



VADANZ

Voluntary Assisted Dying Australia and New Zealand

Voluntary Assisted Dying Australia and New Zealand Limited

ANNUAL REPORT for the year ended 30 June 2026

vadanx.org.au

President's Report

As I conclude my term as President of VADANZ, I am pleased with the progress we have made in strengthening the organisation's role and influence across Australia and New Zealand.

With the Northern Territory becoming the final Australian jurisdiction to pass VAD legislation, our attention increasingly turns to ensuring that people can access safe, compassionate and equitable care, wherever they live.

Your VADANZ Board has also been working steadily to support the health professionals who make this service available. We meet bimonthly with members of our Strategic Advisory Committee, comprising: Sally Cockburn, Keith McArthur, Sara Townend and Kerr Wright.

This year the SAC has focussed on remuneration for VAD services, use of carriage services for VAD and developing Terms of Reference for our Special Interest Research Group, with a view to strengthening the organisation's role and influence across the region. This job is made more complex by the fact that New Zealand and every jurisdiction around Australia does it slightly differently.

A major achievement has been the publication of our first national VAD Practitioner Remuneration Survey report. We have taken these findings directly to governments and health departments, establishing a stronger evidence base for reform. Securing fair and sustainable remuneration remains essential to retaining and growing the VAD workforce. We are preparing a VADANZ Workforce Survey to gather your opinions re the current situation, future directions and the factors that influence your VAD activity.

Our advocacy for lifting Commonwealth telehealth restrictions has continued, alongside work to develop our Quality Care Principles and strengthen opportunities for research, education and professional collaboration. We have contributed to VAD legislative reviews around Australia and provided advice and support to Dignity in Dying organisation in the UK.

As well as this I would like to remind members of the repository of webinars that is available under Members Resources on the VADANZ website. I would like to thank Susan Jury who spearheads this activity and thank all the individuals who have donated their time and expertise to these sessions.

Membership has reached its highest level since VADANZ was established. The introduction of discounted VADCON26 registration for members has proved an effective way to attract new members, while reinforcing the value of belonging to our professional community.

These priorities will be central to VADCON26 in Melbourne, where we will explore how VAD can become better integrated into mainstream end-of-life care.

As VAD becomes an established part of healthcare, VADANZ's role in representing practitioners and shaping clinical practice and policy will only grow in importance.

I thank my fellow Board members and our membership for their commitment and contributions. I am confident that VADANZ is well positioned to build on our achievements and continue to influence the future of quality VAD care.



Dr Andrea Bendrups
President | 2025 - 2026





STRATEGY ON A PAGE

VADANZ 2026

Vision

A network of healthcare professionals who are supported to provide excellence in voluntary assisted dying care.

Purpose

As the peak body for healthcare professionals, we lead, strengthen and sustain our workforce to deliver high quality care.

Strategic Pillars

1

Advance high quality VAD

Immediate

- Quality Care Principles
- Identify Gaps
- Webinars

Longer term

- Education development
- Build VAD evidence base to inform practice

2

Support VAD workforce

- Foster & develop community between current and potential members
- Fair remuneration
- Addressing barriers to practice (i.e. telehealth, gag clause)
- Obtain better data about the needs of members (both the individual and the collective)

3

Strengthen organisation

- Grow membership
- Securing funding and resources
- Manage compliance and risk (governance)

4

Provide leadership and expertise

- Reputation and recognition
- Relationships with key stakeholders
- Clarify organisational position statements

Directors

The VADANZ Board is made up of dedicated health professionals and sector leaders who generously volunteer their time to guide and strengthen our organisation.

Together, they bring deep experience from medicine, nursing, pharmacy, law, and research and a shared commitment to ensuring that voluntary assisted dying is delivered safely, compassionately, and equitably.

The Board provides strategic oversight, clinical insight, and organisational stewardship to advance VADANZ's mission: supporting those who deliver voluntary assisted dying and promoting safe, equitable, and compassionate end-of-life care.

Their combined expertise and dedication continue to shape VADANZ as a trusted voice for practitioners and the communities we serve.



Dr Andrea Bendrups

Member elected 27 October 2024 | President 2025/6

Dr Andrea Bendrups has been a consultant Rheumatologist and General Physician at the Royal Melbourne Hospital since 1991 and was also in private medical practice until 2014. Clinical responsibilities involved both inpatient and outpatient practice, including on-call management of acute medical conditions. At the public hospital she was involved in both undergraduate and postgraduate teaching of both general medicine and rheumatology. After ceasing private practice Andrea became the Deputy Director of the Royal Melbourne Hospital Clinical School, a University of Melbourne academic position. One of the inaugural members of the Advance Care Planning Committee at the Royal Melbourne Hospital. Andrea currently also works as a Medical Panellist to provide specialist opinion on tribunals convened by the Victorian Workcover Authority.



