



Message from Claude Roux – President

Dear ANZFSS Members,

Every year I feel the same; as Easter comes and goes, I am amazed that the first quarter of the year is gone. 2015 is an 'odd' year, which in ANZFSS terms means a year without a symposium. This allows us to address in-depth other challenges for the Society. There is little doubt the most pressing one relates to the kind of Society members want. As previously indicated, we have come a long way towards making the ANZFSS a more professional Society. The ANZFSS has served the networking needs of its members for many years and has a unique reputation for delivering world-class conferences.

However, is it enough?

Many members may be quite happy to join a Society that acts mainly as a social club. But there is also a growing view amongst others that we should step up and the ANZFSS should be seen as a professional association, a go-to organisation and an independent voice for forensic science which is not bound by police/university/government department constraints. An immediate example of such an association springs to mind: the Australian Medical Association (AMA). To assist with the debate, it is relevant to reproduce here the AMA members' benefits as listed on their website:

- AMA membership ensures that your professional interests are effectively represented to governments, the broader profession, the public, and the media by the most influential, credible, and independent voice in the health sector at both the Federal and State levels.

- AMA membership also provides you with workplace representation and advice, industrial relations expertise, member benefits, professional resources and careers advice.
- AMA membership provides you with a professional network that will support you and stay with you for your career and your life.

I am not arguing that we can simply replace 'AMA' and 'health' above with 'ANZFSS' and 'forensic science'. I am conscious that their environment is different to ours and that the AMA has already built a formidable reputation.

However, what I do suggest is that every ANZFSS member should seriously think whether they see any aspirational value in similar benefits. If the answer is 'yes', then our Society cannot continue to retain a cheap inclusive membership with little meaning attached to it. We are simply not credible in this format.

Of course, we may agree that it is all too difficult and not discuss it further. Although this would be the easiest solution, we run the risk of seeing other (non-forensic) bodies deciding for us what is best for forensic science and for forensic practitioners. This is simply 'not-on', as this may lead to uncomfortable outcomes in the future for forensic science as a discipline, for practitioners as individuals, and for the wider justice system.

The ANZFSS Council is currently working hard to prepare a firm proposal for members between now and the Auckland Symposium.

And speaking about the next Symposium - the local Organising Committee is progressing very well

and you will find a story about the newest member of their committee in this newsletter. The plenary program is being finalised, and, once again, it will be a top-class program including international and Australasian speakers. I encourage you to visit <http://www.anzfss2016.org/> on a regular basis. With the fantastic financial return from the Adelaide Symposium, it is expected that a record number of travel scholarships will be offered in 2016. This is another reason to renew your membership without any delay!

The new membership payment portal went live on the 1st April (no it wasn't

an April fool's day joke) and it is working beautifully. So, if you haven't renewed your membership yet, log onto <https://members.anzfss.org/login.php?r=https://members.anzfss.org/renew.php>, and if you have any problems please do not hesitate to contact membership@anzfss.org

Thank you.

Yours Forensically,

Prof. Claude Roux
ANZFSS President

AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to:

| Australian Police Medal | Allan Hodda Award |
|---|--|
| <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="flex-grow: 1;"> <p>Sgt. Darren Bails is the immediate past President of the SA Branch and has been a staunch supporter of the society for very many years. This included playing a crucial role in the 2014 symposium where Darren took the lead in many areas, including fitting together all the parallel streams to minimise clashes. This was a massive task and Darren rose to it.</p> <p>Darren is now Project Leader within the Forensic Digital Implementation Branch of SAPOL and leads a successful team that keeps abreast of on-going research projects. Darren is keen to implement new technologies when appropriate to keep SAPOL as a lead in these key policing areas. Darren was awarded the Australian Police Medal this year for his past and on-going services to SAPOL. This was noted at the SA Branch meeting on the evening of 11 March.</p> </div> </div> | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="flex-grow: 1;"> <p>We are extremely pleased to announce that the Allan Hodda Award winner for 2014-15 is Caroline Gibb, Victorian Branch Committee member and a Fingerprint Expert within the Fingerprint Identification Services Branch at VPFSD.</p> <p>Caroline's topic of investigative research is titled: <i>"Evolution and Expansion in the Delivery of Fingerprint Expert Evidence – Adapting Methods for Logically Based Conclusions"</i></p> <p>Her proposed itinerary includes, but is not limited to, The Netherlands, Switzerland and the Czech Republic, allowing her to engage with a diverse range of academic and forensic practitioners.</p> <p>Congratulations Caroline!</p> </div> </div> |

