

Contact



February 2009

What's New?

Members, a very Happy New Year to you all! Despite the prophets of gloom who seem to be stalking the land, I hope that this year proves to be very positive for you. And please remember – the Association should be your one-stop-shop for all things to do with your professional practice. If there is anything that we can do we'd love to assist.

Two very important announcements for you:

1. For the next two years at least, there will be no large-scale NSW/ACT conference held. We have been looking at the numbers and it is clear that members in NSW & the ACT are not attracted by big conferences – yet the smaller workshops that the Division runs are often oversubscribed with waiting lists! So for a trial period of two years, Council has approved a program of small-group workshop type events, to be held at venues around the state/territory. Details will be out to you very shortly.

But if you are a large-conference devotee, remember that both Queensland Vision and SRC still offer a great program of education for your learning pleasure!

2. And the other big change will be that this will probably be the 3rd last printed version of "Contact" – at the moment, we are planning that April will be the last printed version, with future issues to be delivered electronically.

If you would like to continue receiving printed versions of "Contact" – for example, if you don't have email access – please contact Nicole on 02 9712 2199 or send a fax to 02 9713 2452 and let us know. We will arrange printed copies for any member who requests it.

We are about to start on the budget process for the coming financial year. I would appreciate hearing from any member who has ideas for services or resources that they would like the Association to provide. It is much easier to put things into play if we have a financial allocation in the budget for them, so please, let me know what you would like us to be doing! (fax 02 9713 2452 or email Andrew@oaansw.com.au)

Just a reminder about market behaviour in difficult financial times – consumers are far more likely to complain and seek redress when times are tough. We have already noticed an upsurge in complaints against members and although to us they seem quite minor, to the patient they are real and significant. Make sure you take extra care with people and listen to any concerns they are expressing – good customer service is even more important when times are difficult!

Andrew McKinnon
Executive Director



Optometrists Association Australia - NSW Division

PO Box 33 FIVE DOCK NSW 2046 | P: 02 9712 2199 | F: 02 9713 2452 | W: www.oaansw.com.au

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Eye On NSW
The Ski Run (down)
EON Ski Conference, Thredbo
7 – 9 August 2009

What is it...

The EON Ski Conference is hosted annually by the Optometrists Association Australia NSW/ACT Division. It is held right in the village of Thredbo at the Thredbo Alpine Hotel during the peak skiing season. Delegates and their family and friends are offered a great opportunity to combine high quality CPD with high quality snow sports.

CPD & Points – 16 points on offer for the conference...

Sessions are held both morning and late afternoon to allow skiers to take full advantage of the facilities the area offers plus a social hour of nibbles and drinks on Friday evening after sessions with family and friends welcome to attend. Morning and afternoon teas are provided with sessions. All meal arrangements are at delegates leisure.

Are you interested in presenting...

If you are interested in presenting a lecture or two at the Ski Conference, we would be very happy to discuss topics with you. The OAA NSW will contribute towards your expenses in return for you presenting. Please contact Rosemary Duffy at the OAA office – 02 9713 2038 / 02 9712 2199 for further information.

Getting there...

The nearest airport to Thredbo is Canberra and then either drive or take a coach service to Thredbo. Driving takes about 3 hours and chains must be carried once in the Kosciusko National Park. Chains can be hired from any ski hire outlet. The Coach Service website is: www.skibus.net.au for details and to book.

Car hire is available at Canberra airport. Parking at Thredbo will either be provided at your accommodation or in a public parking area.

Accommodation...

All accommodation is booked through www.thredbo.com.au or by calling 1300 020 589. There is no discount or conference rate available in peak season. We suggest that you book your accommodation as early as possible as beds in the village go quickly. Maps of the area are on the website.

Equipment hire, lift tickets & lessons...

You can hire equipment in Thredbo with details on www.thredbo.com.au or take it with you. There are several outlets in both Cooma and Jindabyne as well as Sydney and Canberra.

The Thredbo website has all the latest prices for lift passes. If you haven't skied before we suggest a lesson or two to get you started at Friday Flats. Private lessons with up to 3 people are good value as you learn a lot with just a few in the group.

