

spea! *out*

August 2013

Start the
Conversation

about communication

Speech Pathology
Week 2013

25-31 August



- 3 From our President
- 4 Association News
 - 2013 AGM and Council News
 - Member Awards 2013
 - JCPSLP Editor's Prize awarded
 - 2014 nominations and budget
 - Online initiatives & ASHA meeting
 - Board of Ethics update
 - Book of the Year shortlist
 - Expert Advisor Register
 - Safe Schools Hub
 - SPyce Project Report launch
- 14 Speech Pathology Week 2013
- 18 2013 National Conference
- 21 2014 National Conference
- 22 2013 National Conference photos
- 24 National CPD Update
- 27 Professional Practice News
 - Assessment and reporting
 - Responsibility to colleagues
- 29 Branch Pages:
 - Australian Capital Territory
 - New South Wales
 - Queensland
 - South Australia
 - Tasmania
 - Victoria
 - Western Australia
- 37 SPA profile – Jennai Beckett
- 38 SPA online update
- 39 Classifieds

National Office

Level 2 / 11-19 Bank Place
Melbourne VIC 3000
T 03 9642 4899
1300 368 835
F 03 9642 4922
E office@
speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

Chief Executive Officer

Gail Mulcair
T 03 9642 4899
E council@
speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

Speech Pathology Australia Council

Christine Stone
President

Gaenor Dixon
Vice President Communications

Meg Ledger
Vice President Operations

Michelle Foley
Continuing Professional Development and Scientific Affairs

Felicity Burke
Member Networks

Robyn Stephen
Practice, Workplace and Government – Communications

Teena Caithness
Practice, Workplace and Government – Operations

Stacie Attrill
Professional Standards

Tennille Burns
Public Affairs

Advertisements

Start from \$165 (inc GST) for an eighth of a page. Where Speech Pathology Australia has to arrange the artwork, there is an additional charge of \$44 (inc GST).

Publications Officer

Lana Busby
T 03 9642 4899
1300 368 835
E pubs@
speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

Inserts/Flyers

Distributed nationally
\$1595 (inc GST)

Advertising Booking Dates for October 2013 *Speak Out*

The official booking form must be received at National Office by COB Fri 30 August 2013. The artwork material deadline is COB Wednesday 4 September 2013.

See the Association website for further information

www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

Disclaimer

To the best of The Speech Pathology Association of Australia Limited's ('the Association') knowledge, this information is valid at the time of publication. The Association makes no warranty or representation in relation to the content or accuracy of the material in this publication. The Association expressly disclaims any and all liability (including liability for negligence) in respect of use of the information provided. The Association recommends you seek independent professional advice prior to making any decision involving matters outlined in this publication.

Print Post Approved
PP349181/01711

ISSN 1446-053X



IT HAS BEEN the most extraordinary privilege to hold the position of National President for the best part of the last four years, a post I step down from at the end of August. I am incredibly proud of our members, of our achievements and of our vibrant Association.

This editorial, my last as President, will be a brief one as so many of the projects I want to draw to your attention are highlighted elsewhere in this edition. In particular, I urge you to take the time to read my call to action for Speech Pathology Week and the International Communication Project 2014. I genuinely believe we are in a powerful position to make a real difference in the lives of people living with communication and swallowing difficulties. More importantly, I believe we must do so. But we cannot achieve this without your sustained and focused support. I'm calling on each and every one of you to embrace your inner activist and step up to this challenge for the sake of more than one million Australians.

It was extremely gratifying to see the overwhelmingly positive vote for constitution change at the recent AGM. This project has been a key priority of my presidency and I am excited by the possibilities it brings. This has been a truly collaborative and carefully considered process which has been strengthened by the informative and thoughtful input of members around the country. My personal thanks to everyone who took the time to provide comment or to ask questions. Your input has shaped the final product and, in so doing, the future of your Association.

I look forward to our strategic planning workshop in August. Here we will set the strategic priorities for Speech Pathology Australia to 2016. There are so many opportunities, so many needs and such

rapid change on all fronts that we need a sophisticated, coordinated and well informed plan to channel our activity and our efforts. My thanks to all who have provided input through the member survey or via your Branch Presidents and Councillors or other avenues. Your observations and insights will be instrumental in shaping the new plan, just as they were with our current plan which has served us so well.

My final responsibilities as President will occur at the International Association of Logopaedics and Phoniatics (IALP) Conference in Italy which takes place during Speech Pathology Week. Speech Pathology Australia has been invited to join an international panel discussing the implications of the World Health Organisation's *World Report on Disability*. This is a fantastic opportunity to showcase our approach to influencing systems and policy change in Australia and to raising community awareness through the International Communication Project 2014. We will also be presenting our bid to host IALP 2019 in Melbourne and, of course, participating in the famous flag ceremony!

I simply do not have the time, the space nor the eloquence to adequately convey how honoured I have been to hold this role. I have been graced with incredible professional, personal and practical support in an environment so collegial, generous and talented – a truly unique experience. I have been humbled by the opportunity to represent you and your achievements and to speak on behalf of our members and our consumers. And I am thrilled to 'hand the baton' to Professor Deborah Theodoros who brings so much to this position. I am excited about our future.

My heartfelt thanks.

Chris Stone
National President

2013 AGM overview and Council news

SPEECH PATHOLOGY AUSTRALIA'S 60th Annual General Meeting was held on the Gold Coast as part of the recent National Conference. Approximately 150 members and guests were in attendance.

New Constitution

We particularly welcomed the overwhelming support for the Association's new constitution, which was resoundingly voted in. This marks a new and exciting era for SPA and we look forward to a best practice governance structure that will serve us well for the years to come. As has been extensively discussed, the governance structure is now one of a skills-based Board rather than being representational. This means the new Board of Directors will be appointed in accordance with the skill set they bring to the role, and not necessarily based on where they live or which Branch they are associated with. Branches will continue to be represented through a separate robust communication and representative mechanism.



Additionally, there is now an option to appoint a limited number of external directors who may offer specific areas of expertise outside the field of speech pathology. These changes and the benefits of each were discussed and explained at the AGM by association governance consultant (and past speech pathologist) Steve Bowman (left).

The new Constitution is available on the Association's website, along with a summary of these important changes (under *Latest News*).

General Business

General business of the AGM was to report on the Association's major achievements and activities in 2012. These have been detailed in the Annual Report which has previously been circulated to members.

Speech Pathology Australia's financial position was also outlined, confirming that the Association's financial reserves remain strong with a further profit achieved in 2012. This consolidation of funds allows the Association to continue to build on its key services to members, as well as direct specific funds to major areas such as lobbying and advocacy.

As always, an exciting part of the AGM was the announcement of the Association's Awards, an opportunity to recognise the skills, expertise and dedication of a number of well-deserving members. Details of the award recipients for 2012 are highlighted on pages 5–7.

Council for 2013–2014

Council positions for 2013–2014 were also confirmed at the AGM as follows:

- President – Chris Stone
- Vice President Operations – Meg Ledger
- Vice President Communications – Gaenor Dixon
- Scientific Affairs/Continuing Professional Development – Michelle Foley
- Public Affairs – Tennille Burns
- Professional Standards – Stacie Attrill
- Practice, Workplace and Government Communications – Robyn Stephen
- Practice, Workplace and Government Operations – Teena Caithness
- Member Networks – Felicity Burke.



Council members (top row, from left) Teena Caithness, Felicity Burke, Tennille Burns, Stacie Attrill, (front row, from left) Gaenor Dixon, Robyn Stephen, Chris Stone, Meg Ledger and Michelle Foley.

We welcomed new Councillor, Teena Caithness, to the role of National Practice, Workplace and Government Operations Portfolio Coordinator.

Retiring Councillor, Felicity Martin (right), was sincerely thanked for her significant and sustained contribution to the Association over her four-year term as National Practice, Workplace and Government – Communications Coordinator and then Vice President Communications.



May 2013 Council Meeting Report

The second Council meeting for 2013 was held at National Office over 24–25 May 2013.

Some highlights from the meeting include:

- Council approved the proposed constitution for presentation to the membership ahead of the 2013 Annual General Meeting. Procedural considerations in implementing the proposed constitution were also discussed.
- A strategic discussion regarding clinical placements was held, acknowledging the difficulties being experienced by programs in securing clinical placements for students as part of meeting the requirements of accreditation. Council felt that the Transferability of Competencies project may assist in further informing future discussions.

Member Awards 2013

- Models to enhance communication within Member Networks were discussed. Following the success of the 'APProprate Apps' community Council decided to launch online communities for each of the Member Networks at the National Conference.
- The following clinical documents were ratified for release to the membership:
 - > Videofluoroscopic Swallow Study Clinical Guideline
 - > Tracheostomy Clinical Guideline, and
 - > Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation Position Statement.

These will be made available on the website soon.

The next Council meeting will be held in conjunction with a strategic planning workshop from 9–11 August 2013.

Gail Mulcair
Chief Executive Officer

Welcome to our new Council members

Welcome to Professor **Deborah Theodoros**, the incoming President. Prof Theodoros will be



stepping into the President's role in September 2013. Prof Theodoros is the Head of the Division of Speech Pathology within the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, and co-director of the Telerehabilitation Research Unit at the University of Queensland. Prof Theodoros is well known for her work in telepractice, specifically multidisciplinary telerehabilitation for assessment and intervention with neurogenic communication disorders. Prof Theodoros has researched and published extensively on the assessment and intervention for adult motor speech disorders. She has also founded the pavements of Paris in search of Broca's Brain. Prof Theodoros brings to the role a vision for the future of the profession and the skills to lead the Association to a position as a strong advocate for the speech pathology profession. We look forward to working with her.