Submitted articles

In the December 2014 edition of the ANZFSS Newsletter, we introduced a new feature – submitted articles/commentaries and letters to the Editor in response to or on other relevant topics.

In this edition, we bring you two more submitted articles and we invite your comments. Alternatively, you may wish to submit your own article.

Please send your submissions to anna.davey@forensicfoundations.com.au.

The Paradigm Shift for UK Forensic Science, The Royal Society, London, 2-3 February 2015. Prof Claude Roux.

Under the initiative and leadership of Prof. Sue Black and Niamh Nic Daeid, University of Dundee, The Royal Society held a meeting gathering scientists and legal practitioners from around the world to discuss the future of forensic science and future directions for forensic science research. In 350 years of existence, it was the first time ever that The Royal Society supported a forensic science conference in its own right, which is a significant sign of recognition. The significance of this event became even more obvious when wandering through the beautiful rooms of The Royal Society's main venue in London, close to Trafalgar Square, with numerous portraits, statues and original books by Charles Darwin, 80 Nobel laureates and the like.



The meeting was well attended, with some 300 delegates and high-profile speakers, including The Rt Hon Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd, Lord Chief Justice for England and Wales, and Andrew Miller MP, House of Commons Science and Technology Committee, UK. Australia was represented by Alastair Ross and Claude Roux.

The program included:

- Professor Sue Black OBE FRSE, University of Dundee, UK - Opening remarks
- Professor Niamh NicDaeid, University of Dundee, UK - Opening remarks
- Professor Pete Downes OBE FMedSci FRS, University of Dundee, UK - Opening remarks
- Professor Christophe Champod, University of Lausanne, Switzerland - Developments in fingerprint identification
- Professor Claude Roux, University of Technology, Sydney, Australia - The end of the (forensic science) world as we know it? - The example of trace evidence
- Mr Keith Inman, California State University East Bay, USA - Crime scene science: what will the future look like?
- Professor Anil Jain, Michigan State University, USA - Bridging the gap: from biometrics to forensics

- Dr John Butler, NIST, USA - The future of forensic DNA analysis
- Dr Kenneth G Furton, Florida International University, USA - Advances in analytical forensic chemistry
- Dr Stephan Bolliger, Institute of Forensic Medicine, University of Zurich, Switzerland - Imaging and virtual autopsy
- Ms Sue Ballou, NIST, USA - Forensic interpretation and development
- Professor Alastair Ross, AM, NIFS, Australia - Integrating research into operational practice
- Professor Arian van Asten, Netherlands Forensic Institute and University of Amsterdam, Netherlands - The interface between science and technology: how technology will cause a paradigm shift in the role of forensic institutes in the criminal justice system
- Dr Ian Evett, Principal Forensic Services Ltd, UK - The logical foundations of forensic science: future challenges
- Dr Itiel Dror, UCL, UK - Using cognitive neuroscience in forensic science: understanding and utilising the human element
- Üllar Lanno, European Network of Forensic Science Institutes, Estonia - Scientific research and the law
- Professor Sir Geoffrey Nice QC, International Criminal Court, UK - Science and war crimes
- Dr Justice Tetley, UNODC, Austria - New psychoactive substances: catalysing a shift in forensic science practise?
- The Rt Hon Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd, Lord Chief Justice for England and Wales, UK - The legal framework for sounder forensic science evidence
- Professor Paul Roberts, University of Nottingham, UK - Forensic science, criminal justice and Doctor Faustus

Full details, including audio recording of the presentations, are available at <https://royalsociety.org/events/2015/02/forensic-science/>. Full papers will be published in a future issue of **Philosophical Transactions B**.