Restaurants, take away and self catering...

Thredbo has some excellent restaurants which are not overly expensive. Early booking is recommended as they tend to fill up quickly. There is limited take away available. If you are staying in an apartment you may have cooking facilities. There is a good supermarket in the village with a variety of foodstuffs for you to cook.



Agenda and registration available soon



Important notice – Please bring your OAA membership card with you to all events run by the Optometrists Association Australia New South Wales Division
Thank you



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Centre for Optometric Education

2008 Seminar Series

Date	Speakers	Topics
23.02.09 AGSM, UNSW	Dr Anthony Maloof	1) Surgery update - eyelids and external eye AGSM, UNSW 2) Common problems – eyelid and external eye
20.04.09 AGSM, UNSW	Dr William Townsend USA	Thyroid Disease and the Eye: What We Must Know
22.06.09 AGSM, UNSW		
19.10.09		

The Australian Graduate School of Management [AGSM]

John B Reid Theatre, Gate 11, Botany Street Randwick, UNSW (parking is available next to the AGSM)

Bookings Essential on: (02) 9713 2038 | (02) 9712 2199

Bookings close 12 midday on the Friday prior to the seminar.

Registration 6:00pm
 Lecture 6:30pm
 Supper 7:30pm
 Lecture 8:00pm

OAA members no charge
 Optometry Students no charge
 Non members \$55.00 cash/credit card cheque
 No show/cancel after close of bookings \$55.00

Special evening in Newcastle

Dr William Townsend from USA has kindly agreed to give his talk on "Thyroid Disease and the Eye: What We Must Know" in Newcastle.

Dr Townsend is Distinguished Visiting Clinician in Residence at the University of Houston College of Optometry and also serves as an adjunct faculty member at that institution.

When – Tuesday, 21 April 2009

Where – Noah's on the Beach hotel, Newcastle

Registration – 6pm

Lecture start – 6.30pm – Finish 8.45pm

Free of charge to OAA NSW Members - \$55.00 to all others

Book with Rosemary Duffy on 02 9713 2038 or 02 9712 2199



Classifieds

POSITIONS VACANT - FULL TIME

Hornsby NSW,
Positions exist for optometrists to work full-time in our Hornsby practices. We are seeking motivated and energetic optometrists. Our practice is fully equipped with high-tech equipment that will give you a full-scope experience. We carry the latest best brands and fashion frames and our friendly yet experienced and professional team will support you with full dispensing and training. Salary \$63K - \$90K plus super depending on experience (5 days work per week, including Saturday). New graduate are welcome to apply. Please contact Alvin at 0416 106 061 or email to alvin133@gmail.com.

Chatswood NSW
An exciting opportunity exists for enthusiastic optometrists to work in the Westfield Chatswood. 1001 Optical is seeking highly motivated full-time optometrist. The practice is fully equipped with high-tech equipment including auto refractor, keratometer and non-contact tonometer that will give you a full-scope experience. We carry the latest brands and fashion frames and our friendly and professional team will support you fully. Salary \$63K - \$90K + super depending on experience (5 days work per week, including Saturday). New graduate are welcome to apply. To be part of our friendly team please email your contact details to alvin133@gmail.com or Alvin on 0416 106 061.

Warringah NSW
We are looking for enthusiastic optometrists to join our professional team in our Warringah practice. We carry the latest brands and fashion frames and is fully equipped with high-tech equipment.

You have a full-scope experience along with our friendly and professional team. Full dispensing and training will be provided. Salary \$63K - \$90K + super depending on experience (5 days work per week, including Saturday). New graduate are welcome to apply. Please email your contact details to alvin133@gmail.com or Alvin on 0416 106 061.

Eastgardens NSW
Full-time positions available for a motivated optometrist at our practice located at Westfield Eastgardens. Excellent working conditions, fully trained support staff, modern clinical resources including retinal camera, FDT visual field, auto refractor, non-contact tonometer and BV equipment and very appreciative patients. Salary \$63K - \$90K plus super depending on experience (5 days work per week, including Saturday). New graduate are welcome to apply. Please contact An at 0422 798 290 or anly@optusnet.com.au

Kotara NSW
We are looking for enthusiastic optometrists to join our professional team in our Kotara practice. We carry the latest brands and fashion frames and is fully equipped with high-tech equipment. You will have full-scope experience along with our friendly and professional team. Full dispensing and training will be provided. Salary \$90K - \$120K + super depending on experience (5 days work per week, including Saturday). New graduates are welcome to apply. Contact alvin133@gmail.com or Alvin on 0416 106 061.



