

Introduction

This document is the Annual Report of The Arthritis Foundation of the Northern Territory Incorporated. It is designed to meet the requirements of the organisation's Constitution and the Association's Act 2003, containing all information required for the Annual Return to Business Affairs. For the year ending 30 June 2011, the Board has performed all Management Committee functions.

The Foundation has a number of business names, the most often used being Arthritis & Osteoporosis NT (AONT). In keeping with that practice the term "AONT" will be used throughout this document.

AONT is primarily an organisation for the benefit of, and services to, people with arthritis and osteoporosis. These same services may also meet the needs of persons with other musculoskeletal conditions.

President's Report

Background

Last year I reported that Julie Black, the CEO of Arthritis Foundation of South Australia had attended our office for planning purposes. From the planning workshop we developed a strategic plan for the next three years. Successful implementation of the plan would depend on increased staffing levels and financial stability. I also advised we had made a submission to the Northern Territory Government (NTG) Department of Health for increased funding to subsidise the much needed increase in staffing.

Increasing income and reducing expenditure

I advised at the last AGM that we were looking at income generation ideas arising from our planning conference and one of these was through appeal letters. With the September 2010 newsletter we sent out appeal letters to both members and our complimentary mailing list. We received over \$2000 in donations from members and others. Thank you all for your generous response.

AONT has had a history of periodically reducing expenditure by *cutting paid staff hours*. This is to the *detriment of volunteers, employees and the stability of the organisation* with a massive *loss of corporate knowledge*. To maintain the current modest level of staffing for 2011-2012 a draft budget was passed in June which will produce a significant operating loss and use most of our cash reserves.

Reducing expenditure is difficult if not impossible. The costs of education and support materials are minimal – we rely heavily on materials produced by national bodies and other affiliates. Some training for both staff and volunteers over many years has been provided through the goodwill of interstate affiliates at no, or minimal, cost to us.

For over 18 months board members have been working hard at lobbying the NTG for an increase in service funding. This has included meetings with Department representatives, drafting a formal submission, representations to several members of parliament and a presentation to the Senior Advisor to the Minister for Health. Upon rejection of that presentation, a further presentation was made to the Minister, who then requested more specific information including the monetary value of our volunteer contribution (estimated at \$102,054) and specific statistics on arthritis and osteoporosis in the NT (which are very hard to obtain). We are awaiting an outcome from this latest submission.

Our efforts have been partially successful in that we have received an increase of approximately \$14,000 per annum.

A Variation to Agreement has been entered into incorporating significant changes:

- increase in funding from \$60,104.00 to \$75,877.00 (per annum) effective from 1st July 2011
- a revised service plan to better reflect AONT's capacity for service delivery, data collection and reporting of activities
- the service plan now reflects realistic outcomes for AONT to achieve in providing the delivery and reporting of our services to NTG. That is, we are now funded by NTG to deliver services specifically to the Darwin and Palmerston areas and are obliged to report on those services.
- In our reporting we may include services and activities otherwise funded, eg through grants, sponsorship, donations and fundraising income. We still aspire to supply and deliver services to other regions of the NT.

At the time of writing this report further negotiations with NTG are taking place.

We have received a number of small grants and donations specifically for:

- purchase of audio visual equipment for presentations and ergonomic furniture
- providing volunteer fuel reimbursement
- library upgrade
- library postage to housebound, urban and remote and the socially isolated
- website redevelopment and
- seniors month activities.

Thanks to Pip, Ruth and other volunteers for all their efforts in applying for the grants.

Special event – management of chronic pain

We were approached by The Australian Pain Society to assist in hosting the Consumer Forum at their 31st Annual Scientific Meeting on the 12th June 2011. This was successfully received with many AONT members gaining greater insight into what they can do for themselves to assist in pain relief.

Staffing

Since the employment of Philippa Henderson (Pip) in November last year the office has progressed from three to four days per week – Monday to Thursday, 9:30am to 2:00pm. Soon after her engagement with AONT, Pip was able to take up an offer of training and mentoring with Arthritis SA. This assisted Pip in settling in to AONT very quickly and she has added so much to the office with her professional attitude and friendly manner. In her role of Development Officer Pip has pursued many avenues to increase our income and improve and modernise our image.

Natalie Valastro, in Accounts since early 2006, is a highly valued member of our team. As well as conscientiously attending to her regular duties, she has no hesitation in helping out with many other tasks such as buying and collecting items for the office, collecting the mail, assisting the volunteers attending to enquiries - all performed in a kind and courteous manner. Thank you Natalie for your cheerful reliability.