2010 Elinor Wray Award winner **Teena Caithness** has joined Council in 2013. Teena brings to the role previous board experience and high level project management experience. Teena has an interest in assisting with research and has jointly published book chapters. Recognised with the NSW's Premier's Public Sector Award for Fairness and Opportunity in 2009, Teena has advocated for speech pathology and the needs of people with complex communication needs throughout her career. We look forward to working with Teena this year.



Gaenor Dixon
Vice President Communications

COUNCIL WAS EXTREMELY PROUD to present awards in the following categories at the 2013 AGM held on the Gold Coast. Council's appreciation goes to the many people who took the time to research and prepare the nominations that assist the Association in recognising some of our outstanding colleagues.

Elinor Wray Award

Instituted in 1981 to honour the founder of the speech pathology profession in Australia, the Elinor Wray Award is granted for outstanding contribution to the profession. The contribution of the nominee is clinical or project-orientated and encompasses: innovations in diagnostic, assessment or treatment procedures; promotion of speech pathology to government, the community or other professionals; and research or student training. Council was pleased to recognise an outstanding recipient of this award in Susan Woodward.



Susan Woodward

Susan has demonstrated outstanding achievement in facilitating the establishment of speech therapy training and services in Vietnam, as well as that of a volunteer program that supports many Australian speech pathologists working as clinical educators and lecturers in Vietnam. Susan's work in Vietnam has led to 17 graduates with more in training and ten new speech therapy clinics across the country.

To support and fund these projects, Susan established the Trinh Foundation Australia, which raises funds and directly supports the Vietnam speech therapy program. As a Director of the Trinh Foundation Australia, Susan undertakes the majority of the fundraising, liaising with various Vietnamese government departments and universities, as well as with Australian Volunteers International, and briefing and debriefing the Australian volunteers. Susan is recognised as the driving force behind the achievements of the Trinh Foundation Australia.

To date 40 Australian speech pathologists have completed placements as clinical educators or lecturers in Vietnam. The experience of volunteering for the Trinh Foundation changes the lives of Australian speech pathologists as well as those of the Vietnamese students, graduates and clients they work with. None of this would be possible without Susan's vision, leadership, passion and persistence.

Susan is the embodiment of grassroots commitment to improving the lives of people with communication and swallowing disorders and the practical leadership it takes to ensure these needs are addressed.

It is for her vision, leadership and extensive work in supporting the emerging profession of speech pathology in Vietnam, and her endeavours at home in ensuring that the work in Vietnam has impacts and benefits for the profession in Australia, that Susan was awarded the Elinor Wray Award.

Fellowship of Speech Pathology Australia

Fellowship is a public professional honour awarded to a person with considerable experience, responsibility and standing within the speech pathology profession. Council was pleased to recognise two outstanding recipients for this award.



Sue Horton

Sue Horton has been actively engaged with the Association since becoming a speech pathologist in 1979. She has demonstrated leadership in many roles at a National and Branch level, including Branch President for six years, Councillor for five years and numerous Branch Executive roles. Sue has been a leader in contributing

to Association activities, a positive innovator encouraging the same in others and has excelled in all activities in which she has engaged.

The expertise Sue has developed through her research, teaching and clinical practice is well recognised. Sue has been an important member of speech pathology programs at Flinders University and the University of Queensland, excelling in her teaching of motor speech disorders, professional practice topics and paediatric speech and language.

Sue's ongoing commitment to the professional education of students has demonstrated innovation and leadership. Sue was one of the first clinical educators to trial peer placement models, successfully changing the traditional ratios of clinical educator to student from 1:1 to 1:6 and enabling students to learn together in a model of genuine peer learning and mentoring. Since 2003 Sue integrated this model of clinical education in a school setting, where she successfully worked with six students per placement to provide services to an entire school community, significantly increasing the capacity to provide much needed speech pathology services to an otherwise underserved population of students.

Sue is well known for her leadership and expertise within the field of education. Sue is client and evidence focused, highly regarded by the families and school communities she works with and generous with her time and support for other speech pathologists.

Sue brings a sustained energy and vitality to the profession through her sense of humour, down-to-earth approach and willingness to act for the benefit of the profession. Sue has earned broad respect as evidenced by the number of colleagues who seek her advice and support. It was with great pleasure that we awarded Sue with Fellowship.

Dr Amanda Scott

Dr Amanda Scott is a speech pathologist with more than 30 years' experience, making a long and sustained contribution to the profession. Amanda is a highly regarded clinician, researcher and educator who has actively and generously shared her expertise with many speech pathologists.

Amanda has considerable expertise in the areas of



neuroscience and dysphagia management, working in several tertiary hospitals in Melbourne. Amanda established the Speech Pathology Department at Calvary Health Care Bethlehem, where she was one of the first speech pathologists to be involved with clients with progressive neurological conditions and palliative care. Amanda has produced a number of

groundbreaking publications and resources and has paved the way for new models of care and service delivery with these challenging client populations.

Amanda has focused much of her work over the years on building and contributing to the growing bodies of evidence and formalised research within the profession. Amanda has achieved numerous publications including journal articles, book chapters and textbooks. She has provided support and advice, encouraging and assisting many of her colleagues in the application of research and small project grants, travelling scholarships and academic publications.

Amanda was one of the earliest speech pathologists in Melbourne to embrace the use of VFSS as an objective measure for evaluating swallow disorders in neurological clients. She was instrumental in the establishment of a VFSS and Outpatient Dysphagia clinic at Calvary Health Care Bethlehem.

In 2000, Amanda was awarded a Doctor of Philosophy for her research on the development of a scale to assess swallowing functioning in MND using videofluoroscopy. This work is regarded as seminal piece of research, with the scale being widely used by speech pathologists in a variety of sectors. As a result of this work, Amanda has been invited numerous times to teach and train at an international level on the subject of formalised evaluation of videofluoroscopy. Locally Amanda is a regular and sought after presenter at SIGS, workshops and conferences, highly regarded for her clear and practical presentation style and her unique ability to bridge the gap between research and clinical practice.

Dr Amanda Scott is a greatly admired speech pathologist who has made an outstanding and lasting contribution to the profession. We congratulate Dr Amanda Scott on her Fellowship.

Service to the Association Award

The Service to the Association award is presented to members in recognition of ongoing, valuable and voluntary service to the Association at either a National or Branch level. Council was pleased to recognise Jade Cartwright as an outstanding recipient of this award.



Jade Cartwright

Jade has participated in a wide range of state and national activities on behalf of the Association since 2005. These roles have included National Councillor, where she was involved in writing the Evidence Based Practice (EBP) position statement and in the establishment of the EBP Advisor position. This included scoping

the role, recruiting and mentoring of the inaugural EBP advisor.

Jade initiated face-to-face meetings of CPD Coordinators and Councillors which resulted in a Strategic review of the CPD Events Library, development of independent study packages, development of the 'Principles and Parameters of CPD' policy document, and creation of the initial speechBITE™ rater's training for Scientific Affairs Branch leaders.

Jade is a proactive and committed member of the Western Australian Branch Executive team. Due to her long and sustained experience working for the Association, she provides support and leadership to Branch Executive and new Councillors when asked. Jade has provided invaluable assistance with recruitment of volunteers at both Branch and National levels.

Jade has been instrumental in leading aspects of the current Western Australia Branch Strategic Plan. This has included developing a strategic budget proposal for a project to increase awareness of communication impairment in aged care.

Jade is unfailing in her support of the Association and ever generous with her time, energy and knowledge when it comes to furthering its objectives. We congratulate Jade on her Service to the Association Award.



ACER representative Karen Elvish presents the 2012 JCPSLP Editor's Prize to co-author Sue O'Brian, who accepted the award at the AGM on behalf of her colleagues.

THE 2012 Editor's Prize for the article of highest research merit published in the *Journal of Clinical Practice in Speech-Language Pathology* (JCPSLP) was awarded to Shane Erickson and colleagues for their paper titled *Stand-alone Internet speech restructuring treatment for adults who stutter: A pilot study*. The winning paper was judged by the JCPSLP Editorial Committee according to four criteria: evidence base, clinical relevance, novel contribution, and writing style and readability.

The editors of JCPSLP, the editorial committee and publication team congratulate Shane and colleagues on their research and the award. Their paper reported on a pilot study investigating the viability of a clinician-free Internet presentation of speech restructuring treatment for chronic stuttering. Results were positive and the authors concluded that further development of this Internet treatment is warranted, particularly given the benefits to clients including reduced clinic fees, travel, and/or time away from work for clinic attendance.

The award was accepted by co-author Sue O'Brian on behalf of the research team: Shane Erickson and Susan Block (La Trobe University), Ross Menzies (Sydney University) and Sue O'Brian, Mark Onslow and Ann Packman (Australian Stuttering Research Centre).

The prize was again sponsored by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) and was presented by Karen Elvish (Education Consultant – Professional Services) at the AGM. We thank ACER for their ongoing support of the award and look forward to continued collaboration in the future.

Anna Copley and Jane McCormack
JCPSLP Co-editors

2014 nominations and budget

Call for Nominations for SPA Awards

SPEECH PATHOLOGY AUSTRALIA acknowledges excellence in speech pathology practice and the voluntary work undertaken by its members (and others) through nationally recognised awards.

