SRACA QUEENSLAND

STERILIZING RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

THE HEART OF HEALTHCARE

NOVEMBER 2026

NEWSLETTER SPECIAL EDITION:



SRACA President 2026-27: Jill Cumberland

Hello Members,

What an incredible event our 2026 National FSRACA Conference was! Held at the Gold Coast Entertainment Centre, the days were jam-packed with talented speakers who generously shared their knowledge with us all.

A huge thank you to our 500+ delegates for making this year's event a massive success! The turnout was incredible, and the vibrant energy you brought to the speaker sessions and trade floor truly drove the event. We are so grateful to have such a dedicated community eager to share insights and push our industry forward.



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PRESIDENT REPORT

I would like to extend a special thank you to the dedicated team working behind the scenes to make this event possible. A tremendous amount of time and energy went into this project, particularly from Elinor Radke (Federal Conference Convenor, Qld) and Darren Martin (Federal Treasurer, Vic), alongside our supporting committee members from Queensland and Western Australia. We also owe a huge debt of gratitude to our PCO partners, Nectar, and the Qld State Committee. Thank you all for your incredible hard work.

A massive thank you goes to our Master of Ceremonies, Andrew Bailey. Andrew kept us entertained, on track, and well-informed throughout the event. We deeply appreciate your dedication and help in making our conference such a resounding success.

Our trade partners truly brought their A-game, showcasing fantastic stands that beautifully captured this year's theme, "Waves of innovation, anchored in AS/NZS5369". This year, trade exhibitors created videos blending the theme with their business and a healthy dose of comedy—and they were brilliant!

Huge congratulations to our competition winners:

Best Video: EMERY for their brilliant and humorous production.

Best Trade Stand (1st Place): SESS – Macemark, whose stunning, large-scale beach backdrop instantly transported everyone to the coast.

Best Trade Stand (2nd Place): GKE, featuring a full-size lifeguard who hilariously "went missing." Video evidence later revealed he was taken on an adventure on trams & going across pedestrian crossings with three captors (reminiscent of The Beatles' Abbey Road!) before being safely returned a few hours later.

We have a wealth of photos and information to share, and we will be circulating this newsletter across all State SRACA branches so they can share the highlights with their members too.

Education update

2026 *RECAP*

Our educational calendar was packed with great events across the state:

- **March**: Launched our very first SRACA Qld educational webinar.
- **May**: Hosted another highly engaging workshop in Townsville.
- **August**: An innovative interactive workshop and AGM in Caboolture.
- **OCT-NOV**: FSRACA NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2026 - *Gold coast convention centre.*

WHAT'S NEXT?....

SRACA WEBINAR

The next Webinar will be sheduled for the **12th December, 2026**. We will keep you updated via the website and emails. Make sure you check the website regularly for updates.

President Report Continued...

Looking ahead, we are already planning next year's calendar, which will feature more webinars, workshops, and our state conference.

SAVE THE DATE

- When: Wednesday 4th – Friday 6th August 2027
- The Occasion: Qld SRACA's Golden Jubilee Celebration!

2027 marks our 50th year, and we should all be incredibly proud of how we have supported and sustained this vital sterilising industry group. To celebrate this milestone, we look forward to welcoming back some of our past committee members who helped pave the way.

Coincidentally, 2027 is also the 50th anniversary of the original Star Wars film, inspiring our spectacular new theme:

"MAY THE FORCE AS/NZS 5369 BE WITH YOU."

We can't wait to see the creative trade displays and fantastic costumes at the gala dinner. Start planning now so you can meet and listen to the leading "Stars" of our industry share how they comply with our standards.

We are excited to announce that we are returning to the Pullman Hotel in Brisbane City. This venue is perfect for us, offering excellent layout spaces for our trade stands, the conference rooms, and the themed dinner. Plus, it offers convenient public transport options and plenty of local accommodation. We hope you will all start planning to attend, support our trade partners, and celebrate with Qld SRACA. To match the enormity of 50 years, we will be marking the occasion with plenty of prizes and awards!



Committee Recognition & Industry Updates

We are incredibly proud to share that two of our Qld SRACA committee members have been heavily involved in the recent Sterilising Services review. HumanAbility expressed immense gratitude for their commitment, expertise, and contributions, stating: "This outcome would not have been possible without your collaboration and ongoing engagement throughout the process."

A massive thank you to Robyn Williams and Elinor Radke for your outstanding work. We have uploaded the full details of this review to the "News" section of our website for you to read.

I leave you with this inspiring quote:

"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are." — Theodore Roosevelt

Jill Cumberland.