Between the volunteers and paid staff there are usually at least two people in the office each day. There are occasions when the office is late in opening or early in closing, due to unavailability of personnel – unfortunate but unavoidable with our current level of staffing. Both Natalie and Pip are part time, together equivalent to one full time position. We would like to have the office open for five

days but do not have the resources. We have limited capacity to effectively recruit, train and support new volunteers in the many office procedures.

While AONT accepts that volunteer contribution will always play a part in service delivery, it is unrealistic to expect a high level of expertise among those willing to commit time. It is also unfair to expect volunteers to commit more than few hours per week on a long term basis, or volunteer management and support to be the responsibility of other volunteers.

Support of AONT by the community and other organisations:

Once again I would like to thank all those who have supported AONT throughout the year:

- All the volunteers who do so much to keep the organisation going, which includes: responding to requests for information and services, providing courses and presentations, running the office, production and distribution of the quarterly newsletter, fund raising activities, running support groups and networking with other organisations.
- Members and non-members who have made donations, often on a regular basis
- The Arthritis Foundation of South Australia who have kindly agreed to continue to pay AONT's affiliate contribution to administrative costs of Arthritis Australia (\$5,000 per annum)
- Arthritis Australia for securing Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) funds of \$15,000 towards Stage 2 of the Better Arthritis and Osteoporosis initiative (2010 – 2014). This is a one-off payment.
- Arthritis Australia and Osteoporosis Australia for providing AONT with up to date information and materials
- Healthy Living NT and Asthma NT who have kept us abreast of relevant NGO workshops and information sessions. Healthy Living NT also for assisting with the implementation of the new government accounting procedures.
- Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the dedication and amount of hard work and long hours that Ruth Garden has put in, over yet another year, to keep the organisation running. She has laboured over the many submissions to the NTG, prepared reports for the NTG, maintained records and resource management, assisted with grant applications and general office procedures, while attending to Board Secretarial duties. Following an accident with our Treasurer, Mary Willis, Ruth has picked up some of the Treasurer's responsibilities, especially the mandatory reporting to the NTG. Sometimes this has meant that Ruth has committed to over seventy hours in a month and this is a very unfortunate situation for a volunteer to be in. For the period of the last financial year (July 2010 – June 2011) Ruth has completed 997 volunteer hours and so far this financial year (July – October) 250 hours. This dedication is highly valued.

Charles Atherton

Service Agreement

For many years AONT has relied on core funding from Territory Health Services (Community Health) through a Service Agreement to provide "arthritis, osteoporosis support, health promotion and advocacy". Under this agreement AONT has six-monthly reporting obligations (The Service Report): statistics of information and support provided, education and training (both volunteers and employees) and evidence of networks and partnerships. "What we did during the year" is a summary of these reports.

Financial statements to accompany six monthly Service Reports:

- June to December 2010
- January to June 2011

The purpose of these reports is to demonstrate how funding from Territory Health Services (Community Health) is spent. These reports are prepared in-house from our records largely by volunteers. Territory Health Services funding is the only income stated. Not all the organisation expenditure will appear on these statements, and some expenditure items will have been partly off set against other forms of income (not shown) and partly off set against government funding.

A submission for increased funding was made in October 2010 as the then current four year agreement would expire on 31st December 2010. The submission took many months of volunteer effort to prepare. It was realised in early 2010 that for AONT to remain operational, more paid staff were needed, and this depended on increased funding. The Strategic Planning workshop of August 2010 further highlighted this need.

In the meantime, the Agreement was renewed for the period January 2011 to December 2013 with base annual funding of \$60,104.00 + GST, and indexation. The accompanying Service Plan at this level of funding was initially until March 2011 and then to June 2011 while negotiations for a funding increase continued.

At the time of writing this report an Agreement Variation has been entered incorporating significant changes:

- increase in funding to \$75,877.00 per annum effective from 1st July 2011
- a revised service plan to better reflect AONT's capacity for both service delivery and reporting of activities.
- Servicing of Darwin and Palmerston areas only, to better reflect AONT's service capacity

Further discussion with the Department is continuing, with further detail of our services and financial position provided to the Minister in October 2011. This included an estimate of how much it would cost for paid employees to do all the work that is currently done by volunteers - \$102,054 using the Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award 2010 and various professional rates, not taking into account that many of these hours fall outside normal business hours.

In the future NTG reporting will require all forms of income to be reported.