Life Membership: Life membership is the highest honour accorded by the Association and confers Practising or Non-Practising membership on a person for the rest of his or her life. It recognises outstanding leadership and committed service to the Association and the profession over many years.

Fellowship: Fellowship of Speech Pathology Australia is a public professional honour awarded to a member with considerable experience, responsibility and standing within the speech pathology profession. The award recognises and celebrates members who have achieved excellence in speech pathology practice.

Elinor Wray: This award is presented for outstanding contribution to the profession. The contribution of the nominee is essentially clinical or project-oriented and will encompass one or more of the following areas:

- Innovations in diagnostic, assessment or treatment procedures
- Promotion of speech pathology to government, the community or to other professionals
- Research
- Student training.

Recognition of Service: Presented to up to three members annually in recognition of ongoing, valuable and voluntary service to the Association. Nominees may have contributed on Council, Branch Executive, Branch Portfolios, Task Groups, Conference Planning Committee etc.

Early Career Award: The award is open to new graduate practising members in recognition of ongoing, valuable and voluntary service to the Association at National or Branch level. Nominees may have contributed on Branch Executive, Branch Portfolios, Task Groups, Conference Planning Committee etc.

Community Contribution: Presented in recognition of outside agencies that have made a significant and valuable contribution to speech pathology.

If you know of someone who deserves the honour and recognition of an award, nominations should be submitted on the official nomination forms. For more information visit the website or email council@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

Call for Fellowship Committee Nominations

Nominations from non-Fellow members of the Association are now being called for the Fellowship Committee. The Committee's purpose is to review applications for Fellowship, make recommendations to Council about nominations and promote Fellowship to members.

The Fellowship Committee comprises seven members and each position on the Committee is for a period of three to five years.

It is expected that the members nominated will have considerable expertise through avenues such as clinical practice and leadership, clinical education and supervision and/or academic teaching. Each nomination should include a brief summary of no more than one page outlining the professional qualifications and experience of the nominee. Nomination forms are available on the website. **Nominations will close on Friday 30 August 2013.**

Call for 2014 Branch Executive Nominations

Nominations are now being sought for Branch Executive members for 2014. If you are interested in being involved in the activities of your Branch next year (including those in current Branch Executive roles), please download and complete the Branch Nomination form from our website. Nominations should be submitted via email to support@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au by no later than close of business **Friday 20 September 2013.**

2014 Budget

In November 2013, Council will hold its annual budget meeting to consider the many activities and projects planned for 2014 and to determine their budgets. Budgets are considered for each Portfolio and Branch, and funds are allocated for ongoing activities as well as strategic projects.

Each year, submissions for funding are considered and prioritised according to their relevance to the Strategic Plan, extent of benefit to members, costs required and likely outcomes. Budget documents will be circulated through Branches in the coming months. We ask that you consider the ideas you wish to put forward for discussion at the November Budget meeting and bring these to the attention of your Branch President, Treasurer or Councillor.

WANTED – Early Australian speech pathology journals

SPA plans to digitise all the Association journals and make them available to members (and people around the world) via the website of the *International Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*. In order to do this, we need a complete set of earlier journals of the Association including:

- *Journal of the Australian College of Speech Therapists*
- *Australian Journal of Human Communication Disorders*

If you have copies of these journals that you are able to donate, please contact pubs@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au to see if the years/volumes/issues you have are needed.

New online initiatives and ASHA meeting

New SPA online Member Communities

SPEECH PATHOLOGY AUSTRALIA'S new Member Communities are open to all members with an interest in:

- Disability
- Education and learning
- Private practice
- Rural and remote issues
- Working with developing communities
- Being a student
- Apps and mobile devices.

These communities provide a general forum in which members can share information and receive peer support. They allow views to be shared, provide opportunities for collaboration, support and the extension of professional networks within the Association nationally and internationally. Discussions have already started in all the groups and they are already proving to be a valuable way of meeting and interacting with your fellow speech pathologists.

They're easy to join – just go to the 'Guide to Member Communities' document via the website, follow the link to the community/ies you are interested in and ask to join. We'll check you are a current financial member and, if you use a different name on Facebook, check your membership name and number before admitting you to the Community.

Why Facebook?

f Facebook is one of the most well known and used social networking sites. Member feedback, usage statistics and ease of use show that Facebook is a practical platform for an online Community that many members are familiar with and already use. The use of a platform such as Facebook wasn't a decision taken lightly and many options were explored. We understand that our Communities will not be hosted on the preferred platform of all of our members, but in weighing up options in terms of cost and accessibility, ease of use and member feedback, it was the most viable platform.

We encourage you to join as many Communities as you want and if you need help or would like to talk through the platform or purpose of the Communities, email support@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au or call **1300 368 835**.

Felicity Burke

National Coordinator Member Networks

Communication Research Registry – an exciting initiative for EBP!

ONE OF THE significant events of the 2013 National Conference was the launch of the Communication Research Registry, an initiative developed by the University of Queensland and proudly supported by SPA.

The Communication Research Registry is designed to support research in the area of communication disability by:

- facilitating recruitment of participants for research projects nationally
- maintaining a register of children and adults with communication disability

- providing information on current research projects in communication
- providing a forum for researchers to suggest research topics in areas of need
- promoting collaboration between clinicians and researchers.

The Registry is open to anyone who would like to be involved in communication research including people with communication disability, friends and family of people with communication disability, the public and those who work in the field such as speech pathologists and audiologists.

Importantly, the Registry will have a national focus as it extends to include participants and researchers from all over Australia. The Registry has already attracted much interest, both at a local and national level, with many speech pathologists expressing keen interest in its development.

As one of the key objectives of the Association is the promotion of evidence-based practice within the profession, SPA has committed to supporting the Registry with a \$40,000 financial contribution in 2013, with additional funding proposed over the next two years. I urge all members to visit the Registry's website at www.crrregistry.org.au for further information.

Michelle Foley

National Coordinator Scientific Affairs

ASHA and SPA CEO talk associations!

A RECENT OPPORTUNITY to catch up with ASHA CEO, Arlene Pietranton, as part of a delegation of American Association Executives, was both positive and informative. The delegation from the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) visited Sydney to attend the Associations Forum National Conference and to hold meetings with a range of Australian CEOs. Of particular interest is that Arlene Pietranton of ASHA is the



SPA CEO Gail Mulcair and ASHA CEO Arlene Pietranton.

incoming ASAE Chair and was very interested in the policies, practices and issues for Australian associations. It was concluded that while there are legislative and political differences across our countries, there were many common issues, challenges and opportunities for associations experienced by all. As part of extensive discussion on

governance, SPA's recent change in constitution and the move to a skills-based board was of interest to many present, and we were congratulated on achieving this with such a high level of support from members.

Gail Mulcair

Chief Executive Officer

Board of Ethics – update July 2013

SPEECH PATHOLOGY AUSTRALIA is pleased to announce the current members of the Ethics Board from May 2013.

Current Board

- Dr Suze Leitão, Chair, reappointed by Council until May 2016
- Ms Patricia Bradd, Senior Member, reappointed by Council until May 2016
- Dr Susan Block, Senior Member, appointed by Council February 2013 for three years
- Dr Alison Russell, Senior Member, reappointed by Council until May 2016
- Dr Belinda Kenny, appointed by members in May 2012 for three years
- Dr Nerina Scarinci, appointed by members in May 2012 for three years
- Ms Helen Smith, appointed by members in May 2012 for three years
- Mr Noel Muller, Consumer Representative, reappointed by Council until May 2015
- Mr Grant Meredith, Consumer Representative, appointed until September 2013
- Vacancy, Consumer Representative

Recent changes to the Board

Professor and Associate Dean Lindy McAllister

Professor and Associate Dean Lindy McAllister retired from the Board in February this year after serving with distinction on the Board from 2007–2013 as a Senior Member. Lindy's experience has helped the Board and the Association move to a sophisticated model of ethics based on an aspirational approach. Lindy's interest is also in assisting members to embed ethical thinking and decision making in everyday practice, rather than view the Code as a resource to be accessed when an ethical dilemma arises. Lindy has co-authored a book entitled *Ethics in Speech and Language Therapy* (R. Body & L. McAllister 2009).

Lindy's CV reads like a Who's Who contribution to the discipline of speech pathology, practice-based education and work integrated learning, intercultural practice and education as well as inter-professional education, tele-supervision and rural speech pathology issues. In relation to Speech Pathology Australia, Lindy was awarded Life membership in 2006 and was appointed as a Fellow in 1996. She has been a member of the Association since 1975. She was National President in 2003–2004 after a role as Councillor in 2000–2001. Since 1989, Lindy has been a reviewer for the *International Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*. More recently, Lindy has become involved in developing the first Speech Therapy Diploma program in Vietnam.

Lindy continues to provide wisdom, expertise and experience to the Board and she is currently acting as Chair while Suze Leitão is on leave.

Mr Peter Dhu

Mr Peter Dhu in the role of Consumer Representative also stepped down from the Board this year. While Peter is keen to continue his association with SPA, recent changes to the procedures mean that Board members will have limited tenure periods to ensure there is reasonable turnover and others have the opportunity to contribute to the Board. Peter leaves after an impressive service that commenced in 2001. Peter was originally nominated through a process oversights by the Consumer Health Forum. Consumer associations The Speak Easy Association and Speak Easy WA nominated Peter to the Consumer Health Forum, forwarded this to SPA and the President decided on appointments. Peter is a Life Member of The Speak Easy Association.