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Penrith NSW
Positions exist for optometrists to work full-time in Westfield Penrith. We are seeking motivated and energetic optometrists in our Penrith practice. Our practice is fully equipped with high-tech equipment including auto refractor, keratometer and non-contact tonometer, gives you a full-scope experience. Our friendly yet experienced and professional team will support you with full dispensing and training. Salary \$75K - \$100K plus bonus; depending on experience (5 days work per week; excluding super). New graduate are welcome to apply. Please contact Christine at 0438 441 001 or email to: christinelee@1001optical.com.au.

Chatswood NSW,
An attractive position has just become available for an optometrist to join 1001 Optical at our Chatswood store. Great working conditions which includes a friendly and experienced support team. If you are looking to take the next big step in your career then this position could be for you. Salary \$63K - \$95K plus bonus; depending on experience (5 days work per week; excluding super). New graduate are welcome to apply. Please contact Christine at 0438 441 001 or email to: christinelee@1001optical.com.au.

A full-time position is available for an optometrist in our full scope practice. An attractive salary package is available with hours being Monday to Friday only and no Thursday nights. Please email hannafordeyewear@bigpond.com or call Thao after hours on 0414 634 965.

Classifieds

Hornsby NSW

1001 Optical is one of the fastest growing optical chains in Australia. Optometrist positions are now available at our Hornsby practice. We offer the opportunity to work in fully equipped and modern consulting rooms with high-tech equipment including auto refractor, keratometer and non-contact tonometer. Recent graduates are encouraged to apply. Salary \$63K - \$95K plus bonus; depending on experience (5 days work per week; excluding super). For further information please phone or email Christine at 0438 441 001 or email to: christinelee@1001optical.com.au.

Cherrybrook OPSM

With flexible employment options, paid maternity leave, a myriad of salary packaging options, free CPD, an award winning social responsibility program and a great employee benefits program, a career with OPSM is a second to none opportunity for any optometrist interested in a rewarding career. OPSM has a vacancy in Liverpool OPSM, Sydney. Part time work will also be considered. To discuss this opportunity in confidence, please contact Cheryl Nichols on 9815 2423 or cheryl.nichols@luxottica.com.au

Liverpool NSW

Attractive position now available for an optometrist in Liverpool. Flexible arrangements exist including sessional and full-time as well as opportunities to work at different practices. Competitive salary offered, please contact Anthony Nguyen, phone 0420372830 or email anthqung@ozemail.com.au

Full time/Part-time Inner Sydney Suburb

We are seeking a friendly, competent and highly motivated individual to join our team. Our practice is fully computerized with all the latest equipment, including visual fields and topographer. Our optometrists are given full autonomy to practice their profession and will be involved in all aspects of running a practice and supported by well trained support staff. Attractive remuneration offered for the right person. Recent graduates are welcome to apply. Contact: Ai-Leen
Phone: 0412 338 877

Nowra, South Coast N.S.W

A wonderful opportunity exists for an optometrist on the beautiful South Coast of New South Wales. Just two hours south of Sydney, ten minutes from Australia's most beautiful beaches and only several hours to the snow fields, Nowra is a perfect place to live. We currently have three optometrists and are looking for a fourth to work between two locations. Our practice has been established for 18 years and we have recently joined the Specsavers Group. We are a young & highly motivated group using the latest equipment available. You will be supported by experienced qualified staff. An attractive salary is being offered which can be packaged to suit you. New graduates are welcome to apply. If you enjoy "the good life", then this is the position for you. For further information, please call Louise on 02 44 231 821.

Optometrist for Hunter, NSW- Great Opportunities

Live next to the coast and still be just driving distance from the hub of Sydney. We have great opportunities for the right optometrist in the Hunter. You can choose from a vast variety of employment options or the Alliance and Franchise opportunities on offer.



