

# 2021/2022 Annual Report



## **Overview and Highlights**

ALARA's activities in 2021/22 continued to suffer under the impacts of COVID, with plans for a face-to-face conference and world congress pushed back and limited opportunities for alternative networking. Despite these setbacks and delays, ALARA did initiate several activities.

These activities included the following.

- ALARA had initiated a network group of representatives of action learning / action research
  publications at the 2019 CARN-ALARA conference. This group supported the conduct of two
  sets of webinars for aspiring and experienced authors in September 2021 and May 2022.
  The participants in those webinars expressed high levels of satisfaction.
- Two of the four research groups established in 2020/21 made great advances during 2021/22, with one producing an initial paper published in the *Action Learning and Action* Research Journal (ALARj), with a full report expected in late 2022, and the second producing a draft paper.
- ALARA approved the upgrade of its website, written in old software. ALARA launched the new-look website in mid-2022, with more improvements planned, such as a calendar for all action learning / action research events around the world.
- The editorial team worked with a group of students and their supervisor on a special issue of the journal scheduled for release in late 2022, while also working with a presenter from the ALARA-BALT 2020 conference on a new form of publication – Practitioner Papers, also due for release in late 2022.

ALARA continues to plan to spread its vision to create a more equitable, just, joyful, productive, peaceful and sustainable society by promoting local and global change through the wide use of Action Learning and Action Research by individuals, groups and organisations. An important contribution to this work will be stabilising income sources and gathering further volunteer support.



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## **Our Purpose**

The Objective of Action Learning, Action Research Association Ltd (ALARA) is:

To promote by all available means the study, practice, research and teaching of Action Learning and Action Research in all their forms, and to bring together people who are interested in or involved with Action Learning and Action Research.

This Objective guides our vision and action. ALARA seeks:

1. To serve our members' action research and action learning practices, communities and fields of action

Our members are action researchers and action learners working at multiple scales and in multiple modes: one on one mentoring, collaboration building, program and project delivery, and whole system transformation. Some of us make Action Learning and Action Research our core business, while some make it a means to another end (social justice, environmental restoration or participatory journalism, for example). ALARA serves members in both their "core" and "means" approaches.

2. To build our organisation so it may promote Action Learning and Action Research in multiple fields beyond our organisation

At ALARA, we believe that more than ever Action Learning and Action Research are essential capabilities to meet the very considerable challenges of our 21<sup>st</sup> century world. Locally and globally, our practitioners address the "wicked problems". Whether we are working in public and corporate governance arenas, community development, social learning and/or advocacy and activism organisations, Action Learning and Action Research approaches bring qualities that are unique to our field and essential to outcome resilience. ALARA serves its members to serve their fields beyond ALARA's boundaries.

3. To create the resources to actively co-operate with the global network of Action Learning and Action Research

ALARA is one of many Action Learning and Action Research networks, schools, centres and associations around the world. Many concerns-based organisations use Action Learning and Action Research as their primary mode of operation.

We share common approaches to how we support our members - visiting each other's conferences, contributing to each other's journals and staying in touch. However, we also believe that the global field of Action Learning and Action Research is under-developed and one way to overcome this is to be more co-operative with other networks. To do this we need to offer complimentary services to diversify and strengthen our global field, and we need to be actively reciprocal - co-learning and co-facilitating other networks' well-being through recognition, co-operation and inclusion.



### Who We Are

Action Learning, Action Research Association Ltd (ALAR Association or ALARA <sup>1</sup>) is a global network of programs, institutions, professionals, and people interested in using Action Learning and Action Research to generate collaborative learning, training, research and action to advance social change and to transform workplaces, schools, colleges, universities, communities, voluntary organisations, governments and businesses.



ALARA's vision is to create a more equitable, just, joyful, productive, peaceful and sustainable society by creating local and global change through the wide use of Action Learning and Action Research by individuals, groups and organisations.

ALARA aims to facilitate networking amongst members and others in projects, research, teaching or learning about Action Learning, Action Research and related approaches. Members are encouraged to work as network hubs generating interaction among members with a particular interest or in a specific geographical area.