Peter Dhu operates a successful consultancy business, Public Speaking Dynamics, and runs training programs all over Australia. Peter has a strong association with speech pathologists and values the discipline for its commitment to help people with communication problems. Peter provided valuable experience and truly enjoyed his time on the Board. I think this is amply illustrated by the following anecdote. Peter was working in Melbourne and dropped into National Office because, "he could not come to Melbourne without making contact with SPA!!". He has been a wise voice on the Board for many years and the Board has benefited from his consumer and community orientation in dealing with complex cases. He has also been a great contributor to our training days and the development of procedures and processes to improve the functioning of the Board.

Dr Susan Block

Dr Susan Block was appointed to the Board as a Senior Member in February 2013 and the Board is delighted that Susan accepted the role as she brings a wealth of experience to the position. Susan is well known to the speech pathology field as a specialist in stuttering assessment and treatment across the lifespan.

She works at the Department of Human Communication Sciences at La Trobe University in Melbourne, where she coordinates the undergraduate speech pathology course. Susan also coordinates the stuttering program at the university, with responsibility for the academic and clinical experiences the students receive in the area of stuttering. Susan is particularly interested in the integration of teaching, research and clinical practice in stuttering. Susan has taught speech pathology students in a variety of university programs nationally and internationally. She holds honorary positions at James Cook University in Townsville, the Murdoch Children's Research Institute in Melbourne and the Australian Stuttering Research Centre at the University of Sydney.

Currently, Susan is the La Trobe University representative on the SPA Victorian Branch Executive (a role she has held for many years) and newly graduated speech pathologists involved in Branch benefit from her corporate history, knowledge and enthusiasm. Susan served on the National Council and was awarded Fellowship of Speech Pathology Australia in 1996.

Ms Felicity Martin, as Vice President Communications (VPC), has held the portfolio of Ethics for the past three years. Felicity was responsible for reviewing the processes undertaken by Investigation Panels and confirming the Chair's recommendations to Council. She also takes cases of breaches to the Council table for ratification. Felicity has been a great supporter of the Ethics Board and has attended teleconferences and training weekends wherever possible. She has been a ready ear for the Senior Advisor Professional Issues around processes concerning Ethics. Felicity has stepped down from Council and the Board extends their sincere appreciation for all her efforts over this time. Gaenor Dixon commenced as the new VPC and the Board looks forward to a strong working relationship.

Recent activities of the Board

A highlight for the Board was the announcement in July that Dr Belinda Kenny's poster entitled *Development of an Ethics Education Package for Ethically Proactive Thoughts & Behaviors: An International Context* (under the topic area Business, Management, and Professional Issues) has been accepted at the 2013 ASHA conference to be held in Chicago in November. Both Belinda and Nerina are attending the conference and will be available to talk to the poster. The Board offers its congratulations to Belinda.

The Ethics Education Package was reviewed and significantly updated to reflect current thinking about ethical problem solving and decision making. The Board met and added to the approaches so that four models are described as well as an additional decision-making protocol. The resource will ultimately become an online tool for individuals and groups.

Board members see education and information sharing to the profession as part of their role. To support this goal, the Board presents an annual workshop at the National Conference aimed at engaging practitioners in ethical problem solving and decision making. The workshop is always well attended and engages participants who provide valued insights into their clinical practice. Members of the Board have contributed articles to the *Journal of Clinical Practice in Speech-Language Pathology (JCPSLP; previously ACQ)* for every edition in the last three years. The Senior Advisor Professional Issues facilitates a session on ethics in the state-based Private Practice seminars. We have also contributed presentations to Professions Australia biannually. Board members present to Branch meetings and academic members provide lectures around ethics and professional standards to students.

Last year, the Board reviewed and updated the procedures and template forms. Additionally the Board developed a complaint template to assist people in making a clear and unambiguous complaint to SPA. This has been in place in 2013 and has assisted members of the community in documenting their issues.

Election Process for Consumer Representative to Ethics Board

The Ethics Board currently has one vacancy. As stated earlier, the Consumer Health Forum is no longer managing the process of engaging community representatives for organisations. It now rests with individual organisations to seek community representatives and contact them directly to engage them in taking on representation.

Council is now seeking nominations from members of the public to apply for this position. **Nominations will close September 2013.**

- The Ethics Board procedures have been altered to reflect this change in process
- When a vacancy is due to arise, nominations will be canvassed from a range of appropriate and relevant consumer organisations
- Interested persons will be asked to submit a brief CV and a short statement about their interest/reasons/capabilities for serving on the Ethics Board. This is for Council's information.
- Senior Advisor Professional Issues (SAPI) will collate nominations and appropriate information and prepare a pack for the Council meeting nearest to when the vacancy falls due
- If there are more nominations than vacancies, Council will vote on nominees. If the votes are tied, the President will make the final decision.
- If there are the same number of vacancies as nominations, Council and the President shall determine whether to appoint the nominees bearing in mind the breadth and spread of representation to ensure a diversity of community views
- SAPI will inform the successful and unsuccessful nominees and thank them for their interest.

Criteria for appointing a community representative should include the following:

- Appointed for a three-year term
- Must not be members of the Association
- Must not be speech pathologists
- Must be capable of fairly representing the views of the community
- Nominees can be from consumer groups or individuals
- Must be able to contribute meaningfully to confidential investigations
- Must be able to contribute to the development of articles, education material etc regarding ethical issues in professional practice
- Must provide a letter of endorsement from a consumer organisation if they are being endorsed by one.

The Board asks speech pathologists to share this information with their networks and communities and canvass interest for a suitable appointee. An Expression of Interest will also be available on the website.

Christina Wilson
Senior Advisor Professional Issues

2013 Book of the Year and Expert Advisor Register updates



2013 Book of the Year Awards – Shortlist

IT'S TAKEN FOUR EXTREMELY DEDICATED shortlisters to whittle down 106 books to only 40, but they have and we're very proud to announce the 2013 Book of the Year Awards Shortlist. A very special thanks to Jo Burnell, Kirsty Parkinson, Janet Boulton and Claire Monsour who made this happen.

Young Children

Night Watch by Phil Cummings and Janine Dawson, *The Red Wheelbarrow* by Briony Stewart, *The Lilac Ladies* by Jenny Hughes and Jonathon Bentley, *What's the Matter Aunt May?* by Peter Friend Illustrated by Andrew Joyner, *Too Cold for a Tutu* by Mini Goss, *Mr McGee and the Elephants* by Pamela Allen, *Today we have NO PLANS* by Jane Godwin and Anna Walker, *Little Elephants* by Graeme Base, *There is a Monster Under My Bed Who Farts* by Tim Miller and Matt Stanton, *Brave Squish Rabbit* by Katherine Battersby, *Bog Frog Hop* by Kyle Newburn Illustrated by Rebecca Cool, *Sea Dog* by Claire Saxby Illustrated by Tom Jellett.

Lower Primary

The Windy Farm by Doug MacLeod Illustrated by Craig Smith, *Sophie Scott goes South* by Alison Lester, *The Moon Shone Out of the Dark* by Stephanie Dowrick and Anne Spudvilas, *Saurus St 1: Tyrannosaurs in the Veggie Patch* by Nick Falk and Tony Flowers, *Eddie Pippin* by Janeen Brian Illustrated by Emma Stuart, *Heather Fell in the Water* by Doug MacLeod Illustrated by Craig Smith, *Marty's Nut Free Party* by Katrina Roe Illustrated by Leigh Hedstrom, *Gracie and Josh* by Susanne Gervay, *The Fair Dinkum War* by David Cox,

Billy B Brown and the Bully Buster by Sally Rippin, *Ted Hits Town* by Michael Wagner Illustrated by Tom Jellett.

Upper Primary

Ms Law and the Corn-fusing Case of the Broken Window by Matt Porter, *Matty and Bill for Keeps* by Elizabeth Fensham, *Zarkora Book One: The Fyrelit Tragedy* by N & A Lochel, *The Grimstones – Hatched* by Asphyxia, *After* by Morris Gleitzman, *The Beginner's Guide to Revenge* by Marianne Musgrave, *Phyllis Wong and the Forgotten Secrets of Mr Okyto* by Geoffrey McSkimming, *Guinea Pig Town and Other Animal Poems* by Lorraine Marwood, *Louis Beside Himself* by Anna Feinberg, *Pookie Aleera is Not My Boyfriend* by Steven Herrick, *Rainbow Street Pets* by Wendy Orr, *An ANZAC Tale* by Ruth Starke Illustrated by Greg Holfeld.

Indigenous Children

Two Mates by Melanie Prewett Illustrated by Maggie Prewett, *Remembering Lionsville* by Bronwyn Bancroft, *Jandamarra* by Mark Greenwood Illustrated by Terry Denton, *Deadly Reads for Deadly Readers*.

The list is now with our judging panel but you can make your own choices – head to the Book of the Year 2013 webpage for shortlisters' comments and the full information about each of our shortlisted books.

The winners will be announced at a ceremony in Melbourne in October so stay tuned for more information.

Joanna Wood
Communications & Marketing Manager

Tennille Burns
National PA Coordinator

Expert Advisor Register – now available

THE EXPERT ADVISOR REGISTER is now live! The register maintains an up-to-date list of members with specific clinical and non-clinical expertise who are willing to act as an advisor to the Association. Expert Advisors can be called on to provide input to Association documents, act as a media spokesperson, take part in working parties and other key areas of consultation.

The benefits of becoming an Expert Advisor include recognition of expertise, engagement with the Association, possible media activities, the opportunity to influence policy and engage with other experts, as well as accrual of Professional Self Regulation (PSR) points for approved activities.