A satellite meeting was also organised in the form of a workshop on 4 and 5 February at the Kavli Royal Society International Centre at Chicheley Hall. This meeting had a strong involvement from the judiciary and it is expected that the links developed will be further enhanced to the benefit of both forensic science and the legal system.



Confession time!! Anna Davey.

I am a late convert to the idea that Forensic Science is a discipline in its own right. There have been a number of practitioners and academics promoting this view for years, and I have included references to their work at the end of this article.

However, I was not convinced and for many years I have argued that 'forensic' is an adjective – meaning 'pertaining to or used in courts of law, fit for legal argument'. So, for example, the Australian and New Zealand Forensic Science Society should be the Australian and New Zealand Forensic **Sciences'** Society, reflecting the numerous sciences which can be applied to legal argument.

However, last year at the Symposium in Adelaide, having listened to many stimulating plenaries and talks, and having had numerous discussions, I have done an about face. And I think the current 'context effects in forensic science' arguments can be used here. How we view 'forensic' depends on our starting position.



In this image you can either see an old hag or a beautiful young woman.

Forensic science can be described in two ways depending on your viewpoint.

It can be validly described as the application of a specific discipline to answer a question, with the focus on the specific traditional discipline i.e. biology, chemistry etc. However, this becomes problematic when we come to some of the traditional police disciplines such as crime scene examination, fingerprint examination, document examination, firearm examination. Each of these latter fields involves the application of a number of 'sciences' and application of the scientific principles, but are they 'sciences' in their own right?

Or we can define forensic science, not in the knowledge and techniques, but by the philosophy underpinning it – i.e. with the focus on the question.

What all forensic science has in common is the application of knowledge and techniques to answer a question – most commonly who, what, why, how, when, where - and we require all the traditional sciences, in combination, to answer these questions. Our problem is that we now have so much knowledge that we have had to silo it, and we use these silos for our identity.



To use a cooking analogy: forensic science is not a meal of meat and three veg, but a casserole.

Just out of curiosity, I googled 'archaeology'. The Wikipedia definition (so it must be correct!) for archaeology is "... the study of human activity in the past, primarily through the recovery and analysis of the material culture and environmental data that has been left behind by past human populations." Archaeology is not defined by biology (including

botany), chemistry (including geology) etc.

Forensic science could equally be defined as "... the study of human activity in the past, primarily through the recovery and analysis of physical data that have been left behind by this human activity."

Further reading

CRISPINO, F., RIBAU, O., HOUCK, M. & MARGOT, P. 2011. Forensic Science - A true science? *Australian Journal of Forensic Sciences*, 43, 157-176.

MARGOT, P. 2011. Forensic science on trial - what is the law of the land? *Australian Journal of Forensic Sciences*, 43, 89 - 103.

ROUX, C., CRISPINO, F. & RIBAU, O. 2012. From Forensics to Forensic Science. *Current Issues in Criminal Justice*, 24, 10 - 24

RIBAU, O., CRISPINO, F. & ROUX, C. 2014. Forensic Intelligence: deregulation or return to the roots of forensic science. *Australian Journal of Forensic Sciences*, 47, 61-71.

ANZFSS Symposium Updates

(see last page for 2014 merchandise run out sale!)



Together InForming Justice

**ANZFSS 23rd International Symposium
on the Forensic Sciences**
18 - 23 September 2016
Auckland, New Zealand
www.anzfss2016.org

As preparations for the 23rd ANZFSS Symposium in Auckland in 2016 really begin to escalate, the Christmas break saw the conference team introduce their newest team member. Sarah & Matt welcomed Rebecca Ivy Fair Gittos to the world on December 30th.

As evidenced, Rebecca is already hard at work promoting the 2016 event. She has also already attended her first conference planning meeting where she gave a strong voice for warm milk and afternoon naps to be added to the conference program. Mum seconded the call for afternoon naps as a compulsory event.



Auckland ANZFSS members can look forward to meeting Rebecca at an upcoming presentation.