ALARA also actively connects with the international Participatory Action Research (PAR) community, promoting collaboration across international borders, especially in the form of our joint world congresses since 1997.

## **Our History**

Action Learning Action Research and Process Management Association Inc. (ALARPM) was formerly registered in 1991 in Queensland, Australia, following an inaugural Research Symposium in Brisbane in 1989 and a first World Congress, also in Brisbane, in 1990.

The first local network was Brisbane ALARPM in Queensland, and this network (with name change as described below) remains a highly active powerhouse. It has generated numerous activities and fund-raisers. It is associated with Bob Dick's <u>ARAL website</u>. Other networks have existed in Victoria, Cairns, Singapore and South Africa.

The organisation established itself as the world's earliest international action learning / action research professional association to mount World Congresses for this field, bringing together theorists and practitioners with novices, innovators and managers. In 2007, the members decided to rename the association as Action Learning, Action Research Association Inc. (and adopt the acronym ALARA).

Late in 2018, the organisation became a Company Limited by Guarantee, Action Learning, Action Research Association Ltd, registered under Australian Commonwealth legislation.

Over the last thirty-two years, the members of the Association have held ten World Congresses in Australian and International settings, a joint conference with the Collaborative Action Research Network (CARN) in Europe and twenty-four Australasian conferences, as well as many other local workshops and seminars, and webinars for members and their networks. The ALARA website includes the lists of Conferences and World Congresses. ALARA's members have produced 27 volumes of the Association's Journal (generally with two issues per volume) and other publications, and established a part-time professional administration and an on-line presence at <a href="https://www.alarassociation.org">https://www.alarassociation.org</a>.

The acronym "ALARA" is an informal (and easier) way to refer to Action Learning, Action Research Association Ltd (and its former name of Action Learning, Action Research Association Inc.), but it is not the legal name of the organisation, as there are other entities registered in Australia that use "ALARA" as part of their name.



### **Our Governance**

## **Action Learning, Action Research Association Ltd**

#### **Board**

Name	Country	Title	No. Meetings	No. Attended
Colin Bradley	Australia	President (Chair)	9	9
Dr Chivonne Algeo *	Australia	Vice-President (Australasia)	3	2
Dr Emmanuel Tetteh	USA	Vice-President (International)	9	5
Dr John Molineux	Australia	Treasurer	9	9
Andrew Cook	Australia	Secretary	9	7

<sup>\*</sup> Retired in October 2021



Action Learning, Action Research Association became a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission (ACNC) on 1 April 2015.

As a registered Charity, ALARA receives specific entitlements with respect to reporting and taxation, provided its Constitution and operations meet the requirements for charities. ALARA's Constitution is available on its website <a href="https://www.alarassociation.org">https://www.alarassociation.org</a>.

ALARA does not have DGR (Deductible Gift Recipient) status.

#### **Board Sub-Committees**

#### **Committees Group**

Name	Country	Title	No. Meetings	No. Attended
Dr Chivonne Algeo *	Australia	Vice-President (Australasia)	2	1
Dr Emmanuel Tetteh	USA	Vice-President (International)	7	4
Prof Tome Mapotse *	South Africa	Research Co-ordinator	2	1
Dr Susan Goff	Australia	Publications Co-ordinator	7	7
Colin Bradley	Australia	President (Chair) – Membership; Web Services	7	7
Dr John Molineux	Australia	Treasurer – ex-officio **	7	6
Andrew Cook	Australia	Secretary – ex-officio **	7	5

<sup>\*</sup> Retired in October 2021

<sup>\*\*</sup> Ex-officio members are not required to attend meetings but may attend when available.



