



**WILLIAM GLASSER
INSTITUTE AUSTRALIA**

ANNUAL REPORT

2013 -2014

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the William Glasser Institute is to teach all people **Choice Theory** and to use it as the basis for training in **Reality Therapy, Quality School Education** and **Lead Management**.

BELIEFS

The members of the William Glasser Institute believe that Choice Theory, Reality Therapy and Lead Management are to be taught with: integrity, adherence to fundamental concepts, and the incorporation of currently available knowledge.

These concepts guide our relationships and are reflected in the way the Institute does business.

The beliefs comprise a living document that can be adjusted over the course of time as the Reality Therapy community grows and changes.



WGIA



Building a better world through quality relationships

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Mission, Purpose and Objects of the Institute in Australia	Inside Cover
Directors of the Board, Regional Coordinators, Australian Instructors.....	1
DIRECTORS' REPORTS	
President – Sylvia Habel.....	2
Treasurer – Sheryl Matwijkiw	4
Secretary – John Cooper	5
Fifth Director – Susan Fleming.....	6
Newsletter Editor – Bette Blance	7
Training Officer – Susan Fleming, Lorraine Shaw	8
International Board Representative – Bette Blance.....	10
REGIONAL REPORTS	
South East QLD	12
Darling Downs QLD.....	12
Central QLD.....	13
Country NSW.....	13
Hunter NSW.....	14
Sydney NSW.....	14
Victoria	15
South Australia.....	15
Northern Territory.....	16

BOARD MEMBERS 2013 - 2014

President	Sylvia Habel
5th Director	Susan Fleming
Treasurer	Sheryl Matwijkiw
Honorary Secretary	John Cooper
Training Officer	Lorraine Shaw
Newsletter Editor	Bette Blance
Administration Officer	Paula Baxter

REGIONAL COORDINATORS

Rockhampton QLD	Bruce Lloyd
Northern QLD	Vacant
South East Qld	Dijana Elhaj, Colleen Hope, Glenys Woolcock, Bette Blance
Darling Downs QLD	John Archibald
Victoria	Jeff Steedman
South Australia	Garry Garnaut
Northern Territory	John Cooper
Western Australia	Vacant
Country NSW	Penny Hammond
Hunter NSW	Nancy Snow
Sydney NSW	Marinela Mendes
<i>*as they appear on the website</i>	

AUSTRALIAN INSTRUCTORS

SENIOR INSTRUCTORS:

Maggie Bolton	Dorothy Devine
Mary Farrell-Jones	Garry Garnaut
Judy Hatswell	Ivan Honey
Joan Hoogstad	Ali Sahebi
Liz Tham	

INSTRUCTORS:

Lois Anderson	Bette Blance
Deborah Buscall	Mary-Ellen Davis
Christine Duffield	Louise Fentoullis
Glenys Gardam	Sylvia Habel
Peter Lacey	Helen Parker
Rebekah Russell	Nancy Snow
Jeff Steedman	Rob Stones
Kalikamurti Suich	

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

WGI-A VISION: Building a better world through quality relationships

My vision – “Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier.” **Mother Theresa**

‘Your beliefs don’t make you a better person, your behaviour does.’

International mindedness:

As you’ll be aware the International Conference was held in Toronto recently. Once again, Australian members were a strong presence as conference delegates, presenters and participators in trainings. Thank you for your willingness to travel and use personal resources to contribute and participate on a global stage.

Australian Instructors and presenters are very well regarded on the international stage and many of our Senior Instructors facilitate trainings overseas. While this doesn’t directly contribute to the running of the WGIA, it highlights two very important points:

- We are operating in a global market
- Australian Choice Theory training is high quality

Thanks to those who present and facilitate training in international contexts. We value your diversity and the quality you bring to WGIA

During the conference the International Board met but also hosted meetings with affiliates, faculty and delegates. The Board Chair (and our very own Board Secretary John Cooper) shared some valuable, significant and challenging questions that need to be addressed in the short and medium term future as Choice Theory (and its applications) vie for a place in the international arena that is relevant and purposeful. For your own interest and consideration, you can find these questions in Bette’s (International Board Representative) report.