ANZFSS 24th International Symposium on the Forensic Sciences 2018

Perth, Western Australia



Congratulations to Haydn R Green APM who has been appointed the Chair of the Organising Committee for the 24th International Symposium.

Stay tuned!!

Other meetings of note.

Adelaide Law School



Invitation to the 5th International Conference on Evidence Law and Forensic Science 2015 (ICELFS)



On behalf of the hosts and sponsors, the Organising Committee cordially invites you to the City of Adelaide from 20 - 23 July, 2015 for the inaugural convention of the ICELFS in Australia.

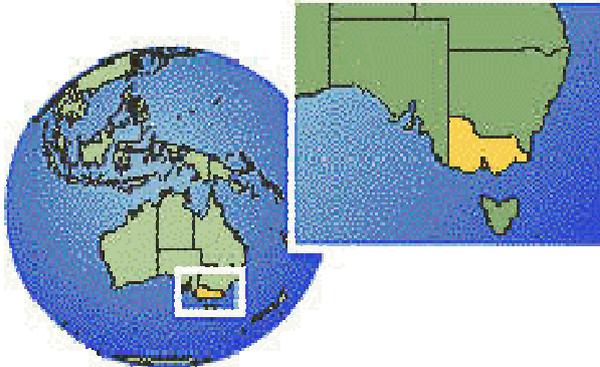
The 5th convention of the ICELFS will be the first held outside Beijing: a move which marks the success of the conferences to date in attracting an interdisciplinary and international delegation.

ICELFS 2015 will examine *Proof in Modern Litigation* through the *Intersection of Reforms in Evidence Law and Forensic Science*. The proceedings will continue the ICELFS tradition of rigorous exchange between the disciplines of Evidence Law and Forensic Science. In addition, in recognition of the growing international nature of the conference, presentations are invited from the perspectives of Political Science and Cultural Studies.

Event Details

Pre-Conference Workshops: 20 - 21 July 2015
Conference Program: 22 - 23 July 2015
Website: <http://law.adelaide.edu.au/icelfs/>

Branch Reports



Calling: **Victoria**

The Victorian Branch of the ANZFSS continues to be active, with an increasing membership which is most pleasing. Currently our membership stands at 165, an increase of about 50 over the past two to two-and-a-half years.

The current Branch Committee was elected at the 2014 AGM in October last year, and saw a couple of long-standing members step down. Nick Vandenberg, who has taken on the challenge of setting up his own business venture, and Anna Davey, who has moved into the role of Australian Vice-President of ANZFSS, so hardly taking a backward step. Whilst we will miss the contributions of Nick and Anna, this allowed some “new blood” onto the Committee. And already fresh ideas from Caroline Gibb, VPFSD Fingerprints, and Luke Rodda, VIFM, have made an impact, which is fantastic and allows the Branch to remain relevant and vibrant.

Our aim as a Branch Committee is to have five or six meetings per year covering a variety of topics and interests. Over the past year we have had a number of high quality, informative, entertaining and sometimes provocative speakers including:

Assoc. Prof. Jeff Pfeifer: use of social networking analysis in forensic psychology;

Dr Linzi Wilson-Wilde: forensic investigations into wildlife crime;

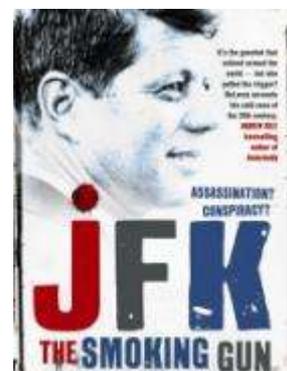
David Dick: forensic facial comparison;

Dr Runa Daniel: travels using the Allan Hodda Award;

Dr Angela Sungaila: a day in the life of a Forensic Medical Officer; and

Colin McLaren: the JFK Assassination.

This year we have kicked off in style with a fascinating insight into Disaster Victim Identification, particularly from the fingerprint point of view, presented by Craig Hamilton and David Lodder from VPFSD, who recounted their experiences in the investigation/DVI phase of the MH17 Malaysian Air Disaster to an audience of about 60.