The Board

At 30th June 2011 the AONT board comprised:

President & Public Officer	Charles Atherton
Vice President	Gail Keddie
Treasurer	Mary Willis
Secretary	Ruth Garden
Ordinary Members	Hilary Fowler
	Ash Dally
	John Edwards
	Janet Durling
	Denis Power

They first joined the Board:

Ruth Garden	February 2006
Charles Atherton	October 2006 AGM
Mary Willis	October 2008 AGM
Gail Keddie	November 2009 AGM
Denis Power	November 2009 AGM
Ash Dally	November 2009 AGM
Hilary Fowler	March 2010
Janet Durling	October 2010 AGM
John Edwards	October 2010 AGM

From 1st July 2010 until the 2010 AGM on 30th October the AONT board comprised:

President & Public Officer	Charles Atherton
Vice President	Beth Harvey
Treasurer	Mary Willis
Secretary	Ruth Garden
Ordinary Members	Maureen Archbold
	Ash Dally
	Hilary Fowler
	Gail Keddie
	Denis Power

Our Constitution requires election at the AGM of office bearers: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Public Officer (who may hold another office concurrently), and a minimum of three (3) and no more than ten (10) ordinary members. Throughout the year, Board has authority to appoint a member to fill any vacancy arising, whether office bearer or ordinary member. Any person so appointed shall hold office until the following AGM.

Governance and Planning

The Board normally meets every month and maintains regular contact with staff. Other meetings are called as needed to deal with specific matters.

In August 2010 we developed a Strategic Plan for the three year period of 2010 - 2013. A major outcome of the Strategic Plan was identification of the clear need to employ a person as soon as possible. It was also obvious that in order to stabilise, funding needed to be found for another full time position.

Separate to our submission last year for an increase in recurrent funding, referred to in the “**President’s Report**” and “**Service Agreement**”, we applied for a Major Community Grant of \$138,830 to develop an education outreach program. However this grant application was unsuccessful.

We are continuing to lobby the Northern Territory Government for further funding to properly staff the organisation to minimise further loss of corporate knowledge due to lack of staff continuity, and to improve office administration and volunteer recruitment, training and support.

At the Board meeting of 20th June 2011 a draft budget for 2011-2012 was approved which will see most of our cash reserves used to maintain our current modest level of staffing. At this point our future will be very uncertain.

Organisation Structure

As referred to in “**Governance and Planning**” above, the board has worked closely with employees to ensure the smooth running of the organisation. The regular office volunteers are generally responsible to the employees, who in turn are responsible to the Board.

Staff at July 2010:

- Natalie Valastro was the only employee, in Accounts for 10 hours per week

Staff at June 2011:

- Pip Henderson (25 -28 hours pw) as Administration and Community Development Officer, commencing in November 2010
- Natalie Valastro (10 hours pw) in Accounts

Volunteers

Volunteers have continued to assist with reception and other office duties as required. On any day the office is open there is usually one to three volunteers working there. Volunteer hours recorded for the year are 2690. This is equivalent to 224 hours per month or 52 hours per week.

This includes many hours outside our business hours in administration, education activities, fundraising and networking with different people and organisations. In the most recent submission to the NT Government the volunteer contribution was costed at \$102,054 using the Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award 2010 and various professional rates.

Entire responsibility assumed by volunteers, including board members

- mandatory reporting
- newsletter production and distribution, 4 per annum to all members, plus complimentary mailings
- membership database

In part assisted by employees

- general administration, including reception duties, production of leaflets, printing of materials
- records management & resource management
- support groups: convening, arranging special events & guest speakers
- distribution lists
- grant applications & acquittals
- fundraising activities – no separate fundraising committee
- network meetings, subject to availability
- website updating
- volunteer recruitment & support
- self management courses
- community speaking engagements
- information stands

Volunteer activities outside the office include:

- presentations, information stands, networking
- support groups
- fundraising
- self management courses

Membership

At 30 June 2011:

Number of members: 205

Percentage of females / males: 75% / 25%

Membership falls due on 1st July each year and personalised renewal notices are usually sent out with the July, September and December newsletters.

Membership benefits include:

- Health advisory service
- Newsletter mail outs, four times per annum
- Discounts to selected services
- Borrowing library
- Items for sale (books, DVDs)
- Free or subsidised entry to AONT events
- Access to self management courses
- Access to support groups
- The satisfaction of helping an organisation help many others

Honorary membership

Our Constitution makes provision for honorary membership to be conferred “on persona who by virtue of their special qualities or otherwise could assist in achieving the objects of The Foundation”. Honorary membership exempts a member from payment of subscriptions, and shall be reviewed at each Annual General Meeting, where it may be renewed.

At the Board meeting of 20th April 2010 honorary membership was awarded to Ruth Garden, Joy Lane and Doreen Walton and announced at the Annual General Meeting of 2010.

At the Board meeting of 20th April 2009 honorary membership was awarded to Ellen Hankin and subsequently renewed at the AGMs of 2009 and 2010.

At the Annual General Meeting of 2008 honorary membership was awarded to Maureen Archbold, Sylvia Bugg and Peg Gellert, and has been subsequently renewed in 2009 and 2010.

