

Aboriginal Kidney Care Together Improving Outcomes Now AKTION2 Newsletter

May Edition, 2023



Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Kurna people, traditional owners of the Tarntanya, (Adelaide Plains). We respect their spiritual and physical connection to the land, seas, and waterways. We acknowledge their deep connection to the community and pay our respects to the Kurna Elders who fought and paved the way for future generations.

We acknowledge all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who live and work on Kurna Yerta and acknowledge the allies who know when to walk beside us, in front of us and behind us.



MESSAGE FROM THE AKction2 TEAM

Hello AKction Family,

Welcome to the May edition of our monthly newsletter. It has been a very busy couple of months and we hope these stories bring you joy and excitement as we celebrate all the amazing achievements that have been the outcome of some very hard working and talented people, who are dedicated to improving the needed outcomes in kidney health care across Australia for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and perhaps beyond for all people.

We've also had some hard truths and realities hit home with the loss of some of our dear Elders across the country, and as we continue to remember our dearly beloved Ina. As we reflect on our Matriarchs and the co-founders of AKction1 our emotions and our miwi 🌀 (Spirit- Kurna) have been challenged and strengthened as we wrap our love and care around the families and especially for Nari and her family at this time. We honour and acknowledge the strength, resilience and advocacy that both her and Ina have brought from AKction1 and continue to bring into AKction2 and we thank them for paving the way for us in this brave space.

Within our AKction2 Project Team we have seen more changes happen within our staff and we farewell and thank Amy Graham for her contribution to the AKction2 research project. Amy was successful in gaining a new position as student support at Wirrtu Yarlur, Adelaide University. We wish her all the best ❤️💖💞

In this edition, you will get a yarnning up snapshot from one of our AKction2 team members, meet our new AKction2 team members, see what's been happening across the different sub studies, read about our achievements, see updates about recent and upcoming conferences and AKction2 awards and as per usual gaze your minakas 👁️ (eyes - Adnyamathanha) to avoid extra work upon our deadly 'stylin' up photos.

So you know the drill famz, grab a cuppa, enjoy the read and keep up to date with how the AKction2 movement is continuing to kick butt moving forward in 2023.

The AKction Project Team consists of the following deadly members:

AKction2 Project Leads

Dr Kim O'Donnell

Associate Professor Janet Kelly

AKction Project Co-ordinator

Penny Clough

Chief Investigators

Nari Sinclair, Kelli Owen, Rhanee Lester, Samantha Bateman, Josee' Lavoie

Research Assistants

Kynasha Temple-Varcoe

Alyssa Cormick

Tahlee Blade-Stephenson

Elizabeth Rix

AKction OUT!

Newsletter Editors

Kim O'Donnell | Rhanee Lester | Kynasha Temple-Varcoe



YARNING UP WITH JARED KARTINYERI

My mob are Ngarrindjeri & Wiradjuri
I was born on Kurna country, Adelaide
I grew up on Kurna Country
I now live in Kurna Country Born & Bred

Favourite bush tucker?

Not including Devon sandwiches, but Kangaroo Stew and Damper Scones

Favourite saltwater or freshwater food?

I like my butterfish and prawns

Favourite drink?

A cup of coffee. A flat white or a dirty chai

Favourite holiday destination:

I like Brisbane or Northern New South Wales – Bundjalung Country

Favourite music at the moment? Why?

Most grunge and hard rock stuff. But I'm getting back into my 90's trance and dance music

Favourite saying, quote or joke?

I like saying "Too Deadly!" – I say that a lot.

What do you call a cow with no legs?

Ground Beef

Favourite movie /tv show at the moment?

Why?

Back To The Future Trilogy or Karate Kid Trilogy

What do you enjoy about AKction?

