

History of the Board

as of Tuesday, 30 August 2016

The Society was formed in 1977 by parents and friends of people with O.I. and remains a voluntary organisation with no paid staff or Government funding. The OI Society was originally incorporated as the Osteogenesis Imperfecta Society of NSW (Brittle Bones) under the seal of the Corporate Affairs Commission at Sydney on 5th May 1978 with a Previous NSW Registration Number is 204 932-15. The Society is now an Australian Public Company Limited by Guarantee. ACN 001 534 309

The OI Society was registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) as a charity with ABN 13 001 534 309. All donations to the Society are Tax Deductible.

The business affairs of the Society are managed by a Board of at least six persons and no more than 12, including a President and Vice President, all of whom are elected at the AGM.

The Society has been most fortunate over its 39 years with the outstanding dedication of its Board members (many of whom have OI) and particularly in the strong leadership shown by its presidents in pursuing the Society's aims. Initially as the OI Society of NSW under Lynn Foxall's presidency in 1993 the Society changed its name and widened its focus to help support all of Australia under the name of OI Society of Australia. Prior to 2009, the OI Society Board was made up of members from Sydney as meetings were held on a monthly basis in person however this precluded people outside of Sydney from participating. With thanks to the progressive thinking of the then President, Julie Stonestreet and the board of that time together with the rapid improvements in technology it was decided to facilitate monthly Board Meetings and AGMs to Skype conference calls. This has enabled the Society to tap into the broader nationwide community of people seeking to participate and willing to volunteer to be on the board and have a say in how the Society is managed. Today we have board members and state representatives from all states of Australia with the exception of the Northern Territory which we are working to remedy shortly.

Special credit should be given to the sterling work of the early presidents who had the most difficult task of getting the "show on the road" from a standing start. At that time in 1977, little was known, not only about Osteogenesis Imperfecta, but about the number, distribution and circumstances of people living with the condition in the community.

Since the Society's inception, the Committee has been composed almost entirely of family members and adults with OI. OI is a relatively rare condition with best estimates varying between 1 in 20,000 to 1 in 50,000. Individuals are thus comparatively few and unlikely to be more than 1200 in Australia and widely scattered. The enlistment of volunteers to run the Society has always been challenging particularly as most have little or no experience in management of a charitable organisation. However approximately 50 stalwarts have come forward over the years and despite the difficult learning curve many experience, the progress and success of the Society has been creditable.

In 2015, the Society held its first conference outside of Sydney in Brisbane. This conference was pivotal in increasing membership within Queensland and also raising awareness of OI within the state.

The next conference was held in Melbourne in 2017, which was our 40th anniversary conference and again it was a very successful conference and resulted in significantly more members joining up from Victoria.

In 2017 a new website using a common web tool - Word Press - was launched which resulted in the Society being able to update and manage the website themselves. At this time on-line membership payments and an online donation process was established. This has set the Society on a more sustainable footing enabling members to easily pay their membership and renew automatically if they so desire. This has also helped increase the number of financial members in the Society and reduce the administrative burden of producing manual receipts and maintaining manual paper based records.

Also in 2017 the Constitution of the OI Society of Australia was reviewed and updated to cater for changes in both technology and practices since it was originally written. This was drafted by board member and lawyer Ian Irwin and approved at the 2017 AGM. A copy has been lodged with the Australian Charity and Not for Profit Commission.

In 2018, all documents and photos held by the board were digitised and loaded on to a G-Suite account. Enabling anyone with secure access to view these documents from anywhere across the world. This also ensures that documents are not lost in transition of board members. All state reps and board members have a Google sign in and can access common documents from a team drive.

In addition to this activities in 2018, the Board undertook a strategic review to ensure that the focus of the Society continues to meet membership needs. This was done face to face in Sydney and was facilitated by the President Fern Dyball. The following was developed during the sessions and finalised soon after. It remains the cornerstone of how we operate.

Vision

People living with Brittle Bones in Australia have no barriers

Mission

The OI Society of Australia exists to improve the lives of people living with OI in Australia by raising awareness, educating and collaborating with health professionals and providing connection opportunities for members.

Strategic Priorities

- Awareness

To raise the awareness of Brittle Bones across the board in Australia in order to reduce the stigma associated with it and ensure that people living with OI are treated fairly and equitably.