#### **Risk Committee**

Name	Country	Title	No. Meetings	No. Attended
Colin Bradley	Australia	President (Chair)	2	2
Dr John Molineux	Australia	Treasurer	2	2
Andrew Cook	Australia	Secretary	2	2
Susan Goff	Australia	Publications Co-ordinator	1	1

### **Global Strategic Publications Editorial Board**

Name	Country	Title	No. Meetings	No. Attended
Dr Azril Bacal	Sweden / Peru		5	2
Colin Bradley	Australia	President (Chair)	5	5
Dr Susan Goff	Australia	Publications Co-ordinator	5	5
A/Prof Erik Lindhult	Sweden		5	3
Riripeti Reedy	New Zealand		5	2
Dr Shankar Sankaran	Australia		5	5
Dr Shawn Wilson	Canada		5	0
Dr Yedida Bessemer	USA / Israel	Managing Editor	5	4

## **Our Supporters**

## **Life Members**

Dr Jacques Boulet Mrs Joan Bulcock

Ms Anne-Marie Carroll Dr Lyn Cundy
Dr Susan Goff Dr Paul Inglis

Em. Prof. Ron Passfield Dr Ernie Stringer

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A/Prof. Yoland Wadsworth Prof. Ortrun Zuber-Skerritt AO



## **Organisational Members**

**Action Research Issues Association Inc.** 

**Australian Institute of Business** 





**Business Action Learning Tasmania** 

**Global Centre for Work-Applied Learning** 





**Global University for Lifelong Learning** 

**Advertisers and Sponsors** 

**Global Centre for Work-Applied Learning** 





**Australian Institute of Business** 



## **President's Report**

Action Learning, Action Research Association has had a very busy year, with the realisation of several important initiatives and the commencement of several other important actions. Key highlights for the year include the following.

#### United Nations

Last year, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations decided to recommend Special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to ALARA. The Economic and Social Council endorsed the recommendation in the second half of the calendar year. The ALARA Board has been monitoring activity in the UN to find activities to which it could contribute.

#### Publications

ALARA member, Dr Yedida Bessemer commenced as the Managing Editor, and she has been working on issues of the *Action Learning and Action Research Journal* for 2022.

ALARA initiated the group of editorial representatives from ten Action Learning / Action Research publications around the world, and this group held two webinars, co-ordinated by ALARA, to help aspiring authors in their submissions to the publications. The Publications Report on page 12 has more details about the work in this area.

#### Research

The Research portfolio continued to encourage the research teams, although one project has stalled, due to relocation of the research lead. See the Research report on page 12 for details of this research work.

#### • Sponsorship

The agreement with Global Centre for Work-Applied Learning continued. GCWAL are financially supporting research initiatives undertaken by ALARA, and Australian Institute of Business has sponsored the Higher Degree Research awards.

#### • Indigenous AL / AR Co-ordinator

ALARA decided it needed to add a position to create and support networking amongst Indigenous action learning and action research practitioners. Before it could seek to fill this position, the Committee Group, led by Dr Susan Goff, sought to refine is policies and website in a manner that would support the Co-ordinator once appointed.

#### Website Upgrade

The software language used on ALARA's website had become outmoded, so the Board commissioned an upgrade to a current version of the software. ALARA launched the revised website late in the financial year.

#### Administration Support

ALARA received a boost late in the financial year when Bernadette commenced as ALARA's administration support. Although only available for a small number of hours, the Board was most pleased to receive this support.



#### Governance

ALARA's Board sub-committees continued to meet during the year.

- The Committees Group oversees the operations of ALARA. It contains positions for Coordinators for Indigenous AL / AR, Marketing, Membership, Publications, Research, Streams, Volunteers and Web Services in addition to the two Vice-Presidents, who also manage events.
- The Risk Committee ensures that the Board can manage the risks associated with running an organisation in the environment that exists in today's world. The Risk Committee identifies the risks ALARA faces and the strategies to manage those risks.
- The Global Strategic Publications Editorial Board provides guidance and advice to the Board on the direction and management of ALARA's publications, and assists in its promotion. See the Publications Co-ordinator's Report on page 12 for more information.

#### Matters of importance that have occurred since 30 June 2022

Subsequent to the end of the financial year, the following matters have occurred.