You can become an Expert Advisor by selecting the *Expert Advisor* tab in the *Update My Profile* section of the website.

Applications are assessed by Council against selection criteria including:

- a current practising member
- in good standing with the Association
- more than five years' full-time clinical and/or research experience
- more than three years' full-time experience in the nominated expert area
- demonstrated recognition both internally and externally of expertise in the nominated expert field.

For more information regarding the role, nomination process or selection criteria go to <http://online.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au/spa/expertadvisor> or email membership@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

Marni Bradley
Manager, Member Services and Operations

Project updates

Safe Schools Hub: new website for student wellbeing

What is the Safe Schools Hub?
www.safeschoolshub.edu.au

The Safe Schools Hub provides a collection of resources for school teachers, specialist professionals, pre-service teachers, parents and students to develop safe and supportive schools. The Safe Schools Hub is underpinned by the National Safe Schools Framework, which aims to ensure that all Australian schools are safe, supportive and respectful teaching and learning communities that promote student wellbeing. The Hub provides the tools and knowledge that will enable all members of the school community to:

- nurture student responsibility and resilience
- build a positive school culture
- foster respectful relationships
- support students who are impacted by anti-social behaviour, including bullying and cyber-bullying.

The project is funded by the government, working in partnership with state and territory governments, the non-government school sectors and Education Services Australia.

Resources will be made available online in phased releases throughout 2013. The first release was launched by the Hon Peter Garrett AM MP, former Minister for School Education, Early Childhood and Youth, on the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence on 15 March 2013. It delivers the Safe Schools Toolkit, which provides support for teachers and school leaders. The Safe Schools Toolkit includes video case studies, a School Audit Tool, resources and activities that further unpack in detail each of the nine elements of the National Safe Schools Framework.

What's next?

Throughout 2013, additional resources will be made available on the website. These include:

- professional learning modules aimed at speech pathologists, guidance officers/counsellors/educational psychologists and chaplains
- information and resources for parents and students.

SPA contributed to the development of the hub by providing input to the professional learning modules for speech pathologists and providing information for others e.g. principals about how speech pathologists can be a member of a school team providing a safe and supportive school environment.

A safe school is a smart school. By working together, governments, schools, parents and communities can play a key role in developing safe, supportive and respectful school environments. Visit www.safeschoolshub.edu.au to explore a range of practical examples, resources and activities to assist in making school environments safe and supportive. You can also register on the website or email sshub@esa.edu.au to receive regular updates on news.

Gaenor Dixon
Vice President Communications

Speech Pathology in Youth (Justice) Custodial Education (SPyce) Project Report launch

MORE THAN 46% of youth offenders have a language impairment – what is your Association doing about it?

The Speech Pathology in Youth (Justice) Custodial Education (SPyce) Project was set up to explore how speech pathology services as part of the school curriculum would impact on the lives of young people on remand or serving custodial sentences.

Collaborating with a group of experts and working closely with Parkville College, SPA funded Project Officer Laura Caire to gather the information and resources needed to best support the speech and language capabilities of the students through the curriculum at the Parkville College. The working group comprised:

- Associate Professor Pamela Snow – Monash University
- Brendan Murray – Assistant Principal, Parkville College
- Laura Caire – Forensic/Mental Health Speech Pathologist
- Christina Wilson – Senior Advisor Professional Issues, SPA
- Christine Lyons – Senior Advisor Professional Practice, SPA
- Robyn Stephen – Councillor, SPA
- Gail Mulcair – CEO, SPA

To mark the groundbreaking work of this project, SPA would like to inform you of the launch of the SPyce Project Report at **10.00am on 13 August 2013** at the Ella Latham Lecture Theatre, Royal Children's Hospital, 50 Flemington Road, Parkville VIC 3052.



The SPyce Report has the potential to revolutionise the way speech, language and communication difficulties are viewed and treated in youth justice systems around Australia and the world, as well as the way speech pathologists are involved with this group of vulnerable clients.

For more information, contact:

Christina Wilson, Senior Advisor Professional Issues:
cwilson@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au and
(03) 9642 4899 or **Rebecca Bluschke**: conf2013@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au or (03) 8622 0405.

Christina Wilson
Senior Advisor Professional Issues

Start the Conversation 25-31 August

MANY OF YOU have asked about this year's theme – Start the Conversation. This is a deliberate lead in to the International Communication Project 2014 and we want you all to be involved. All we are asking you to do is what you do best... talk.

We can all 'Have a Conversation about Communication'. We can all start to raise awareness about the needs of people with communication or swallowing difficulties in large ways and small. We can talk to our neighbours, our school principals, our employers, our local politicians.

We know the facts – we know the needs. We know the consequences of continuing to ignore this problem.

We can become the squeaky wheel... and in doing so, we can make a lasting difference to the lives of more than one million Australians.

Every day, speech pathologists see the far-reaching, life-changing and life-limiting consequences of communication and swallowing difficulties.

We see the significant and preventable disadvantage people confront as a consequence.

We know that these Australians are over-represented in the youth justice system and are much more likely to experience an adverse event in hospital.

We know that they have poorer health, educational and vocational outcomes and are more prone to mental health problems than other Australians.

Simply put, we know these people do not have the same opportunities as other Australians and are much more likely to be marginalised, disadvantaged and dependent on welfare as a result.

We also know for many, if not most people, their outcomes can be substantially improved with the right services and the right supports. And we know our current service systems and communities are hopelessly under resourced and under informed to meet these needs.

But we are in the minority. Most Australians remain completely unaware of the scale and impact of this silent disability. How else could they tolerate this terrible state of affairs?

There are more than one million Australians living with communication and swallowing difficulties. That's almost 5% of our population. Yet, despite these enormous numbers, services are grossly under resourced or even absent, our society is full of barriers, and our systems and

our communities are largely blind to the needs of these people.

Typically most people think of a communication difficulty as a temporary or relatively mild problem. A brief setback easily overcome with a short period of readily available intervention. Too often, it is only those with personal experience who really know how dramatically, and often permanently, lives are changed or even ruined by communication and swallowing problems and how difficult it can be to navigate the everyday world if you experience them.

Certainly our politicians, policy makers and funding bodies do not adequately understand the scale of the problem or the urgent need for action and systematic reform to rectify this shameful inequity.

It is our collective responsibility to make a difference in the lives of all Australians living with communication and swallowing difficulties and not just those able to access our limited services. Therefore we are calling on all of you to help us shine the spotlight on this dreadful imbalance. I believe, if people genuinely understood the prevalence, the life-changing impact and the entrenched disadvantage so many Australians experience every day, they simply wouldn't stand for it and would demand action on their behalf.

We should live in a world where the right to communication access is a given in the same way the right to physical access is.

There is a lot of work to do and a very, very long way to go. But we need to start somewhere. We need coordinated, concerted and sustained action on a large scale if we are to inform and mobilise our communities. We need compelling but simple messages and we need systems change and policy support that explicitly recognises the rights of people with communication and swallowing difficulties to the same opportunities as everyone else.

Our global year of awareness and action, The International Communication Project 2014, is a primary platform for raising awareness of the need for this systematic change in Australia and around the world. Throughout the year we will be challenging people everywhere and at all levels of society and government to 'Have a Conversation about Communication'.

More specifically, we will champion the concept of communication as a basic human right. A right which millions of people around the world are unnecessarily and unfairly denied on a daily basis.

Our international committee is drafting a Communication Declaration or Pledge which we will invite people, organisations and political parties around the world to sign up to. The pledge will indicate their support for communication as a basic human right and call for action from governments, organisations and individuals to ensure this is enshrined in policy and in practice.

One of our primary objectives is to obtain recognition of communication disorders as a standalone disability with enormous impact on participation. This would provide a powerful tool for influencing policy and funding locally and an impetus to improve the recognition and support of people living with communication disability in our communities.

It's an ambitious agenda. We know these aims will not be achieved overnight and action will need to continue well beyond 2014. But we have a plan, we have a cause worth fighting for and we have a simple compelling message.

But we need your help. We need your active, informed and sustained participation to make this campaign a success. We need people power. And you can start right now by starting the conversation.

Below are ways to get involved, materials and resources to use, as well as a few stories we believe illustrate why it's critically important that we speak up for all Australians living with communication and swallowing difficulties.

Chris Stone
National President

How to get involved

Sign up to become a Communication Champion. Find out more on the Speech Pathology Week webpage or by emailing marketing@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

Send your campaign slogan for the chance to win

Go to the website for more information.

Raise awareness in your local community

Go to <http://www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au/spa-news-a-events/speech-pathology-week> for resources and activity ideas to start the conversation in your area.



Start the Conversation... Mark's story

Starting a conversation was something Mark Giller was only able to do by pointing to things he wanted or flicking his hand to reject something. Both receptive and expressive communications were limited to the needs of the present moment. While some spiritual people seek the state of being and living only in the present moment, for Mark it was not a choice. It was the result of a blood incompatibility in his parents (RH-factor) that isn't a problem today, but in 1952, this was just emerging onto the medical agenda.

Mark was the fifth child in his family, with two healthy older sisters, an older brother who died at nine days old from the same condition, and an older brother who was lucky to have the same blood type as his mother. Forewarned, doctors gave Mark a full blood transfusion at birth to save his life; however, Mark was left with Cerebral Palsy profoundly impairing his motor function, profoundly impairing his swallowing (that has nearly cost him his life on numerous occasions and continues to be his primary health concern), causing profound bilateral deafness, and what came to be labelled as profound intellectual impairment.

