the support and advice from Education Committee members Dr Dan McLaughlin and Dr Jim Pelekanos. Dr Steve Malone, Dr Sophie Calvert, Dr Kate Riney and Prof Harry McConnell have also been valued advisors /partners on various projects and collaborations. It has been particularly rewarding to be part of the emerging Queensland Paediatric Epilepsy Network (QPEN) under the leadership of Drs Riney and Calvert.



Some families who have children with uncontrolled epilepsy or epilepsy and another condition require more intensive support. Through our Family Support program we are able to provide home visits and assistance to those experiencing the extra day to day challenges that come with more complex needs.

We are pleased to report that we successfully passed our annual audit for the Queensland Disability Service Standards. Our quality program is coordinated by Debra York.



All Little Poss Club members have continued to receive communication with Little Poss as he sends out his special birthday cards and newsletters to children with epilepsy. The delightful Dr Dudley is now a regular columnist. The children also had the opportunity to celebrate Little Poss's birthday at a party with the Brisbane Broncos at their club premises.

A seminar during the epilepsy awareness campaign focussed on the theme "Epilepsy- Giving Hope". It was a wonderful opportunity to hear about the latest research in epilepsy, as well as a time of sharing experiences and encouragement. We would like to thank our distinguished speakers, Professor Harry McConnell, Professor David Reutens, Associate Professor Cecilie Lander and Dr Steve Malone for taking the time to share their immense knowledge and expertise. It is through their hard work, dedication and ongoing research into epilepsy that there is hope on the horizon.



Our Christmas picnic at Orleigh Park, West End continues to be a wonderful day for kids, families and adults with epilepsy alike. It is not just a day of games, prizes and yummy food but also a chance for families to form new friendships. The event was hosted and sponsored by Peter Ritchie Plumbing and Samios Plumbing Supplies.

Nationally we are a member of Epilepsy Australia and the Joint Epilepsy Council of Australia (JECA), offering opportunities for national collaboration.



My name is Jodie Derriman, and I am enjoying my new role at Epilepsy Queensland immensely. Previously I was a sworn member of the Queensland Police Service for 13 years. I have degrees in Teaching and Arts – Justice Studies, as well as a Certificate IV in Assessment and Workplace Training. I am married with 3 daughters aged 10, 7 and 2 years. I have a personal interest in epilepsy and am keen to raise awareness of epilepsy through education and support. I love meeting new people and experiencing new challenges.



My name is Kate Marley and I came to work at Epilepsy Queensland as a Client Services Officer in May this year. Prior to this, I have spent many years as a Special Needs teacher working mainly with children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder and an Intellectual Impairment - which I loved. I have worked in both Special schools and mainstream schools and had the opportunity to work in several community organisations which supported children. At home, I have four boys of my own whose ages range from 11 years to 23 years. They definitely keep me on my toes! In my spare time I love to read, write and draw and hope one day (when I retire?) to write children's books.

Coming to Epilepsy Queensland has been a steep learning curve for me but I am enjoying every minute. It is a job where, I believe, we get to help people as well as use every talent we have. I look forward to many years of it!

bringing epilepsy out of the shadows



Oh to live in a society that understands epilepsy! Where people know what epilepsy is, and what it's not, in the same way that they understand so many other health conditions. Are we there yet? No, but we continue to strive towards that goal. We are committed to a range of strategies that are helping to bring epilepsy out of the shadows. The change is incremental, but that's probably the way that community attitudes change over time.

Our increasingly popular community education sessions provide participants with an overview of epilepsy and seizure first aid, in addition to information to meet their specific needs. These sessions are assisting to dispel the many myths surrounding epilepsy.

Fundraising activities such as the Little Poss Appeal and Purple Day are very important events as they increase awareness about epilepsy at a grass roots level and generate good media coverage. Our Epilepsy Awareness Campaign during June has facilitated a community focus on epilepsy in many health and disability services as well as the general community.



Epilepsy Queensland is proud to have our strategies for children and schools continue and strengthen. We have a number of epilepsy awareness strategies for children to provide timely information about epilepsy. Little Poss has been helping children learn about epilepsy for 16 years. He is as popular as he always was and we were relieved to have the assistance from the Department of Premier and Cabinet to "refurbish" the Little Poss program.

