



MAY 2021 NEWSLETTER

In 2016 it was recognised that more awareness of XYY Syndrome was needed within the community and educational system. In 2018 the XYY Syndrome Association of Australia Inc. was developed and the journey began.

In the first year of operation a global online survey was conducted to gain an insight into what was known about XYY Syndrome and obtain a clear understanding of the issues faced by males with XYY Syndrome and their families. The amount of data collected was overwhelming and we are proud to announce that the Association released a paper in February 2021 - What is XYY Syndrome? The diagnosis, Common Traits and Comorbidity.

<https://xyyaustralia.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/What-is-XYY-Syndrome-The-Diagnosis-Common-Traits-and-Comorbidity-3-Feb-2021.pdf>



The recent AGM was held on 23 October 2020 where a significant change was made to the executive committee. The association was started due to the pure love and dedication of the Gilkes Family however it was time to move from a family based committee to include a variety of members such as other XYY parents and community members with specific skill sets. New committee members include Kylie Clark-Parry and Emily Wadsworth and Kerry Lobb newly elected Deputy Chairperson.

MEET THE TEAM



Chairperson



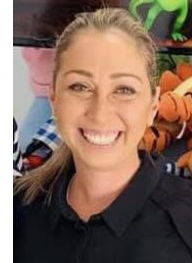
Deputy
Chairperson



Secretary



Treasurer



Committee
member



Committee
member



Committee
member



Committee
member



Committee
member



Creating Awareness

2018 – West Australian Association of Teacher Assistants (WAATA) Annual Conference. We delivered a 45 minute presentation to the conference with the aim of raising their awareness of XYX Syndrome and how to best support our children within the educational environment.

2019 – Amber flew to Brisbane to attend a 2 day conference held by the Focus Foundation – USA featuring a team of Chromosome specialists in Neurodevelopment, Neurogenetics, Endocrinology, PT, Immunology, Executive functioning, Oral Motor and Speech and Language. This was a wonderful opportunity to network with an international organisation and share information.



Achievements

April 2019 saw us being granted Charity status and we conducted a launch in July 2019 where we had the opportunity to discuss our mission with representatives from Genetics WA.



As a result of our amazing networking we have had the honour of being nominated for numerous Community Awards including:

2019 – WA Regional Achievement and Community Awards nominated under the Community TAB Community Service Award.





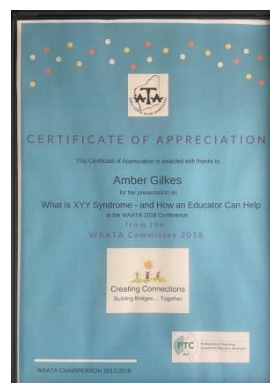
2020- Australia Day Community Citizen of the year Award.



2020 – WA Regional Achievement and Community Awards – nominated for
Woolworths Community Group of the Year Award.



August 2018 - WAATA Conference Scarborough WA –
Guest Speaker at Conference also the Association was a
Bronze supporter of this conference. Kerry Lobb XYY parent accompanied
Amber Gilkes to conference to help with any queries.



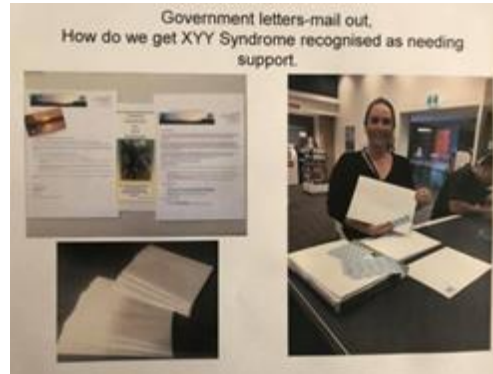


Community events and involvement

28th June - Disabilities Expo, Hosted by JCT at Mandurah Forum WA
Great networking opportunity with local community services, including providers like APM (NDIS) APM delivers NDIS Local Area Coordination Services



April 2018 - 40 letters sent to State and Federal Government creating awareness for XYY Syndrome.



October 2020 – Mental Health Awareness week supported by the City of Mandurah at Lakelands Shopping Centre. We had an Information stall to raise awareness about XYY Syndrome.



David Templeman MLA,
Mandurah, Western Australia



Andrew Hastie MP
Member for Canning,
Western Australia



Fundraising and support

Donation Boxes have been generously accepted by local businesses in the Lakelands Community. The first round of boxes raised a total of \$150.25 in one month. We look forward to this continued support. In addition we have been granted a token jar to be placed at Grill'd in Mandurah. <https://www.grilld.com.au/about/localmatters>

Please keep a lookout on our website and Facebook for details and be sure to share this with your family and friends.

Lions Club – 23 March 2021 Amber was invited to be a guest speaker at the monthly meeting of The Lions Club of Mandurah Inc. This wonderful opportunity has given us a wider support network locally which has the ability to expand internationally. Stay tuned for exciting announcements to follow.



Bunnings – we are in the process of applying for a sausage sizzle fundraising opportunity.

ConnectGroups – in 2020 we received a grant (\$2388.00) from [ConnectGroups](#) as part of their [Give it Forward](#) campaign. This grant allowed the purchase of insurance, banners, tablecloths, t-shirts and marketing material. This amazing support enabled us to print new batches of brochures and business cards along with creating a professional appearance. We are currently in the process of submitting a new grant application under the [Pay it Forward](#) programme. If successful we plan to use this grant to deliver workshops for our XYX Males and their families later in 2021 and develop a care package (information booklet).

Useful resources

This is an excellent book to share with teachers, classmates, friends and family to help explain some common struggles and characteristics of the XYX male. A copy of this book can be found via Amazon or ebay.

Amazon - <https://tinyurl.com/4r35uutf>

ebay - <https://tinyurl.com/dtxwpz4e>