



Message from Claude Roux – President

Dear ANZFSS Members,

The 2013 ANZFSS Annual General Meeting formally concluded the third year in office of the current Executive. We were elected in 2010 and then re-elected in 2012, with the broad mandate of developing and progressing the ANZFSS as a professional Society.

I believe the following examples illustrate that we continued to progress the professionalization of our Society in 2013:

- The Australian Journal of Forensic Sciences is now the official journal of our Society;
- A new ANZFSS website with increased functionality (www.anzfss.org) was established as a 'one-stop shopfront';
- A centrally managed membership database was established - for the first time ever, we have the ability to know who is a member across all the branches in real time;
- Merchandising guidelines and Symposium Organisation guidelines were adopted;
- A national insurance scheme was organised and now covers all branches except New Zealand (for legal reasons);
- Our Rules of Association were reviewed to comply with new legislation;
- Our Code of Ethics is being reviewed with the view to replace it by a broader code of professional conduct;
- Guidelines for continuing professional development are being discussed; and
- Membership criteria and a possible introduction of professional membership are being discussed.

However, we cannot claim "job done" yet. Our aim is to be able to present a tangible proposal at the Annual General Meeting in Adelaide in 2014. Ultimately, the level of professionalization will depend on the members' interests and 'hunger'.

The organization of the 2014 Symposium is progressing very well and I thank David Eitzen and his team for this undertaking. It seems a long way to go, but we all know time flies. Please visit www.anzfss2014.com.au regularly to keep abreast of any development. And of course, pencil the dates of 30 August to 4 September 2014 into your diaries!

I thank all the members of the Society. Without you, there would be no Society, and you can rest assured that you have been central to any discussion that we have had this year, be it at the Executive or Council levels. I wish you and your family a happy festive season and a healthy, successful and exciting year in 2014.

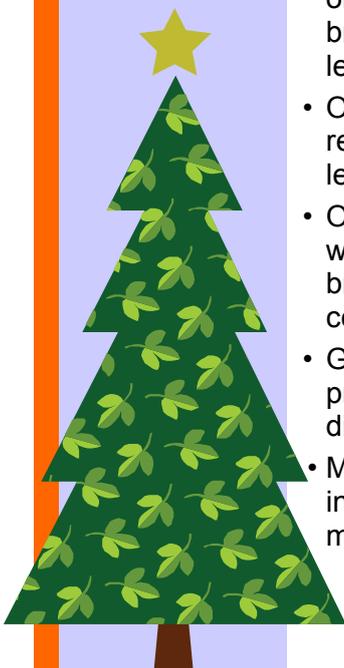
Forensically yours,

Prof. Claude Roux

Announcement

It is with great pleasure that we announce that Sgt Gerard Dutton of the Tasmanian Branch of the ANZFSS has been awarded the 2013 Allan Hodda Memorial Award.

Gerard will travel to Europe and attend the ENSFI Firearms meeting and visit a number of leading forensic science institutes. The purpose of the award is to discuss and explore the use of Bayesian reporting of firearm and toolmark evidence.



NSW Branch Annual Dinner and Society AGM



The Annual General meeting was held in conjunction with the NSW Branch Annual Dinner on Friday 22nd November. The evening started with a bang, literally! A loud and torrential, early evening storm stymied travel for many of our guests, unfortunately resulting in some unable to reach the city venue. Those that made it through were treated to pre-dinner drinks and canopies prior to the AGM, followed by a sumptuous three course meal with accompanying beverages. The night rounded off with a controversial and entertaining speaker in

Associate Professor Hugh Selby, Barrister BA. LLB (Syd) MSW (Michigan), of Australian National University College of Law. Even though Hugh has some extremely notable credits and experiences, including being an advocate, an expert witness trainer, and teaching and writing about 'court craft', the usual respectful synopsis given to introduce a noted speaker was banned – Hugh insisted on being introduced simply as “this is Hugh and he teaches”. This should have signalled what was to come!! Hugh’s presentation, “*if only I had known then how much better it could be*”, was thought-provoking and dared to go where many do not really dare to go openly! Though having some very serious and reasonably controversial undertones, it was essentially delivered with wit and, at times, comical satire.