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On the 24th March, S/SGT Wayne Newman of the Sexual Crimes Squad discussed the disappearance of Linda Stilwell and the activities of one of Victoria's worst child sex offenders, Derek Percy.

On the 29th April, Dr Kaye Ballantyne answered the oft asked question "How can you tell if someone is female?" during her presentation "Sex Testing in Sport."

Our next meeting will be held at the Reserve Bank Note Printing Branch to learn about making money

In a later meeting, we plan to hear from Legal Aid from a defence point of view of forensic science, and run a major case study panel presentation.

We also hope to increase our visibility to, and consequently membership from, the active student base, particularly Deakin University which has a well-established Forensic Science Course. This will include looking at the potential for social media to be used as an informal communication strategy to engage with the younger membership, and the use of technology to widen our range of presentation and interaction with our membership across the State.



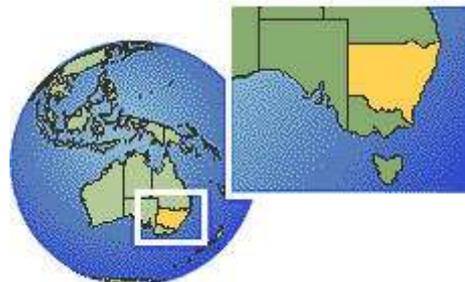
Briefly looking at other measures of Branch activity, we were able to support 10 members with scholarships, either Council or Branch based, to attend the 2014 ANZFSS International Symposium in Adelaide, and Victorian members picked up two best-presentation awards.

Lastly, the current Committee and membership are keen to take the Branch and Society forward. At times, this means questioning some of the developments to do with professionalization, social media, rules and organisation, and the like. Hopefully any such issue is taken as it is meant: as constructive criticism or questioning to ensure that the outcomes are in the best interests of all members and the Society.

Dr Jim Pearson
President
ANZFSS Vic Branch

Calling: New South Wales

2014 was an active year for the NSW Branch, with meetings ranging from the macabre to the historical to the emotional. Our year started with an evening at the 'City of Shadows' exhibition, Sydney Police and Justice Museum. The display showcased some very rare and some previously unseen photographs of historical police crime scenes, all taken using wet film (remember those days??!) and images stored on glass negatives (I don't remember those days...!). Members and guests were treated to amazing stories of the characters who lived their life of petty theft and crime in the early 1920s around the City CBD. The night was such a popular event that we ended up holding a second



one the following week to accommodate all our members' interest. Two lucky members also received a copy of the book authored by the Curator of the exhibition, cataloguing all the details behind the rare collection.

From here we had our next meeting at the Museum of Human Disease in the University of New South Wales, where we were 'treated' to a tour of unique and extensive collections of gross human pathology and forensic specimens. The evening also included a presentation by Psychiatrist and Researcher Dr Matthew Large titled: "Major Self-Mutilation – Oedipus Revisited". This emotional presentation focused on psychotic illness, specifically major self-mutilation cases involving intra-cranial self-stabbing. The profound parallel between these cases and the more modern analysis of the mental health of Oedipus was mesmerising.

Further presentations throughout the year were also well attended:

Commended Police Officer (retired) Clive Small, who headed up the investigation into the infamous backpacker murders, and is now an accomplished author, presented on "A tale of drugs, terrorists and Australia's biggest manhunt", looking at the links between organised crime and drug trafficking.

Sharon Neville, A/Director, Criminalistics, NSW FASS, presented the advances in DNA profiling in NSW. This gave our membership an update on the latest technology, robotic platforms and workflow that is one of its kind in Australia.

Martha Jabour (Homicide Victims Support Group) and John Laycock (Retired Assistant Commissioner, NSW Police Force), taking a holistic behind-the-scenes view of the police investigative process from the crime scene to the court room, and who and how the families of these often horrific crimes are supported when thrust into this terrible situation.

Three local branch scholarships for attendance at the 2014 symposium were awarded to three deserving members. Our awards night, opened by the NSW FASS Director Mr Kevin Forward, was a testament to the excellent diversity in research that is occurring in NSW, both within University and Industry, with many of our members also receiving Executive Travel Scholarships.