At the Annual General Meeting of 2007 honorary membership was awarded to Kay Brown and June Proctor, and has been subsequently renewed in 2008, 2009 and 2010.

Support Groups

AONT aims to provide a range of forums that focus on helping people with arthritis and osteoporosis. Our aim is for participants to leave these meetings feeling better than when they arrived. New faces are very welcome at all forums.

Palmerston Arthritis Support Group – This group continues to meet on the 3rd Monday of each month at 10:00am at the Brennan electorate office opposite the Target store. Guest speakers and special events are usually arranged by long term convenor Sylvia Bugg.

Conversation Café – commenced in July 2011 and continues to meet on the last Monday of each month at the Rapid Café (near the AONT office) at 11:30am. A Conversation Café is an informal get together for people to have a chat over a cup of tea or coffee, without relying on a convenor.

Darwin Team Support Group – commenced in October 2011, held on the first Wednesday of each month at 12:30pm and convened by Ted Heaton. This is a more traditional support group with guest speakers attending. Thanks to Darwin City Council for six months free use of the meeting room in Casuarina Library.

Donations, Fundraising and Sponsorship

Donations and sponsorship over 2010-2011 amounted to \$5,096. Thanks to members and non-members, Lions Club of Darwin-Casuarina, Darwin South Rotary Club, the Ionian Club and Arthritis Tasmania for their support.

Fundraising capacity is limited, due both to the limited resources to organise traditional events, and the vulnerable health status of most of AONT membership. We regularly participate in the Community Lottery of the People's Choice Credit Union (formerly Australian Central Credit Union). This year's lottery raised \$1,360. Our next opportunity to run a BBQ at Harvey Norman will be on 3rd December, the first since May of last year.

What we did during the year

The following tables are drawn from our twice yearly reports to the Northern Territory Government and provide an overview of our activities throughout from July 2010 to June 2011.

Telephone support calls and education & information packages distributed

Category	Telephone	Monthly average	Individual Consultation - hours	Information Packs	Monthly average	Location
Arthritis and/or Osteoporosis	864	72	46.2	204 (including Health Professionals)	17	Mostly Darwin and outer Darwin. Other mailouts to Alice Springs, Batchelor, Katherine, Nhulunbuy, Katherine, Bribie Island and NSW.
Referrals eg. hydro, tai chi, allied health, medical	31	2.6				
Courses	29	2.4				

Consumer Education

“A” refers to arthritis and “O” refers to Osteoporosis

Date	Disease Category	Title of Event/Course/ Group	Type	Number of participants	Total hours involved, including volunteers'	Location
Year round	A & O	Website www.aont.org.au		2785 unique visits, 3818 in total	7 per week	unknown
Monthly	A & O	Palmerston Support Group	Support	5-8	8 per month	Palmerston
July	A & O	<i>joinNTed</i> Newsletter	Education, information & support	440 distributed	45	Darwin & NT wide
3 Aug	A & O	“Exercise & Relaxation fit for Seniors”, Seniors month activity	Education & support	17	20 Part funded by NTG DH Seniors Month Grant	Kurringal Court Seniors Complex
4 Aug	A & O	Seniors Month Stall	Information	25	8	Alice Springs

Date	Disease Category	Title of Event/Course/ Group	Type	Number of participants	Total hours involved, including volunteers'	Location
5 Aug	A & O	"Exercise & Relaxation fir for Seniors", Seniors month activity	Education & support	13	20 Part funded by NTG DH Seniors Month Grant	Leanyer Seniors Complex
Sept	A & O	<i>joinNTed</i> Newsletter	Education, information & support	440 distributed	45	Darwin & NT wide
26 Oct	A & O	Garden Point Association	Educational presentation	18	5	Darwin
1 Dec	A & O	International Day of People with Disability: Article and advertisement in Centralian Advocate	Education & information	Readership figures not known	10 Part funded by Commonwealth DoHA through Osteoporosis Australia	Alice Springs
Dec	A & O	<i>joinNTed</i> Newsletter	Education, information & support	450 distributed	45	Darwin & NT wide
28 Feb, 7 March	A & O	Challenging Pain Program	Information & education	9	40	Darwin
14, 21, 28 March, 4, 11, 18 April	A & O	Healthwise Self-management Workshop	Information & education	7	60	Palmerston
15 March	A & O	Darwin South Rotary Presentation	Information & education	11	3	Darwin
22 March	A & O	<i>joinNTed Newsletter</i>	Education, information & support	183 members 161 complimentary mail outs	45	Darwin & NT wide
28 April	A & O	<i>Ionian Club Presentation</i>	Information & education	10	3	Darwin

