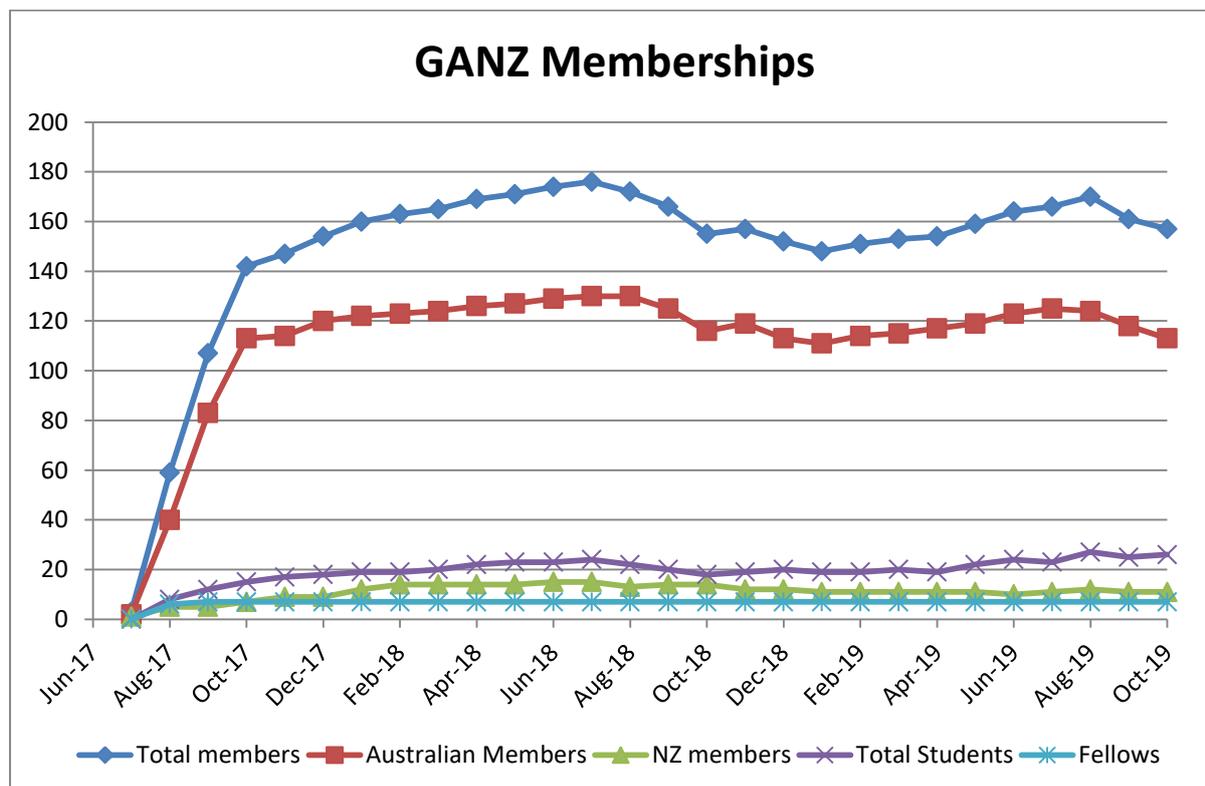


**Membership**

|                    | Totals as at<br>30/09/2019 | Totals as at<br>30/9/2018 | Change over last<br>year |
|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Australian Members | 118                        | 125                       | -7                       |
| NZ members         | 11                         | 14                        | -3                       |
| Students           | 25                         | 20                        | 5                        |
| Fellows            | 7                          | 7                         | 0                        |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>161</b>                 | <b>166</b>                | <b>-5</b>                |

- Membership tends to dip during the main renewal period of Aug - Oct, followed by a gradual increase in membership in the remaining months of the year
- The old GANZ had 234 members in 2016/2017, so our overall membership has dropped compared to the old GANZ.



**Communications:**

The main communication has been via the monthly newsletter, which contains updates about Council news, Conferences, the Journal, Research, Peer Groups, and professional development. A big thank you to Aicha Brogan for taking on compiling the Newsletter. The Newsletter is sent out to members, interested non-members and the training institutes.

Members are able to submit training events through the website directly for promotion in the newsletter and Facebook.

Reasons for new members joining included:

- “A way to get connected with Gestalt community”
- “To understand as a student what’s available in terms of education and support”
- “Keeping connected and informed about what’s happening in the Gestalt community as well as having my name listed in the therapist listings.”
- “Connect with other Gestalt counsellors and hope to be kept up to date with the latest research”
- “As a requirement to provide counselling and supervision to students”

#### **IT:**

The GANZ website has the core functions of managing memberships and hosting the public Gestalt Practitioner’s list, as well as providing Gestalt Resources for members. Unfortunately the website did not function very well for a long time after start up, and in early 2019 GANZ has changed our IT support provider. This has result in a lower cost and better service, and progress is being made on improving the website, e.g:

- The website server was also moved to a more reliable hosting service
- The major problems with renewals and the practitioner list have been resolved, and we are working through minor problems.
- When joining online, members now receive a more personal welcome message, and the format of tax invoices have been adjusted to fit Australian requirements.
- The website now has the capacity to accept card payments and donations
- GANZ no longer offers automatically recurring subscriptions, due to repeated technical problems. Most people on the recurring subscriptions have been switched to 1 year memberships, and when this is complete the only people on recurring subscriptions will be the Fellows.

#### **Plans for 2019/2020**

Plans for next year focus on building systems that support the sustainability of GANZ in the future.

Eg:

- Improve the GANZ the mailing list system, which currently requires too much manual updating
- Look at what supports would be useful to Council roles. Ideas include a part-time paid admin role to process applications and to collect and distribute information from training providers and practitioners about Gestalt events; an organisational consultant to support people stepping onto Executive roles.

*Anthony Jones*

*Vice President*

29/10/19