

**Brain Tumour Alliance Australia Inc.**

PO Box 76

Dickson ACT 2602

**FREECALL 1 800 857 221**

Email: [enquires@bttaa.org.au](mailto:enquires@bttaa.org.au)



ABN 97 733 801 179

Dear BTAA member

Thank you for your support. Pleased find enclosed all the paperwork for our Annual General Meeting to be held on Sunday 27 September 2015 at 2pm at the S.H.O.U.T. Offices, 1 Collett Place, Pearce, ACT.

I know most of our members will not be able to attend the meeting but I am sure you will be interested in reading about our achievements in 2014-15 in the enclosed report from the Chair. Also have a look at our finances in the enclosed Treasurer's report prepared by Catherine and perhaps thinking about becoming involved on the BTAA Committee.

We have some vacancies and need new people with a variety of skills to not only continue our good work but take it to a new level. Nominations on the enclosed form are due by 20 September 2015 to our mail box or scanned to [bttaa@shout.org.au](mailto:bttaa@shout.org.au) (We can get member signatures upon receipt.)

Our Chair, Matthew Pitt, is standing down at the AGM. Matt has been Chair since BTAA was founded in 2008. Matt has new work opportunities business and is on several national committees in addition to his role in BTAA. Matt remains an adviser in his capacity as founding Chair.

Our Public Officer and committee member Denis Strangman AM, is also standing down. Denis is pursuing his interests in other areas of health consumer advocacy but also remains a resource for BTAA as our founding Secretary.

Our Vice Chair, Mary Anne Rosier, is also taking a break. Mary Anne has been with BTAA since 2009 and the frontline key support person since 2010. Mary Anne is taking some time out to spend with her family but will continue to work on paediatric brain tumour support issues. We are interested in hearing from people who want to join Mary Anne on a new paediatric brain tumour support subcommittee that meets by email.

We thank Matthew, Denis and Mary Anne for their service and are keen to have new volunteers to raise our voice and support to the Australian brain tumour community.

Read more about BTAA's Rules and Objectives here:

<http://www.btaa.org.au/page/11/publication>

Contact [secretary@bttaa.org.au](mailto:secretary@bttaa.org.au) for more information about the work of BTAA.

Regards

Susan Pitt

Secretary

[www.btaa.org.au](http://www.btaa.org.au)

10 September 2015

Enclosed: AGM notice, Letter from the Chair, Minutes of the previous AGM, Nomination form.

*BTAA provides peer support from the patient, family and caregiver perspective.*



## Brain Tumour Alliance Australia Inc Annual General Meeting

### Draft Agenda

2:00pm, Sunday 27 September 2015

SHOUT, Building One, Pearce Community Centre, 1 Collett Place, Pearce

**Item 1. Welcome and apologies**

**Item 2. Minutes of the last AGM (22 September 2014)**

*See Attachment 1*

**Item 3. Chair's report on the activities of the association during 2014-15**

*See Attachment 2*

**Item 4. Treasurer's Statement of accounts 2014/15**

**Item 5. Election of the committee, including office-bearers.**

The following positions are declared vacant.

Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, 4 Ordinary Committee members

## **Attachment 1**

## **BTAA Draft Minutes of the AGM | 21 September 2014**

Meeting opened at 1.45pm

Attendees: Matt Pitt (Chair), Catherine Hindson, Bill Hindson, Mark Dalliston, Cara Dalliston, Susan Pitt, Dr Anita Bergout, Bob Berghout, MaryAnne Rosier.

### **Item 1. Welcome and apologies**

Apologies: Denis Strangman, Kelly Webster

### **Item 2. Minutes of the last AGM (22 September 2013)**

The Minutes approved without amendment. Moved CH /Seconded MD

### **Item 3. Chair's report on the activities of the association during the last year. (See Attachment A)**

Moved CH/ Seconded AB

### **Item 4. Report from the Treasurer (See Attachment B)**

Moved CH/ Seconded AB

### **Item 5. Election of the committee, including office-bearers.**

The Chair declared all positions vacant.

The returning officer Bill Hindson reported on the nominations which were filled by the sole applicants:

- Matthew Pitt (Chair)
- Catherine Hindson (Treasurer)
- Susan Pitt (Secretary)
- Mary Anne Rosier (Assistant Secretary)
- Denis Strangman, Rigoula Roussakiss, Anita Berghout. (Rigoula and Anita are new committee members).