Hugh commenced his speech by outlining his previously mistaken optimistic beliefs and aspirations made through his life at different times and ages. Some comments (good, bad or indifferent) that perhaps were noteworthy from Hugh’s presentation, and may find some resonance with our members, have been re-iterated below:

- *“The higher up in the legal system, the less important evidence matters.”*
- *“...justice only ever comes in a courtroom in Australia by accident”.*
- *“The highest rate of finding a good prosecutor and defence lawyer in the same trial in a six month period in Australia is 20%”.*
- *“The legal system has checks and balances on how the system works. This is fantastic unless you are actually innocent”.*
- *“In NSW, nobody gives a stuff if someone is wrongly convicted...efforts will be made to ensure all stones are left turned over.”*

As the evening drew to a close, with clouds from the storm long gone, our minds were again ‘cloudy’ with thought over Hugh’s final comment of the night:

“If mates around the place want to use your forensic evidence, or misuse it, they will, so protect your own backsides.”

Alison Sears, NSW Branch President

Full write up of the presentation will be released in the NSW Branch Newsletter, in 2014. Excerpts included in this article have been reproduced from an article written by Glenn Wilcher and Annalise Wrzeczycki, NSW Branch Newsletter editor. Verbal permission for his presentation to be recorded was given by Hugh Selby at the dinner, for the purposes of writing this review. Disclaimer: The speakers’ views, and language, expressed in this review, do not necessarily reflect those of the ANZFSS and rely solely on the experiences and personal opinions of the speaker.

ANZFSS 22nd International Symposium - 2014

Update December 2013

Have you visited the website lately?

At the time of writing this, the Symposium time clock says there are 257 days to go. What's more, there are 8 days to Xmas – scary isn't it?

The website is always updating, and you will notice:

- Our Plenary speakers are listed, and we feel they will all work with our theme, “Detect, Decipher, Deliver – the Future of Evidence” to stimulate & educate the audiences.
- Call for Abstracts is open, and it closes on 28 February, 2014. Now this may seem a long way away, but the Discipline Chairs and their team need to read and assess the quality and notify the authors in time for them to apply for either national or local Branch scholarships. At the same time, an unsuccessful author can still register whilst the early bird price is applicable. So get your thoughts together, put them down and submit them well before the deadline.
- Early Bird price for members is \$1,050 (a slight increase from that in Hobart) and is available until 4 July, 2014, so mark that date down in your diaries.



Behind the scenes, the committee and I are constantly in discussions with our Trade Partners encouraging them to attend the Trade Exhibition and working on sponsorship for the meeting. It is always encouraging to have a mix of some of our regular partners and also some of the newer companies that we deal with regularly in our day to day operations.

The Social Committee are working on several ideas to ensure there will be plenty of opportunities to network with your international & interstate colleagues. Networking will be a key focus of this symposium and I send out an early challenge for you to make the most of the four days when all your peers are literally “in the same room”.

Yours sincerely,

David Eitzen
Chair, Symposium Organising Committee

Announcement

The closing date for the ANZFSS travel scholarships will be Friday 28th February. Information will be posted on <http://anzfss.org/symposium-travel-awards/> in the New Year.

ANZFSS 23rd International Symposium - 2016

Update December 2013

The Auckland 2016 Organising Committee are well underway laying the foundations for the 23rd International ANZFSS Symposium.

The committee have engaged the services of Conference Innovators to assist with the organisation of the Symposium. Conference Innovators provide a fresh approach to conference planning and have been additionally stimulated by the Committee's initial concept ideas and technology ambitions.

