**ANATS ACT CHAPTER**

**President’s Report 2022-2023**

Many people contributed to the success of ANATS activities this year. Angela Giblin, Vice President and Board Representative; Rachel McGath-Kerr, who resigned in early 2023; Sarah Mann; Sarahlouise Owens, Treasurer and Facebook Administrator; Theresa Rayner; Doreen Robinson, Secretary, Membership Secretary and alternate Board Representative; and Helen Swan were elected to the Committee at the Annual General Meeting in July 2022. We co-opted Teresa Wojcik to the Committee and Sharon Tree provided designs for our events and managed our Mailchimp emails. I thank them for finding the time and energy to support ANATS amongst their other commitments.

We arranged two successful face to face professional development events this year.

*Tongue Tribulations and Transformations: Identifying and Releasing Tongue Root Tension* was presented by Liane Keegan at Campbell Scout Hall on the afternoon of 6 November 2022 and attracted 12 participants.

Accent Method Breathing with Dr Ron Morris was one of the topics that attendees at Tongue Tribulations and Transformations said would be of interest to them. We arranged a two day workshop with Ron at LDK at Tuggeranong on the 27th and 28th of May 2023 attended by 14 teachers and students, with a Zoom follow‑up on the 30th of July.

Both Liane and Ron shared their knowledge and experience effectively and with humour, and provided clear notes for future reference. We were delighted that the events attracted new people and some who we haven’t seen for a while.

Reports of both events were published in *Voice of ANATS*, and back issues are available on the ANATS website.

Our end of year celebration at Angela Giblin and Rob Wilton’s home on 9 December was a welcome opportunity to socialise and relax.

ACT Chapter is one of the smaller chapters of ANATS. We have a small population base, we are aware that there are teachers in the region who are not members and we want to offer events which meet their needs and might encourage them to join. The Committee met on the 9th of February to consider what we do well, our changing IT and social media environment, what we could do differently, and to generate ideas for the future.

We are always happy to hear from members about their professional development interests and the skills that they may be able to offer. ANATS now has Zoom accounts for all Chapters and we’ve used it for event follow-up and Committee meetings. To run webinars or hybrid events we would need new skills. If you have them please consider whether you can volunteer to help your Chapter grow and develop.

ANATS is both local and national and the Chapter contributes to the management of ANATS through regular Board and Presidents’ Meetings.

We continue to sponsor the Singing Division of the National Eisteddfod to support singing in the region and to raise awareness of ANATS among teachers and students.

The ideas we have been exploring for the coming year have not yet come together. That means there’s an opportunity for you to be involved – we’d be delighted to hear about your ideas and needs for professional development – just email: act.president@anats.org.au.

ANATS is national and professional, but it remains a grass-roots, volunteer-run organisation. It’s a place where we can share experience and expertise as colleagues, learn from experts, and support each other to foster the future of singing. That is something worth doing for ourselves, our students and the community. Please spread the word, attend an event, or even consider volunteering.

Rosemary Lohmann

ACT Chapter President

13 August 2023