Professor Elizabeth Reymond

Member elected 30 October 2025 | President-Elect 2025, Retired 29 July 2026

Liz Reymond is a palliative care physician with over 20 years' experience and an active voluntary assisted dying authorised practitioner. She is a Fellow of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (FRACGP) and a Fellow of the Australasian Chapter of Palliative Medicine (FACHPM), Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP). Liz established the largest multidisciplinary palliative care service in Queensland. Her research interests include palliative care symptom management, advance care planning, and development of clinical best-practice for voluntary assisted dying.



Dr Clare Fellingham

Member elected 27 October 2024 | President-Elect 17 August 2026

Clare led the implementation of VAD across the East Metropolitan Health Service (EMHS), chairs the EMHS Clinical Ethics Committee, and has been a VAD practitioner since the day the law was enacted in WA. Clare is passionate about how communication, informed consent, treatment futility, religious pluralism, and the doctor-patient relationship interplay in the ethical delivery of healthcare.



Professor Michael Dooley

Member elected 30 October 2025

Michael is the Director of the Victorian Voluntary Assisted Dying Pharmacy Service and has contributed to the design and implementation of voluntary assisted dying services firstly in Victoria and then across multiple jurisdictions in Australia.



Dr Chloe Furst

Member elected 27 October 2024

Dr Chloe Furst is a dual trained geriatrician and palliative care physician. She is the Head of unit for the Royal Adelaide Hospital Department of Geriatric and Rehabilitation Medicine with a special interest in capacity, cognitive impairment, multimorbidity and end of life care and the medico-legal interface and ethics around these complex issues. Chloe was heavily involved in the implementation of SA's Voluntary Assisted Dying Legislation.



Ms Susan Jury

Member elected 30 October 2025

Susan is an NZ, HK and US registered nurse with a Master of Public Health degree. With a colleague she founded the first VAD navigator service in Australia, in Victoria 2019 and continues as director of the service. Susan has held a diverse range of roles and has extensive experience in establishing new clinical programs.



Mr Julian Gardner AM

Board appointed 27 January 2026

Julian is the Board appointed Chair of VADANZ and was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in 2015 for significant service to the community through leadership roles in social welfare, mental health, legal aid and other legal organisations. He played a central part in bringing voluntary assisted dying to Victoria, as a member of the Ministerial Advisory Panel that made recommendations for the legislation (2017–18), Chair of the Implementation Taskforce that prepared for the Act's commencement in June 2019, and Chair of the Voluntary Assisted Dying Review Board (2022–25).



Dr Ian Kamerman

Board appointed 26 May 2026

Ian has more than twenty years experience in rural general practice. He has a keen interest in training the future health workforce. Ian enjoys all facets of patient care and has worked throughout rural Victoria and NSW and have been privileged to be in a number of leadership roles that include GPSA, RDAA, RDA NSW, AMA and also ACRRM and is the NSW/ACT Representative on the RACGP Rural Council.

Retired Directors

During the year we farewelled some of our board members, whose contribution have helped build the foundations of VADANZ. Each has brought unique expertise and a deep commitment to ensuring quality, compassion and integrity in our work. We thank them sincerely for their service and wish them every success in their continuing professional and personal endeavours.



Dr Sally Cockburn

Retired 30 October 2026

Dr Sally Cockburn is a part time practising specialist GP and adjunct senior lecturer at Monash University. She also holds a Masters degree in Health and Medical Law. Along with extensive board experience Sally served as an inaugural member of the Victorian VAD Review Board and is a registered VAD practitioner in that state. She is also well known for her long time media career and advocacy work.



Mr Raymond Plibersek

Retired 27 January 2026

Ray is an experienced Solicitor who has worked closely with medical professionals and within Government. He has held countless Governance roles and brings with him a breadth of leadership experience.

Members

VADANZ membership criteria was developed by the initial directors and was reviewed during the year, the following group was added under the Associate category:

Associate - Student

Students with an active enrolment in a tertiary education facility. As an associate - student, you must:

- demonstrate an interest in the delivery or support VAD services, reform or care improvement in Australia and/or New Zealand; and
- be currently progressing towards a professional qualification that is relevant to VAD or which would add some other experience regarded as satisfactory by the VADANZ Board.