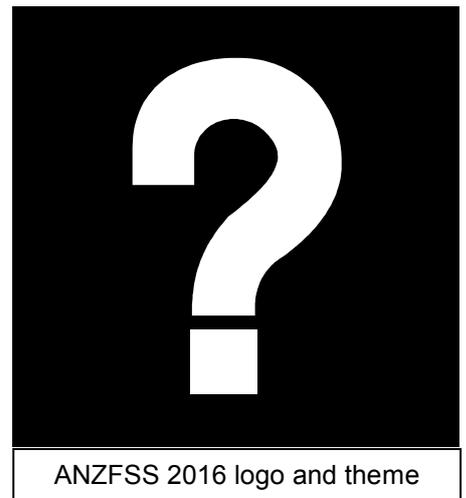
The Symposium Organising Committee have been beavering away behind the scenes on the details of contracts, financial setups and budgeting plans that need to be organised before the fun aspects of planning can begin. The committee are now deep into the branding and theming of the Symposium with a draft theme and logo at the design concept stage. **Look out for the unveiling of this and the 2016 Symposium website early in 2014.** We cannot give away too much just yet but the Organising Committee are really excited about how Auckland 2016 is developing.

The Organising Committee are planning a Symposium which they hope members and delegates will find interesting and refreshing and will be positively remembered for years to come. If you have not already put a big red circle in your diaries around being in Auckland in September 2016, find your red pens and do it now!

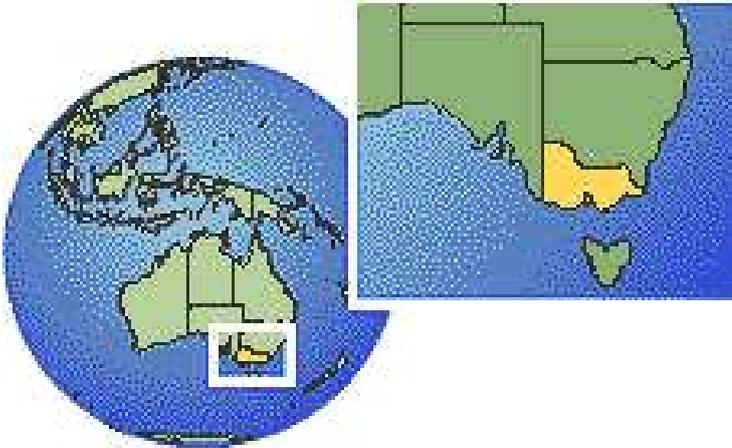
See you there

Sarah Scott
ANZFSS 2016 Organising
Committee Chair

Matt Gittos
NZFSS President



Branch Reports From: **Victoria**



The 2013 AGM was held at the Veneto Club in Bulleen and was attended by approximately 50 members and guests, who enjoyed a pleasant meal, elected a new committee to take the Branch forward into 2014, and listened to an informative and interesting presentation on National and International Wildlife Crime by Dr Linzi Wilson-Wilde from NIFS-ANZPAA.

Linzi is well known in the forensic community. She is the general manager of the National Institute of Forensic Science, played a key role in disaster victim identification after the Bali bombings and has spoken in the media on DNA related issues. What is perhaps less well known is that Linzi is also an expert in species identification and wildlife crime.



Costing up to an estimated \$20 billion a year, wildlife crime is big business. Organisations transport animals or animal parts across the globe by the container load, sometimes with military or even terrorist involvement. It is thought to be the fourth largest trans-national crime in the world.

The ugly side is that this is only getting worse. Figures suggest a hundred-fold increase in the number of poached African rhinos in the last decade and that there are now more tigers kept as pets than there are left in the wild.



The laws are not easily enforced, either. As they vary depending on location and season, it may be necessary to determine the origin of an animal before it can even be said that a law is broken. With so many facets to the business, across so many countries, it requires concerted efforts from not just biologists, but also chemists, medical experts, documents examiners, investigators, IT experts and crime scene examiners.

The good side is that work is being done with new international cooperative efforts being made. The bad side is that the criminals are doing still more, and we have some catching up to do. Linzi left us wondering what the future might hold for wildlife crime.

Victoria, continued

Over the past year we have had a number of high quality, informative and at times, entertaining speakers – including forensic and drug testing in the racing sports, the use of DNA to combat child trafficking (www.dna-prokids.org), and award winners from the Hobart Symposium.

Our final meeting for the year was a BBQ, with a presentation by Dr Runa Daniel from the VPFSD. Runa gave a report on the 2012 Allan Hodda Award, which she used to enhance VPFSD's research efforts into the use of forensic DNA intelligence tools, which infer biogeographical ancestry and physical characteristics (ie hair and eye colour) from biological samples, and gain expertise in the use of Next Generation Sequencing (NGS). Runa travelled to both the US and Europe (Spain) to gain valuable insights and collaborations.