- Mr Yang Tang joined the ALARA Board as Treasurer, and Dr John Molineux became the Vice-President Australasia.
- ALARA conducted a webinar with Dr Mary Brydon-Miller in association with University of Technology Sydney, at the end of her four-month stay in Australia and New Zealand on a Fulbright Scholarship.
- ALARA published the first of its new publication series, Practitioner Papers.
- GCWAL indicated that it wanted to change the arrangements for its sponsorship with ALARA, and the Board were discussing those changes at the time of the AGM.

#### **Implications and Consequences of Coronavirus**

Coronavirus and its consequences such as travel restrictions continued to hamper ALARA's planning of a conference. While face-to-face events have become more prevalent in 2022, the uncertainty of further outbreaks stopped ALARA conducting this type of events in 2021 and 2022.

ALARA now believes that it will be able to hold a face-to-face conference in 2024, although it will continue to offer virtual activities in the interim.



### **Our Activities**

## Australasian Activities - Vice-President (Australasia)

COVID prevented much activity in Australasia during the year. The second Doctoral Workshop, sponsored by Australian Institute of Business (AIB), with associated awards for the Best Student Action Research Presentation did not proceed as planned. Discussions did begin, however, about a future conference, probably in 2024.

## **International Activities – Vice-President (International)**

Emmanuel Tetteh had planned to visit Ghana during this year to re-initiate discussions around the proposed World Congress, but travel was not possible (he has since visited Ghana in September, after the end of the financial year).



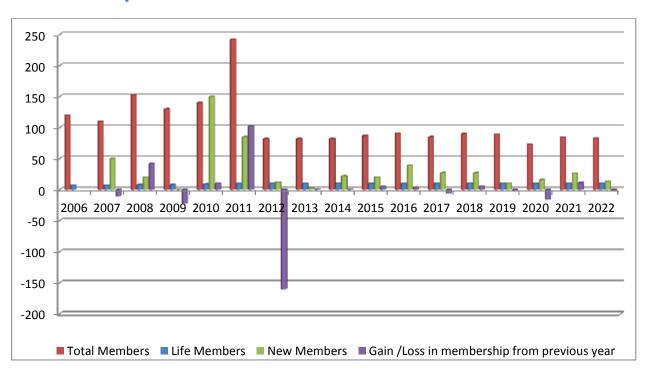
Emmanuel has held virtual meetings with Ghanaian action learning, action research practitioners and academics. The outcome of those discussions was to reinitiate planning for the World Congress for 2025.

Meanwhile, Emmanuel has approached organisations to identify possible grants and investigated means to conduct financial transactions in countries where standard procedures will not permit those transactions.

## Marketing

The focus for this year of the Board was developing relationships with editorial board representatives of about ten action learning / action research publications. This work aimed to encourage the group to help each other expand their reach and the quality and quantity of papers submitted to their publications. The group conducted two webinars during the year – see the Publications report below.

## **Membership**



ALARA's membership was almost unchanged in numbers during 2021/22. The graph below shows the membership levels. ALARA continues to direct its actions towards gaining engagement from



transient participants, aiming to keep action learning / action research academics and practitioners networking and aware of activities. Individual members have been most helpful in encouraging action learning / action research practitioners to join ALARA.

#### **Publications**

The Global Strategic Publications Editorial Board's objective is to provide strategic advice to the Board on its global mission for the editorial direction and management of its publications. The challenge is to make ALARA publications more relevant, higher quality, with a greater impact, and supported by increased informed volunteerism. The ALARA Board receives minutes of Editorial Board meetings.



The Editorial Board has proposed a number of suggestions, including:

- Theses Research Notes, in which a final year research student writes about the research experience, and the supervisor contributes with comments from the supervisor's perspective
- Identifying a potential webinar arising from an interesting paper, or encouraging a presenter in a webinar to submit a paper
- Supporting the development of Indigenous recognition in submitted papers
- Investigating potential listing on other international scientific journal registries to increase ALARi's appeal and impact factor

ALARA delivered two issues of the journal in 2021. We are most grateful to Dr Yedida Bessemer for joining as the Managing Editor. We are also very grateful to the reviewers who ensure the quality of *ALARj* publications.