The returning officer noted the position of Vice Chair and Ordinary Committee Member had no nominations and were declared vacant.

He further noted that proxies were received from two members but were not required.

### **Item 6. Meeting closed.**

The meeting closed at 2.30pm.

## Attachment 2

### Report from the Chair 2014-15

*Committee members during the year 2014-15* During the 2014-5 period between annual general meetings, the BTAA committee was comprised of Matt Pitt - Chair; Mary Anne Rosier – Vice Chair (Assistant Secretary until June 2015), Catherine Hindson – Treasurer, Susan Pitt - Secretary; Mark Dalliston – Assistant Secretary (committee member from Sept – June 2015), and committee members Denis Strangman, Rigoula Roussakis and Dr Anita Berghout.

*Principal activities in 2014-15* The principle activities of BTAA during the year were providing support to newly diagnosed persons via the 1800 Freecall number 1800 857 221 and the provision of information materials by post, email, the web and Facebook.

- Over 300 calls were made to the Freecall number, with an average of 30 calls a month and average duration of 6 minutes and 15 seconds. There was a high of 53 calls in October 2014. This service is provided by trained support volunteers, led by BTAA's Mary Anne Rosier.
- There were an estimated 250 packs mailed out – around 210 to adults and 40 paediatric packs.
- BTAA also distributed two hard copy BTAA newsletters to around 2,000 persons in the lead up to Brain Cancer Action Week May 2015 and International Brain Tumour Awareness Week October 2014.
- BTAA also compiled six BTAA e-newsletters to our 1,700 e-subscribers.
- Continued to build our social media presence with over 2,000 Facebook followers.
- Focused on our activities as an independent umbrella organisation through a range of activities.
  - BTAA convened and hosted the 2nd National Summit of Brain Tumour Support Advocates in October 2014. The Summit was held in Melbourne, in association with the Clinical Neuro Oncology Group (COGNO) Annual Scientific Meeting.
- Continued the screening of free television community service announcements in regional areas.
- Conducted the fifth “Wear a Hat for a Day for BTAA” campaign to raise funds for support.
- Promoted Brain Tumour Awareness Week in May 2015.
  - Partner for the NSW Brain tumour patient and carer education day.
  - Promoted the activities in Brisbane and Melbourne.
- Submitted a grant application to Cancer Australia for funding for resources for newly diagnosed, including resources in languages other than English. Not successful.
- Received financial assistance from GlaxoSmithKline to move to a new web platform to provide educational resources to our brain tumour community.
- Continued as a voting member of the Consumers Health Forum.
- Strengthened our network with a range of other brain tumour and cancer related organisations including Rare Cancers, the Cure Brain Cancer Foundation and a range of other organisations.
- Continued to auspice the ACT Brain Tumour Support Group.
- Held two facilitated committee planning sessions with support from BTAA Chair's three strategic advisers to identify scope and focus on the core activities of the organisation.
- BTAA Chair Matthew Pitt represented BTAA at the American Clinical-Oncology of American meeting in Chicago in June 2015.
- Denis Strangman, BTAA committee, was recognised for his contribution with the award of Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in June 2015. Denis was the founding Secretary of BTAA and founding Chair of the International Brain Tumour Alliance.
- BTAA Secretary Susan Pitt represented BTAA at the Society of Neuro-oncology Conference in Miami in October 2014.

#### *The Association's net profit and loss*

- The BTAA finances for 2014-15 for the 2015 are a net operating balance of + **\$8,515**, with revenue of **\$83,805** and expenses of **\$75,289**.
  - BTAA's finances for 2013-14 cited at the 2014 AGM were a net operating balance of+ **\$63,096**, with record revenue of **\$114,128** and expenses of **\$51,032**.

**Brain Tumour Alliance Australia Inc - NOMINATION FORM - AGM 27 September 2015**

Please mail to BTAA, PO Box 76 Dickson ACT 2602

Email to [secretary@btaa.org.au](mailto:secretary@btaa.org.au)

I wish to nominate for the position of:

- (a) the president/chair
- (b) the vice-president/vice chair
- (c) the treasurer
- (d) the secretary
- (e) the assistant secretary
- (e) One of four ordinary Committee member positions

I consent to this nomination: ..... (Signature)

Date:

Nominated by:

Member 1 ..... (Signature)

Member 2 ..... (Signature)

Date .....

Received by Secretary ..... (Date)

See BTAA Rules on the Publications area of [www.btaa.org.au](http://www.btaa.org.au)