Mark survived and grew into a delightful little boy who played with his siblings and learned idiosyncratic sign language, mostly as a receptive tool (like a self-devised key word signing), that his parents devised in response to specific needs. But Mark had none of the educational opportunities offered to children today who have multiple disabilities. It was perceived by service providers (who were very thin on the ground in those days) that Mark's deafness combined with his very significant physical disabilities and perceived intellectual impairment meant that learning complex communication skills was too much to hope for.

The focus of Mark's early learning was undertaken mainly by family and centred around self-help skills:

to feed himself and indicate when he needed to toilet. These are huge achievements for a person with the level of physical impairment that Mark experiences.

As Mark got older, however, and grew into his man's body, he could no longer be cared for at home. At age 20 he was placed in a psychiatric ward in a private Catholic hospital for drug and alcohol rehabilitation patients and remained there for 16 years. In 1986 he was forced out because of funding changes, this time into a dementia ward at a nursing home. Both placements were the only option where the staff ratio could meet his high support needs.

To say this was less than ideal makes a mockery of understatement; but it was the best of the available options. Rivers of tears flowed as we all adjusted to each change. This is not meant as criticism of the institutions or their staff; but Mark's needs were, and are, different from the other patients with whom he lives. Mark is not a patient; he is a person who has multiple disabilities and very high support needs. Staff training, understanding and skills are not disability focused in hospital settings. Mark's expressive communication skills went unnoticed by all but long-term staff, and there was an assumption that his receptive communication skills were more limited than they actually were. This led to some significant frustration, self-harm and what was perceived by most professionals as bad behaviour ("acting out"), when it was in fact a cry for help and a statement of self-determination.

Through family advocacy and a growing awareness of the needs of people with disabilities, Mark began attending an activity based program for adults with intellectual impairments two days a week when he was about 50 years old. This program enjoys support from speech pathologists and other educators. Over time they devised a coloured coded weekly calendar on which they 'post' pictures of whatever core activities are on offer for that day and clients are involved in making choices for other activities. There was still no way, however, to communicate to Mark when he would be attending the day program, when he would stay at the nursing home, or any other future event, like a sibling visiting on the weekend.

The potential to adapt and extend the existing colour coded daily chart to teach the concept of future events was like a neon sign. But the obstacles of implementing ideas with educational outcomes where involvement was needed from staff, into a medical environment, were substantial. Initially there was little enthusiasm or resources for proposals put forward. By 2011 however, structural changes where Mark lived and initiatives at Day Program (where Mark now attended three days a week) led to the opportunity for change.

It had taken many years to conceive an idea for communicating future events that might work for Mark and that should also work for the staff. Using the colour coding

already in place at the Day Program (building on existing knowledge and experience), a weekly activity chart was developed for Mark with pictures and photographs to help him understand what to expect each day. A photograph of himself in his room at the nursing home, or at the Day Program



Mark's daily activity chart.

was placed on each day of the week, as appropriate for that week. All pictures are attached by velcro to allow for changes. There are three placement options in each column for each day so that other main points of interest for that day can also be indicated with appropriate photographs or Boardmaker icons. Photographs of family are also available to be placed to let Mark know when a family member will visit him.

To link the vertically read, colour coded columns to the day, we made an A4 size, spiral bound weekly calendar of just the colour of the day, which staff at the nursing home were asked to change daily. This was such a simple but effective device, with so little pressure on staff that it was feasible to implement. The results were remarkable. It had the same level of impact as inventing the wheel in Mark's life. For the first time in his now long life, Mark had a concept of future events. He absolutely understood. A few key staff members have been enthusiastic and helpful beyond the call of duty and check to ensure the activity chart is correct and that the coloured day calendar is changed each day. Mark's 'behaviour' reflected a new calmness, especially over holiday periods when his routine changes dramatically.

To say this was developed is again masterful understatement. The level of detail and drafts that were made to achieve the best outcome *that would work in the circumstances* took many hours of thought and preparation. Pictures and icons also have written explanations for the benefit of staff and carers who now have the opportunity to interact/communicate with Mark about real events in his life beyond his immediate needs.

This is a small part of a big story for a little boy, now an emerging senior citizen, born at a time in history when he was overlooked and forgotten by everyone except a very patient mum and dad and loving siblings. Even with this mantle of disadvantage, history marched on, perceptions changed and opportunity finally arrived. "Better late than never," was never more aptly said. At 60 years old Mark eventually had his moment in the sunshine – his activity chart providing a pathway to understanding future events.

by Shannon Edwards

Marie Edwards-Giller
Consultant Speech Pathologist

Permission given by Peter Giller, Mark's brother, for Mark's story to be told and photographs of Mark used.

Start the Conversation... Margaret's story

The story of Margaret Bashford is an inspiring one!

Margaret was a highly respected receptionist at Charles Sturt University in Albury.

She loved gardening, and creating including sewing and craft. Margaret also enjoyed socialising – being with her family and friends. All this changed when Margaret, aged 44, suffered a stroke in 2001. Luckily her sons Michael, aged 18, and Paul, 13, were on hand to ring an ambulance. She suffered right-sided weakness and aphasia and spent several months in hospital.

Returning home after rehabilitation, visits from some friends became less frequent. She was having trouble communicating – her only means was a pen and paper, writing down words and people guessing the rest of what she wanted to say. This left her battling depression, with feelings of emptiness, despair and extreme loneliness.

Margaret had extensive speech therapy to help her regain her speech. Her main aim was to say her own name. After this achievement, she felt immense guilt that she could not say her husband or sons' names – she began calling her husband "Man", her sons "Little man" and "Little person", and she called Kayla, the cat, "Little little person". She also hated having to rely on them to help her with everyday activities like reading and understanding recipes, cutting pumpkin, using a tin opener or vegetable peeler, getting dressed, doing up buttons, and even brushing and styling her hair.

She felt like a child again. She also had many very embarrassing experiences, such as at her son Paul's soccer match where she accidentally called out to her son "Good girl".

Feeling isolated, alone and waiting for family or friends to visit, unable to go out or visit others, Margaret was determined to find independence. Learning to drive was a great challenge but after one year she accomplished this dream and got her licence back. She loves the freedom that this has given her; to attend meetings, visit friends and go shopping. When buying petrol, she uses either pump 2 or 4 as they are the numbers that she is able to say. She still finds it very difficult to read letters, let alone books that she once so passionately enjoyed.

Margaret now communicates in a range of ways, including now being able to say so many more words, names, phrases and sentences. It took her five years to be able to say her close friend Jenny's name. Margaret now writes or types words on her iPad that she is still unable to say. She has a communication book that has pictures, key words,

and sentences that she is able to show people in her everyday environments to communicate e.g. the type of bread or meat she requires at a store. She also asks the checkout person to write the amount down that she is required to pay, as she is unable to understand when an amount is spoken.

As Margaret began to accept her condition and the effects it had on her life, she wanted to learn more about stroke and help other people who had suffered a stroke. She has been an active member and leader of the Albury Wodonga Stroke Support Group for the past eight years. Margaret also loves to regularly catch up with several of her girlfriends, who also have aphasia, to do craft activities, and have a chat and a laugh about the challenges of living with aphasia.

Margaret shares her experiences and knowledge with the Allied Health Assistant Course at Wodonga TAFE. She has worked with these students on a local Communication Access Project where Albury Wodonga businesses and service providers are provided with strategies to improve access for customers/clients with communication difficulties. They have also approached local government and attend Albury ACCESS meetings, networking with groups such as Age Concern and other disability services.

Margaret has also been involved in the Client Tutor Programme in the Speech Pathology course at Charles Sturt University for the past ten years. She provides groups of six to eight third-year students with real-life situations and examples of the difficulties that people with aphasia are faced with every day. This hands-on approach provides invaluable information that cannot be learned through textbooks alone. The students, in turn, help Margaret with particular communication challenges that she wishes to overcome, for example, developing a list of common written sentences that she can select from when writing an email.

Each day presents new challenges and successes and these keep Margaret optimistic. She truly loves to teach and interact with her students. She, in turn, has the opportunity to provide a service that will help others, and she feels valued and needed. It is through advocating and promoting knowledge of strokes and communication disabilities where she feels like she is making a difference. This work has had an immensely positive effect on her self-esteem and confidence.

by Jenny Kilo

Marion Vile
Senior Speech Pathologist, Albury-Wodonga Health



23-26 June 2013

Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre, Broadbeach QLD



THE CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE was delighted to welcome over 750 attendees to Broadbeach for **SEA change: Synthesize, Evaluate, Act!**

SEA change: Synthesize, Evaluate, Act! provided a platform for delegates to reflect on, and discuss high quality keynote presentations and workshops, as well as the many clinical and research papers, workshops and poster presentations and to provide insights and impetus for reflection on current clinical practice.

Sunday Workshops

Amy Rodriguez et al kicked off the workshops prior to the official Conference opening with their workshop – Intensity and aphasia rehabilitation: Who, what, when and how.

Dr Cori Williams and Chris Lyons then presented their workshop – You can be a researcher too: Identifying, analysing, applying and gathering evidence in everyday clinical practice.

Both of the workshops were clinically relevant, providing attendees with current research into assessment and treatment principles in the clinical field of aphasia rehabilitation and in the formal gathering of evidence within clinical practice.



Opening Address

Dr Michelle Owens, a medical practitioner, provided personal insights in regard to loss of function and the process of rehabilitation following severe brain injury – this personal account of Michelle's own journey was highly relevant and engaging.