The group of action learning / action research publications held a webinar – *Publish Your Values-Driven Research for Systemic Change* – twice on 28 September with over 60 people attending, and again in May 2022, with slight less than half that number of attendees. The initiative showed both the potential for collaboration between the various publications and their co-ordinating entities and the benefits that potential authors could gain from such events. The feedback from both sets of webinars was very encouraging.

ALARA is grateful to the Global Strategic Publications Group members:

- Riripeti Reedy
- Dr Shawn Wilson
- Professor Shankar Sankaran
- · Assistant Professor Erik Lindhult
- Dr Azril Bacal
- · Colin Bradley
- Dr Susan Goff (Secretary)

#### Research

As part of the agreement with Global Centre for Work-Applied Learning (GCWAL), ALARA receives funds to undertake research. The first project commenced in 2021 led by Dr John Molineux, and the researchers produced an initial draft in early 2022. This research is about Action Learning certifications around the world and seeking ideas to maximise the quality of those certifications.



A second research project on action research publications also commenced in 2021. The research group look forward to its first delivery in coming months. Its members are:



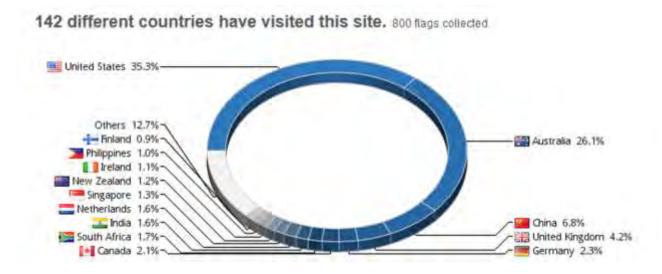
- Adjunct Professor Yedida Bessemer
- Dr Geof Hill
- Dr Vicki Vaartjes
- Dr Liz Orr
- Dr Diana Austin
- Dr Susan Goff

#### **Streams**

A continuing vacancy in the Streams Co-ordinator role has meant little development of streams and chapters, although the Board remain hopeful that chapters will commence in coming years.

## Web Services, including Social Media

The ALARA website (<a href="https://www.alarassociation.org">https://www.alarassociation.org</a>) continues to be well visited -17 more countries represented than last year. As its platform was in an old version of software, ALARA updated the site during the year, with the revised site launching at the end of the financial year.



The Online Journal Service (OJS) continues to provide the operating software that houses *Action Learning and Action Research Journal* site, which readers can access on a sub-domain of the main site - https://alarj.alarassociation.org.

With Bob Dick's kind agreement, ALARA also hosts his suite of information about action research and action learning – ARAL – on two new locations: <a href="https://aral.alarassociation.org/">https://aral.alarassociation.org/</a> and <a href="https://aral.alarassociation.org/areol/">https://aral.alarassociation.org/areol/</a>. A further sub-domain of the main site is the content of the 2010 World Congress, available on <a href="https://wc2010.alarassociation.org/">https://wc2010.alarassociation.org/</a>.

ALARA's social media content continues with varying amounts of activity. At the end of the financial year, Bernadette, the new Admin Support, began to manage these various media.

## **Other Important Matters**

#### **Climate Change**

ALARA supports efforts to reduce the impact of human activity on the environment. ALARA use of electronic communication and delivery of information is one way in which it is trying to reduce its own carbon footprint.



Whenever possible, the Board and sub-committees meet via Zoom video conferencing to minimise travel by members, or meet when members are together at another event.

ALARA plans to take a more active role in climate action, including supporting Dr Mary Brydon-Miller, who visited Australia and New Zealand from May 2022 on a Fulbright Scholarship, While on that scholarship, Dr Brydon-Miller worked with students on developing climate action using action research. She participated in an ALARA webinar after the end of the financial year to discuss her work.

#### **Ethics**

ALARA has defined its values and principles and these are available on the ALARA website <a href="https://www.alarassociation.org">https://www.alarassociation.org</a>. An ALARA member began working with a group of Board and other members to develop a guide for Ethics Committees. The relocation of that member has delayed the finalisation of the guide.