Date	Disease Category	Title of Event/Course/ Group	Type	Number of participants	Total hours involved, including volunteers'	Location
22 Nov	O	Dripstone Middle School Health Expo briefing	Educational presentation	20	5	Darwin
29 Nov	O	Dripstone Middle School Health Expo	Education & information stand	600	14	Darwin

Health Professional Education

Date	Disease Category	Group	Type	Number of participants	Total Hours for Project (paid in bold)	Location
24 Aug	A	Nurses – Outpatients, RDH	Educational presentation & information	10-12	4	Darwin
13 Sept	A & O	Students at Bachelor Institute	Educational presentation & information	8	10	Darwin
25 Mar	A & O	GPs & clinics	Arthritis Awareness week information packs	77	20	NT wide
30 May	A & O	Darwin Massage Therapists	Information & education	8	4	Darwin

Professional Development - staff and volunteers

Date	Disease Category	Who	Type	AONT participants	Total Hours for Project	Location
Dec	A & O	Development Officer	Mentoring & training	1	23 + 14 hours travel	Adelaide, SA
3 Mar	A & O	Development Officer	Business Enterprise Centre – Getonline NT – Education	1	10 - Sponsored by NT Govt, initiative of Australian Govt	Darwin
22 March	O	Development Officer	Osteoporosis Self-Management Program – Training	1	16 Part paid by Commonwealth DOHA, through Osteoporosis Australia	Adelaide
28, 29, 30 March	A & O	Development Officer	Social Determinants of Indigenous Health - Education	1	21 Part paid by scholarship	Darwin

Date	Disease Category	Who	Type	AONT participants	Total Hours for Project	Location
7 April	A & O	Development Officer	Volunteering SA & NT – Grant Writing - Education	1	3 Part paid by Volunteering SA/NT	Darwin
13 April	A & O	Development Officer	Business Enterprise Centre, Get-on-line NT – Education	1	12 Sponsored by NT Govt, initiative of Australian Govt	Darwin
26 May	O	Volunteers	Osteoporosis Self-Management - Training	5	13	Darwin
9-12 Aug	A&O	Board, staff and volunteers, with CEO and Deputy-CEO from Arthritis SA	Strategic planning workshop	9	20 Arthritis SA participants self funded	Darwin
11 Aug	A & O	Volunteers	Leader training for <i>Challenging Pain</i> self management course	3	15 Part funded by Arthritis SA	Darwin

Networks and partnerships

Disease Category	Group	Description	Location
A	Arthritis Australia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Liaise with AA for further Commonwealth DoHA funding to support continuing arthritis awareness programs. 2. Received and distributed ongoing supplies, both hard copy and electronic (which we print ourselves). 3. Received additional 60 copies of 'Womens' Insights into Rheumatoid Arthritis' for distribution to interested consumers and Health Professionals 4. As a Director on Board of AA, AONT representative attended teleconferences, and AA AGM and Board meeting in Sydney in person (attendance funded by Arthritis Australia). 5. Liaise with Arthritis Australia on the Federal "Better Arthritis and Osteoporosis Initiative (2010 to 2014)" 	Sydney/Darwin
A	Occupational Therapists RDH	On request provided a collection of arthritis information for patients.	Darwin
A	Rheumatologist in private practice	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On request provided a collection of arthritis information for patients. 2. Rheumatologist frequently refers patients to us for further information and support. 	Darwin
A	Rheumatologist in Public Health	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On request general information sent to rheumatologist. 2. Rheumatologist frequently refers patients to us for further information and support. 	Darwin
A	Rheumatologist in Public Health	Liaised with Chronic Disease Coordinator to supply arthritis fact sheets for clinic	Darwin

Disease Category	Group	Description	Location
A	Bodyfit NT	Arthritis Awareness Week collaboration	Darwin
A	Fitness Unlimited, CDU	Arthritis Awareness Week collaboration	Darwin
A	Movement for Life Physiotherapy	Arthritis Awareness Week collaboration	Darwin
A	Nightcliff Sports Club	Arthritis Awareness Week collaboration	Darwin
A	Palmerston Recreation Centre - YMCA	Arthritis Awareness Week collaboration	Palmerston
A	Rural Results Gym & Fitness Centre	Arthritis Awareness Week collaboration	Humpty Doo
A	Tai chi in the Park	Arthritis Awareness Week collaboration	Alice Springs
O	Osteoporosis Australia	1. Received & distributed 500 copies of Osteoblast to members & comp mailing list. 2. Received 500 sets of materials for Self-management Program. 3. Received other publications for consumers and Health Professionals 4. Received publications in languages other than English for consumers.	Darwin & NT wide
O	School Nurses	Posters and stickers supplied for distribution to students in Healthy Bones Week	Darwin & NT wide
A & O	Department of Veteran Affairs	At invitation, information stand at Veterans' Health Day	Darwin
A & O	RDH Discharge coordinators	On request, provided information for patients on arthritis, osteoporosis & services of AONT	Darwin
A & O	Arthritis SA	1. Strategic Planning Workshop (2 SA participants funded by Arthritis SA) 2. Challenging Pain Training (part funded by Arthritis SA)	Darwin
A & O	Bodyfit NT	Ongoing referral to hydrotherapy and exercise. Hydrotherapy patronised by many AONT members, receiving a discount on class fees	Darwin
A & O	Movement for Life Physiotherapy	Ongoing referral to clients to drop in sessions at their hydrotherapy water pool	Darwin