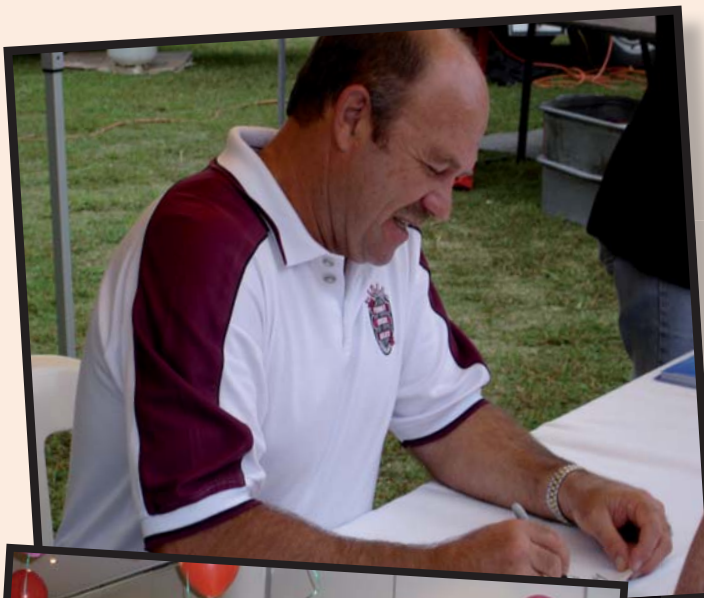
Trivia Challenge has the dual role of fundraising as well as raising awareness in the 6,000 primary school students who participate. The Department of Education and Training has been most supportive in our efforts to make Queensland schools epilepsy aware.

We have increased our online presence, raising the profile of epilepsy as well as that of Epilepsy Queensland.



Last but not least, we are so fortunate to have a wonderful ambassador and Patron, Wally Lewis. Wally has had a profound effect on the community's perceptions about epilepsy.





2009 annual award recipients

Health Award



Dr Geoff Mitchell is a professor of Primary Care Research at the University of Queensland Medical School. He has published extensively and is working on improving the outcomes for caregivers and patients alike. He has a particular interest in the role of General Practitioners in palliative care and cancer in general, and the care of complex conditions in private practice.

He is also a very generous man. One of his many patients describes him as an understanding, caring, kind and patient man. He is always available for home visits, is contactable night or day and always advocates for his patients, alleviating the stress often associated with their conditions. Dr Geoff Mitchell very much takes a holistic approach to medicine and is valued highly by all his patients.

Disability Award



Town and Country Community Options is an organisation based in Maryborough whose support workers go the extra mile to provide support for their clients. They come to the door of their clients with their smiles on, ready to face whatever may happen in the day. Dealing with uncontrolled seizures daily can often be an emotional and stressful experience for carers. The respite they offer them helps not only the person with the disability but the whole family. The carers themselves have freedom because of the willingness of these people to support them. Families are able to hang in there, thanks to their generous spirits and their loving care.

Education Award



Camp Hill Infant School Special Education Unit. Teachers Fiona and Cindy together with their band of teacher aides provide endless support to their students to ensure they are happy and comfortable. Their underlying philosophy of 'ensuring the kids maintain their dignity' filters throughout the whole school. They are always there to talk to and their wealth of experience is priceless.

Youth Award – Joint winners



12 year old Zoe Tame was nominated for her exceptional work in promoting an awareness of epilepsy in Queensland within her school community. She is currently a year 7 student who has recently completed a class project entitled 'making a difference'. The task simply asked students to plan, implement and report on something they could do to make a difference in the lives of others. Zoe has gone to great lengths to support EQI and the work that it does. Not only has Zoe attended our functions and volunteered, helping out (all in her own time) she has made other considerable contributions through her fund raising campaigns but more importantly in her awareness raising endeavours. We are very grateful to Zoe and for the work she does!