#### **Employment Practices**

ALARA does not employ staff; instead utilising volunteers and contracted specialist services (such as bookkeeping). The Board aims to ensure that contracted services ethically employ any employees and have appropriate conditions and salaries. The Board also encourages volunteers to work on matters that are of direct interest and value to the volunteers, and to ensure that they do not over-extend themselves in this volunteer work. To support volunteers, the Board introduced a volunteer status form and policy late in 2021.

#### **Modern-Day Slavery**

ALARA has few products, and the Board believes that the production of these products is by organisations that are not involved in modern-day slavery.

#### **United Nations Strategic Development Goals**

ALARA is an NGO (Non-Government Organisation) with consultancy status with United Nations. ALARA supports the UN's Strategic Development Goals, and has a series of pages on its website to reflect the work done by members and others under the seventeen UN Strategic Development Goals. ALARA will add more examples as this work continues.

#### Vision

ALARA's vision is to create a more equitable, just, joyful, productive, peaceful and sustainable society by creating local and global change through the wide use of Action Learning and Action Research by individuals, groups and organisation. This vision is an overarching theme in the work performed by the Board and the activities of ALARA.



## **Financial Statements**

## ACTION LEARNING, ACTION RESEARCH ASSOCIATION LIMITED ABN 90 629 762 232

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022

INCOME	2022	2021
Advertising	0.00	0.00
Conferences & Sponsorship	0.00	4,449.91
Interest	34.59	160.46
Local Events	0.00	446.17
Membership Fee	5,478.69	6,594.62
Publications	451.76	501.65
Royalty / Copyright Income	267.47	342.37
Alliance	9,000.00	10,967.60
Tax refundable	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	15,232.51	23,462.78
OTHER INCOME		
Expenses Recovered	0.00	66.85
Donation	0.00	50.00
TOTAL INCOME	 15,232.51	23,579.63
EXPENDITURES		
Administration Services	5,212.61	5,346.06
Advertising	238.27	436.67
ALARA Journal	1,612.21	1,444.61
Bank and PayPal Fees	111.19	201.51
Email/internet account	1,021.24	869.53
Insurance	2,091.73	1,454.50
Membership Services PO Box	86.36 130.91	0.00 123.64
Printing, Postage and Stationery	576.03	926.94
Sponsorship	0.00	883.64
Web Maintenance	200.00	100.00
Web Design/Development	3,597.50	1,720.00
Zoom	230.89	230.89
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	15,108.94	13,737.99
NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT	123.57	9,841.64

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report.



## ACTION LEARNING, ACTION RESEARCH ASSOCIATION LIMITED ABN 90 629 762 232

#### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022

ASSETS	2022	2021
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash at Bank (1)	19,805.99	14,282.88
Cash at Bank (2)	439.55	179.49
WC 2017 Bank Account	19.69	19.68
Term Deposit #1	6,767.46	6,767.46
Term Deposit #2	5,017.97	5,017.97
GST Paid	30.45	35.14
Accounts Receivable	494.22 	3,955.76 
Total Current Assets	32,575.33	30,258.38
Non-Current Assets	0.00	0.00
Total Non-Current Assets	0.00	0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	32,575.33	30,258.38
	, 	
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	4,091.11	1,443.10
Sundry Creditor – WC Africa Trust	11,785.43	11,785.43
BALT (Seed Funds)	0.00	0.00
BAS Payable	-144.00	-2.00
GST Collected	51.43	364.06
TOTAL LIABILITIES	15,783.97	13,590.59
NET ASSETS	16,791.36	16,667.79
MEMBERS FUNDS		
Opening Accumulated Funds	16,667.79	6,826.15
Add Surplus/Deficit	123.57	9,841.64
TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS	16,791.36	16,667.79

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report.



## **Audit Statements**

#### **Audit Statement**

#### Report of audit

The Treasurer has reviewed the bank statements, financial transactions made and the financial statements compiled by our contract bursar. The published balance sheet and income and expenditure statements represent an accurate position of the financial position of Action Learning, Action Research Association Ltd.