Advanced Certificate Of the Clinical Practice of Reality Therapy – It is with great sadness that I report that the Adv Cert is no longer accredited by PACFA (Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia). Recently IRTSA (Institute of Reality Therapy SA) were required by PACFA to participate in the 5 year review of the program that was originally written and managed by Senior Instructor Joan Hoogstad (retired). This was facilitated by Senior Instructor Garry Garnaut who spent many, many hours gathering the data and information and filling in countless forms in preparation for the accreditation process. Unfortunately, they deemed the program too small, with not enough participants; questioned the lack of facilities including a library and disabled ramp (!); and queried the name of the program. Although up to this point the program has been managed and funded by the Adelaide group with Joan and Garry in leadership roles, the Board considered it was too valuable a program to lose and are researching other potential avenues for the course to be delivered in some form. **Please feel free to offer time or suggestions.**

Congratulations to members who recently achieved milestones in their personal training and development in CT/RT/LM.

Senior Faculty – Mary Farrell Jones

BIT Instructor – Christine Duffield

Practicum Supervisors – Sue Berry & Kathy Terrell

Practicum supervisor training – Marinela Mendes, Anita Spiniello

Our sincerest congratulations to Mary, Christine, Sue, Kathy, Anita and Marinela. Your achievements continue to demonstrate the high level calibre of people we have in Australia.

I was reminded recently of some very sound advice shared with me by a very trusted colleague. 'Knowing Choice Theory doesn't immunise us from life's unpleasant challenges.' However, what we do have is a way of working through them by understanding the chart soundly.

Connecting habits – when others are using the deadly habits to get what they want from us, we know that using the connecting habits can keep us connected to the person we most want to be as well as give us the best chance of staying close enough to them to be influential.

Personal vision & values – when you encounter dilemmas that have no easy option or clear path forward – we recognise the critical nature of our Quality World. When we can articulate our personal vision and the specific values that we prioritise in an event, the path forward is clearer.

During the 2014 WGIA AGM, we farewelled Michael Bell as Training Officer. During the 4 years that Michael served on the Board, we were served by his generosity of time, diversity of thinking and breadth of ideas. We offer our sincerest thanks to Michael for the leadership he offered the WGIA during his time of tenure and wish him well in his future pursuits.

Thankfully, in February we were happy to welcome Lorraine Shaw as Training Officer to her first Board meeting. Lorraine has already made a significant impact with her energy and enthusiasm.

Also, during the 2014 AGM, we were happy to report on the financial position of the WGIA. The previous 12 months had presented a challenge, particularly financially but with the generosity of Paula Baxter and her family, the faculty and membership for their support, we have been able to put ourselves in a stronger position. Much thanks and appreciation must go to my fellow Board members for the hours of commitment to managing the situation, mostly online.

During this time, the Board has been pleased to announce the review and completion of the Constitution. Once again the Board members have contributed, long hours to the review, evaluation and writing of the new Constitution, with particular thanks to Sheryl Matwijkiw who worked and supported David Davis (lawyer) in this process.

New Board membership opportunity – October 2014 sees the culmination of several Board positions. Further information will be forwarded to members in the coming weeks, however, there is an opportunity to consider how you may participate or contribute to the WGIA. Positions that are up for nomination are:

President
Treasurer
5th Director

If you are interested in any of these roles look out for the information that will be forwarded to you via Paula in the coming months. Should you wish to consider the role descriptions sooner, feel free to contact Paula and ask to see the documentation.

Finally, I wish to remind you of the WGIA Biennial Conference in the Sunshine Coast in 2015. Plans are well underway, so keep an eye on the website.

SYLVIA HABEL

REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

In light of last Financial year's cost cutting measures I am able to report that this year the unaudited financials show a profit of \$14248.70.