11 year old Sophie Eltis has had epilepsy since she was three. Recently she has become a big advocate for promoting the awareness of epilepsy and is attempting to de-stigmatise epilepsy with all those she meets. We have welcomed her presence and conversation at some of our functions, such as Trivia Challenge. Sophie is passionate about spreading her message that epilepsy doesn't define a person, and that having epilepsy is not something to be ashamed of, or embarrassed about. She is also highly enthusiastic about helping people with epilepsy in our own state of Queensland, many of whom have a type of epilepsy far more complex than her own.



The 'Fair Go' Memorial Award is an award that was named in honour of Fred White

Mr Ian Murray is an offsite manager for Target Stores at Warana on the Sunshine Coast. He has been nominated for this award because of his patience and understanding with employees and also for making an enormous difference in the world for those with a disability. Ian encourages opportunities for social interaction with his staff, as well as teaching others in the organisation, by example, to be tolerant and accepting of others with disabilities. Target Australia and especially Mr Ian Murray are appreciated for making a very real difference in the world we live in.



The Pam Wellings Memorial Award is for outstanding support or volunteering to Epilepsy Queensland

Mrs Betty Magoffin has been an active member of the Toowoomba support group for a number of years. In addition to her role with the group she has motivated others and has participated in a variety of activities in that time. She relates well with all their members and assists in practical ways when needed.

The Flame Award

The flame is the symbol of epilepsy throughout the world. It stands for bringing light to epilepsy. The Flame award is intended to be awarded only in special circumstances, and this is one of those occasions.



Steve and Suzanne Eltis are one of those! They have been nominated for an award for their painful and magnificent efforts when they attempted and SMASHED the former Guinness World Record for Endurance Three-legged Walking! The old record was just 32 km. The pair walked, on behalf of EQI, for 24 hours and covered an amazing 100.32km!

The Guinness Book of World Records has recorded their achievement in the current book. Since then Steve and Sue have done much to raise Epilepsy Queensland's profile and educate the community about epilepsy. They've stepped forward to help in lots of different ways. Along the way, they've also raised \$5,000. What an amazing achievement!

Marella Jenkins Award

Les and Kathy Elms have raised in excess of \$43,000 for Epilepsy Queensland for Epilepsy Queensland over the past four years, through bowls days at the Caloundra Bowls Club.

These successful fundraising events, named Darren's Day, are held each year in memory of their son. Darren sadly died unexpectedly due to a seizure whilst holidaying in Canada. Through Les and Kathy's hard work and dedication, they have not only raised this outstanding amount of funds, but have also raised much needed awareness of epilepsy on the Sunshine coast through the local media, community and business support.



raising money



We received a considerable amount of generous support from the community over the past twelve months – without which we would not have been able to develop a number of new programs and continue to provide the extra services on our “wish list”.

From families living with epilepsy and those who have lost a loved one, to a group of dedicated construction workers who just wanted to show they care – we were fortunate to be the beneficiaries of so many wonderful events.



The year started off with a bang thanks to a number of teams in the Bridge to Brisbane Fun Run. Our Everyday Hero website was kept busy with donations coming in supporting teams from Brisbane, Mackay and the Gold Coast including “Poss Pals Seizure Support Crew”, “Are We There Yet” and “Tinni’s Star – Forever Young”. We wish to especially thank Roy and Sue Beith for raising over \$15,000 in memory of their beloved daughter Katrina (Tinni).

We welcomed more Everyday Heroes throughout the year who raised both funds and awareness by simply creating their own Everyday Hero website page and emailing friends, family and colleagues to support their fundraising endeavours. These Heroes included: Justine Bell, Kiera Byrne, Zac Clarke, Lachlan Davis, Josie Dean, Kelly Dicketts, Felicia Eccles, Paul Elder, Tristan Ferla, Ned Hiller, Michelle King, Zoe Tame and Hayley van Diest.



Some fundraising involved physical challenges while raising funds and awareness such as the Brisbane Triathlon Squad of Brad Davis, Tim Franklin, Rebecca Thorn and Sarah Walker who competed and more importantly completed the New Zealand Ironman and raised nearly \$3,000.

One amazing young man – Travis Smith - also went the extra mile by riding his skateboard from Brisbane to Tweed Heads in memory of his father who lost his life due to an epilepsy related accident. Travis raised over \$6,500 and was constantly in the media over the 3 days it took him to complete his Skate for Epilepsy mission.



