Welcome to Country

Peter Wallace, known as Uncle Koko, acknowledged “the great job” that CRANAplus is doing “in our communities and Australia-wide” when he gave the welcome to country, in language and in English, at last night’s Conference opening.

Uncle Koko, born near Aritunga, about 100 kilometres east of Mparntwe (Alice Springs, is a respected Kwertengwerle (caretaker) of Mparntwe stories and sites. He is a descendant of the Elatjia (Sweet Potato) Dreaming/Story and comes from the Antulya Family Group.

Board Members

At the CRANAplus AGM yesterday, Dr Nick Williams was re-elected to the Board, along with new Board member Fiona Wake, the clinical manager with Remote Area Health Corps (RAHC), who is known to many in the remote health industry.

1: Mr Peter Wallace.
2: Fiona Wake.
3: Left to right: (back) Kathryn Zeitz, John Ryan, Nick Williams Lyn Byers; (front) President Janie Dade Smith, Vice President, Paul Stephenson, John Wright.
RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT

Trudy Yuginovich and Lyn Hinspeter were made Lifetime Fellows of CRANAplus last night, recognising their considerable and on-going contribution to remote area health. The joint accolade cements the pair’s long-term working relationship, including co-writing a book highlighting the impact of single-nurse positions in remote communities.

Six new fellows of CRANAplus were also welcomed. Our photo shows (from left) CEO Chris Cliffe, Paul Stevenson, Nick Williams and Sue Orsmond. Chris Behshaw, Rhonda Goldby-Smith and Judith Whitehead, last year’s Aurora recipient were not present.

In addition, seven graduates at the conference were warmly applauded. They are:

Gill Oswald-Jacobs – Graduate Certificate in Remote Health Practice – Flinders University
Tony Clark – Graduate Certificate in Remote Health Practice – Flinders University
Stuart Mobsby – Masters in Remote and Indigenous Health – Flinders University
Amanda Lingwood – Masters in Remote and Indigenous Health – Flinders University
Marcia Hakendorf – Masters in Health Administration Medicine – Flinders University
Kate Davis – Completed a Masters in Clinical Science, with Thesis entitled ‘The influence of workplace culture on nurses’ learning experiences: A systematic review of the qualitative evidence’
Sue Lenthall – PhD – Thesis entitled ‘Back from the Edge – Reducing Stress Among Remote Area Nurses in the Northern Territory’

POP UP MARKETS

Thank you for coming to the welcome ceremony last night – and you haven’t missed out on the Thursday night Alice Springs night markets – because we are bringing them to you. Tonight.

Traditional weaving, handmade earrings and Paua Shell jewellery are among the fun and creative artworks you can purchase. So bring your purse to the amphitheatre just outside the plenary room at the convention centre from 5pm. What a good opportunity for early Christmas shopping.
TELLING TALES

By the time you are reading this, Stephanie Dale has already given you some clues this morning on how to navigate your world. What a wonderful start to this year’s conference – Telling Tales – The Power of the Narrative. Today and tomorrow we hear lots of stories and learn how they can shape and influence outcomes.

BIRDS ON A WIRE

Our resident tweeters for the conference are Kadee Jones and Jessica Leon. But you too can twitter to your hearts delight over the next two days. Whenever you can, please tweet a comment, and especially a photo, to let your fellow CRANAplus members know what they are missing. Don’t forget to use the hashtag #cranaplus15.

16: Mary Jeanes and Stephanie Dale.
17: TWITTERS Jessica Leon, Kadee Jones.

THANKS TO

PandaPearls Australia has once again come to the party with a fantastic raffle prize worth $2500. The necklace is a white baroque 14–18mm, three-quarter strand of high-lustre pearls. The strand consists of 21 lustrous pearls, triple knotted on silk. Complementing the strand is an Australian-designed diamond-enhancer set in onyx and sterling silver clipped to the solid sterling-silver clasp which is set with Swarovski crystals. For $5, you have three chances to win this fabulous piece of jewellery. The winner will be announced at the Conference Dinner Saturday night.