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Be a part of our team of eye-care professionals and see why we boast to be the best in getting you where you want to be in your profession. To discuss call me now on 0412146161 or email me on raz-meena.hussein@luxottica.com.au

Full Time Position Chatswood
We are looking for an enthusiastic member to join our team of optometrists. The position offers full scope practice, with access to the latest technology equipment. Remuneration according to experience. Cantonese or Mandarin preferred but not required. Also opportunity for applicants to later on purchase the business or join as a partner. Contact Angus on 0414802688 email: optical88al@yahoo.com.au

Optometrist for New England, NSW- Great Opportunities
Develop your optometry skills at the niche of eye health cases and be a part of a close knit community in New England. Choose to be employed with flexibility or stability. You may even want to try your hands at our Alliance and Franchise options. Be a part of our team of eye-care professionals and see why we boast to be the best in getting you where you want to be in your profession. To discuss call me now on 0412146161 or email me on raz-meena.hussein@luxottica.com.au.

Shellharbour . NSW

Permanent Optometrist required for 2 days and Saturday mornings or 2 days and alternate Sat mornings, flexibility on which two days thru the week.
Contact Michelle on 0412 412 954

Classifieds



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Motivated optometrist required to join our progressive practice in Chatswood. Successful applicant will have full freedom to practice optometry in a helpful happy supportive environment. Mentoring and teamwork are hallmarks of the practice and emphasis is placed on children and alternative medical practices. If you are interested in developing your clinical and management skills this is a job for you. For further information and a confidential discussion call Leonard Fine on 0412 554 336 or 02 9413 1749

PART-TIME

Newcastle

Our friendly independent optometry practice in Newcastle requires an optometrist to work one day a week plus every 2nd Saturday, starting early January. Knowledgeable and competent support staff make your day stress-free; and great equipment including pachymeter, fields, BIO, and routine retinal photography & NCT done for you in the pre testing room, allow you to really look after your patients. We are a general optometry practice but at least some interest or ability in kids vision would be helpful. Also, free cappuccinos from our deluxe machine! Phone Dom Willson 0409 698849 or email dom@marketownoptical.com.au

Chatswood

Permanent Part time position available Friday/ Saturday and /or Sunday in CL practice in Chatswood. Sunday hours 10am to 5.00pm with incentives available for an interested CL practitioner. We're a friendly professional bunch so you should be too! Give Agnes or Sally a call on 9413 1933 for more information

Reliable & experience locum needed for consultation only practice at Ashfield/Strathfield. Easy & flexible work. Please call 0412 289 399

All Optometrists

Take control of when and where you work. Our locum optometrists work hard for short periods and then enjoy a break. You choose whether you want to take 2 months holiday, or work to save for that special purpose. We have work available from Melbourne to Darwin, and from Sydney to Perth. We pay most costs of registration, travel and accommodation and offer great rates of pay. Email us at locum@ozemail.com.au or give us a call on (02) 4782 5760 to find out more about the flexibility of working as a locum.

Friday, Sunday P/T or Saturday P/T
Chatswood RECEPTIONIST

Receptionist for Chatswood consulting and Contact Lens practice required 3 days per week. No weekends. Varied job description including Front desk, Patient Screenings and Instruction. You must be enthusiastic, friendly and be prepared to smile! Call us on 9413 2633

Eastern Suburbs

A truly rewarding position is available for an Optometrist who is motivated and energetic to join our progressive practice on a permanent part-time basis off Friday and or Saturday. Recent purchase and exciting future planned changes allow the practice to boast modern systems and equipment. The successful applicant will have professional freedom and work alongside experienced optometrists and a happy supportive team. A negotiable attractive salary package will be offered. Please call Robert on (02) 9349 6223 or 0410 440 111 for a confidential chat.

Blacktown

Seeking Optometrists for a part time/locum position to join our team. Long established practice of 25 years based in busy medical centre of Blacktown. Experience preferred but the right graduate will be considered. You will be fully supported by our staff. Excellent pay rates available. For further information please call Hussein on 02 9622 2832 or 0402 870 826, email: husseing@optusnet.com.au

DISPENSERS

Dispenser required for a busy upper north shore Sydney practice. Please contact Derek on 91 444520.