Some adjustments are required to be made to these figures:

- Trade Debtors do not include figures for the second quarter Affiliation fees due to the William Glasser International, \$2840 less Insurance premium entered twice \$2888.45.
- The Provision for Annual Leave figures need to be increased from \$2569.95 to \$3711.90)

Once these adjustments have been made the Profit is closer to \$13155.20.

Never the less, this is much improved on the 2012/2013 audited figure of -\$411, a net increase of \$13566.20.

Much of this improvement is due to Board members meeting online. There has been some increase in Training income. Membership continues to be a source of concern. What does WGI-A need to do to encourage members to renew their membership?

WGI-A now has a new Constitution in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001. Many thanks go to David Davis, of David Davis & Associates, a past Board member who gave much of his own time compiling this document and to the Board for completing the document. By completing this task the Board has saved the Institute annual auditors fees of between \$3000 and \$6000.

The new "Take Charge of Your Life" looks to be very exciting. I would encourage all Instructors to embrace this new course.

At the time of writing I am looking forward to attending the Glasser NZ Conference in Cambridge, New Zealand, in October. I am very confident that this will be a quality event organised by the WGI-NZ President and Australia/New Zealand Newsletter Editor, Bette Blance.

Once again I thank my fellow Board members. It is such a pleasure to work alongside a team that provides an environment of trust, honesty, integrity and friendship. And of course, many thanks to Paula Baxter, our dedicated Administration Officer who continues to keep our office running efficiently and with a smile!

I wish the Institute continued success in the future.

SHERYL MATWIJKIW

REPORT FROM THE HONORARY SECRETARY

The WGIA team have put in another great effort this previous 12 months. The hours committed to the review and complete upgrade of the Constitution seemed to be a TV series – an hour a week for whoever could attend just kept the ball rolling as the continuing discussion pulled the document together. That production demonstrated that working for 60 minutes online was a useful way to refine a document but face-to-face meetings are the best way to draw out ideas, complete tasks and leave with the polishing and finishing to be completed by email – as in the case of the Flyer.

Another feature of our face-to-face meetings in 2014 has been the invitation to faculty members to join our brainstorming sessions about policy and publications. Thanks John Archibald and Ines Pintos Lopes for joining us for workshops – enabling three groups to work simultaneously. The flyer to promote William Glasser Institute Australia is one completed task.

Bette Blance was at the forefront with Choice Theory psychology when she attended an international mental health conference, representing WGI-A. There'll be some specific information soon. Great work Bette.

A new presentation, "Take Charge of Your Life" is a one day course, developed by WGI Board members, wherein Bette once again did a monumental amount of work through overseas calls, late night / early morning discussions resulting in a very professional program. Great enthusiasm saw this project begin trialled through May as a tribute to Dr William Glasser. Valuable feedback has been taken on board and this one day course is being presented in several countries, including in Afrikaans in South Africa. The intention is that those who have completed certification, with some additional training, will be able to deliver this introductory workshop. Bette's work with this was not inconsiderable.

Working with the members of WGI-A continues to be challenging and rewarding. When new members join there is always an opportunity to re-assess how we will work together. Considered decisions following rigorous testing debate are our usual outcome. Rarely has a vote been called.

JOHN COOPER

REPORT FROM THE FIFTH DIRECTOR

‘When obstacles arise, you change your direction to reach your goal;
you do not change your decision to get there’ Zig Ziglar.

The WGIA Board like the international board faces challenges in continuing to promote and enact Dr Glasser’s legacy to teach all people Choice Theory. We too have many obstacles to overcome. It means we may at times need to change direction or refocus our energies in different areas to achieve our goals. Just as Glasser continually refined and evolved his ideas, we too are challenged to do the same in an ever changing world. How do we do this and maintain the integrity and commitment to the Glasserian model, while including improvements that endorse new thinking and ideas. During the last face to face board meeting we spent considerable time on developing our strategic plan.

An opportunity is available for members to help lead the legacy in Australia by becoming a member of the board. If you are someone who has ideas and energy to follow them through then why not nominate for one of the 3 upcoming positions this year.