Disease Category	Group	Description	Location
A & O	U3A members	Chair Based Exercises (accreditation of volunteer leader updated through AONT and Arthritis Victoria previous year)	Alice Springs
A & O	Chronic Disease Network	AONT article published in Chronicle on self management programs offered by AONT	Darwin
A & O	General practitioners, practice managers etc	Information packs distributed to approx 80 GP clinics NT wide <i>Partly funded by Commonwealth DoHA through Arthritis Australia</i>	NT wide
A & O	Sommerville Community Services	Presentation to Support Workers Forum	Darwin
A & O	Rheumatology Health Professionals Association	One of our volunteer members is an associate member of the Rheumatology Health Professionals Association.	Darwin

Volunteer hours

Recorded hours for the year are 1261. This may well be an underestimate.

Quality improvement activities

Membership satisfaction survey sent to 301 members (including those who had not renewed since June 2010) with December 2010 Newsletters
Volunteer skills & talents survey sent out to 183 financial members with March 2011 Newsletters

Grant applications and projects

Numerous efforts have been made to source additional funds to maintain and improve services. Grants are always project specific, and the projects cannot be started before the funding is approved.

Applications for 2010 - 2011:

Grant	Date Submitted	Project	Outcome	Amount
Commonwealth FaHCSIA volunteer grant	April 2010	AV equipment, ergonomic chairs, fuel reimbursement	Successful	\$4,845
Tim Fairfax Family Foundation	Dec 2010	Arthritis and osteoporosis training for allied health professionals	Rejected	\$16,990
Perpetual	Jan 2011	Arthritis and osteoporosis education for members	Rejected	\$17,000
Ian Potter Foundation	Jan 2011	Website redevelopment	Successful	\$5,000
NTG Dept Justice, Community Benefit Fund	Feb 2011	Office refit	Part successful	\$1,500
NTG Seniors Month Grant	March 2011	Falls and fracture seminars	Successful	\$690
Mercy Foundation	March 2011	“Challenging Pain” course for Alice Springs	Rejected	\$4,100
Darwin City Council Community Grant Project	April 2011	Marketing and branding campaign	Rejected	\$4,775
Marion & EH Flack Trust	May 2011	Library upgrade	Successful	\$1,341
Commonwealth FaHCSIA volunteer grant	June 2011	Equipment upgrade and related training	Not known	\$3,276

The Trust Company	June 11	Postage expenses	Not known	\$3,730
Australian Ethical Investment & Superannuation	June 11	Prepaid postage for library services to remote or housebound members	Successful	\$3,645
NTG Dept Justice, Com. Benefit Fund, Major Community Grant	June 11	Education outreach program	Rejected	\$138,830

The value of the successful applications is \$17,021 which has enabled a range of projects.

Further applications:

Kookaburra Awards	Aug 11	Recognition of community service	Not known	\$3,000 + \$7,000 worth of training
Volunteering SA/NT	Sept 11	Most valuable volunteer award	Not known	2 x \$2,000

Treasurer's Report

Firstly, I must apologise to my fellow Board Members and also the general Members that due to my failing health I have been unable to contribute much to AONT during the past year. I had hoped that my injuries may have improved to such a level that I would have been able to be more active this past year. Sadly, this has not been the case.

My personal thanks to Natalie Valastro and Pip Henderson, our stalwart employees, and of course to the hard working efforts of our Board Volunteers who assist our other volunteers in helping maintain the office on an unpaid basis.

Again, we have had a difficult financial year. As previously identified in last year's Treasurer's Report, our application to the Northern Territory Government for additional core funding was unsuccessful. A number of other Non Government Bodies who rely on NTG funding were similarly affected.

Our Development Officer, Pip Henderson, who has been a great addition to the AONT team has been very active in making funding submissions to a great number of various Foundations to help us to conduct a range of activities for the benefit of members. Unfortunately, not all have been successful. During this past year we have again experienced an operating loss. A brief summary follows and full details are in the Audited Accounts contained in this Report.