Our last meeting of the year was a relaxed evening out in the historic Rocks, with a walking 'ghost tour' through the area, hearing about the macabre, mysterious and criminal goings on in the early years - followed up of course by some well-deserved food and beverages at the historical Harbour View Hotel.

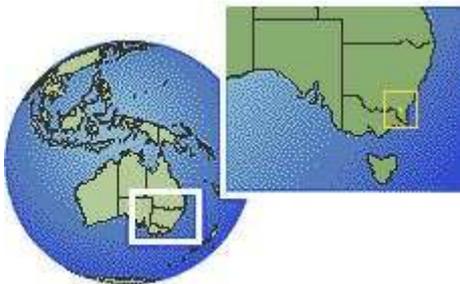
The NSW Branch is ramping up into the 2015 year, with a year of interesting presentations and activities ahead, including our bi-annual 'Inside the Forensic World' careers day for school students and educators.

If you are interested in a more comprehensive outline of each of our talks, please go to our branch website, where you will find summaries in past copies of our branch newsletter.



NSW Branch Award recipients with Kevin Forward (centre), ANZFSS President Claude Roux (back left) and NSW Branch President Alison Sears (front right)

Calling: ACT



SFQ Anthony Walker spoke at the March 2015 ANZFSS ACT Branch presentation evening to discuss firefighting for the Australian Capital Territory Fire and Rescue (ACTF&R), as well as the fire that occurred at the heritage listed Diamant Hotel in 2011, now known as Peppers Hotel in New Action.

Anthony discussed how the role of the ACTF&R is first and foremost to preserve life and property, and secondly to investigate fires that are non-suspicious. This is facilitated by the 9 Fire Appliances currently operating throughout the ACT. The ACTF&R also have roles in providing research assistance to the National Archives, ACT Rural Fire, as well as providing information and recommendations into the firefighting tactics (fire safety solutions) that feed into National Institutions to help prevent fires. This is also done by supplying information to engineers to ensure buildings are compliant with fire safety regulation.

Anthony also discussed the fire that occurred on 23rd June 2011 at the Diamant Hotel, and the process by which ACTF&R processed the scene. This was ultimately done through a series of steps including interviewing witnesses, external overview, internal preliminary assessment, in-depth external and lastly in-depth internal examination. This process enabled ACTF&R to narrow down their search to identify the source and cause of the fire which started in the exhaust ductwork of the Flint Restaurant.



Image courtesy of abc.net.au



Image courtesy of theaustralian.com.au
Photo: Ray Stange



Image courtesy of www.smh.com.au
photo: Graham Tidy

The ACT Branch would like to thank the Australian Capital Territory Fire and Rescue and SFQ Anthony Walker for volunteering his time to provide insight into the role of the ACTF&R and its Fire Investigators.



SYMPOSIUM RUN OUT SALE

BUNDLE DEALS – UNTIL USB SOLD OUT

\$40 (\$47 VALUE)

COOLER BAG USB PACKAGE



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- Coffee Mug
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- Lanyard
- 8gb USB
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- Pad / Pen

WITHOUT USB \$30

POLO SHIRT USB PACKAGE



- Satchel Cooler Bag
- Symposium Polo Shirt
- Coffee Mug
- Stubby Cooler
- Lens Cleaner Cloth
- Lanyard
- 8gb USB
- Fridge Magnet
- Haigh's Voucher
- Pad / Pen

\$65 (\$82 VALUE)

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SYMPOSIUM RUN OUT SALE

SACHEL COOLER BAG package (WITHOUT USB)



- Satchel Cooler Bag
- Coffee Mug
- Stubby Cooler Lens
- Cleaner Cloth
- Lanyard
- Pad

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INDIVIDUAL SALE ITEMS

- POLO SHIRT: \$30**
- STUBBY COOLER: \$4**
- COFFEE MUGS: \$10**
- LENS CLEANER CLOTH: \$2**

If members would like to order any Symposium merchandise, please contact Sherryn Ciavaglia, Merchandising Officer, SA Branch, at: sherryn.ciavaglia@sa.gov.au