As individuals we need not to underestimate the ability we have in our daily living to leave a legacy that teaches people choice theory. Are our relationships with ourselves and others reflecting the connecting habits? As we talk with others and they see us living our life, do they see us reflecting the axioms of Choice Theory? Do they see us and do we empower others to lead a more needs full filling life? Do we take responsibility for the choices we make in our lives and let others take responsibility for theirs? Are we gentle on ourselves and others knowing at times that we are doing the best we can with the knowledge and skills we have at the time in the situation we are dealing with?

Our next conference is on the sunshine coast in 2015. We hope to see as many people there to connect with and share Glasser’s legacy.

SUSAN FLEMING

REPORT FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Since taking back the reins of the combined WGI-A and WGI-NZ publication *Voice of Choice in Action* there have been four issues.

The September *Voice of Choice in Action* was a tribute from people around the world recognising the passing of Dr William Glasser.

The December issue launched a new look combined Australia/New Zealand *Voice of Choice in Action*. This issue contained the following articles News from Australia and New Zealand.

- William Glasser International
- Logan role play
- Sunshine Beach State School
- WGI Conference Toronto
- Certification report
- Counselling Corner by Ines Pintos Lopez
- Adelaide Conference
- New Zealand Conference
- Book review:
- Happy Teachers, Happy Learners
- Champion of Choice The biography of Dr William Glasser by Jim Roy

March Issue continued to feature articles from around the world.

- Australian and New Zealand News
- International Board News
- *Your student's life skill* by Eric Jensen
- Counselling Corner by Ines Pintos Lopez
- *What's a guy like you...* Mike Rice
- Sunshine Beach State School: A Glasser Quality School
- *Harvey* by Bette Blance
- *See Extrinsic Motivation Doesn't Work* by Liz Gibb
- New Zealand Conference
- Book Review: *How to be a Great Parent* by Nancy Buck.

The June Issue

- From the editor
- Take Charge Tribute in Toronto
- *Do I Hear Grumbling and Rumbling Noises* by Ines Pintos Lopez
- *There is a phantom in your psyche* by Tim Bundrant
- *The 'dunce' of Year 8* by Megan Irish
- *We are all important.* Book review Joan Hoogstad
- *Quality World in our Classroom* by Craig Pearon
- Choice in Action Conference in New Zealand

People who write newsletters e.g. Bob Sullo, Mike Rice, Mike Bundrant, Eric Jensen are all willing to allow articles to be reprinted. Other newsletters and blogs can be accessed through links.

Some questions will guide my thinking over the rest of the year. Does the *Voice of Choice in Action* need to change its current format? Does it need to be an email with links to the website like other newsletters I receive in my inbox?

Are people accessing it on the website?

A survey would be useful to see what people want that they are getting or not getting from the newsletter.

BETTE BLANCE

REPORT FROM THE TRAINING OFFICER

Congratulations to Mary Farrell Jones who achieved her Senior Faculty status this year. We now have nine Senior Faculty in the Institute. Congratulations also to Christine Duffield who achieved her Basic Instructor status in Toronto, Sue Berry and Kathy Terrell who are now endorsed Practicum Supervisors. They have all worked hard to achieve their journey. Thanks too to their Faculty Program Consultants who mentored them.

Table 1 outlines the numbers of participants at each level of training over the 2013 – 2014 financial year as well as comparisons with previous years.

Table 1: Comparative Number of Participants in Training (2009 – 2014)

Program	Number of participants	Number of participants	Number of participants	Number of participants	Number of participants
	July 09– June 10	July 10 – June 11	July 11 – June 12	July 12 – June 13	July 13 – June 14
Basic Intensive Week	379 (30 events)	432 (45 events)	408 (39 events)	331(24 events)	451(40 events)
Basic Practicum	54	66	74	50	31
Advanced Intensive Week	32 (4 events)	21 (3 events)	50 (5 events)	26 (3 events)	16 (2 events)
Advanced Practicum	26	24	15	7	0
Certification	19 (3 events)	12 (2 events)	15(2 events)	8 (1 event)	11 (2 events)
Faculty Training					
Practicum Supervisor Training	8	2	3	0	2
Practicum Supervisor Endorsement	4	3	0	0	2
Basic Week Instructor Training	0	6	0	0	1
Basic Week Instructor Endorsement	0	1	6	0	1

Faculty Training was conducted at the Biennial Conference in Adelaide with some participants undertaking further Faculty training at the Toronto Conference.