A big challenge over the last few years has been the issue of Incorporation. Last year some large steps were taken, with the draft rules accepted at our meeting mid-year, only to have the Act amended and the rules having to change. Thanks to some sterling work lead by Anna Davey and a small sub-committee, the revised rules were able to be put to members and voted upon. Subsequently, an application was successfully made to Consumer Affairs Victoria and as of July 2013, we are Incorporated in Victoria as the Victorian Forensic Science Society. (This name was required, as the Victorian Branch of ANZFSS was deemed too close and easily confused with the ANZFSS itself, which is incorporated as the National body, in Victoria!).

And from: South Australia



On 11th October at the German Club in Adelaide, we heard a very insightful presentation by Sonya Ryan, 2013 South Australian of the Year, and Det. Snr. Sgt. Barry Blundell, manager of the SAPol Electronic Crime Section, regarding internet safety. Since the murder of her 15 year old daughter, Carly, in 2007 by an internet predator and paedophile, Sonya has been an active campaigner highlighting

internet safety. She educates groups, including schools, about how easily paedophiles are using the internet, especially social media sites, to target children. As part of this, she has set up the Carly Ryan Foundation to create awareness and educate people about internet safety (www.carlyryanfoundation.com).

“The internet is not bad, it’s some of the people using it that are bad” – Sonya Ryan

South Australia, continued

Sonya said she found that being a mum, rather than a corporate suit, helps her when she is giving presentations to school children and promotes better communication on the topic. As part of her campaign, she has set up some basic rules that everyone, not just children, should use when online:

1. Remain as anonymous as possible – anything you post that identifies you, or your location, etc, can also put your family at risk.
2. Make wise choices online – remember that the actual audience is very different from the intended audience – is it only your friends that can see your Facebook posts, or can friends of friends see them, or even anyone from the public?

Sonya also recommends turning off geo-tagging on your phone when you take photos (you will usually find this under privacy or camera settings). Geo-tagging enables people to perform a search on the image, and find out where it was taken. This is particularly scary if you consider how many innocent photos, such as children's birthday parties and other milestones that would occur at home, are photographed and put up on social media. Others include not using the "check-in" part of social media, don't add people as friends if you've never met them, and if someone does request to meet in person, suggest using Skype or another live webcam media to "meet" first, to make sure they are not lying about who they are.

"kids need your time, not your presents" – Sonya Ryan

Sonya also has lots of advice for parents looking to protect their children while they are online. She recommends you sit down with your children and negotiate what they can and cannot do while they are online, and has created a contract between



the parents and child where boundaries can be set on the time of the day and duration they can be online for, and for which websites they are allowed to visit (see the Resources page on the Carly Ryan Foundation website for the contract). She also recommends that there is a book of passwords for everyone's various internet accounts, kept under lock and key, that is not to be used except in the case of an emergency. This could be life-saving if a child is abducted by enabling police to track down who they have been in contact with much quicker.

A major problem that is becoming more prevalent, and is gaining media spotlight, is sexting – when people send sexually explicit photos of themselves to others, or pass on the photos that they have received. Several well-known instances include celebrities Lara Bingle, Scarlett Johansson and footballer Nick Riewoldt, where photos later made it onto the internet and the tabloids. Unfortunately, many teenagers sending pictures to their boyfriends/girlfriends do not comprehend the serious life-long consequences that can happen when they partake in this, not only the damage to their own or others' reputations, but the criminal legal proceedings that can and do happen from these events. If convicted of producing or sending sexually explicit images of under-18's (child pornography), even if it is of themselves