FSRACA CONFERENCE

FSRACA NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2026 REPORT & HIGHLIGHTS - DAY 1





Day 1: 30.9.26
Wednesday

Leadership forum

Duodenoscopes
Independent validations
Implementing 5369
Business of CSD
Manual cleaning
Wet Loads
Cost optimisation
Staff development
Training package review
FSRACA national strategy
Reusable gown sustainability
Reprocessed implants





Day 1 highlighted the critical role of leadership, governance, validation and workforce capability in delivering safe and sustainable reprocessing services. Key discussions focused on 5369 implementation, quality assurance, cost management, professional development and environmental sustainability, reinforcing that strong leadership and evidence-based practices are essential to achieving compliance, operational efficiency and patient safety.













FSRACA NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2026 REPORT & HIGHLIGHTS





Brooke Hanson OLY OAM
Motivational Keynote Speaker



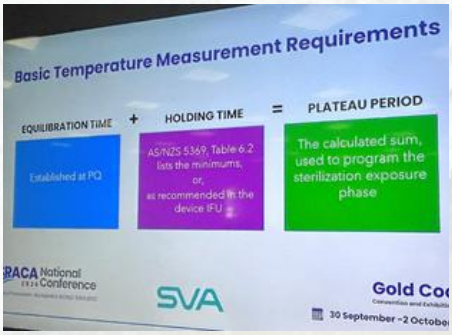
Day 2: 1.10.26
Thursday
Anchoring excellence
Keynote - Brooke Hanson
AI and automation
Quality & Validation
Cleaning Indicators
PQ Standards
UV-C Validation
Ultrasound Guidelines
H2O2 Safety
LEAN Sustainability
Sustainable Sterilisation
TGA Update
5369 Transition



Day 2 highlighted that future technology in Sterilising Services will be driven by integrating AI and automation, while remaining anchored in patient-centred, evidence-based, validation and compliance. Presentations reinforced the importance of robust quality assurance, process validation, performance monitoring and adherence to 5369. Emerging technologies in sterilisation, disinfection and ultrasound probe reprocessing demonstrated significant opportunities for innovation, while sustainability and LEAN principles were recognised as increasingly important considerations for healthcare services. Overall, the key message was that innovation must be supported by strong governance, evidence-based practice and effective leadership to ensure safe, efficient and compliant reprocessing outcomes.



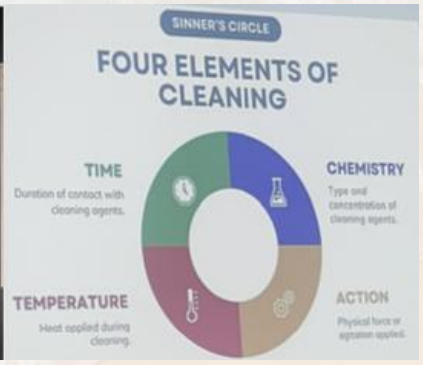








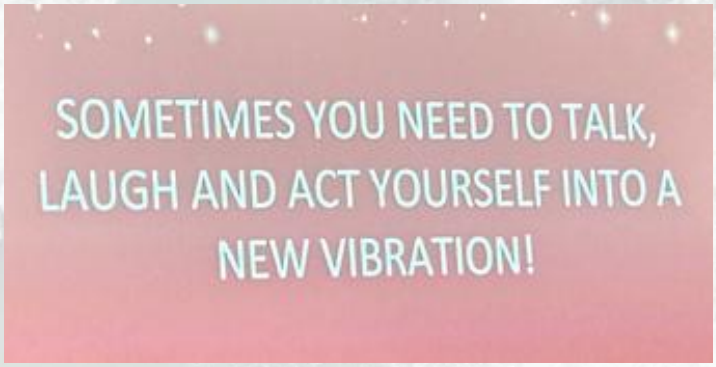




FSRACA NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2026 REPORT & HIGHLIGHTS



Julie Cross
Motivational Keynote Speaker









Day 3 focused on advancing patient safety through evidence-based endoscope reprocessing, quality systems and risk management. Key themes included traceability, digital transformation, business continuity and emerging reprocessing technologies, reinforcing the critical role of CSD in delivering safe, compliant and resilient healthcare services.









Day 3 - Friday, 2.10.26
Positive Leadership
Endoscope
Sterilisation
Biofilm Inactivation
Endoscopy Guidelines
Quiz Automation
Loan Equipment
Water Quality
Digital Transformation
Risk & Traceability
Surgical Capacity
CSD Governance
RO System Reliability
Business Continuity
Blood Contamination
Storage Management
Endoscope Innovation
Expert Panel





SRACA Committee Reflections

Attending the FSRACA National Conference 2026 was a wonderful opportunity to learn, reconnect and reflect on the advances shaping reprocessing.