Table 2: Comparative Conversion rates from BIT to follow up trainings

Financial Year	Percentage of Basic Week participants continuing to:			
	Basic Practicum	Advanced Intensive Training	Advanced Practicum	Certification
07/08	10%	6%	3%	5%
08/09	16%	8%	3%	4%
09/10	14%	8%	7%	5%
10/11	15%	5%	6%	3%
11/12	17%	11%	4%	4%
12/13	15%	7%	2%	2%
13/14	5%	1.25%	0%	5%

As outlined in Table 2, the percentage of participants continuing to subsequent stages of training are also down on last year. While we continue to see a decline in the number of people taking the traditional pathways to Certification, our Faculty and members remain passionate about finding creative ways to develop courses and trainings to promote the work and legacy of William Glasser and link with other Associations and Organizations. It is our members' passion, commitment and hard work that keep our Institute alive. Thank you. The Institute has endorsed a number of these programs over the last 12 months. A list of these can be found on the website.

Our thanks goes to Bette Blance for successfully piloting the launch of 'Take Charge of Your Life' program in Queensland. A number of our Faculty will be promoting it during Mental Health Week this year. It is hoped that it will provide another formal program for us to use to as an introduction to our work. Further information about the roll out of this program will be given next year.

We will offer further Faculty Training, Certification and any other trainings required at our next Biennial conference to be held in Queensland on the Sunshine Coast in 2015. This is an opportunity for us to connect and have a needs fulfilling experience as always.

My ongoing thanks Paula for her support in maintaining our data base and website, managing and directing enquiries to the right sources and following through on support for our members.

SUSAN FLEMING/LORRAINE SHAW

REPORT FROM THE INTERNATIONAL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

As your William Glasser International (WGI) Board member representing Australia and New Zealand, I have attended meetings each month since January (give or take an hour or two with technology issues). The July meeting was on the Gold Coast following a very productive WGI-A Board Meeting. John Cooper and I were in the same room while we met online with others on the International Board. This was a first.

In sending out e-letters following these online meetings I have attempted to keep you in touch with the developments as they happen.

The reading required to come up to speed with all that had gone on before I became a Board member was extensive. Work on creating policies for the International Board has been a priority as the current Policies and Procedures Manual is out of date. These policies are the result of extensive discussions in Board meetings and on the International Board Base camp; of drafting policies for consultation amongst Board members and finally posting on the WGI website for discussion and an invitation for feedback from members. Wording in these policies is cognisant of international contexts. This work is time consuming but very necessary to ensure people have the knowledge necessary to make decisions.

The issue of membership of WGI and local Institutes is being debated. Faculty members are required to be a member of WGI. Ordinary members have a choice. Some members are committed to the idea of being part of the parent organisation and some would rather be a member of their own country's organisation. Getting a registration system that is user friendly and comprehensive is difficult. Could I encourage you to become a member of the WGI as this organisation is committed to preservation of the ideas and to provide direction for growth and renewal.

The passing of Dr Glasser brought sadness amongst those of us who knew him and the International Board expressed a real desire to pay tribute to him. Part of this was the tribute at the Toronto Conference. Maggie Bolton spoke along with many international speakers on the first night of the conference.

A second part of this tribute was the design of the new six hour course, **Take Charge of Your Life**, inspired by the title of Dr Glasser's last book.

An invitation was sent out for all faculty to contribute activities that could be used for this course. Unfortunately through some glitches with the WGI emailing system, few people in Australia and New Zealand received these emails.

As a member of the International Board Program Committee, I became involved in writing and editing a Facilitator's Guide, Participant Manual and accompanying PowerPoint for **Take Charge of Your Life**.