- Connection

To connect with people living with OI and organisations that support people living with OI in order for people to get the information and support they need when they need it.

- Sustainability

To ensure that the OI Society is still in existence and going strong in 50 years time

- Research and Innovation

To maintain a watching brief on all OI related research to ensure that our membership are informed

2019 focused on delivering the biennial conference in Sydney and building local state support groups with a strong presence and awareness events being undertaken in Qld, SA and WA. In addition to this the continued to build our strategic priority of awareness through the OI Stories project. This project was possible as a result of a small grant from ConnectGroups in WA. The outcome is that there are now 4 stories of OI people professionally made on available for people to view on our website.

Past Board Members of the OI Society of Australia

AGM 2018

President: Fern Dyball

Vice President: Bronwyn Bant

Treasurer: Trish McFerran

Secretary: Bernadette Saberton

Membership Officer: Lynn Dunn-Marler

Web Master: n/a

Board Members:

Arthur Szeto, Jenny Cowley, Amanda Reimanr, Wendy Pilolo, Sueallen Mcmeekin

Medical advisory panel:

Professor David Sillence

Dr Verity Pacey

Dr Jenny Ault

AGM 2017

President: Fern Dyball
Vice President: Bronwyn Bant
Treasurer: Trish McFerran
Secretary: Wendy Pilolo
Membership Officer: Lynn Dunn-Marler
Web Master: n/a
Board Members:

Arthur Szeto, Julie Haraksin, Ian Irwin, Patricia Potgieter, Jenny Cowley

Medical advisory panel:
Professor David Sillence
Dr Jenny Ault

28 August 2016

President: Fern Dyball
Vice President: Julie Haraksin
Treasurer: Trish McFerran
Secretary: - Christalyne Look
Membership Officer: Lynn Dunn-Marler
Web Master: David Richards
Board Members:

Arthur Szeto, Jared Martin, Helen Keogh, Ian Irwin

Medical advisory panel:
Professor David Sillence
Dr Jenny Ault

31 August 2015

President: – Fern Dyball
Vice President: – Julie Haraksin
Treasurer: – Trish McFerran

Secretary: – Raechel Richards

Membership Officer: Lynn Dunn-Marler

Web Master: David Richards

Board Members: – Arthur Szeto, Jared Martin, Ian Irwin, Christalyne Look, Liezel Smith,
Helen Keogh



31 August 2014

Vice President: – Andrew Longhurst

Vice President: – Melinda Montgomery

Secretary: -Fern Dyball

Treasurer: – Trish McFerran

Board Members: - Amber Del Pin, Jared Martin, Raechel Richards, Kate Parady, Julie Haraksin, Ian Irwin

08 September 2013

President: – No one at present

Vice President: - Andrew Longhurst, Melinda Montgomery

Secretary: - Kate Parady

Treasurer: - Trish McFerran

Board Members: - Amber Del Pin, Fern Dyball, Raechel Richards, Jared Martin, Rosie Mayes

11 September 2012

President: – Julie Stonestreet

Vice President: – Melinda Montgomery, Andrew Longhurst

Secretary: - Karen Ford

Treasurer: – Trish McFerran

Board Members: – Maria Wallace, Arthur Szeto, Kate Pardy, Gaye Brown, Abby Meyer

11 September 2011

President: – Helen Keogh

Vice-Presidents: – Melinda Montgomery

Secretary: – Abby Meyer

Treasurer: – Trish McFerran

Board Members: – Arthur Szeto, Andrew Longhurst, Maria Wallace, Sara Mitchell, Karen Ford

19 September 2010

President: – No one at present

Vice President: – Helen Keogh, Julie Stonestreet

Secretary: – Cheryl Gatt

Treasurer: – Patricia McFerran

Board Members: – Mike Kendall, Arthur Szeto, Fiona Winters, Melinda Montgomery, Kate Pardy

2009

President: – No one at present

Vice President: – Julie Stonestreet, Arthur Szeto

Secretary: – Davina Knight

Treasurer: -Mike Kendall

Board Members: – Andrew Longhurst, Gail Peacock, Ian Irwin, Helen Keogh, Julie Haraksin, Jenny Knight