This membership lasts for 12 months from sign up date, after which the student will need to reapply.

Practising

Health professionals working in VAD, who:

- hold registration with APHRA, the relevant New Zealand professional board or council, or hold some other qualification accepted by the VADANZ Board; and
- have experience delivering VAD services in Australia or New Zealand;
- or hold other VAD experience felt relevant by the VADANZ Board.

Retired

Health professionals with VAD care, who are:

- an experienced VAD practitioner who is no longer involved in VAD care; or
- a VADANZ member for 2+ years and retiring from clinical or professional practice; or
- hold other VAD experience felt relevant by the VADANZ Board.

Associate

This category is for non-clinical professionals who contribute to VAD (e.g. operational or administrative roles. As an associate, you must:

- demonstrate a commitment to deliver or support VAD services in Australia and/or New Zealand; and
- hold a professional qualification or other experience that satisfies the VADANZ Board.

Activities

Expert Advice

- Submission to the Tasmanian VAD Independent Review
- Submission to the NSW VAD Legislative Review February 2026
- Submission to the NT Parliamentary Inquiry in VAD August 2025

Webinars

- July 2026: Frailty and Multimorbidity in geriatric patients
- November 2025: Ethics
- August 2025: Pharmacology (Replay) - with live commentary

Member Consultations

- Quality care principles

Strategic Advisory Committee

- Established the Strategy Advisory Committee
- Forum for in-dept discussions on key areas for VADANZ
- Meets alternate months to VADANZ Board, has discussions and prepares recommendations to the VADANZ Board for approval and actioning.

Education & learning

- Preparation of member-only sessions for VADCON26
- Creation of the "Research Library" bringing together selected research, journal articles and evidence relevant to voluntary assisted dying practice, policy and service delivery for members

Remuneration

- Results of the remuneration survey were collated into a report released in January 2026
- Broadening our survey to include other workforce questions for 2026 - 2027

Commonwealth Carriage Laws

- Published the use of electronic communications (Carriage Service) in VAD Care May 2026

VADANZ in the community

- Sponsor of Imagining the Ideal Assisted Dying Service in Aotearoa: Access, Safety, & Equity
- Attendances at relevant conferences

Financial Report

Voluntary Assisted Dying Australia New Zealand Limited (VADANZ)

ABN: 24 670 623 195

Financial Statements - 30 June 2026

Prepared by Nomad Accounting

Voluntary Assisted Dying Australia and New Zealand Limited (VADANZ)

ABN: 24 670 623 195

Directors' report

30 June 2026

The Directors have determined that the company is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Directors:

1. The financial affairs of **VADANZ** have been conducted in accordance with its governing rules
2. The attached financial statements present fairly the financial position of **VADANZ as at 30 June 2026**
3. At the date of this declaration & after making adequate enquiries, there are reasonable grounds to believe the entity is solvent and will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Directors

The following persons were Directors of the organisation during the whole of the financial year and up to the date of this report, unless otherwise stated:

Dr Sally Cockburn (President resigned 30 October 2025)

Dr Andrea Bendrups (President, elected 30 October 2025,)

Dr Clare Fellingham (President-Elect, elected 17 August 2026)

Mr Raymond Plibersek (Director resigned 27 January 2026)

Ms Susan Clare Jury (Elected 30 October 2025)

Dr Ian Kamerman (Board appointed 26 May 2026)

Prof Michael Dooley (Elected 30 October 2025)

Prof Elizabeth Reymond (President-Elect; elected 30 October 2025, Resigned 29 July 2026)

Mr Julian Gardner AM (Chair, Board appointed 27 January 2026).

Dr Chloe Furst

Ms Kaylie Reyes (Secretary)

Principal activities

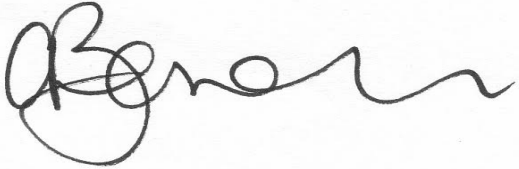
The principal activities of the Organisation during the financial year were to relieve the distress and suffering experienced by people with untreatable or terminal illnesses, and their families and carers, by ensuring they have access to the highest quality VAD advice and care. **VADANZ** has been formed by a group of healthcare professionals who deliver VAD advice and care and who have worked together over recent years in communities of practice to share their experience and expertise.

Significant changes

No significant changes in the nature of the activities occurred during the year.