This draft program information was sent to international faculty with a view to offering free courses during the months of May and June and leading up to the presentation of the six hour course by six members of the Board at the Toronto Conference. Decisions about costs involved when the final program is made available will be forthcoming.

This program is the first of several new initiatives designed to extend the course offerings available from the WGI. The original Basic, Advanced and CTRTC programs will remain and more targeted courses and programs will be on offer as they are developed. More information will be forthcoming as decisions are made about the content and process of these.

The International Board chair John Cooper designed a session for Faculty on the last day of the Toronto Conference. It was very interactive and has received many positive comments from people who attended. The following questions were put to the faculty members and in small groups they rotated around the room to record their ideas.

We will provide opportunities for you to respond to the questions through the newsletter or by email.

Question 1: How can we capitalise on social media to promote CT with people of all ages? How can we enable immersion of the ideas in the digital realm? How can we network CT people together and to the world? (internet sites?) How can faculty link together for discussions, sharing ideas?

Question 2: How can we streamline the existing training, make it more flexible, allowing for special applications, and ensure the integrity is kept?

Question 3:

- a) Following self evaluation and feedback from clients, how could peers work together to evaluate and to clarify the quality of the courses they deliver?
- b) What conditions / grounds may justify the need for exceptions for training, so trainers, clients and students are not disadvantaged? What criteria would assist?

Question 4:

How can we manage an intellectual discussion about using the word “psychology” on which some may disagree?

- a) What control measures are needed to maintain progress and the quality of training?

Questions 5: Glasser learned and worked with others.

How can we retain the Glasserian model and include improvements and new learning in a process that endorses new thinking and ideas?

Question 6: What are some non coercive marketing ideas?

Question 7: Dr. Glasser shifted thinking overtime. How can innovations be introduced so that CT doesn't become locked in a time warp? A call for revisions, innovations, an edit of Glasser Books? Who would serve on a panel of review?

Questions 8:

- a) Use of pro bono practices in assisting continuity of developing areas/affiliates
- b) How may we support faculty to work in developing areas?
- c) Social media and it's place in communication and promotion?
- d) How can we digitally network CT people together & to the world?
- e) How can faculty link together for discussions, sharing ideas?

I would like to report that John is doing a fabulous job as Chair of the International Board and will remain in that position for another year. He has gained the respect and trust of the group with his inimitable style. I will reconsider my involvement as his replacement as a Board Member in 2015 over the coming months.

BETTE BLANCE

International Board Member representing Australia and New Zealand



Following are reports submitted from our Regional Coordinators

SOUTH EAST QUEENSLAND REGION

Over two afternoon/evenings in June, Mudgeeraba Special School on the Gold Coast hosted 36 people gathered to take part in the new six hour **Take Charge of Your Life** program. This 'world premiere' of the new William Glasser International program is the introduction to Choice Theory focusing on personal well-being.

The program covered *Shifting Your Mental Model from External to Internal Control, Basic Needs, Wants and Quality World, Relationship Habits, Perception and Comparing Place, Total Behaviour and Take Charge of Your Life.*

The majority of the participants had little or no knowledge of Choice Theory. Research questions asked of participants both before and after the program will be collated along with other international research data to form a body of knowledge about the perception of participants in this shortened program.

Feedback from the group at Mudgeeraba Special showed considerable numbers had made a shift in thinking on a personal level.

GLENYS WOOLCOCK, DIJANA ELHAJ, BETTE BLANCE AND COLLEEN HOPE

DARLING DOWNS REGION

In the Darling Downs Region, our small focus group called "Threads" has continued to meet on the third Saturday of every month from 9am to 12pm at Harristown State High School. With the support, guidance and creative input from Dorothy Devine each month, we have lots of fun supporting each other, sharing ideas and practices to explore, develop and extend our understanding and application of various aspects of Choice Theory as well as practising our skills in Reality Therapy with various role plays.

I have also had the opportunity to share some of what I learned in various workshops at the WGIA conference in Adelaide last October and update everyone on what has been happening with the Institute.