#### Notes to the financial report:

- 1. There are no mortgages, charges or securities affecting the assets of the Association.
- 2. There are no other known liabilities.
- 3. Term Deposits held
  - 1 \$ 5,017.97
  - 2 \$ 6,767.46

#### **Total** \$11,785.43

4. Norwich University has terminated their Annual Membership without payment.



# Supporting Action Learning, Action Research Association Ltd

The activities and successes of Action Learning, Action Research Association Ltd are due to the work of volunteers, supported by Business in Mind for bookkeeping services. There are many ways that you can support us in our work.

#### Become a member

ALARA is a membership organisation. There are several types of membership to suit most circumstances:

 Individual, at either Full or Concessional Membership, for each of three categories of economic situations for the country of residence of the member



Organisational, from Micro Enterprise to large Corporate, as well as Affiliate

More details are available on the **ALARA** website.

Membership offers several benefits to individuals and organisations, and allows those members to become involved in ALARA's activities.

#### Support your organisation becoming an ALARA member

ALARA welcomes organisational members. Members (staff, associates, members) of Organisational Members of ALARA can also join ALARA at a Reduced Fee rate, which means those staff, etc. can directly gain the benefits of being part of the ALARA community.

Please see the <u>ALARA website</u>, or contact ALARA at <u>admin@alarassociation.org</u> for more information about your organisation joining ALARA.

#### Volunteer your time

Volunteering for ALARA can be as simple as helping to set up for, or clean up after, an event, leading a research project or joining the Committees Group in one of the roles coordinating ALARA's activities. As a membership organisation, ALARA is always looking for more assistance. If you are interested in Action Learning and Action Research, ALARA may be able to help you, so please consider how you and ALARA can gain from your energy.



#### Make a donation



ALARA, as a charity, encourages Action Learning and Action Research practitioners to consider supporting it through donations. Money received is used on ALARA activities and operations, as Board and Co-ordinator roles are volunteer positions.

You can contact ALARA at <a href="mailto:admin@alarassociation.org">admin@alarassociation.org</a>, or click on the <a href="mailto:Donations button">Donations button</a> on the website.

Support the *Action Learning and Action Research Journal* by becoming a contributor or a reviewer

ALARA welcomes contributions from authors of papers on action learning and action research. Issues are usually published twice each year. ALARA has over sixty reviewers of papers for the



double blind review, but is always seeking additional reviewers. Authors and reviewers can register on the Journal website - https://alari.alarassociation.org.

#### Organise an event or fundraising activity



An important way in which ALARA supports the use of Action Learning and Action Research is supporting the conduct of events where Action Learning and Action Research practitioners can meet to discuss their activities and learn from fellow practitioners.

ALARA organises those events directly or with others. It has conducted over thirty conferences and world congresses, and its members have held over eighty smaller events, such as the Brisbane Conversations and a variety of workshops in other cities. See the website for <u>more information</u> on these events.

The radical changes over 2020 and 2021 also means that ALARA is seeking to conduct virtual events – from small Conversations to large conferences, so the Board would welcome suggestions on people and organisations that would like to assist in conducting such events.

If you would like to organise (or help conduct) an ALARA event or fundraising activity, please contact ALARA at <a href="mailto:admin@alarassociation.org">admin@alarassociation.org</a>.

#### Attend an ALARA event

ALARA promotes its events on in the <u>News and Events</u> section of its website and through the e-News members receive each fortnight. Attendance is usually open to all people, with some events free, and most of the remainder at very low admission price. We would welcome your attendance at these events.

## Support your organisation, or encourage another organisation, to form an alliance with ALARA

ALARA has developed alliances with several organisations and networks (page 8 lists some of these entities). By joining with other organisations and networks, ALARA is able to both promote its work and those partners. You can discuss linking with ALARA with your organisation, or one that you believe would be well suited to an alliance with ALARA. The alliance might be sponsorship, cohosting an event, or offering benefits to members. Please contact ALARA at <a href="mailto:admin@alarassociation.org">admin@alarassociation.org</a> to discuss any potential alliance.