I especially commend the strong support from trade exhibitors, alongside the opportunity to connect with people across the industry.

It was also lovely to catch up with colleagues from previous workplaces, share experiences and renew professional friendships.

The varied program offered valuable insights into current challenges and advances in our field.

My favourite presentation was Dr Bastian Wulff's "Time-dependent persistence of blood as a contaminant in medical device processing." His research explored how the time between contamination and cleaning affects blood removal, with a particularly interesting finding: blood was most difficult to remove when it had coagulated but had not yet dried significantly. The presentation highlighted the importance of commencing cleaning promptly after use and understanding how changes in blood contamination can influence cleaning effectiveness.

Beyond the learning, the great location and excellent catering added to the enjoyment of the conference.

Overall, it was an inspiring experience that reinforced the value of connection, ongoing professional development and sharing knowledge across our industry. Camelia B.









The Gold Coast weather put on a show for the FSRACA conference, and we were rewarded with a calibre of international speakers that were next level and experts in their fields. These speakers were incredibly interesting and passionate, just ask them a question and your entire day would be gone because they have such a wealth of knowledge. A highlight for me was personally meeting Brooke Hanson OLY OAM and having a photo with her while I am holding her gold medal....wow! She really was an inspirational, motivational speaker and such a great choice for a keynote speaker. I thoroughly enjoyed the multitude of things to do, listen to and see. Ann B.





SRACA Committee Reflections

Brooke Hanson took us on an emotional journey, moving seamlessly from laughter to tears with her inspiring story, infectious energy, and engaging personality. As an Olympic Champion, Brooke captivated delegates with a powerful message of resilience, determination, and triumph, leaving the audience on their feet with a standing ovation.

Her story goes far beyond sporting success. Brooke shares the challenges she overcame on her path to Olympic gold, including adversity, setbacks, and personal tragedy, demonstrating the mindset and perseverance required to achieve extraordinary goals. Her authenticity, warmth, and compassion create a genuine connection with every audience.

A highly experienced keynote speaker, Brooke is passionate about empowering individuals and teams to unlock their potential, embrace challenges, and pursue excellence. Combining practical lessons with humour, inspiration, and heartfelt storytelling, leaving us motivated to achieve greatness in both their personal and professional lives.

Key Themes

- Resilience and overcoming adversity
- Leadership and high performance
- Goal setting and achieving excellence
- Building positive team cultures
- Motivation, wellbeing, and personal growth

Brooke's unique blend of Olympic success, real-life experience, and vibrant personality ensured a memorable and impactful experience for FSRACA attendees. Desley S.





The Keynote speakers Brooke and Julie. The atmosphere immediately changed and became positively electric. It generated conversations and no doubt we each took away many discussion points they shared with us. Thank you to Federal SRACA Conference Committee for inviting such gifted and thoughtful individuals. Simone P.



The 2026 FSRACA National Conference on the Gold Coast brought together sterilising professionals from around the world to share knowledge and explore advances in reprocessing. Endoscope reprocessing was a key focus, while networking offered valuable opportunities to exchange experiences, connect with industry experts and build international professional relationships. Antony K.







FSRACA NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2026
REPORT & HIGHLIGHTS - FAST FACTS AND FIGURES



Registration Type	Total
Member	198
Non-member	137
Sponsor	119
Developing Nations	4
Visitor	1
Staff	18
Crew	8
Total attendees	500



2026 FSRACA CONFERENCE
Gold Coast Convention Centre

FSRACA CONFERENCE-SUBCOMMITTEE & SRACA Qld INC. Committee with Master of Ceremony, Andrew Bailey hosted this conference. This event is certainly on the global scene today and ever growing. Remember Australia's first WFHSS International Congress held in Brisbane, 2016.

TRADE PARTNERS - Top Tier Sponsors of GOLD [Getinge & STERIS], SILVER [Atherton, Ecolab & Invitro technologies] and BRONZE [ASP, BBraun, EMERY industries & GKE Australia] for your support. For our Standard Booths also a big thank you.

DELEGATES, SPEAKERS & TRADE PARTNERS attending from all Australian States including New Zealand and Papua New Guinea. International from Singapore, Indonesia, China, Italy, Spain, France, Germany, Finland and the United States of America.

A variety of disciplines also attending involved in reprocessing of RMDs at different levels of expertise.