2008

President: – Julie Haraksin

Vice President: – Julie Stonestreet, Arthur Szeto

Secretary: – Chris Taig

Treasurer: – Mike Kendall

Board Members: – Suzan Mehmet, Andrew Longhurst, Gail Peacock

2007

President: – Craig Andrews

Vice President: – Julie Stonestreet, Julie Haraksin

Secretary: – Lauren Naughton

Treasurer: – Mike Kendall

Board Members: – Sue Chamberlain, Lynne Foxall, Suzan Mehmet, Andrew Longhurst, Gary Szeto, Gail Peacock, Christine Taig

2006

President: – Craig Andrews

Vice President: – Julie Stonestreet, Julie Haraksin

Secretary: – Janet Swift

Treasurer: – Mike Kendall

Board Members: – Sue Chamberlain, Lynne Foxall, Peter Foxall, Andrew Longhurst, Kristy Melville, Gail Peacock, Christine Taig

2005

President: – Julie Stonestreet

Vice President: - Lynne Foxall, Peter Foxall

Secretary: – Janet Swift, Suzy Winch

Treasurer: – Mike Kendall

Board Members: – Chris Taig, Sue Cham, Andrew Longhurst, Kristy Melvil, Gail Peacock, Fiona Winters

2004

President: – Julie Stonestreet

Vice President: - Lynne Foxall, Chris Taig

Secretary: – Janet Swift, Suzy Winch

Treasurer: – Mike Kendall, Sue Chamberlain

Editor: - Fiona Winters

Board Members: – Andrew Longhurst, Peter Foxall, Kristy Melville, Gail Peacock

2003

President: – Julie Stonestreet

Secretary: – Janet Swift

2002

President: Julie Stonestreet

Secretary: - Mrs. Suzanne Winch

2001

President: – Lynne Foxall

Secretary: - Suzanne Winch

2000

President: – Lynne Foxall

Secretary: - Suzanne Winch

1999

President: Julie Stonestreet

Secretary: Mrs. Suzanne Winch

1998

President: – Lynne Foxall

Vice President: – Gail Peacock

Treasurer: – Christine Taig

Director: – Sue Winch, Leesa, Morris Chris Taig, Mike Kendall, Paul Taig

20 August 1997

President/Secretary: – Lynne Foxall

Vice President: – Paul Taig, Gail Peacock

Treasurer: – Christine Taig

Director: – Neil Murrin, Julie Stonestreet, Fiona Gallagher, Peter Foxall, Brone Cosimo,
Michael Kendall

18 August 1996

President/Secretary: – Lynne Foxall

Vice President: – Paul Taig, Gail Peacock

Treasurer: – Christine Taig

Director: – Neil Murrin, Julie Stonestreet, Fiona Gallagher, Peter Foxall, Brone Cosimo

28 August 1995

President/Secretary: – Lynne Foxall

Vice President: – Gail Peacock, Doris Vassallo

Treasurer: – Paul Taig, Christine Taig

Director: – Neil Murrin, Julie Stonestreet, Fiona Gallagher, Georgina Pierotti, Peter Foxall,
Brone Cosimo

28 August 1994

President: – Lynne Foxall

Vice President: – Neil Murrin, Doris Vassallo

Secretary: – Georgina Pierotti

Treasurer: – Paul Taig, Christine Taig

Director: – Janette Cameron-Smith, Gail Peacock, Carole Langston, Peter Foxall

The Osteogenesis Imperfecta Society of Australia

29th day of August 1993

29 August 1993

President: – Lynne Foxall

Vice President: – Neil Murrin, Doris Vassallo

Secretary: – Georgina Pierotti

Treasurer: – Paul Taig

Director: – Ian Irwin, Janette Cameron-Smith, Julie Haraksin, Desmond Donovan, Gail Peacock, Phillip Pierotti

30 August 1992

President: – Allison Thorpe

Vice President: – Ian Irwin, Neil Murrin

Secretary: – Lynne Foxall

Treasurer: – Paul Taig

Director: – Janette Cameron-Smith, Doris Vassallo, Julie Haraksin, Desmond Donovan, Julie Stonestreet, Fiona Gallagher