I regret that I will be unable to continue in the position of Treasurer at the next Annual General Meeting. It has been a pleasure to be in the position over the past few years.

Mary Willis

Some figures at a glance:

Restricted Income:	
NTG Community Health	56,866
Small grants	10,070
Donations / sponsorship	1,600
Unrestricted Income	
Fundraising <i>note fundraising expense below</i>	2,680
Arthritis Australia one-off	15,000
Membership Fees	3,710
Course fees	441
Other Donations & gifts, including appeal	2,284
Miscellaneous Income	3,201
Total income	97,064
Expenses:	
Rent & Centre Outgoings	16,442
Electricity	1,201
Employee expenses	41,651
Other Professional Support	2,979
Administration & Overheads	6,525
Communications	7,879
Education & Support, incl. printing & postage	5,865
Advertising & promotion	5,157
Fundraising	1,276
Assets purchased (through donations & grants)	3,324
Other miscellaneous expenses	6,038
Total expenses	98,337
Operating loss for 2010 - 2011 year	1,273

Arthritis Australia loan

In March 2003 AONT secured an interest free loan of \$50,000 from Arthritis Australia, with repayments to commence in January 2007. An early one-off payment of \$2,000 was made in May 2006. Regular monthly repayments of \$1,000 commenced in January 2006. Amount owing at 30th June 2011 was \$6,300 and the debt will be fully discharged by 31st December 2011.

Special Purpose Financial Report

This includes all income and expenditure items (Profit and Loss statement), and a Balance Sheet of all assets and liabilities, both for the full financial year. This report is prepared by an independent auditor.

**The Arthritis Foundation of the
Northern Territory Inc.**

**Special Purpose Financial Report
for the Year Ended 30 June 2011**

**The Arthritis Foundation of the Northern Territory Inc.
Income Statement
For the Year ended 30 June 2011**

	2011	2010
	\$	\$
Revenue	97,064	111,501
Expenses	98,337	99,096
Surplus / (Loss) before Income Tax	(1,273)	12,405
Income Tax Expense	-	-
Surplus / (Loss) Attributable to Members	(1,273)	12,405

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

The Arthritis Foundation of the Northern Territory Inc.
Balance Sheet
As at 30 June 2011

	Note	2011 \$	2010 \$
Equity			
Unappropriated Profit		45,607	46,881
Total Equity		<u>45,607</u>	<u>46,881</u>
Represented by:			
Current Assets			
Cash on Hand		200	83
CBA Operating Account		723	612
Accounts Receivable		60	-
Net Bank online saver		43,764	54,541
		<u>44,747</u>	<u>55,236</u>
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant & Equipment	3	9,962	14,083
		<u>9,962</u>	<u>14,083</u>
Total Assets		<u>54,709</u>	<u>69,319</u>
Current Liabilities			
PAYG Payable		1,760	761
Superannuation Payable		1,351	829
Provision for GST		(1,310)	1,039
Provision for Employee Entitlements		1,001	1,909
		<u>2,802</u>	<u>4,538</u>
Non-Current Liabilities			
Loan - Arthritis Foundation of Australia		6,300	17,900
		<u>6,300</u>	<u>17,900</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>9,102</u>	<u>22,438</u>
Net Assets		<u>45,607</u>	<u>46,881</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

THE ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY INC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

Note 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act of the Northern Territory. The Committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity, because in the committee's opinion there are unlikely to exist users who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy all of their information needs, and these accounts are therefore "special purpose accounts" that have been prepared solely to meet the requirements of the Constitution and the *Associations Act*.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act of the Northern Territory and the following applicable Accounting Standards;

AASB 1018:	Statement of Financial Performance
AAS2:	Inventories
AAS36:	Statement of Financial Position
AAS 5:	Materiality
AAS 6:	Accounting Policies

No other applicable Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The report is prepared on an accrual basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following specific accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in preparation of this report:

(a) Income Tax

No provision for income tax has been raised in these accounts, because the Association is of the opinion that it is not subject to income tax.

(b) Fixed Assets

Fixed assets are carried out at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of fixed assets are depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset was held ready for use. Leasehold

improvements are depreciated over the shorter period of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The carrying amount of fixed assets is reviewed annually by members to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount of those assets.

The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows, which will be received from the assets' employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have not been discounted to their present values in determining recoverable amounts.

(c) Goods & Service Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of expense. Receivables and payables in the Balance Sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

(d) Economic Dependency

The Association is dependent on continuing government support for its activities.