The Conference programme provided, included;
· Leadership Forum and an afternoon Workshop today,
· Two Trade Partners offered tours locally at the Gold Coast,
· Plenary sessions Thursday and Friday,
· Trade Partners Symposiums,
· FSRACA Lightening Talks and the Gala Dinner with a theme.

In closing the banner was handed over to Western Australia SRACA for the 2029 FSRACA National Conference.

Elinor V. Radke, FSRACA Conference Convenor



GALA DINNER HIGHLIGHTS









Glamours


Winner club









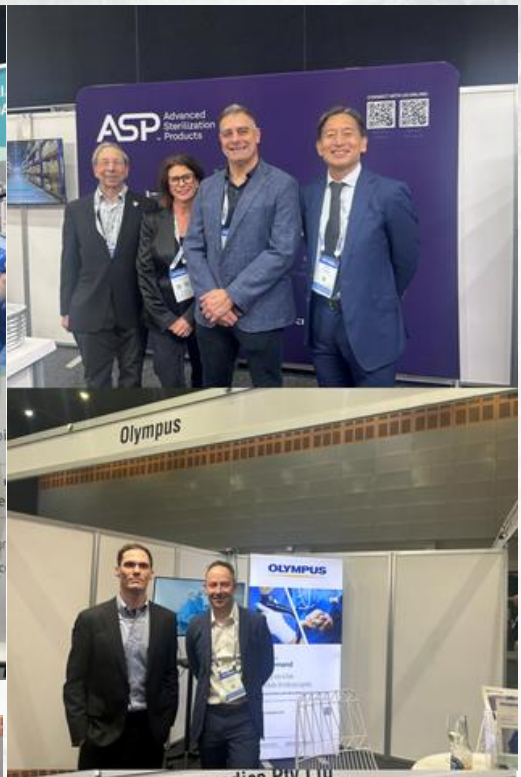
The beachside-themed Gala Dinner was a fun and colorful evening, with everyone getting into the spirit in a great mix of costumes. The atmosphere was warm, vibrant and inviting, making it easy to relax, connect and enjoy the night. Guests enjoyed delicious food, refreshing drinks and plenty of laughter, while several awards were also presented to recognise and celebrate the outstanding contributions and achievements. It was a wonderful evening of connection, celebration and good company — and the food was definitely yum, yum! Sincerely thank you SMARTWAYS.

Sterilizing Research Advisory Council of Australia

TRADE PARTNERS SPECIAL

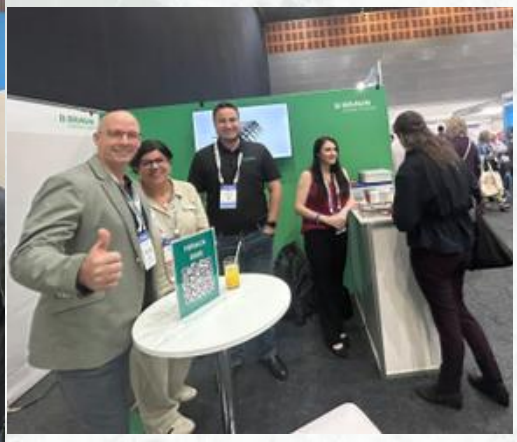
















A heartfelt thank you to all our valued trade partners for your continued support. We could not feature every partner in our newsletter, please know that we sincerely appreciate all of your contributions to the conference and value your commitment and dedication to the sterilisation industry.



https://nectarcc.eventsair.com/fsraca2026-national-conference/program

Sterilizing Research Advisory Council of Australia

PNG and Developing Nation Conference Report



Four staff from the developing nations representing PNG (POM GEN, Milne Bay PHA and MaPHA) attended the conference in Queensland. The topic was about the ongoing improvement of sterilisation services, especially shifting from manual to robotic transformation in the health care system. The set up was in a relaxing environment allowing every individual participant to take part in all the 3 days of sessions.

Attending this conference motivated me to focused more on the daily tasks in operating theatre. The need for monthly inventories on the equipment and setting connections with biomed technicians for the monthly checks of the machines in OT. This conference showed the importance of building connections and networking with health professionals nationally & internationally. This has assisted to grow my knowledge with the available evidence practices in the health profession especially sterilization services. The conference has helped with my job satisfaction by motivating me and shown me how rewarding this industry is.

PNGPNS







Due to the high costs involved with attending we rely on the supported funding with prizes offered by SRACA to attend the conference. We are very appreciative to the office of Director Curative Dr. Gawi for the TA support, Mrs. J.Maihua MNS for the release from duty to travel and to Sr. Apa for the care-taker role in OTH. We also share our appreciation to FSRACA for the funding covered for accommodation expenses met for the 3 days of the conference.