30 August 1991

President: – Allison Thorpe

Vice President: – Ian Irwin, Ian Foxall

Secretary: – Lynne Foxall

Treasurer: – Paul Taig

Director: – Janette Cameron-Smith, Ross Chisholm, Doris Vassallo, Julie Haraksin, Neil Murrin

26 August 1990

President: – Allison Thorpe

Vice President: – Ian Foxall

Secretary: – Lynne Foxall

Treasurer: – John Roberts

Director: – Ian Irwin, Janette Cameron-Smith, Ross Chisholm, Doris Vassallo, Julie Haraksin, Neil Murrin, Paul Taig

27 August 1989

President: – Allison Thorpe

Vice President: – Ian Foxall, Janette Cameron-Smith

Secretary: – Lynne Foxall

Treasurer: – John Roberts

Director: – John Foster, Lynne Foster, Ross Chisholm, Doris Vassallo

07 August 1988

President: – Allison Thorpe

Vice President: – Ian Foxall, Janette Cameron-Smith

Secretary: – Lynne Foxall

Treasurer: – John Roberts

Director: – Ian Irwin, Chamberian Herbert, John Foster, Lynne Foster, Ross Chisholm

30 August 1987

President: – Allison Thorpe

Vice President: – Gwen Crane, Ian Foxall

Secretary: – Lynne Foxall

Treasurer: – John Roberts

Director: – Ian Irwin, Janette Cameron-Smith, Chamberian Herbert

31 August 1986

President: – Allison Thorpe

Vice President: – Gwen Crane, Ian Foxall

Secretary: – Lynne Foxall

Treasurer: – John Roberts

Director: – Ian Irwin, Janette Cameron-Smith, Chamberian Herbert

25 August 1985

President: – John Roberts

Secretary: – Geoff Boreham

Vice President: – Gwen Crane, Ian Foxall

Treasurer: – Allison Thorpe

Director: – Ian Irwin, Janette Cameron-Smith, Chamberian Herbert, Lynne Foxall

19 August 1984

President: – John Roberts

Vice President: – Gwen Crane, Ian Foxall

Secretary: – Geoff Boreham

Director: – Annett Pugh, Ian Irwin, Allison Thorpe, Janette Cameron-Smith, Chamberian Herbert Lynne Foxall

28 August 1983

President: – John Roberts

Vice President: – Guy Roberts, Kenneth Peter

Secretary: – Geoff Boreham

Director: – Patricia Salmon, Annett Pugh, Gwen Crane, Ian Irwin, Allison Thorpe, Jackie Vassallo

28 November 1982

President: – John Roberts

Vice President: – Guy Roberts, Kenneth Peter

Secretary: – Geoff Boreham

Director: – Patricia Salmon, Annett Pugh, Gwen Crane, Ian Irwin, Allison Thorpe

29 November 1981

President: – Richard Cormick

Vice President: – Guy Roberts, John Roberts

Secretary: – Pam Cormick, Helen Manning

Treasurer: – Kenneth Peter

Director: – Patricia Salmon, Jean Best

07 December 1980

President: – Richard Cormick

Vice President: – Patricia Salmon

Secretary: – Pam Cormick

Treasurer: – Kenneth Peter

Director: – Steven Grigor, Nanette Rosser, Diedre Millard, Guy Roberts

14 October 1979

President: – Paul Rosser

Vice President: – Richard Cormick

Secretary: – Patricia Salmon

Treasurer: – Kenneth Peter

Social Secretary: – Donna Ragen

Director: – Paul Ragen, Rita Hornshaw, Guy Roberts

03 September 1978

President: – Len Crane

Vice President: -Rita Hornshaw

Secretary/Treasurer: -Patricia Salmon

Social Secretary: – Donna Ragen

Director: – Michael McAuliffe, Robert Millard, Joe De Bono, Richard Cormick

The Osteogenesis Imperfecta Society of N.S.W.

15th day of March, 1978

03 July 1977

President: – Michael McAuliffe

Secretary/Director: – Paul Ragen

Treasurer/Vice President: – Peter Gallagher

Vice President/Committee: – Len Crane

Committee/Director: – Robert Millard, Chris Lambert

01 May 1977

Chairman: – Michael McAuliffe

Secretary: – Paul Ragen

Treasurer: – Peter Gallagher

Committee: – Len Crane, Robert Millard



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