The Dean family of Dalby together with Peabody Energy raised a massive \$20,000 for their inaugural “Ride for Luke and Epilepsy”. This 40 kilometre bike ride from Peabody Wilkie Creek Mine into Dalby was in honour of delightful four year old Luke Dean who has uncontrolled epilepsy.

Another great family to whom we are incredibly grateful has continued to conduct a bowls day each year in loving memory of their son Darren. Over five years, Les and Kathy Elms together with the great team at the Caloundra Bowls Club have raised an outstanding \$60,000. This money means the world to us because it has enabled us to reach out to more people with epilepsy.



We also acknowledge a number of others who organised events, collected donations and helped to raise awareness about epilepsy including Karen Mowles and her wonderful team at Fundraising Services, Clay and Kylie McErlane, Bill Lynch, Ian and Alexandra Cuneo and the Lions Club of Moggill Mt Crosby that for the 5th year have donated proceeds from their Ipswich 100 Bike Ride.



The largest single donation we have ever received from an event was thanks to the sensational team from Boulderstone who organised a Charity Golf Day at Brookwater Golf Club on 15 June. Together with gold sponsors ARC and Boral and 144 keen golfers, the event raised over \$81,000, which was shared equally between Camp Quality and Epilepsy Queensland. Our utmost appreciation goes to Boulderstone and their team of dedicated, enthusiastic and caring employees for not only the wonderful donation but also a fantastic day! The funds will be used to develop a new Family Activity Program that until now has just been a dream to our team here at EQI. We are also thrilled that another Golf Day is being planned for October 2011.



Corporate sponsorship is very important to our fund and awareness raising endeavours as it encourages people outside of the “epilepsy community” to gain a greater understanding of epilepsy and also the opportunity to get involved. We thank the Queensland Law Society for nominating us as their Charity of Choice for 2009/2010 and the opportunity to communicate with their vast network of members. The Good Guys Community Program in conjunction with United Way Queensland was a constant source of income during the year and we thank Alf Said and his team at Lutwyche as well as Airen Youhanna and her team at Loganholme for their valued support.

Our own annual events were highly successful throughout the year thanks to our treasured longstanding supporters including the Pharmacy Guild of Australia (Queensland Branch), Followmont Transport and First Express Couriers for their continual support of our Little Poss Appeal. There were also a large number of wonderful pharmacies, newsagents, Westpac Branches, hospitals, organisations, schools, businesses and individuals who sold merchandise for not only Little Poss Appeal but also Purple Day, which was greatly appreciated.



Over 6,000 children participated in our annual Trivia Challenge which reaches out to, and teaches, our younger generation about epilepsy in a fun but educational way. One of the major challenges faced by people who have epilepsy is the attitude held by others, so it is great to see so many children come together in such a positive environment to learn about this condition – and of course raise funds!!!



Purple Day was officially the largest global epilepsy awareness day ever and Epilepsy Queensland was proud to be the official Australian partner for the second year. On 26 March, thousands of people, businesses and schools joined forces to let people with epilepsy know they are not alone. Just what 11-year-old Cassidy Megan of Canada had dreamt of when she founded Purple Day in 2008. Thank you to all those who got involved by either selling merchandise, collecting donations, conducting events, wearing purple or for the extreme - dying their hair purple! 2011 is sure to be bigger, brighter and better as we go national in association with Epilepsy Australia’s group of state based organisations.



Finally THANK YOU to all our wonderful donors, volunteers, supporters and staff for helping us to ensure that the only Queensland based epilepsy organisation is here with an open door and mind to listen, educate, support and most importantly, care.



welcome to our new patron



Late last year, Epilepsy Queensland proudly announced that Wally Lewis accepted the honour of being the organisation's Patron. Following the successful release of his book *Out of the Shadows*, Wally has become a great ambassador for Epilepsy Queensland and an advocate for people living with epilepsy.