Operating results

The surplus of the Organisation for the financial year amounted to **\$22,347.**



Dr Andrea Bendrups
President



Mr Julian Gardner
Chair

VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND LIMITED**ABN 24 670 623 195****Balance Sheet**

As at 30 June 2026

Account	30-Jun-26	30-Jun-25
Assets		
Bank		
Stripe AUD	2,816	1,536
Voluntary Assisted Dying Australia and New Zealand	178,581	114,205
Total Bank	181,396	115,741
Other Current Assets		
Prepayments	194	-
Total Other Current Assets	194	0
Total Current Assets	181,590	115,741
Fixed Assets		
Office Equipment	1,380	-
Less: Accumulated Dep'n	(361)	
Total Other Current Assets	1,019	0
Total Assets	182,609	115,741
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	27,725	-
Accrued Expenses	16,516	-
Total Current Liabilities	44,241	0
Total Liabilities	44,241	0
Net Assets	138,368	115,741
Equity		
Retained Earnings	115,741	50,277
Prior year adj	280	
Current Year Earnings	22,347	65,464
Total Equity	138,368	115,741

VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND LIMITED
ABN 24 670 623 195

Profit and Loss

For the year ended 30 June 2026

Account	2026	2025
Trading Income		
Interest Income	6,039	4,043
Membership - Associates	4,650	4,050
Membership - Other	2,160	2,340
Membership - Practising	54,000	55,563
Membership - Retired	700	600
Membership - Students	40	40
Sales		250
Total Trading Income	67,589	66,887
Gross Profit	67,589	66,887
Operating Expenses		
Accounting, Audit & Bookkeeping	3,530	-
Bank Fees	50	1,422
Bank Fees - Stripe	2,238	-
Catering	416	-
Depreciation	361	-
Filing Fees	1,363	-
Marketing & Design	6,252	-
Office expenses	224	-
Subscriptions	7,556	-
Telephone & internet	232	-
Travel Domestic	1,579	-
Travel international	1,969	-
Website Maintenance	3,355	-
Wages: Partnership arrangement	16,118	-
Total Operating Expenses	45,243	1,422
Net Profit	22,347	65,464

Notes to the Financial Statements

Voluntary Assisted Dying Australia and New Zealand Limited

For the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 1. General information

The financial statements cover **VADANZ** ('the Organisation') as an individual entity. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is the Organisation's functional and presentation currency.

The Organisation is a not-for-profit entity Australian Public Company in New South Wales and domiciled in Australia. It is registered as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission and its registered office and principal place of business is:

Suite 2, Level 1

9-11 Grosvenor Street

NEUTRAL BAY NSW 2089

A description of the nature of the Organisation's operations and its principal activities is included in the Directors' report, which is not part of the financial statements.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 14 October 2026.

Note 2. Significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Basis of preparation

In the Board's opinion, the Organisation is not a reporting entity as there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements.

These are special purpose financial statements that have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. The Board has determined that the accounting policies adopted are appropriate to meet the needs of the members of the Organisation.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements specified by the Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 'Presentation of Financial Statements', AASB 108 'Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors', AASB 1048 'Interpretation of Standards' and AASB 1054 'Australian Additional Disclosures', as appropriate for not-for profit oriented entities.

Historical cost convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Critical accounting estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Organisation's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, will be disclosed if appropriate.

Going Concern

The Board has determined that the financial statements be prepared on the basis that the entity is a going concern.

Revenue recognition

Revenue from contracts with customers

The core principle of AASB 15 is that revenue is recognised on a basis that reflects the transfer of promised services to customers at an amount that reflects the consideration the Organisation expects to receive in exchange for those services.

Generally the timing of the payment for rendering of services corresponds closely to the timing of satisfaction of the performance obligations, however where there is a difference, it will result in the recognition of a receivable, contract asset or contract liability.

None of the revenue streams of the Organisation have any significant financing terms as there is less than 12 months between receipt of funds and satisfaction of performance obligations.

Income tax

As the Organisation is a tax exempt charity in terms of subsection 50-10 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, as amended, it is exempt from paying income tax.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

Goods and Services Tax ('GST') and other similar taxes

The organisation is not registered for GST.

Contingent Liabilities

Contingent liabilities are liabilities whose amount and timing cannot be sufficiently accurately forecast to be recognised in the balance sheet, or to have the corresponding expenses recognised in the Profit & Loss Statement. The Directors are not aware of any pending legal actions or any other unresolved claims against it, its officers, or its assets.

Events occurring after balance date.