One very important component was a visit to Emery. All medical equipment that are to be purchased should go through proper screening or process before purchase: i.e.; Planning, ensure the maintenance parts and suppliers are available and accessible and regular checked, terms of expiry to be checked and plans for the purchase of similar new medical equipments. I believe MaPHA still has a gap in this bit that needs to be mended.

Prepared by Sr. Mafagura

Sterilisation Services - Qualification review

Changes to the qualifications for sterilisation services have now been endorsed! This is the first major update since 2015 and will support the sector, which is undergoing rapid technological advances and changing professional standards, keeping patients safe. Thank you so much to everyone who participated in this review.
Training providers were encouraged to register for online professional development workshops through November to understand the changes and prepare for implementation.

Elinor V. Radke & Robyn Williams, Technical Committee Members.





HumanAbility are pleased to announce that the Sterilisation Services Qualification Review has now been endorsed by the Skills Ministers. The members of the project Technical Committee would like to sincerely thank you all for your commitment, expertise and contributions in bringing this review to this stage. This outcome would not have been possible without your collaboration and ongoing engagement throughout the process.

The updated qualifications will be available on the National Training Register very soon. The project page on the HumanAbility webpage has been updated with details of the process and links to register for Professional Development workshops.
Once again, sincere thanks to you all.
Alyssa, TPD Health.

Membership Report

Dear SRACA members,

We are happy to welcome those who have joined us since the last newsletter. Their support helps strengthen our organisation and bring fresh ideas and enthusiasm to our activities.
Please let me know if your email address, postal address or other contact details have changed. Keeping our membership list accurate helps us communicate effectively with everyone.
If you know someone who may be interested in joining, please encourage them to get in touch - we would be delighted to welcome them.

Continuing members, don't forget to check the website regularly for updates and check your emails for reminders of when your due to renew. Thank you for your continued support.

Membership report as of 31 October 2026:

Committee Members	10 (2 Life)
Life Members	7
Honorary Life Members	4
Full Members	145
PNG Members	10
Associate Trade Members	41
TOTAL	**207**

We extend a warm welcome to our new members who have joined us recently:

New/ FULL Members:
Elvin Hipona – GCUH
Patrick Gabriel – RBWH
Catherine Toal – SCUH
Thomas Rinu – West Moreton Health (Private hospital, Ipswich)
Melissa Dart-Harrison – John Flynn Private Hospital
Stacey Badiou – SCUH, Private
Eva Hare – Ipswich Hospital

Overseas Developing Nations Members:
Nil

New Associate/Trade Members:
Nil

We hope you will find our website, newsletter and educational events enjoyable and beneficial to your professional and personal development. Please reach out with your ideas, feedback, or suggestions on how we can carry on improving the membership experience.

Cami Birdacel
Membership Manager



Editors Report

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Hello fellow members,

Here at SRACA HQ we have had an amazing year! The most recent event, the FSRACA National conference 2026, was a standout for all who attended! We will not see another one in Queensland for 10 years. Our planning day has the calendar full of goodies for you in 2026-27. The next event will be the second of many webinars hosted by your SRACA committee, tailored to your feedback and requests. It will be slightly shorter than the first one. We hope you enjoy the latest edition of our newsletter. Don't forget to print and place on your notice boards and tell your workmates to sign up for an action-packed year ahead.

Happy sterilising,
Felicia Nuske &
Shyam Lal Pandey
Newsletter Editors

QLD SRACA Management Committee Members - 2026-2027

Jill Cumberland - President
Robyn Williams - President Elect
Elinor Radke - Secretary & FSRACA Conference Convenor
Antony Kocheril - Treasurer
Desley Sutton - Trade Convenor
Camelia Birdacel - Membership Secretary
Felicia Nuske - Website Manager
Ann Borg - FSRACA President
Shyam Lal Pandey - Newsletter Editor
Kathy Johns - Committee Member
Celia Fletcher - Committee Member
Simone Platzke - Committee Member
Susan Nieuwouldt - Seconded
Jing Li - Seconded





Congratulations to the winner of the 2026 Teressa Normington Scholarship, awarded to the QLD member, Tristinne Cullen. I hope you enjoy your WHFSS Congress educational adventure.



WHFSS Update



2027 - Bangkok, Thailand

Join us at the World Congress of Hospital Sterilization Sciences and be part of this incredible event that unites innovation, education, and networking under one roof. We look forward to seeing you there!
Warm regards, The WFHSS Executive Committee.