



Nurses in the Vines

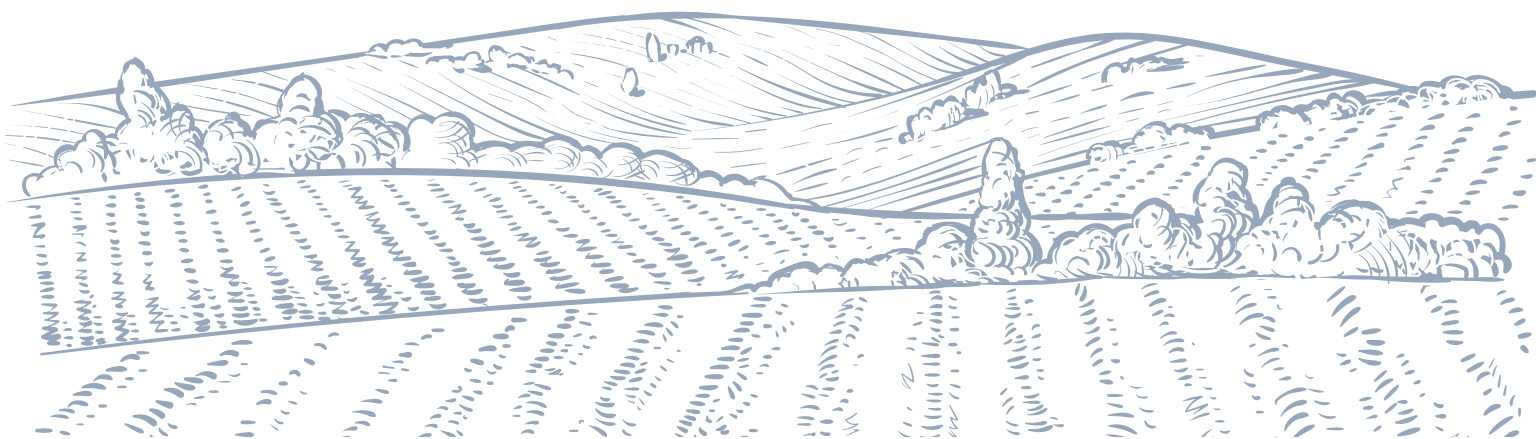
25 Sept 2025 | Rydges Resort Hunter Valley, NSW

Program for Thursday 25th September

8 am	Registration open
8.45 am	Acknowledgement, Welcome and Introductions. <i>Amy Curran, ACNN President</i>
9.00 to 11.00 am	Navigating Challenging Communication Workshop – Part 1. <i>Jennifer Harland</i>
11.00 to 11.30 am	Morning Tea
11.30 am to 12.30 pm	Navigating Challenging Communication Workshop – Part 2. <i>Jennifer Harland</i>
12.30 to 1.15 pm	Developing a Professional Portfolio with Reflective Practice for Nurses. <i>Jennifer Harland</i>
1.15 to 2.00 pm	Lunch and Exhibition
2.00 to 2.45 pm	Nursing law - morality and reality and ability to influence patient care. <i>Professor Emerita Mary Chiarella</i>
2.45 to 3.30 pm	The Lucy Letby Case: What have we learned? <i>Professor Deborah Harris</i>
3.30 to 4.00 pm	Afternoon Tea and Exhibition
4.00 to 4.45 pm	What's in the update? And the Companion Toolkit. Neonatal Standards Version 5 release. <i>Justine Parsons, Project Lead</i>
4.45 – 5.15pm	Annual General Meeting with Cheese and Wine followed by a Networking Event

	ACNN Member Price	Non-Member Price
Day 1 (Thursday)	\$198.00	\$220.00
Day 2 (Friday)	\$27.50	\$55.00
Both days	\$225.50	\$275.00

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Presentation Synopsis

Navigating Challenging Communication Workshop

This workshop equips nurses with essential skills and strategies to manage difficult conversations effectively. Participants will explore common challenging communication scenarios, such as **high-stress interactions with patients, families, and colleagues**, and learn techniques to handle these situations with empathy, assertiveness, and clarity. Participants will learn how to apply structured communication frameworks to facilitate clear, respectful dialogue in critical moments. Additionally, the workshop emphasises emotional intelligence and self-awareness, helping participants stay composed under pressure and build trust within their teams. By fostering a culture of psychological safety, participants will leave with the tools needed to promote open, constructive communication and enhance team dynamics in their healthcare environments.

