

# Athol Robinson Award

*A commitment to the support of education of others.*



## Profile of Athol Robinson 1942 – 2008

Athol Robinson came to the field of massage and complementary medicine in the early 1990s. He completed a Certificate of Massage at the Victorian School of Massage in 1990 while still working with the State Electricity Commission. He began working as a qualified massage therapist in 1993, initially in a chiropractic clinic and then in Sherbourne House, an osteopathic clinic which Athol and his wife later purchased, as well as continuing with clinical work and a private practice from his home.

One of Athol's core values was the importance of ongoing education, both for himself and for others. Early in his career, in administrative and management roles, Athol had obtained tertiary qualifications from RMIT and Monash University and he continued to seek out educational opportunities throughout his career.

As well as participating in the education of others in his work, he also devoted a great deal of time to sharing his knowledge and skills in a voluntary capacity. This included lecturing at the Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education in Churchill, a forerunner of Federation University. He also served as a member and president of several school councils and a Little Athletics group demonstrating his interest in furthering the education and development of children.

During his career as a massage therapist, Athol continued to extend and develop his knowledge and skills in areas such as the Bowen Technique, lymphatic drainage and infant massage. He also provided clinical preceptorship to students at the School of Nursing and Midwifery at Latrobe University.

Athol was an enthusiastic member of his profession who was keenly interested in the development of a mentoring program for new graduates. He would have been extremely proud that this mentoring program for new graduates now exists and will continue his values.

## Application and Criteria

### Purpose

Massage & Myotherapy Australia, under our Awards program, will provide a student upon graduation, or in their last semester if they have sufficient capacity, a program of mentoring and exposure to a range of supports based on their strengths and weaknesses. The aim is to assist the recipient of the Award in all aspects of business, technical and practical skills, and future development within their first 12 months of practice. Applications are invited from students, who are graduating in the current year of application.

### Benefits:

The benefits of the Award include but are not limited to:

Access to monthly content specific workshops or sessions delivered by subject matter experts. This may be in the form of online, email and face-to-face where applicable and identified from the pool of talent within and external to industry.

Participants would be assisted in academic and educational skills-related knowledge deliverable over a 12-month period on how to develop or implement their business and professional development plan for a sustainable business model and develop/fast-track their career. A dedicated mentor will guide the recipient throughout the program with monthly one-on-one hour long mentoring sessions.

The program addresses areas which both the mentor and successful applicant believe most relevant and these will then be delivered by an expert in that field. These topics will be selected from the list below:

1. Strategic Career Direction
2. Finances and Tax
3. Marketing and Social Media
4. Law & Employment/Contracting Issues
5. Industry Leadership and Participation
6. Commitment to Lifelong Learning
7. Client Focused Practice
8. Clinical Excellence, Innovation and/or Improvement
9. Effective Writing for Best Clinical and Research Outcomes
10. Select area of Specialisation.

Topics can relate to the successful applicant regardless of whether the student intends to be an owner operator, a clinic sub-contractor or employee in a multi-modality clinic or private or home-based clinic setting.

## Application and Selection Process:

The eligibility and selection criteria must be completed for the application to be valid. The application must be received in a typed format, adhere to the required word count or video format and be presented in the same structure as the criteria on the following page.

Applications will be received **only** in softcopy (electronically) and/or digital format. Hard copy written applications will not be accepted. Applications must be received on, or before, the closing date to be considered. Applications must include a copy of the applicants' professional curriculum vitae and a signed document of the RTO recommendation.

Selection criteria will be weighted as indicated on the application form by the maximum score possible for each criteria/theme. The National Education Committee will appoint a selection panel, inclusive of a member of the Robinson family who will independently assess all applications according to the eligibility and selection criteria.

The panel's choice will be final and is not open to appeal. Massage & Myotherapy Australia has no obligation to provide feedback in relation to any submission or provide guidance in application.

Non-adherence to any part of the application process will result in a 10% reduction on the overall score achieved.

The successful applicant of the Athol Robinson Award will be notified by email along with the commencement dates and relevant contacts.

Please complete the following Application Form and email to:

**Executive Assistant**  
**Massage & Myotherapy Australia**  
**ea@massagemyotherapy.com.au**

Closing date for applications is the end of the first week of April post-graduation.

## Application Form

### Applicant details

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**Name** .....

**Telephone Contact** .....

**Email Contact** .....

**RTO** .....

### Eligibility criteria (tick the box if applicable)

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- I am a current student member or full member of Massage & Myotherapy Australia
- I am a current student of massage or myotherapy
- I have current insurance cover\*
- I hold a current First Aid certificate\*\*
- I have attached my curriculum vitae.

\* Or evidence that the college has relevant insurance.

\*\* Or produce College curricular showing it being delivered prior to completion of studies.

### Criteria Confirmation from RTO to recommend and complete

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The following criteria has been identified as transferable skills that can be transportable across all areas of the profession: *'Key skills and personal attributes you need to enter, operate and thrive in a new world of work'*<sup>1</sup>

This part of your application must be completed by the Registered Training Organisation (RTO) where you are either currently enrolled or have graduated from. Please provide direct email and telephone contacts for confirmation.

**Nominated by (print full name):** .....

**Position held at RTO:** .....

**Name of RTO:** .....

**Date:** ..... **Email:** .....

**Telephone:** .....

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		Yes	No
<b>Criteria 1</b>	<i>Communication</i> Used diverse massage networks throughout the study time		
<b>Criteria 2</b>	<i>Teamwork</i> Identified strengths as working as part of a team within the education facility/student clinic/workplace or placement		
<b>Criteria 3</b>	<i>Self-management</i> Managed a goal/vision in relation to their future massage career		
<b>Criteria 4</b>	<i>Initiative and Enterprise</i> Been exemplary/innovative in their learning achievements		
<b>Criteria 5</b>	<i>Learning</i> Used available learning resources/skills to benefit peers and overall scholastic achievement		
<b>Criteria 6</b>	<i>Technology</i> Utilised technology for their career development in the massage industry		
<b>Any further comment from RTO</b>		<b>Max 50 words</b>	

## Massage & Myotherapy Australia criteria

Applicants can respond by either addressing the criteria in no more than 800 words in total or a five-minute video. Where applicants want to use both mediums to respond to the criteria this can be done either as:

- (A) 550 words and two minutes of video, or
- (B) 250 words and four minutes of video

Please tick one of the following;

- I am using 800 words
- I am using the video method
- I am using combination (A)
- I am using combination (B)

Regardless of which manner the applicant chooses to respond with, if the criteria content exceeds these amounts, 10% of points will be deducted from the final score of that application.

		Weighting
<b>Criteria 1</b>	Describe how you could collaboratively participate with the broader massage and myotherapy community to champion the Award and encourage others' involvement.	15%
<b>Criteria 2</b>	Describe how you could collaboratively participate with Massage & Myotherapy Australia through innovation and feedback in the future as a result of winning the Award.	20%
<b>Criteria 3</b>	Describe what extra-curricula practice/study or contribution you have made to the massage and myotherapy community through your studies.	15%
<b>Criteria 4</b>	Describe how you believe the Award will affect your future professional development and future career pathways and choices.	20%
<b>Criteria 5</b>	Describe what you think you can contribute directly to Massage & Myotherapy Australia as part of winning this Award.	15%
<b>Criteria 6</b>	Describe how the Award would assist your current work/study role.	15%
<b>Total</b>		100%

Please **SAVE** this PDF form and email to: [ea@massagemyotherapy.com.au](mailto:ea@massagemyotherapy.com.au)