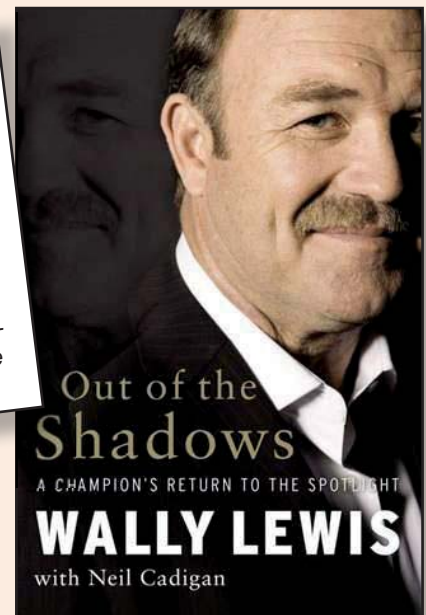
Wally has demonstrated considerable courage in stepping out of the shadows to share his story. He's given hope to many people with epilepsy and inspired them to talk about their epilepsy, when in some cases they'd been hiding it for a lifetime.

Wally is a great ambassador for our cause; a hero on and off the field. He is a generous man who has positively touched the lives of many struggling with the challenges of epilepsy. He has already made a significant contribution for which we will always be grateful. The flame, our logo that symbolises enlightenment, burns brighter in Wally's presence.

Wally dedicated his book *Out of the Shadows* to all those affected by epilepsy with this inscription—



"As a small boy I knew little about epilepsy, or the struggle involved. As a man, my understanding of the disease remained minor but, through experience, I became well educated about its effect. Yet, sadly, it remains one of the world's least promoted medical struggles. It's time to help the millions who remain in the dark—as I've found, there is light at the end of the tunnel."



thank you for your kind support

We sincerely appreciate the help that so many people and organisations have given us from July 2009 to June 2010. Those listed below, in addition to many others who we don't have the space to list here, have substantially contributed in some way to helping Queenslanders whose lives are touched by epilepsy.

Wally Lewis
Disability Services Department of
Communities
Queensland Health
Department of Education and Training
Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Little Poss Appeal

Pharmacy Guild of Australia
(Queensland Branch)
Westpac
Followmont Transport
First Express Couriers

Trivia Challenge

Kevin Rudd MP & his Electorate
Office Team
Spencer Howson - ABC 612 Brisbane
Ys Clothing Company
University of Queensland
QUT's Centre for Philanthropy and Non-Profit
Studies
Margaret & Trevor Connolly
Deb Davidson
Andrew Duell
Julie Frank
Jacki Jackson
Sacia Lane
Seth Lauder
Jeannette McDonald
Karen Schafer
Claire Sweeney
Cindy Taylor
Carrie Troughton
Olga Visser
Sophie Eltis

Events—Fundraising & Awareness

Fundraising Services
Ipswich 100 Bike Ride - Lions Club of
Moggill-Mt Crosby
2010 Darren's Day - Les and Kathy Elms
Caloundra Bowls Club
Alf Said - The Good Guys Lutwyche
Airen Youhanna - The Good Guys
Loganholme
United Way Queensland
Cabooture Realty
Peabody Energy
Jeff & Josie Dean
Boulderstone Pty Ltd
ARC
Boral Concrete
Ian & Alexandra Cuneo
Ritchies Store
Peter Ritchie Plumbing
Samios Plumbing Supplies
Brisbane Triathlon Squad - New Zealand
Ironman Team
Travis Smith - "Skater Boy"
Clay & Kylie McErlane
Roy & Sue Beith
Our Everyday and Purple Day Heroes
Novartis
UCB Pharma
Janssen-Cilag
Aurora BioScience
Darling Point Special School
Brisbane Broncos
Queensland Law Society

Volunteers

Margaret & Trevor Connolly
Fran Schultz
Betty Ritchie
Leanne Feurer
Kathleen Milne
National Australia Bank volunteers

For sharing their story

Rozanne Burley
Julie Saunders
Kiera Byrne
Stephanie O'Halloran
Louise Ryan

Speakers and Advisors

Sharon Gilchrist
Helena Kamppi
Angela Spencer
Dr Kate Riney
Dr Sophie Calvert
Dr Jim Pelekanos
Dr Steve Malone
Dr Cecilie Lander
Prof David Reutens
Dr Dan McLaughlin
Annabel Doolan
Prof Harry McConnell
Dr Geoff Wallace
Mirtha Barbosa
Paul Watson
Kim Bennett
Steve Eltis

Communications

Cassink
Queensland Envelopes
GO1 (Andrew Barnes)
Liveworm
Angela de Villiers

Gifts in Memory

Daniel Mola
Sandra Pratt
Shirley Taylor

And...

