

September 2021

Dear New Zealand branch members

When I was elected as the NZ branch chair I certainly didn't think my first communication would be in a lockdown. Thank you for those for nominated me for the role and to Manu Shenoy from Counties Manukau DHB for being the deputy chair. Firstly, I would like to acknowledge the challenges and restrictions which the latest Delta strain has brought to our personal lives and pulmonary function testing.



Before I go into anything else I would like to properly introduce myself and have included a picture so you can put a face to a name. My name is Kelly Webster and I am based at North Shore Hospital, Waitemata DHB in Auckland where I currently work in the pulmonary function lab and oxygen service. I have been at WDHB for the last 4 years is where I completed my training under Ewan Morris, the previous NZ chair. Prior to my training I completed a BSc in Physiology and BHSc in Population Health and went on to complete a PGCertMedTech in my first year of training. I am nearly half way through completing my Masters in Health Science part time while working. In my personal time my husband and I have a black and tan English Cocker Spaniel, Harley who loves lots of walking and park trips and to the office's delight I have a passion for baking!

It is excellent to see a large number of members registered for the annual TSANZ / ANZSRS ASM which before the recent changes we were hoping to hold in person in Rotorua after it had been delayed from 2020's disruptions. We know pivoting to a fully virtual conference may mean not socialising and networking in the traditional way however Manu, myself and the organising committee are working hard behind the scenes to provide new ways this can be enjoyed in the new virtual experience. However, we are hoping that the fully virtual platform may make attendance and attractive option for those unable to attend in person and were unsure about the hybrid format. Remember all of the content including the highly anticipated COVID-19 session will be available after the conference. Registered members should have received communication about the changes but please check conference page FAQ section if you have any questions. Alternatively feed any other enquiries regarding the conference via Annie from Outshine through the website or myself.

Over the next couple of weeks I will be sending out the AGM agenda as this still needs to be held during the period of the ASM. The virtual platform which this will be held on will be confirmed closer to the time so it can be integrated into the conference format.

I am hoping to bring some new ideas as I grow into the chair role and would encourage you to be in touch with me about anything via the [nz@anzsrs.org.au](mailto:nz@anzsrs.org.au) email. I look forward to virtually connecting with many of you at the ASM and sharing some of the great work being done by many of the branch members in providing solutions during the pandemic in the recent months.

Kind Regards  
Kelly Webster