If you are interested in refreshing your knowledge and use of Choice Theory in your life and would just like to be part of or local network, you are welcome to join us. To be kept informed and receive notification of meetings, just phone me or send me an email (see my contact details listed below).

Also if you would like any assistance with organising any of the following we have members who could provide:

- Basic Intensive Training
- Peaceful Parenting Course (based on the work of Nancy Buck)
- Introductory talks about Choice Theory, Reality Therapy & Lead Management refresher workshops

JOHN ARCHIBALD

CENTRAL QUEENSLAND REGION

This year we ran a Basic Intensive with Sylvia on the 9th 10th and 11th of April. We had ten participants from a variety of back grounds. Marinela Mendes joined us to observe Sylvia and participate in the Basic Intensive.

At our Bishops in-service day I ran 2 workshops on The Value in a Good relationship.

I will also be running this work shop in New Zealand in October.

BRUCE LLOYD

COUNTRY NSW REGION

Over this past year I have experienced a sad and deep loss with the death of my beloved older Brother, Chris. The physiology, thoughts, actions and feelings I've experienced has led me to reflect on the myriads of ways the term 'loss' can be applied and the unending ways we can respond. Just the other day, a trigger of memory, whilst watching a comedy of all things, produced a wave of overwhelming sadness and freely flowing tears dribbled down my cheeks. The moment between my thought and physical reaction was infinitesimal.

Loss impacts across our world, our society and our personal lives daily and choices made in response to loss have the ability to lessen or exacerbate that impact.

In minor, possibly trivial to some, losses, the utterance of the ubiquitous expletive is a satisfying enough response for the moment. As the loss goes up the impact scale, having sufficient emotional wellbeing, knowledge, support and resilience is critical to our behaviour choice.

From the wars and trouble spots across the world to the minor issues of everyday life, retaliation, violence, drugs, alcohol, depression, anxiety and sadly suicide are all examples of responses to loss of one sort or another.

The extensive work and insights of the late Dr Glasser has allowed me and hopefully many, many others to choose behaviours that, over time, lessen the pain of deep loss and reduce the likelihood of unwise choices when these losses impact on our basic needs.

Retirement has been the very positive and enjoyable experience of the last 12 months. It is wonderful to have the time for the four things I have stuck in the urgent/important box namely, in no particular order, Family, Friends, Fitness and Fun. Many others will not have this opportunity.

I hope that across WGI-A community others are strengthened and comforted as I have been from the insight and knowledge that we share.

PENNY HAMMOND

SYDNEY, NSW

New South Wales members had no member meetings or state related activities during 2014.

MARINELA MENDES

HUNTER NSW REGION

We at Woodberry Learning Centre are now into our third teacher training courses in Behaviour Management. These courses run 2 hours per week after school for 8 weeks. Each week involves new knowledge and a new skill based on Choice Theory, of course. It is cumulative so each week the participants (max 16) practise the skills, talk about what worked and what needed fine tuning and learn a new skill. The evaluations have been fantastic. We could not ask for better. We have trained nearly the whole staff of some of the smaller schools. Sixteen hours after school is quite a commitment for teachers to make. We put our course up on MyPL (Teachers professional learning site) and within a couple of days we are full! So we must be doing something right! Hopefully, I'll try to run some CT/RT & LM training and hopefully some of these teachers will be participants.

NANCY SNOW

VICTORIA REGION

Things have been very quiet in Victoria during the last 12 months. There has been a small amount of training, but little in the way of activity outside of this. It remains difficult to find a format that suits people for remaining in touch and interested. A meeting called to get ideas for stimulating interest attracted little attention. It is hoped that next year is a more active one.

JEFF STEEDMAN

SOUTH AUSTRALIA REGION

The success of the National Conference of the William Glasser Institute Australia in Adelaide organised by IRTSA was the noteworthy outcome of the planning and dedication of the IRTSA group. The conference achieved a small operating profit and the speakers and workshops were well prepared and received by the delegates. It was a big effort by all involved and was an excellent team effort. Since the conference we have been low key as the IRTSA members rekindled energy levels.