Note 2. AUDITOR'S REMUNERATION	2011	2010
	\$	\$
Audit Fee -Thompsons Australia	<u>1,925</u>	<u>1,790</u>

Note 3. PROPERTY PLANT & EQUIPMENT

Property, plant and equipment – cost	24,258	43,859
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(14,296)</u>	<u>(29,775)</u>
Total	<u>9,962</u>	<u>14,083</u>

The Arthritis Foundation of the Northern Territory Inc.

**Statement by Members of the Committee
For the Year ended 30 June 2011**

The Committee Members hereby state that:

1. The financial statements, being a special purpose financial statement, and notes:-
 - a. Comply with Australian Accounting Standards and the Associations Incorporation (NT) Act;
 - b. Give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2011 and performance for the year ended on that date of the Arthritis Foundation of the Northern Territory Inc;
2. In the Committee's opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Foundation will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.
3. An Auditor's Independence Declaration from our auditors, Thompsons Australia has been obtained.
4. The members of the committee at the 30 June 2011 are:
 - C. Atherton (Pres & Public Officer)
 - G. Keddie (V.P.)
 - R. Garden (Sec)
 - M. Willis (Treas)
 - D. Power
 - A. Dally
 - H. Fowler
 - J. Durling
 - J. Edwards
5. The principal activities of the association during the year were: Public and Individual Education and advocacy in the area of Arthritis and Osteoporosis treatment and management.
6. The net loss for the financial year ended 30 June 2011 after providing for depreciation of \$4,121 was \$(1,273).

Signed on behalf of the Committee by:

.....
Committee Member
Name:
Date:

.....
Committee Member
Name:
Date:



Independent Auditor's Report

To: the Members of The Arthritis Foundation of The Northern Territory Inc.

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of The Arthritis Foundation of The Northern Territory Inc., which comprises the Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2011 and the Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the Committee Members' declaration.

The Responsibility of the Committee Members for the Financial Report

The committee members of the entity are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are appropriate to meet the requirements of the Constitution of the Foundation and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee members responsibility also includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of

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accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee members, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to the members. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements. The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Basis of Qualified Auditor's Opinion

Sales, donations and other income form a significant source of income of the Arthritis Foundation of the Northern Territory Inc. It is impractical to establish control over the collection of income from such sources prior to their entry into the financial records. Accordingly, as the evidence available to us in respect of revenue derived from these sources was limited, our audit procedures with respect to completeness of income were restricted to the amounts recorded in the financial records. We are therefore unable to express an opinion on the completeness of income for the Foundation.

Qualified Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects if any on the financial statements of the matter referred to in the qualification paragraph, the financial report of the Arthritis Foundation of the Northern Territory Inc. presents a true and fair view in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the financial position of the entity as at 30 June 2011 and the results of its operations for the financial year then ended.



.....
 Greg Thompson
 Registered Company Auditor

Date: 22 September 2011

THOMPSONS AUSTRALIA

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The Arthritis Foundation of the Northern Territory Inc.
Profit and Loss Statement
For the Year ended 30 June 2011

	2011	2010
	\$	\$
Income		
Sales	47	93
Advertising	218	300
Memberships	3,710	4,561
Interest Received	2,936	1,025
Courses	441	164
Donations	4,496	4,649
Raffles	2,373	4,122
Government Subsidies & Grants net of acquittals	81,936	90,484
Fundraising	307	596
Sponsorship	600	-
Bad Debt recovery & Insurance Claim	-	5,508
	97,064	111,502
Expenditure		
Audit Fees	1,925	1,790
Depreciation	4,121	4,094
Bank Charges including Merchant Fees	415	477
DOHA Grant payment	-	9,691
Newsletter Expenses, Publication & Information Resources	1,630	750
Business Lodgement Permits & Fees	132	68
Memberships	59	15
Affiliation Fees	-	250
Computer Hardware < \$2000	3,324	-
Computer Software, Consumables & Support	906	240
Consultancy Fees	1,020	-
Legal Fees	1,317	-
General Administration Costs	891	4,661
Courses	391	3,274
Staff Volunteers Training	578	962
Repair and Maintenance	150	5,233
Staff Amenities	170	145
Insurance	3,391	3,763
Electricity	1,201	1,758
Other Employer Expenses	(229)	-
Promotions, Advertising, Donations	5,157	1,177
Postage	994	737
Printing & Stationery	2,037	1,381
Photocopying	1,204	1,180
Training Expenses	-	424
Rent	16,442	12,111
Fund Raising Expenses	1,276	50
Salaries & Wages	38,082	36,216
Superannuation Contributions	3,399	2,831
Telephone	3,633	2,878
Internet Expenses	3,340	2,140
Travelling Expenses	1,154	-
Voluntary/Members Expenses	227	35
Alloc of Senior Month Grant	-	766
	98,337	99,097
SURPLUS/(LOSS) FOR THE YEAR	(1,273)	12,405