

Surf Report... December, 2004

Surfing around the web, all things respiratory...



ANZSRS Web-site 2003-4

It is hard to know where developments start and stop with the web-site. Since Kevin's taking over the coordinator role in 2002 the site seems to have taken on a life of its own. Certainly the appearance and role of the site has changed significantly.

In the last 12 months there have been a number of new columns or departments as magazines would call them, some changes to how other sections work and increased usage of other sections.

New initiatives of the last 12 months include:

- Case of the Month
- From the Archive
- CRFS review questions
- Lodging of all Society forms on the site

Improvements include:

- Self-editing of the membership directory with notification of such edits being automatically sent to the Secretary and to the coordinator.
- Kustas, our programmer in Adelaide, and Kevin are working on having jobs and announcements able to be posted directly rather than having to be forwarded to Kustas.

Increased usage has been seen in

- Membership directory
- Ask Derek
- Jobs – and positive reports regarding the utility of advertising on the web-site.

Overall traffic through the site continues to rise in total as well as from sites identified as being Australian or New Zealand. When looking at these figures you should keep in mind the membership total of about 230. Taking hits per month as an index of changes in 3 years:

	<i>Nov 01</i>	<i>Nov 02</i>	<i>Nov 03</i>	<i>Nov 04</i>
Total	3,279	6,855	19,798	28,700
Australia	622	1,278	4,933	7,436
New Zealand	234	121	620	796
Europe (incl UK)	33	206	481	470
North America	95	116	412	295
South East Asia	19	7	16	0

Stats are not available for visits as opposed to hits on an individual country basis. The total visit stats over the same period are (per day):

	<i>Nov 01</i>	<i>Nov 02</i>	<i>Nov 03</i>	<i>Nov 04</i>
Total (avg/day)	16	31	80	126

A hit is considered a visit if a second hit is counted greater than 30 minutes after the previous hit by the URL making the enquiry.

These statistics argue that the web-site is indeed serving the needs of the membership and has become the primary means of communication within the Society. This was Kevin's goal when he took it on. I suspect that dependence on the site for news, views and communication today is such that if the web-site was to disappear tomorrow, its absence would be noticed.

Graham Hall

Graham.hall@health.wa.gov.au