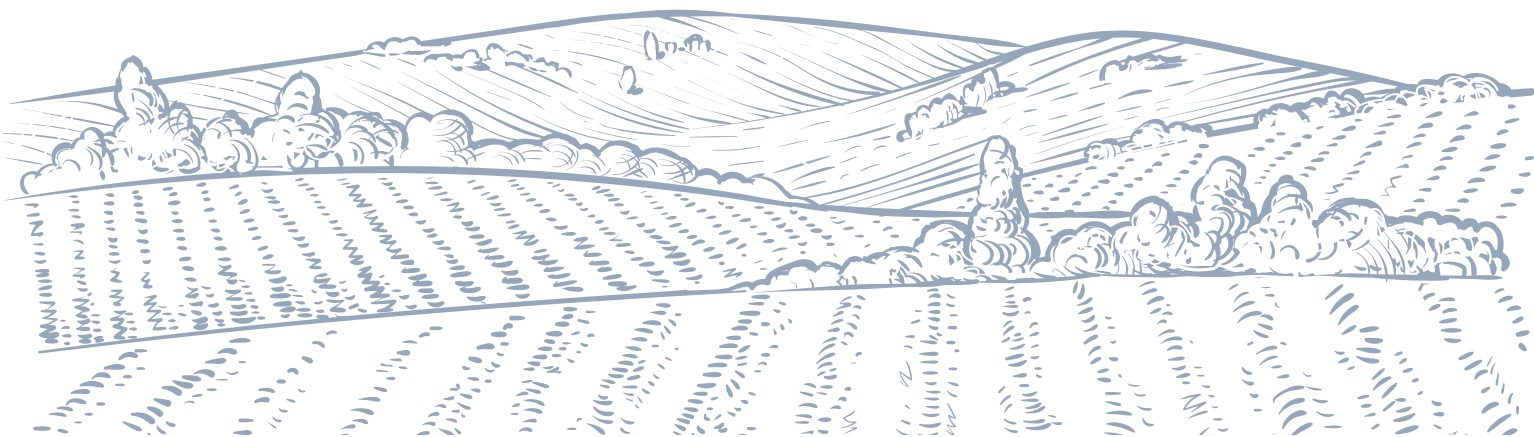
Developing a Professional Portfolio with Reflective Practice for Nurses

This presentation will guide nurses in developing a professional portfolio that not only showcases their skills, competencies, and achievements but also highlights their commitment to growth through reflective practice. Participants will learn the importance of a well-organised portfolio as a tool for career advancement, as well as the essential components it should include—such as clinical skills documentation, certifications, and continuing education. The presentation will emphasise reflective practice as a key element, allowing nurses to demonstrate critical thinking, self-awareness, and the lessons learned from their experiences. By the end, participants will be equipped to create a dynamic portfolio that captures their professional journey and supports their ongoing development in nursing.

Neonatal Standards Version 5 release + companion toolkit

This session will provide an overview of these Standards for Practice specifically for registered nurses and/or registered midwives who work in a clinical or non-clinical capacity in contributing to the care of neonates and their families within inpatient and post-discharge contexts. The standards inform professional practice, professional development and capability for all neonatal nurses in the provision of safe, high quality clinical care and are inclusive of, but not limited to, direct clinical care, education, leadership, management and research. Each standard includes criteria that aid individual neonatal nurses in identifying and developing their scope of practice in the context of current roles and responsibilities.

This session will also present the use of a [Holistic Assessment Tool](#) as an approach to assessing nurse knowledge and performance involving observing the neonatal nurse's overall role performance. This includes observing and assessing their communication, ethics, technical skills, cultural awareness, attitudes, knowledge, professional behaviors, clinical decision making, and critical thinking.





Babies in the Bush



26 Sept 2025 | Rydges Resort Hunter Valley, NSW

Program for Friday 26th September

08.00 am	Registration Opens
08.30 am	Acknowledgement of Country, Welcome and Introductions. <i>Justine Parsons, ACNN Executive Member</i>
08.45 am	Improvements in the Special Care Unit: Where do I Start? <i>Margaret Broom, ACNN Professional Officer and Trish Lowe, ACNN Research SIG Chair</i>
10.00 am	Handover Improvement Project. <i>Stacey Leonard, Nurse Unit Manager, John Hunter Hospital and Kath Thomas, Nurse Unit Manager, Maitland Hospital</i>
10.30 am	Morning Tea and Exhibition
11.00 am	Hypoglycaemia. <i>Tanya Pretty, Registered Nurse, Port Macquarie Hospital and ACNN Education SIG</i>
11.30 am	Breastfeeding ex-prems in the Special Care Unit. <i>Cara Gendron, Lactation Consultant, John Hunter Children's Hospital</i>
12.00 md	Local Case Presentation. <i>Maitland Hospital Paediatrician – to be confirmed</i>
12.30 pm	Caring for Indigenous neonates. <i>Jessica Bennett, University of Newcastle</i>
1.00 pm	Lunch and Exhibition
1.45 pm	CPAP Practices. <i>Kris York, Clinical Nurse Consultant, Neonatal Services, Hunter New England Local Health District and ACNN NSW Branch Chair</i>
2.15 pm	Deterioration in the Special Care Unit. <i>Jo-Anna Proctor, Clinical Nurse Educator, Maitland Hospital</i>
2.45 pm	Jaundice Management. <i>Mindy Degotardi, Registered Nurse, John Hunter Children's Hospital</i>
3.15 pm	Wrap up, prize drawing, afternoon tea and networking

	ACNN Member Price	Non-Member Price
Day 1 (Thursday)	\$198.00	\$220.00
Day 2 (Friday)	\$27.50	\$55.00
Both days	\$225.50	\$275.00

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