IMGA - Mediprotect
Canning Weil
Epilepsy Australia
JECA

the board



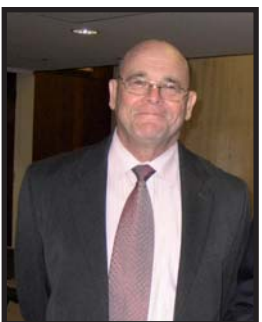
**Suzanne Greenwood LLM, LLB
(Chairman)**

Sue is a senior lawyer with 20 years experience in both the public and private sector. She is the Corporate Counsel & Company Secretary to the St Vincent's Health & Aged Care Group and has extensive experience in Health Law and governance. Sue is also a member of the Human Research Ethics Committees of Queensland Health - Office of Health and Medical Research, Holy Spirit Northside Private Hospital, St Vincent's Hospital Toowoomba, St Vincent's Hospital Brisbane/Mt Olivet Hospice and Caritas Care Aged Care. She is a member of the Medico-Legal Society and has been appointed to the Health Quality & Complaints Commission's Expert Review Panel on Standards. Sue has been a member of the board for 10 years.



**Louise Foley
(Deputy Chairman)**

As a senior political advisor in the decade to 2006, Louise advised the Beattie Government and Opposition on the portfolio areas of transport, local government and planning, environment, police, and education. Positions as a senior public servant and Director of Policy and Public Affairs for the Property Council of Australia followed, before a return to politics as Chief-of-Staff to the Bligh Government's Tourism and Fair Trading Minister following the 2009 state election. Now a mother of a young child, Louise currently combines motherhood with part-time work as a consultant advisor to industry on government, media and politics. Louise has been a member of the board for 15 years, and was diagnosed with epilepsy at the age of 17.



**Noel Johns
(Treasurer)**

Noel is a director of a group of companies involved in Insurance Underwriting and Administration. He has a background in Financial Management with Queensland public companies. He holds an Economics Degree, is a Fellow of the Australian Society of Certified Practising Accountants, and is also a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries.



**Dawson Petie FAICD, FASFA
(Secretary)**

Dawson is a professional company director, with a background in financial services. Dawson has over 30 years' experience as a company director and board chairman. Board positions held during this time include Queensland Rail (QR), Sunsuper, Teachers Health, UnitingCare and Indue. He also held senior executive positions in both commercial and not-for-profit organisations. Prior to his retirement from full-time employment, Dawson was a general manager for one of the major institutional investors in Australia, QIC. Dawson has a strong commitment to community organisations and the not-for-profit sector and is an active Rotarian (Paul Harris Fellow). He was awarded the Centenary Medal for distinguished service to the community through industrial relations.



**Fergus Pollock
(Board Member)**

Fergus is a certified practising accountant with over 20 years experience in finance and accounting. He is currently Director of Finance and Administration at The Wesley Hospital and has had extensive commercial experience in both the for-profit and not-for-profit sectors. He has been a Board Member for 14 years in a variety of roles including treasurer.



**Jan Taylor BA LLB
(Board Member)**

Jan is the Principal of JTA Australia, a consultancy firm providing public and community consultation services to government and industry in Eastern Australia. She has had extensive public and private sector board experience both as Chairman and non-executive director and is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Australian Institute of Management. She is a member of the Australian Government's Small Business Advisory Committee and is on the Queensland Advisory Board of the Committee for the Economic Development of Australia (CEDA); she is also on the board of Epilepsy Australia.



**Ailsa Gillies
(Board Member)**

Ailsa spent her professional life in the Department of Primary Industries but now, as a free agent and retiree, is able to devote her activities to her other interests. Thus she has been on the Board for 18 years. Having experienced discrimination throughout her life, she is particularly supportive of disadvantaged groups and their need for acceptance within the community. There is still much to be done.