IRTSA meetings since the conference have reverted to the past structure of four meetings per year.

In July this year, disappointingly, the Advanced Certificate in the Clinical Practice of Reality Therapy did not have its licence renewed with PACFA. This was due to the small nature of the course and difficulty in meeting the organisational requirements for registration as a training provider commensurate with the training standards. The course was commended for providing a service to those interested in the practice of Reality Therapy. Over the previous five years of the course, 16 people graduated. Feedback by six of these graduates during the panel process was acknowledged for its positive perceptions of the benefits of the course at both a professional and a personal level for participants. There are no plans at this stage for the continuation of the course.

At our last scheduled meeting in April this year, IRTSA decided to focus on presenting workshops as we have done in past years and planning is being undertaken and will be finalised at our upcoming August meeting for presentations later this year.

GARRY GARNAUT

NORTHERN TERRITORY REGION

In The Top End we are extremely fortunate to have the dynamic Mercedes Taaffe. Her work with students on the verge of serious problems has gained ongoing financial support and she now works in Darwin and Katherine with her Choice Theory boxing program. Mercedes engages Ivan Honey in running Cars R Us workshops as they progress learning how Choice Theory can promote greater responsibility while still having their needs and wants met. Great work Mercedes.

Meanwhile in the Centre, Alice Springs, **Centred in Choice** continues. This was the theme of the 2011 WGI-A Conference held here in 2011. It now lives on as a business name. Kalikamurti Suich and Joy Taylor are the forces behind their ethical, values-driven business providing quality resources for individuals, professionals, businesses and organizations. Getting in touch with all those trained in the Centre and the Top End continues to be a goal.

I have spent considerable time this past 24 months working at Centralian Senior College. I thought I had retired, but there is something engaging about teaching when not in a leadership position. As a teacher I enjoy working with the young people. It is wonderful to see many Indigenous students completing year 12 – very often the first person ever, in their family to do so. We are finding that while almost all students feel safe, secure and very welcome their resistance to accepting responsibility is easily noticed. I believe we are witnessing generational change – their children may know that education to year 12 and beyond is the thing to do. Meanwhile Choice Theory practices will begin with the 2015 Year 10 in take during the next few months. Many of the current staff have been trained by Judy Hatswell, Jean Seville Sutcliffe and Sylvia Habel. I look forward to a progress report in 2015.

JOHN COOPER

Strategic Plan 2014 - 2017

Focus	Goal	Action	Date
Promoting Choice Theory	Continue to Run 2 yearly conferences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To run conference at Sunshine Coast 	October 2015
	Project proposals for members to use to promote CT/RT/LM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Template for Correction and Rehab market and other areas • Apply for funding 	
	Publications promotions kit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brochures, Postcard, to use for Mental Health and conferences • Placed on members section of Web • Email members to advise them of materials available for Mental Health etc. • Promote Take Charge of your Life 	
Quality of Training	Promote diversification and innovations of Training and Affiliation with other organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to develop WGIA owned Coaching package • Develop Quality Assurance Procedures/Rubric for Training • Track BIT Project being considered by WGI – 2 day core and elective • Investigate and trial Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for BIT for CERT III, IV, Take Charge of Your Life • Rubric's for training syllabus to industry National Training Organization framework • Continue to seek accreditation for ACRT (Joan) • Investigate Registered Training organisation and course development • Continue to explore recognition of our training by University and professional organisation • Support and promote Programs accredited by WGIA • Forged partnership with Lions Rotary • Australian Facilitators Network and World one Australian Counselling Association 	
	Website development Digital Social Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health page for October • Drop Box Tip Box on Site – Parenting, Lead Management, Teacher, Counseling, Personal Development • Continue Face book / Blog • Finalise Advertising Proposal 	
	Investigate links and alignment of WGIA with WGI initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take Charge with WGI (Bette) • Diversification of programs BIT project WGI (Bette) • Publishing and promotion of Resources, Intellectual Property, WGI 	