Keynote and Invited Presenters

Dr Rosemary Martino explored the perspectives of clinicians, caregivers and patients in the dimension of medical consequences for those with dysphagia, through presenting the findings of her research. In her workshop, Rosemary presented a

review of literature on dysphagia screening and compared the existing practice guidelines in various countries, presenting evidence supporting reliable and valid tools along with emerging evidence that screening benefits patient health and overall recovery.



Professor Sharynne McLeod, recipient of the 2013 Elizabeth Usher Memorial Award, provided a passionate account of information gathered from her recent international collaborations framed around the World Health Organisation's International Classification of Functioning,

Disability and Health. These collaborations have been established with the goal of supporting multi-lingual children to participate in society and have resulted in innovative and practical strategies to support speech pathologists during assessment, intervention and collaboration with families, communities and other professionals.



Dr Tiffany Hogan presented a keynote address and workshop focused on the pathways to reading comprehension impairment. In her workshop she was able to expand on evidence-based approaches to working with language skills to improve reading comprehension for students presenting with reading

difficulties through a 'simple view of reading'.

Posters

There was an impressive array of 58 posters on display during the Conference. These were universally well received and represented a very diverse range of clinical and research topics. Many poster authors were engaged in deep discussion during the formal poster sessions. Congratulations to all authors on the high calibre of the work presented.



Pre-registration

Many delegates took the opportunity to register, enjoy a 'cocktail' and catch up with friends and colleagues while visiting the exhibitors' stands.

The exhibition hall for this year's Conference was again filled with a range of novel, intriguing and high quality products and services. Thank you to the exhibitors for their ongoing support of our National Conference – and for the wonderful prizes donated that were drawn at the Conference Dinner. Congratulations to the lucky winners. We would also like to congratulate Safe Swallowing for winning The Best

Exhibition Stand prize, which is one complimentary exhibition stand at the 2014 National Conference in Melbourne.



Welcome Reception: Sea World

Delegates who had entered the 'Meet the Dolphins' competition wore their Conference sunglasses when they registered and then went into the final draw. Congratulations to Cathy Naismith (left) and Tiffany Hogan who were our two lucky winners. It was a fantastic night

under the 'super' moon, the weather was clear, the dolphins were amazing and everyone had a great time.

Special thanks also goes to our Conference sponsors:

Major sponsor



Lanyards



Online Conference program



and Conference dinner



This year's Conference culminated in the "Gold, Glitz and Glamour" themed Gala dinner at the Convention Centre. Thank you to everyone for embracing the theme and turning out in their best style. Many of those at the dinner took the opportunity to capture their style (with a few embellishments) in the very popular photo

booth which was kept very busy for the entire night.

Thank you...

To the amazing and conscientious Liz Ward who chaired the Scientific Planning Sub-Committee and the other excellent members of the CPC, Shareen Forsingdal, Nadine Lawson and Karen Nicholls, thank you for all of your contributions, hard work, humour and generosity over the past 18 months – we were a great team together. I would also like to say a special thank you to the student volunteers who worked with Pam on the Conference registration desk, assisted the session chairs and ensured the delegates were attending their selected sessions.

SEA change: Synthesize, Evaluate, Act! would not have happened without the planning, endless attention to detail, diligence and efficiency of Pamela Richards, National Conference Manager. Few people consider the enormous amount of 'behind the scenes' work that Pam undertakes with patience each year. We wish to extend our sincere and deepest thanks to Pam for her advice and hard work in organising this year's Conference. We would also like to thank Rebecca Bluschke, an event management student from Victoria University, who worked with Pam leading up to the Conference.

We would like to extend a very big thank you to the Council of Speech Pathology Australia and National Office staff for their ongoing support and advice during the Conference planning period.

Delegate feedback Survey

Thank you to the 462 members who took the time to complete and submit their survey. Congratulations to **Rachel Trebilcock** from **South Australia**, who was the lucky winner of the complimentary Conference registration to the 2014 National Conference in Melbourne **connections: client.clinician.context.**

ALL information, be it good or bad, has been carefully collated and identified and will form the basis for a detailed report to Council in August. There will also be direct feedback to the 2014 Melbourne CPC to assist them in their planning processes.

And last, but certainly not least, we say a big **THANK YOU** to the many delegates who joined us on the Gold Coast. We really hope that you found **SEA change: Synthesize, Evaluate, Act!** a stimulating, challenging, inspiring, and most of all, enjoyable Conference in 2013.

On behalf of the Conference Planning Committee,

Alison Smith
2013 Conference Convenor

Pamela Richards
National Conference Manager

23-26 June 2013

Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre, Broadbeach QLD

Nourish
Gourmet Meals

New Formulated Meal Replacements

Flavour Creations is thrilled to introduce to our already expanding range, 2 new gluten free FMR varieties!

As seen at SPA 2013

FORMULATED MEAL REPLACEMENT
SMOOTH FRUITS
AVAILABLE JULY 2013

Bite Size Cookies
AVAILABLE AUGUST 2013

flavour creations
T: 07 3373 3000 F: 07 3982 3109
www.flavourcreations.com.au

26 Vitamins & Minerals - Up to 15 g of Protein per Serve - Gluten Free - Low in Cholesterol

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who attended the 2013 National Conference on the beautiful Gold Coast in June. I am very pleased to announce the event was a successful one, with a higher than expected number of registrations.

On behalf of SPA I would like to thank Conference Convenor Alison Smith for her calm professionalism and dedication leading up to and during the event. Alison was well supported by Shareen Forsingdal, Nadine Lawson and Karen Nicholls as members of the Conference Planning Committee. Liz Ward as Chair of the Scientific Program Committee put together a quality program. It is a huge task to organise an event such as this and the Association acknowledges the committee's efforts in creating an atmosphere conducive to much fruitful networking and learning in a stimulating environment.

Pamela Richards (National Conference Manager) and her assistant Rebecca Bluschke once again deserve mention for their overall management and organisation of the event. It is always good to see National Office staff attending: Joanna Wood (Communications & Marketing Manager), Marni Bradley (Manager, Member Services & Operations), Christine Lyons (Senior Advisor, Professional Practice), Jemma Skeat (National Advisor, Research & Policy) and Nicole Pantelleresco (Council and Executive Assistant). Our CEO Gail Mulcair and President Chris Stone once again had a busy Conference. I thank them for their professionalism and good humour in their support of the Conference.

The contributions of our student volunteers are also gratefully acknowledged: Carla McEwan, Katie Huggard, Rachel Hull, Emily Maeer, Megan Nevall, Stephanie Ng, Madeline Raatz and Joy-Ann Xiang. Thank you for your helpful enthusiasm in assisting with the running of the Conference.

The Association acknowledges the contribution of our sponsors and exhibitors who continue to support our National Conference and add another dimension to the event by keeping us up-to-date with new products and services.

Finally I extend my sincere thanks to all delegates who helped to make the 2013 National Conference a memorable one. Your feedback is vital in assisting SPA to continue to offer a quality annual event.

I hope to see you in 2014 at the National Conference being held in Melbourne.

Michelle Foley
National Coordinator, Scientific Affairs

Conference Proceedings

Under the editorship of Dr Nicole Watts Pappas, the keynote presentations and selected research papers will comprise the Conference Proceedings and be published in the *International Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*.

Dr Watts Pappas brings a wealth of experience in publishing to this role, including her previous editorship of *Journal of Clinical Practice in Speech-Language Pathology*.



To see a range of photos from the 2013 National Conference and Annual General Meeting, make sure you check out pages 22–23 in this issue of *Speak Out* or head to our Facebook page via the SPA website!

18-21 May 2014

Crown Conference Centre, Melbourne, Australia



connections: client.clinician.context

was officially launched on the Gold Coast. I was joined by Susie Griffiths, Hannah Stark and Kerry Ttofari Eecen, who are also members of the Conference Planning Committee (CPC).

Keynote & Invited Speakers



The CPC is pleased to announce the first of the Keynote Speakers for the 2014 National Conference – **Dr Susan (Sue) Roulstone**.

Sue Roulstone is Underwood Trust Professor of Language and Communication Impairment at the University of the West of England, Bristol. Sue qualified as a Speech and Language Therapist in Manchester and has worked as a clinician, an educator, a manager and a researcher. Her research interests include child, family and life course perspectives on speech and language impairment, professional decision making and evaluation of speech and language therapy. Sue lead the parents and children consultation that informed the key messages in the Bercow report. As a member of the core team for the Better Communication Research Programme Sue lead the work on parents' and childrens' perspectives on outcomes. Her most recent research has identified an evidence-based model of intervention for preschool children with primary speech and language impairment. Sue was Chair of the Royal College of Speech & Language Therapists (RCSLT) from 2004–2006 and was awarded a Fellowship of RCSLT in 2008. In 2013 she was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Health by Manchester Metropolitan University.



The CPC 2014 put forward their preferred recipient to Council which has been confirmed. We are pleased to announce that **Associate Professor Jacinta Douglas** has accepted the invitation to present the Elizabeth Usher Memorial Lecture and receive the Award for 2014.

