



NTBCV

Chairperson's Annual Report

2025-2026

27 March 27th 2026

Welcome all and thank you for coming along to the Annual General Meeting.

Firstly, I would like to thank the Committee for their work and input in assisting our Association to further consolidate and achieve forward progress. I don't want to thank individuals – the whole team has made contributions in their own way/s. So, thank you all for your contributions. You have all made significant contributions in various ways.

The past 12 months have been busy as per the previous year. Again, time has been spent consolidating some connections made in the previous 12 months but also time well spent making new connections, especially whilst delivering our postcard to not only the Electorate Offices but also to many of the larger Medical Centres across Darwin, Palmerston and surrounds. Time was also spent distributing the Flyers for our May 2025 Forum.

Highlights for the Year

Inform, Reflect, Connect Forum

- The first Forum for this committee was held in May 2025 in the Territory Room at the Palmerston Golf Club. Our Patron the Honourable Hugh Heggie OA PSM, the Administrator of the Northern Territory at the time gave an Opening Address, followed by Hon. Steve Edgington, NT Minister for Health. Dr. Lauren Arnold from BreastScreen NT then provided an updated overview of BreastScreen's current position in the NT – particularly with respect to the recent technological advances made with the screening program.
- Meghan Colsey from Movement for Life got us on our feet to get the circulation moving and spoke about the PINC program about to begin for those who have had a breast cancer diagnosis no matter where they are placed in their journey. It's all about strength and conditioning (particularly bone density for those who have had chemotherapy).
- Professor Gill Farrell and Dr. Ravi Mahajani provided a very interesting and comprehensive overview of breast reconstruction surgeries that are available here in the NT. Again, some of their work is available for those who might be long term "survivors" but would like a tidy up.
- The target audience was mostly for those who were early in their overall treatment. NTBCV is happy to report we did "capture" a number of younger women who were in the very early stages of treatment post initial surgery.
- A huge thank you to Helloworld who provided a \$500 Lucky Door prize - thanks to committee member Denise for sourcing this wonderful Lucky Door Prize.

COTA Expo

In June we had, I think, our first stand at the COTA Expo. It was certainly worth the effort to advertise our Association, but to also mingle with the other stall holders and make some valuable connections.

Marketing and Communication Material

A huge thankyou needs to go out to Denise Watson of Denise Designs for all the effort she has put in to designing our Postcard, our Forum Flyer, Facebook front page and generously tidying up Newsletters, cards, our Fling Its etc. Especially for negotiating amendments to our new website before it went live. We finally got there! It took some time to finally go live but we have been very happy with Brainium Labs – they have been very patient with us and have very generously offered to host the website free of charge as their very charitable contribution to the breast cancer cause.

Government House Luncheon

For Breast Cancer Awareness month Last October our joint patrons, His Honour, The Honourable Hugh Heggie AO, PSM and his partner Ms Ruth Jones hosted a very special Government House Luncheon – an ongoing tradition for those who have recently been diagnosed with breast cancer. The Protocol staff went out of their way to make it a special occasion for those who attended. It was especially nice to see a number of those who attended our earlier Forum also attended the Luncheon.

Pink Morning Tea and Pink Golf Day

Cazaly's sumptuous High Tea format was another good Fundraiser for NTBCV. Sheridan and Sarah spoke about what it meant to be diagnosed at an early age and the ongoing repercussions. Marina Mossman did a fantastic job with her encouragement for the purchase of raffle tickets and a number of auctions – including the very "saucy" performance from the Drysdale MLA donating himself to the highest bidders. (I hear the favour was "paid on" for another fundraiser). A huge shout out to the Electorate offices in Palmerston (especially Drysdale and Blain) for their assistance to help pull the Morning Tea together – so very much appreciated.

The Pink Golf Day was a great fundraiser for the second time for which we are most grateful. Both fundraisers have meant we are able to continue with our Forums but especially to fund the purchase (on behalf of BreastScreenNT) of the book, "A beginner's guide to early breast cancer: simple explanations" by Janice Bowles. The books are provided to those who have been given a diagnosis via the BreastScreenNT clinics.

RoofPower has continued with their generous financial donation. Last year it paid for our postcards to be designed and printed. This year we are planning on using the funds to make up comfort gift packs to be distributed to newly diagnosed women. (A sample pack is on the table. Many, many thanks to our Health Minister's wife who has created the pouches and donated them to us).

We had hoped to host a second Forum in October 2025 but unfortunately the stars didn't line up for us in time – but the good news is we have already confirmed our second Forum for May this year – covering much of the content we had hoped to cover last October. Without going into too much detail some Flyers for the Forum are on the table as well as on our new website under Events. Many thanks to Sheridan (one of our younger members) for offering to take carriage of online attendance for the Forum. We are hoping this will help reach a far wider audience (across the NT).

New Website Launch

Following a lengthy change over we have finally been able to go live with our new website thanks so much to Brainium Labs – we think they have done a great job not counting their patience with us. The new website has a “clean” simple and easy to follow format. 3 of us have done some training on how to add, edit etc content so we can keep it up to date – especially with events.

New Patrons

With the change of Administrator this year we have also had to apply and request the incoming Administrator and partner to take on patronage as has been the custom since NTBCV was initially founded. The request was accepted which means our joint patrons are now His Honour David Connolly and his partner Ms Susan Brosnam OLY.

Forum

To continue with our Advocacy banner, as mentioned earlier we will be hosting a Forum on May 16th at Harry's Place in Tiwi. We are excited to be able to offer both face-to-face attendance and online attendance to “attend”. The TryBooking link went live in the last week. So, save the date!

Topics included will be the physical impacts of cancer treatments, gynaecological and sexual health considerations, intimacy, relationships and communication and support pathways during and after treatment.

We aim to offer a second Forum later in the year all going well – further information will be supplied as we lock in speakers.



Again, thank you to the Committee for the support and work put in this year. It has been a busy year as noted earlier, and the next year is promising to be equally as busy.

Judy Smith
NTBCV Chairperson, March 2026