



Hello to all COASTN members and welcome to the AGM for 2025. It is with great pleasure that I present this year's Chair Report.

As usual this year has flown by and it is hard to believe that we are nearly at an end of another year. The College of Air and Surface Transport Nurses (COASTN) continued to champion excellence in transport nursing across Aotearoa, with a strong focus on professional development, collaboration, and innovation in 2025.

I am excited to participate in this year's Symposium and look forward to hearing from some excellent experts in their fields.

A particular highlight this year was the Aeromedical Retrieval Course, expertly led by Helen and her team. Their professionalism and attention to detail ensured the course was not only well-organised but also deeply impactful for participants. The team is working on updating the course which I am sure will be well received and reflects our commitment to continuous improvement and excellence in education.

the core of COASTN's mission is a steadfast commitment to cultivating a cohesive and supportive community of transport nurses. Whether operating in helicopters, fixed-wing aircraft, ambulances, or other transport platforms, our members are united by their dedication to delivering exceptional care in dynamic and often challenging environments.

COASTN continues to empower nurses through initiatives such as the annual symposium, ongoing professional development opportunities, and active collaboration with transport services. These efforts are aimed at enhancing clinical expertise, promoting best practices, and fostering resilience in the face of complex demands.

I would also like to acknowledge Tania for her outstanding work in producing high-quality eMags. Her creativity and dedication have elevated our communications and provided an engaging platform for sharing knowledge and stories across the sector. We also value the importance of recognising and celebrating the accomplishments of our members. If you or a colleague have recently completed a notable project, received an award, or contributed to research in the field, we encourage you to share your story. Highlighting these achievements not only inspires others but also showcases the outstanding work being carried out across the country.

This year has not been without its challenges, especially for our transport nurses, who continue to navigate complex environments and demanding workloads. Their resilience and professionalism deserve our deepest respect and recognition. We remain committed to supporting them through advocacy, education, and collaboration.

Thank you once again to everyone who has contributed to our achievements this year. I look forward to another year of growth, innovation, and teamwork.

As always, our success is a reflection of the dedication, collaboration, and passion of our committee and wider team.

Firstly, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our committee members for their ongoing commitment and support throughout the year. Your contributions have been invaluable in driving our initiatives forward and maintaining the high standards we strive for.

We thank and farewell Jodie and wish her all the best as she continues on the ASA committee.

It's hard to believe that over six years have passed since I stepped into leadership role within COASTN. The time has flown by, and the experience has been both enriching and transformative. Serving at a national level has broadened my perspective on the diverse ways transport nursing is practiced across Aotearoa. Despite performing similar roles, the variations in service delivery have been eye-opening.

This journey has provided countless opportunities to connect with colleagues, observe different operational models, and gain a deeper understanding of both the challenges and the potential for growth within our profession. It has also highlighted how little is often understood—by medical staff, management, and others—about the scope of nursing practice and the autonomy we exercise in our roles.

My involvement has made me more politically aware and given me the confidence to advocate for nursing, helping others to better understand who we are, the skills we bring, and the critical impact we have on patient care. I'm deeply grateful to those who have generously shared their knowledge, offered guidance, and supported efforts to raise the visibility and profile of COASTN members.

Over these years, I've had the privilege of meeting incredible nurses, forming lifelong friendships, and growing both personally and professionally. All of this has been made possible due to the amazing committee members who have been part of the team during the past six years. I look forward to seeing what the committee continues to achieve in the years to come under the exceptional leadership of Andy and Avryl.

Thank you to the membership for entrusting me with this life changing opportunity.