**Dr Alan Davidson BA (Computing Science) Dip Law LLM (Research) PhD
(Board Member)**

Senior Lecturer and Director of Postgraduate Coursework, TC Beirne School of Law, University of Queensland. Solicitor and Barrister of the Supreme Court of New South Wales and of the High Court of Australia. Alan is Director - City of Wollongong Aerial Patrol Inc and NSW Air Pty Ltd and is a member of the Council of International Standby Practices. He practiced as a solicitor for 12 years before becoming a full time academic. Fellow of the Institute of International Banking Law and Practice. Private pilot.



**Charmaine Driver MEdSpEd BAppSc DipEd PHF
(Board Member)**

Charmaine is the Principal of Darling Point State Special School, a school that caters for children and young people with intellectual and multiple disabilities and high support needs, Director of Creative Educational Solutions, an educational consultancy company, and Lecturer in Inclusive Education at Christian Heritage College. She has wide ranging experience in the disability and education sectors and board experience with Epilepsy Queensland and Wynnum Manly Enterprises Ltd.

treasurer's report



I am pleased to report that for the year ended 30 June 2010, Epilepsy Queensland achieved a surplus of \$18,797 for the year, compared with a surplus of \$61,014 recorded during the 2009 year.

The reduced surplus was in line with our financial goals outlined at the 2009 Annual General Meeting, to commit extra funds in the 2010 year, in order to promote epilepsy awareness and support throughout Queensland. This goal will be continued into the 2010/11 Financial Year, with the appointment of additional support staff budgeted for the current financial year.

A review of the Accounts shows that revenue declined marginally during the year. An increase in expenses was kept to 1.8 percent, below inflation, and in recognition of the reduced Income levels. Financial discipline is, and continues to be, an important factor in the day-to-day operations of the organisation.

Various Departments within the Queensland Government continued to support Epilepsy Queensland during the year. This assistance is very important to our operations, and I wish to record the Board's appreciation of the Government's ongoing support.

Income from Donations and Sponsorships increased slightly during the year. In a period of cost pressures on discretionary spending, this has been a pleasing result for our fundraising team. The efforts of our sponsors and event organisers deserve a special mention, and our continued gratitude.

We have set an ambitious Plan for the current financial year. Income is projected to rise by nine percent, and this extra revenue will be invested in an increase in staff numbers, to assist in our aims of continuing to advance epilepsy information, support and awareness throughout the State.

Each year, I am indebted to the support of CEO Helen Whitehead and our Finance Officer, Natalie Lee, who help make my task as Treasurer so much easier. My thanks to them and to all Epilepsy Queensland staff members, who really do perform at consistently high levels.

Noel Johns
Treasurer

directory



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Web www.epilepsyqueensland.com.au
www.talkepilepsy.com.au
www.learnepilepsy.com.au
www.littleposs.com

Patron

as at 30 June 2010

Wally Lewis

Board

as at 30 June 2010

Chairman
Deputy Chairman
Treasurer
Secretary
Board members

Suzanne Greenwood
Louise Foley
Noel Johns
Dawson Petie
Ailsa Gillies
Alan Davidson
Charmaine Driver
Fergus Pollock
Jan Taylor

Staff

as at 30 June 2010

Chief Executive Officer
Client Services

Helen Whitehead
Yvette McMurtrie (*Client Services Coordinator*)
Anna-Maree Osborne (*to 19.03.10*)
Jenny Ritchie
Jodie Derriman
Kate Marley
Lois Trudinger
Lynn Walmsley (*to 31.12.09*)

Administration

Jo Moran (*Office & Communications Manager*)
Amanda Roberts
Carolyn Anderson
Natalie Lee
Leigh Gilbert (*Fundraising & PR Manager*)

Accounts
Fundraising and PR

Judy Vorster
Karen Piekarski
Ruth Tyssen-Day
Sue Wagner
Debra York

Quality

Auditor

Pilot Partners

Honorary Solicitor

Canning Weil

Bank

Westpac Bank
Commonwealth Bank

ABN

42 025 269 961



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queensland inc

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