Parkes: Optical Dispenser wanted for a new optical practice in Parkes. Salary negotiable based on experience. Apply to Nick Hansen on 02 6362 2222
Or nick@hansenoptom.com

Optical Dispenser/Sydney-South/\$55,000 - \$75,000

Optometrist requires a fully qualified Optical Dispenser. The successful applicant must be proficient in all aspects of optical mechanics (cutting/fitting lenses), have a passion for eye care, be innovative, able to handle large volumes of work and most importantly be very effective at customer service.

Our practice carries mainly designer frames so applicants need to be able to drive sales and remain familiar with changing fashion trends. The commitment is long-term. The ability to use optometric software is essential. Contact lens experience would be an added advantage.

To apply please call - Michael on 0425 299 972 or Maria on 0410 566



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Optical Dispenser - Southern Suburbs

A full time position has become available in the southern suburbs of Sydney. This position would suit an Optical dispenser who is self motivated, enthusiastic and a team worker, looking at becoming an integral part of building this already busy practice. An excellent salary package is on offer to the motivated applicant. Conditions are also open to negotiation. Support is offered by our professional and friendly staff in this well equipped and modern practice. Please call Joe Salim for further information (w) 9544 6655 or 0418 991 991. All enquires will be kept in the strictest of confidence.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Carl Zeiss FDT Matrix Field Analyser
Righton Slit Lamp
American optical phoropter
Magnon Projector chart, Keratometer, Chair & Stand
Briot Weco patternless Edging system
Will seal consulting room complete or in components individually if preferred. Call Dean on 0409 186 831 for more information.

Non Mydriatic Retinal Camera:
Canon CR6-45NM. 5 yrs old. Immaculate condition \$20K + gst. Call Mala 0425 212 755 or email mala-george@hotmail.com

Lensmeters & Trial Lens Sets
Brand new CE quality lensmeters (int. & ext. readings), full trial lens sets (232 pieces), small trial lens set (90 pieces) ideal for perimeters & domicillary visits. Email evolutioneyeworx@yahoo.com.au

Practice for Sale

Sydney-Northern Beach optical Est 50 years. New shop fitout, excellent location, Chemist, Newsagent, Post Office, Woolworths & car park all very close. Long lease 6 years, reasonable rent. Great lifestyle areas of beautiful beaches and waterways. I must retire and keep sailing and seeing more of my 8 children and 18 grandchildren. Bargain Price. Contact 02 9913 8661

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,
I am intrigued by a tag-line appearing in an advertisement for SpecSavers. The line reads "changing the face of Optometry. To my knowledge Optometry is a profession. A profession that is controlled by various Acts of Parliaments in Australia. In the state of NSW the Optometrists Act clearly sets out:-
The standard of education
Who can practise Optometry
Further requirements of Registration
The method of conducting the profession
Penalties for infringement of the Act or its regulations.

It seems that in the case of the NSW the Parliament has framed the Act to protect the interests and welfare of the public. I am sure other States Acts do the same.

It is of interest that in order to participate in Medicare all Optometrists have to sign an agreement to adhere to the standards as set down by Medicare in order to qualify for various consultation fees. As well, almost all of the Optometrists, if not all of the

Optometrists who practise in Australia, belong to the OAA. A condition of membership is a specified number of points obtained annually for continuing education is required. It would seem we have a State Government – a Federal instrumentality and an Australian Professional Association looking after the welfare of the Australian public, who after all, are the people the Optometrists serve.

So my question is:-
Why does an overseas based organisation consider it is necessary to "change the face of Optometry"?
What changes do they feel are necessary?
How will they bring those changes about?
Will the changes be for the benefit of the general public or vested interest?

If change is needed I would have more confidence in change being wrought by:-

- (a) Government State and Federal
- (b) Universities
- (c) Professional Bodies
- (d) Demand by the general public

Change brought about by private companies even for the best reasons would smack of self interest.

Yours faithfully

John Miner