

## WMAI EXECUTIVE



**Professor Caroline McIntosh, PhD MSc BSc (Hons.)**  
**Head of Podiatry, National University of Ireland, Galway**

***WMAI President***

Caroline McIntosh is Chair of the Discipline of podiatry, at NUI Galway. Prior to this Caroline was a senior lecturer at the University of Huddersfield, UK, and she was previously employed as a senior podiatrist for an NHS Trust in North Yorkshire, UK. Caroline has a specialist interest in tissue viability and diabetic foot disease and she holds an honorary contract as a Diabetes Specialist Podiatrist in University College Hospital Galway. Caroline has published a number of peer-reviewed papers in the field of tissue viability, particularly on the diabetic foot, and has presented at national and international conferences. Caroline has co-edited the text "Lower Extremity Wounds", and undertook her PhD in the need to build and disseminate evidence-based wound care. Caroline has acted as Principal Investigator in a number of clinical trials, including two wound dressing trials and a study investigating sensory augmentation with imperceptible electrical noise on individuals with diabetes-related neuropathy. Caroline has been Chairperson of the Western Branch of WMAI since 2009 and was elected as President of WMAI in October 2013.

Caroline can be contacted by email at [caroline.mcintosh@nuigalway.ie](mailto:caroline.mcintosh@nuigalway.ie)



**Kate Arkley Community RGN, BNS (Hons), PG Dip Wound Management & Tissue Viability, MSc. Nursing Specialist Practice, Current Doctoral student (DNP) at NUI Galway.**

***WMAI National Secretary***

Kate is a community RGN with a special interest in Tissue Viability serving the Galway City East network. Studies in Tissue Viability include a PG Dip and a Masters awarded in 2012 by the RCSI, Dublin. Kate presented her study & findings on pressure ulcer prevention in an Irish community setting at EWMA conference in Vienna May 2012. As a recently enrolled doctoral student at NUI Galway, Kate is thrilled to focus her studies on delayed wound healing in chronic wounds. She is passionate about improving wound healing outcomes through continued education and specialist knowledge and highly motivated to establish tissue viability as a valuable resource for colleagues and patients in the community care setting. Wound healing and management in community nursing is increasingly challenging and continued professional development is key towards improving healing outcomes. Tissue viability is a core component in community nursing practice and this November Kate was elected as Vice President of the Institute of



Community Health Nursing (ICHN). She is also a member of the Editorial board for the online Journal of Community Nursing (JCN).

The organisation of WMAI actively promotes education and dissemination of best practice in wound management and Kate is very happy to be involved in that ethos. She has been an active member of WMAI as Western branch secretary since 2009 and was delighted to be elected as WMAI national secretary at the bi-annual conference in Cork 2013.

Kate can be contacted by email at [kate.arkley@gmail.com](mailto:kate.arkley@gmail.com)



## **Helen Strapp, Tissue Viability CNS, AMNCH**

### ***WMAI Treasurer***

Helen started in nursing in Our Lady's Hospital for sick Children, Crumlin. After working there for a total of three years she then went on to do a post graduate course in general nursing in the Meath Hospital. After being there for four years she then moved nearer home to work in St. Vincent's Hospital, Elm Park. She worked there for a total of 12 years of which the last five years was as a Clinical Nurse Manager on a vascular thoracic ward with a four bedded HDU unit. She developed an interest in wound management and after completing a post graduate course in wound healing and tissue repair in the University of Wales Medicine College of Medicine, Cardiff where she became involved in wound care and education. She did her MSc in the RCSI. Her research was on nurse's knowledge of pressure ulcer prevention and management. She is a founder member of the Wound Management Association of Ireland. Helen is also a past member of the Leg Ulcer Forum

At present Helen is working in AMNCH as Tissue Viability Clinical Nurse Specialist. She presents and lectures nationally and internationally.

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