South Australia, continued

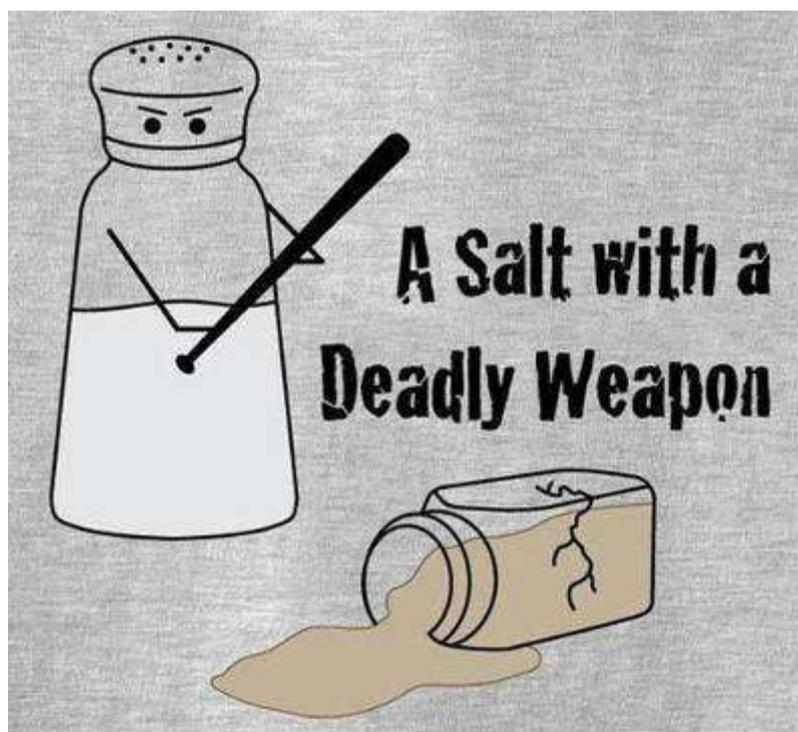
to other teens, that person will be on the registered sex offender list for life, which will ruin many potential career paths or other opportunities in the future.

Some of the statistics on social media and our reliance on technology provided by Det. Barry Blundell are quite staggering. Twitter has 200 million active users, YouTube has 800 million users and 100 hours of video is uploaded every minute. In 2013, mobile phones are the #1 exhibit type (or evidence) collected – of the top 20, only one is not digital in some form, being drug tablets.

Another point that Det. Blundell mentioned is that the internet is dynamic, and if an offense has occurred, the content may have changed before any evidence preservation can occur. This causes particular problems when the servers that hold this data are overseas, as international treaties need to be used, and responses from servers can take months or even years. Therefore, he recommends that if you are the subject of bullying, have been threatened, or come across illegal content on the internet, that it should be preserved immediately and burnt to disc in some way. Many websites such as Facebook now have a means for its users to report inappropriate content as well. Other hints he provided were to physically cover up any webcams in case they are compromised (a simple bandaid would suffice and can easily be removed), update your software regularly and to also change your passwords regularly.

More information on Sonya's work and the Carly Ryan Foundation can be found at the website: www.carlyryanfoundation.com. Other resources, including government agencies, can also be found through the website.

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**Australian and New Zealand
FORENSIC SCIENCE SOCIETY**

FS38 Ladies Polo
navy
Size S-20



FS37 Mens Polo
navy
Size XS-5XL



FS27 Lunch Pack Cooler
holds 4x 375ml drink cans



FS23 CD Carry Case
holds 24 cds



FS22 Backpack
w36h47d21



FS28 Mens T-Shirt
navy
sizes 2XS - 3XL



FS39 Ladies T-Shirt
navy
sizes S-20



FS21 Travel Umbrella
48cm



FS20 Bucket Hat
navy/white
sizes S/M and L/XL



FS7 Drink Bottle
650ml



FS26 Travel Mug
470ml



FS24 Single Bottle
Leather Wine Carrier



FS25 2 Bottle
Leather Wine Carrier





**Australian and New Zealand
FORENSIC SCIENCE SOCIETY**

MERCHANDISE RANGE 2011

FS10 Pewter Keytag



FS33 Cap



FS17 Cotton Tea Towel

FS19 Golf Umbrella

FS35 Sports Bag



FS5 Beach Towel



FS31 Beer Glass



FS32 Wine Glass



FS8 Drink Cooler



FS34 Fridge Magnet



FS33 Etched Coast



FS6 Coffee Mug



FS36 Silicone Wristband
Flash Drive

FS12 Ballpoint Pen



FS9 Mouse Mat



FS18 A4 Compendium



FS11 Ruler