The Directors are not aware of any events that have occurred since the balance date of the Financial report that need to be disclosed in the notes in order to present a full and fair view of its operations during the year and position at the end of the year.

Related Party Transactions

The Organisation has a related-party relationship with **Go Gentle Australia (GGA)** due to the CEO of **GGA** providing advisory support to the Board of **VADANZ**, and **GGA** supplying back-end administrative resources to **VADANZ**. While there are no common directors or key management personnel between the entities, the nature of the advisory role and shared operational services results in transactions that fall within the scope of AASB 124 *Related Party Disclosures*.

During the financial year, **GGA** made payments on behalf of **VADANZ** due to **VADANZ** not having bank account signatories in place. These payments totalled **\$27,851** and are recognised as a creditor owing to **GGA** at 30 June 2026.

GGA also provided back-end administrative and finance support to VADANZ. The cost of these shared resources has been recognised as **accrued expenses** of **\$15,766** at 30 June 2026.

All transactions were conducted on terms agreed between the entities. No amounts were written off or forgiven during the year.

Compilation Report

Voluntary Assisted Dying Australia and New Zealand Limited

For the year ended 30 June 2026

We have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements of **Voluntary Assisted Dying Australia and New Zealand Limited (VADANZ)**, which comprise the balance sheet as at **30 June 2026**, the income statement, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes. The specific purpose for which the special purpose financial statements have been prepared is set out in Note 1.

The Responsibility of the Directors

The Directors of **VADANZ** are solely responsible for the information contained in the special purpose financial statements, the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information and for the determination that the basis of accounting used is appropriate to meet their needs and for the purpose that financial statements were prepared.

Our Responsibility

On the basis of information provided by the Directors we have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting as described in Note 1 to the financial statements and APES 315 *Compilation of Financial Information*.

We have applied our expertise in accounting and financial reporting to compile these financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1 to the financial statements. We have complied with the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*.

Assurance Disclaimer

Since a compilation engagement is not an assurance engagement, we are not required to verify the reliability, accuracy or completeness of the information provided to us by management to compile these financial statements. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion on these financial statements.

The special purpose financial statements were compiled exclusively for the benefit of the Directors who are/is responsible for the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information used to compile them. We do not accept responsibility for the contents of the special purpose financial statements.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Megan Williams-Jones", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Megan Williams-Jones

Nomad Accounting

15/10/26

Dated:

With Thanks

A big thanks to all of our **members** for their continued support, VADANZ wouldn't exist without their membership and also to those who have also generously volunteered their time and expertise.

Secretariat & Operational Support

VADANZ requires significant secretariat and operational support to ensure smooth running of the organisation and deliver services to our members. We are incredibly grateful to the Go Gentle Australia team for their invaluable support through the year. We are also incredibly lucky to partner with them to co-host the trans-Tasman Voluntary Assisted Dying Conference in 2026.

Strategic Advisory Committee

July 2025 - June 2026

We would like to give special thanks to the individuals who have been working with VADANZ providing jurisdictional knowledge and expertise.

Dr Sara Townend
Dr Kerr Wright
Dr Sally Cockburn
Dr Keith McArthur

Presenters & Panel Members

To everyone who has contributed to or presented at our webinars throughout the year, we thank you for your guidance and expertise. VADANZ was built on peer-to-peer support and education and your willingness to share your insights and experiences made it both meaningful and memorable.

Those who have taken the time to provide their knowledge and experience

To everyone who has taken the time to share their experience and knowledge by completing surveys, questionnaires, answered questions or given us assistance over the year, we thank you. All of your generosity assists us to build our evidence-base and strengthen our organisation.

VADANZ is committed to fostering an inclusive and respectful community for all who deliver or are supported by voluntary assisted dying services across Australia and New Zealand.

We acknowledge and celebrate the diversity of our members, colleagues, and the communities we serve - including First Nations peoples, LGBTQIA+ communities, people with disability, and those from culturally, linguistically, and spiritually diverse backgrounds.

We recognise that each person's experience of dying, death, and bereavement is shaped by their identity, culture, and circumstances. Guided by our values of compassion, respect, and equity, we seek to promote culturally safe, inclusive, and person-centred care for everyone at the end of life.

Within our organisation and the broader VAD sector, VADANZ strives to model cultural humility, foster psychological safety, and uphold the right of every person to be treated with dignity, autonomy, and acceptance.



VADANZ is an ACNC registered charity, all donations over are tax deductible.
To donate please go to vadanz.org.au

Contact: admin@vadanz.org.au
ABN: 24 670 623 195
vadanz.org.au

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