#### Support the social media activities of ALARA



You can tell the Action Learning and Action Research community within and beyond ALARA about events and activities of interest through ALARA's social media (see page 22). Our Twitter account is most active around conferences, but you can access it anytime. Our YouTube site has a range of useful videos about Action Learning and Action Research. We welcome additions to these media, so contact us to discuss how you can join in the conversation.









#### Join and promote the ALARA Tertiary Education Community on LinkedIn

If you are currently undertaking a Master or Doctorate using Action Learning or Action Research, please consider joining ALARA's <u>Tertiary Education Community</u> on LinkedIn, where you can discuss your work with fellow students.

If you are a lecturer or professor in Action Research, please consider contacting ALARA to discuss how you could use the LinkedIn group to support your students.

#### **Promote Action Learning and Action Research**

#### ALARA's vision is:

To create a more equitable, just, joyful, productive, peaceful and sustainable society by creating local and global change through the wide use of Action Learning and Action Research by individuals, groups and organisations.

If there is anything you can do to help ALARA promote Action Learning and Action Research, or if there is anything you believe ALARA can do to help you promote Action Learning and Action Research, please contact ALARA.



## **Future Thinking**

ALARA's future activities will concentrate in the following five areas.

- Australasian Conference 2024
- Webinars
- 11<sup>th</sup> Action Learning, Action Research and 15<sup>th</sup> Participatory Action Research World Congress in 2025
- Publications
- · Strategic alliances
- Improving ALARA's financial position

#### **Australasian Conference 2024**

ALARA had expected to conduct its next conference as a face-to-face event in 2021 or 2022. The ongoing problems of travel restrictions and social distancing means ALARA is now working towards its first post-Coronavirus conference in 2024, an Australasian conference. A small subcommittee have commenced working on themes and ideas for this event.

#### **Webinars**

The success of the ALARA webinars held in 2021 and 2022 and the ALARA –BALT Conference in November 2020 highlighted the potential to complement face-to-face events into the future. Importantly, as demonstrated in both of the conducted virtual events, the nature of highly interactive discussions are essential in ALARA events, just as they are in face-to-face events.

## 11<sup>th</sup> Action Learning, Action Research and 15<sup>th</sup> Participatory Action Research World Congress in 2025

Prof Emmanuel Tetteh has recommenced discussions with Dr Brian Jennings of Ghana Christian University College (GCUC) and Dr Augustine Tawiah, Honourable Member of Parliament of the Republic of Ghana to advance a proposed ALARA World Congress in Ghana.

#### **Publications**

The ALARA Board and Global Strategic Publications Editorial Board are aiming to increase the profile of the *Action Learning and Action Research Journal* in coming years. The Editorial Board is promoting a special issue this year and the potential for another one in 2023, as well as other strategies to increase the *Journal*'s profile.

#### **Strategic Alliances**

The ALARA Board continued its strategic alliance with Global Centre for Work-Applied Learning (GCWAL) but this alliance is under review following the end of the financial year. The group with representatives from ten other Action Learning / Action Research publications is an example of the strategic alliances ALARA is fostering. The recognition with the United Nations will lead to further introductions and possibilities for more alliances.

#### **Financial Position**

ALARA's financial position has remained stable this year (see the Financial Statements commencing on page 15). Further work to increase sources and amount of income to help with covering the costs of operations remains a priority for the Board.



## **Contact Us**

Action Learning, Action Research Association Ltd is a company limited by guarantee, registered in Adelaide South Australia. Its postal address remains in Brisbane, Queensland.

Postal Address: P.O. Box 162

Greenslopes, QLD 4120

www

Internet: <a href="https://www.alarassociation.org/">https://www.alarassociation.org/</a>

@

Email: admin@alarassociation.org

F

Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/218695368241066/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/218695368241066/</a>

in

LinkedIn: <a href="http://www.linkedin.com/groups/4914977/profile">http://www.linkedin.com/groups/4914977/profile</a>

E

Twitter: @alaraevents (<u>https://twitter.com/alaraevents</u>)

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