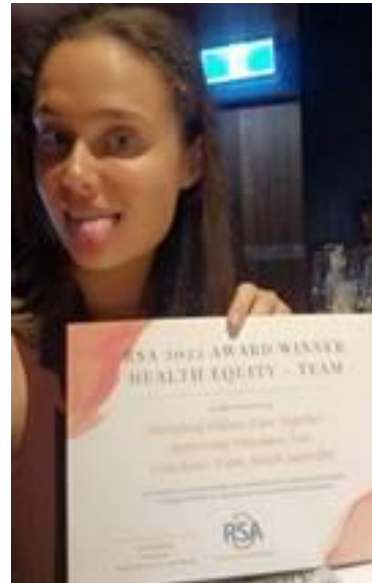
I enjoy what we learn and how we share

with other people about what we do. We can learn how to be positive in a negative situation. I like how we link up with each other and how we connect to other communities and other GP's



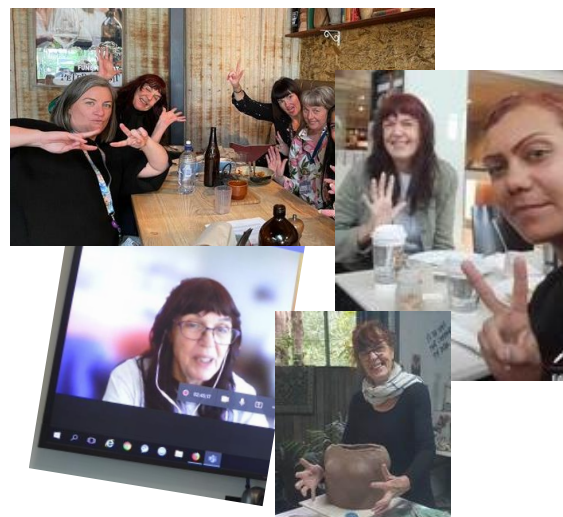
KEEPING UP WITH AKCTION2: FEEL GOOD YARNS

The Renal Society of Australasia (RSA) had their annual conference in Sydney this week and AKction2 won the **“Health Equity - Team Award”**. Breanna Solomon, a fabulous renal nurse from Queensland collected the award on the team’s behalf. This award also came with \$150 worth of vouchers. We will collect the award from Breanna at the Lowitja Institute International Indigenous Health and Wellbeing conference fast approaching 11-13 June in Cairns Qld.



Janet Kelly is in Canada and doing amazing work spruiking AKction, presenting both posters and oral presentations, and meeting with AKction international chief investigator Josee Lavoie. The poster here is *“First Nations Health Journey Mapping for busy clinical settings, detailed care planning and strategic evaluation”* – Montreal, Canada

Liz Rix attended the RSA conference on Tuesday to present (behalf of Janet and Melissa) on “Cultural Safety” within the CARI International Guidelines. CARI are the guideline developers within Australia and New Zealand in nephrology, supported by the Australia and New Zealand Society of Nephrology, and the peak consumer body, Kidney Health Australia. The guidelines were developed in collaboration with CARI, AKction, Communities and partners across Australia for change here: [First Nations Australian Guidelines : CARI Guidelines](#)



Our Liz often joins us online and we cherish the moments we do get our in-person hangouts with her.

KEEPING UP WITH AKTION2: FEEL GOOD YARNS (CONT.)

This month, Kelli Owen has been here there and everywhere, from Darwin to the APY Lands and back again this deadly kidney warrior is always on the go. Speaking of how deadly she is, Kelli was the recipient of the Neville Fazulla Aboriginal Health Scholarship which was established in recognition of the contribution Neville Fazulla made to Aboriginal health both within South Australia and nationally. This scholarship will help Kelli towards achieving her PhD at Adelaide University.

<https://sahmri.org.au/careers-and-study/studying-at-sahmri/neville-fazulla-aboriginal-health-memorial-scholarship>



Mel, Tahlee and Kim got to 'style up' with Janet, who was a finalist in the Excellence in Research and Knowledge Translation Award at the 2023 SA Nursing and Midwifery Excellence



Awards night held at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

In mid-May Janet, Rhanee and Sam headed over to [Ceduna, South Australia](#) to do 'Kidney Yarning in Community'. They spent 3 days connecting with the Aboriginal renal community in Ceduna to assist in mapping renal patient's health journey's using different yarning techniques, tools, and activities.

More importantly they spent valuable time connecting and networking with key stakeholders and allied health services within the community, to help map the services that could assist in ensuring culturally safe and appropriate care is wrapped around the patients' journey. The event was well received and attended, and some key information was shared regarding dialysis chairs at Yalata community given the go ahead and different ways in which we could problem solve the issue of much needed staffing for renal units in our Aboriginal communities.





AKtion OUT!

AKCTION2 REFERENCE TEAM (A2RT)

WHAT DEADLY THINGS HAVE A2RT BEEN DOING RECENTLY?

A BIG Welcome to Marissa Wilson, who has recently joined the AKction Reference Team (A2RT). Marissa speaks several First Nation APY languages and will be a valuable contributor to the team. Marissa is front and centre.

Another kidney warrior has also been invited to join us from the Ceduna community, Sherrie Jones who has been living with a kidney transplant for 7 years. Interesting fact about Sherri is that her and Lachi our Panaku family up in NT, share the same donor kidney, same day transplant.

WORKING TOGETHER AGREEMENT & AKCTION2 WEBSITE

Our Working Together Agreement now finalised and can be found on our AKction2 website which has also been finalised and is up and running. A HUGE thanks to Alyssa Cormick and the Adelaide university IT Team for your efforts in helping us. You can now access the website [here](#) to check out Akction actions: [AKction- Aboriginal Kidney Care Together Improving Outcomes Now | University of Adelaide](#)



Kynesha Kelli and Kim have spent time this week with Nari to take some cultural photos and decolonise the room for photoshoot.



CURRENT AKCTION2 REFERENCE TEAM MEMBERS:

Denise & Shellander Champion

Ramon Gadd

Kelli Owen

Jared Kartinyeri

Rhanea Lester

Nari Sinclair

Lili Simo

Nishy from the Kidney mums project has started discussions with the AKction2 Reference Team and a collaboration has commenced between the Kidney Mum's Research Project led by Dr. Shilpa Jesudason and our deadly kidney warriors.

KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION CONFERENCES

The AKction team have been working hard to ensure all of our abstracts, registration fees, and presentations are ready to go for our upcoming conferences this year:

Stay tuned on our socials for updates and photos.



ANZSN Annual Scientific Meeting 2-6
September 2023



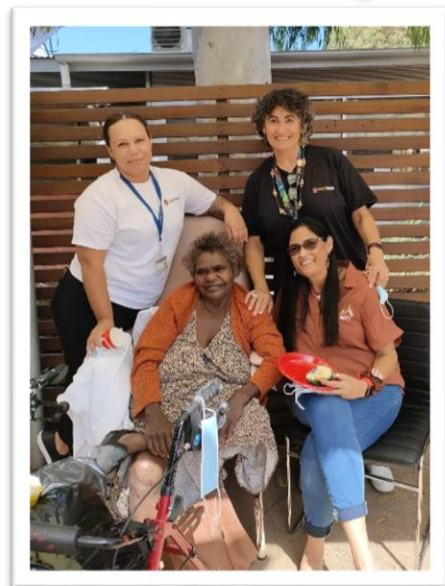
Healing Our
Spirit Worldwide
THE NINTH GATHERING



Elder Williamson always longed to be back home on country in Pukatja. She always shared how she missed the beautiful stars at night on her home country.

Let's continue to remember the amazing person she was and all the advocacy she did in the AKction2 space and beyond.

when we look at the stars we can be reminded of her legacy in AKction



Anu nginti – (Ngarrindjeri word for Thank you)

Thank you for keeping updated with AKction2. If you would like to promote any work/training currently happening within the renal space, we would love to hear from you! Deepest thanks to everyone working towards improving outcomes, de-colonising and co-designing safer health and wellbeing spaces.

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK



If any of our AKction2 networks would like to be involved or have any of your resources added to our stall please contact Rhanee and/or Kynesha via the AKction email:

akction@adelaide.edu.au



AKction2

**Aboriginal kidney care together -
improving outcomes now**

***We appreciate those that continue to advocate for better
health outcomes in the renal space.
AKction2 look forward to working in partnership with you all
in 2023.***