Jacinta Douglas has qualifications in speech pathology, clinical psychology and neuropsychology. She is Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Human Communication Sciences at La Trobe University and an Honorary Senior Research Fellow at the Florey Neuroscience Institutes. She has extensive research and clinical experience in the rehabilitation of adults with acquired brain injury (ABI). Her research contribution is internationally recognised and has advanced knowledge in the domains of interpersonal communication and psychosocial functioning following ABI. Her work in these areas focuses on maximising the ability of people with brain injury to participate fully in society across all levels

of functioning. Jacinta's research publication record involves a substantial body of work including more than 55 research articles, one book and five book chapters. She is a Fellow of SPA and of the Australian Society for the Study of Brain Impairment and is founding co-editor of the multidisciplinary journal *Brain Impairment*.

Call for Papers

The Online submission is available at SPA's **2014 National Conference webpage**. I would encourage you to 'spread the news' through your many networks, colleagues and friends, wherever they are in the world. Send them the link to the Association's website where they can read more about the National Conference and submission process.

We have also included, on the Conference website, **instructions and guidelines** for making submissions, which we hope will assist you before you proceed to the actual submission process. Please remember that delegates will only have access to the title of the paper and author(s) names when they register and select sessions they wish to attend, so please carefully think about your presentation title. This will help ensure the audience you wish to attract and have the greatest interest in your topic will attend.

While the closing date for submissions is **Tuesday 24 September 2013**, there is no need to wait until the due date to submit your proposal. With the online submission process we are able to allocate proposals to reviewers as they come in. This will assist the Scientific Program Sub-Committee (SPSC) in managing the review process and help develop the Conference program in a timely manner. Early review will also give authors more time to consider any reviewer comments.

Call for Reviewers

The SPSC is becoming increasingly active as papers, posters and workshops are now being submitted. These submissions need to be reviewed, and the SPSC is encouraged by the response so far. However there are a few 'areas' that need reviewers. If you are working in critical care, early intervention, health promotion & prevention, Indigenous health, management, mental health, paediatric feeding, private practice, public policy or rural and remote and would be interested in reviewing papers for the Conference and assisting the SPSC, please email a brief CV and your areas of interest/expertise to Kerry Ttofari Eecen, Scientific Program Sub-Committee Chair at: k.ttofariecten@gmail.com no later than **Monday 26 August 2013**. Please note this invitation is **only open to SPA members**.

Feedback

The 2013 CPC has shared with us the feedback from this year's Conference survey. Over the next few months we will read through the information and where possible incorporate the suggestions/recommendations. We would like to congratulate **Rachel Trebilcock from SA** who won the complimentary 2014 National Conference Registration.

Diane Jacobs
2014 Conference Convenor

Pamela Richards
National Conference Manager

2013 National Conference photos

23-26 June 2013

Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre, Broadbeach QLD



National CPD Update

National Office has a 1300 368 835 number to support members within Australia to have equity in phoning National Office for the cost of a local call.

When phoning about CPD, please have your SPA member number ready to help us assist you as efficiently as possible.



The 2013 National Tour by Dr Elise Baker

Dr Elise Baker has commenced her 2013 National Tour, 'Best practice in the management of speech sound disorders in children: Making every session count'.

Registrations are now open online for all upcoming National Tour workshops including:

- Darwin on Thursday 5 and Friday 6 September 2013
- Brisbane on Friday 8 and Saturday 9 November 2013
- Melbourne on Thursday 21 and Friday 22 November 2013
- Sydney on Monday 25 and Tuesday 26 November 2013

You can still submit PSR points for your 2013 renewal – it's not too late to earn CPSP status for 2013...



If you undertook PSR activities that count towards Certified Practising Speech Pathologist (CPSP) status but did not declare them when you renewed, it's not too late to submit them now. You can either download the PSR Declaration form online and email it in, or contact National Office for an electronic declaration to be emailed to you. Once your record is updated to reflect that you have met the requirements to be a CPSP, you will be mailed a revised membership certificate that includes your CPSP status and a Certificate of PSR Recognition.



Please feel free to contact **Sharon Crane, Senior Advisor, Professional Education & Certification**, who coordinates the PSR program at National Office on **1300 368 835** or email sappec@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

The Association will continue to aim to strengthen the demonstration of members' commitment and obligation to undertake professional development – as reflected in earning CPSP status – and will continue to communicate with members in regard to future developments and strengthening of CPSP status.

Sharon Crane

Senior Advisor Professional Education and Certification (CPD & PSR)

Get to know your Branch CPD Committees...



Northern Territory

My name is Melissa "Melba" Ridd and I am the CPD Leader for the NT Branch. The previous CPD Leader, Alison Christie, took maternity leave in April 2012 so asked me to carry on with her great work. It has been a pleasure to get involved and to support the NT Branch members to get more professional development events offered in the Northern Territory. As a Branch, we realise it is a long distance for presenters to travel but are very appreciative when we get PD opportunities in the NT. The NT Branch is unique in the way that we have smaller member numbers (having a smaller population compared to other states); however, nearly all NT speech pathologists are SPA members and are very willing to participate in Branch activities. As the CPD Leader, it is my role to find out members' PD needs and to liaise with SPA to organise suitable PD events. As a Branch, we regularly utilise the CPD Events Library, so it is also my role to arrange viewings of DVDs and postage of items to members who wish to view them. I also attend regular teleconferences with the other CPD Leaders and Coordinators and it is great to find out what other states and territories have been planning.



South Australia

The SA Branch generally looks to have a committee of five to six members with representation across various areas of paediatric and adult practice and all taking an active role in contributing ideas and undertaking tasks in the planning, organising and reporting of events. The Portfolio Leader is Barbara Lyndon who joined the committee in 2004 and took on the leadership role in 2011. It was at that time that current members Catherine Quin, Erin Parker and Danielle Coope also joined. Catherine is the capable, patient, persistent and highly organised CPD Coordinator. Nicolette Varvounis is the newest member having joined the committee this year. The five current members provide coverage of primary health for children and their families from birth to age four, education-based services in preschools and schools, child and adolescent mental health, acute adult, adult rehabilitation, and adult dysphagia. They also bring particular interests in the areas of: service delivery, development and improvement; CALD; selective mutism; families from low socio-economic areas; parent-child relationship; adults with acquired brain injury; complex progressive neurological conditions (from both dysphagia and multidisciplinary teamwork points of view); and intensive care/tracheostomy patient management. Barbara and Catherine also bring considerable experience in the organisation of professional development activities in their paid employment. Until recently Barbara was the lead speech pathologist with the Department for Education and Child Development (DECD). She left this position

earlier this year to take up a temporary role to oversee the implementation of a single service approach for paediatric speech pathology services within and across SA Health and DECD. Catherine is the Chief Clinician, Speech Pathology with Child & Adolescent Mental Health. As part of discussions about changes to the structure of Branches, the SA Executive is looking at opportunities for greater connection between the CPD Committee and other Branch 'focus groups'. This would add to the networking undertaken by committee members, periodic member needs surveys and feedback provided by workshop participants to inform CPD program development.



Victoria

The Victorian Branch CPD committee currently has 12 members who represent a range of clinical areas, practice types and backgrounds. Charmaine Briffa and Linda Crisci have been the CPD Co-Leaders for three years. Charmaine works in adult health and has been part of the Victorian Branch CPD committee since 2007. Charmaine says that she enjoys being a member of this group as it provides her with the opportunity to work with an enthusiastic and very dedicated team of speech pathologists who work in a range of clinical areas, and to develop her knowledge of the Association and its many activities on behalf of members. Charmaine also enjoys having been able to attend a range of professional development and meet some inspirational presenters and says that one of the most rewarding aspects of being part of the committee is the opportunity to contribute to the professional development plan, trying to ensure that the diverse areas of practice in speech pathology are well represented. Linda has worked with preschool-aged children in Community Health for the last 10 years. She finds that participating in the CPD portfolio not only allows her to keep up-to-date with current evidence and have input into what SPs working in her area are seeking, but also to keep informed of the current issues in SP and the projects SPA is working on. Other Victorian CPD Committee members are Kate Bridgman, Sarah Cunningham, Melissa Finn, Anneke Flinn, Rebecca Hart, Emma Nottingham, Jacqui Raymond, Lucie Shanahan and Alison Winkler. Sharon Crane is also a member of the committee and is based at National Office in her role as Senior Advisor Professional Education and Certification.



Western Australia

The WA CPD is an eclectic bunch! The committee currently has 17 members who represent a wide range of areas of speech pathology practice including tertiary, paediatric, adult, disability, education and private practice. We also have two rural-based clinicians who teleconference in to monthly meetings and represent the needs of WA's many rural and remote members. Having such a great representative committee means that WA can offer CPD events that cater for a wide variety of topics and interests – it also lightens the load with regards to organising and running events! WA CPD is expertly led

by the unflappable Kim Brookes and her trusty sidekick, CPD Coordinator Erin Masson, with members Victoria Bishop, Mary Claessen, Sharyn Donegan, Jamaica Grantis, Geraldine Harris, Michelle Hayes, Mary Hunt, Abigail Lewis, Amanda Lloyd, Karen Mews, Mary Reynolds, Kelly Robinson, Katherine Royer, Roxanne Shaw and Yvette Yee. WA CPD looks forward to more great events in the future.

Earlybird Registrations are available up to one month before the event date.

Please note – for 2013 events, an additional \$55 fee will apply to registrations after the Earlybird closing date. Book before the Earlybird closing date to save money, to assist CPD committees in planning, and to avoid the disappointment of finding the workshop has sold out.

2013 CPD program is up and running ...

The CPD program for 2013 is well underway – to view events open for online registration, watch out for the monthly *Events e-News* or check out the SPA website under *Upcoming Events*, or if you would like to see what events are open and upcoming, there is a webpage on the SPA website that provides up-to-date information on CPD Events planned for each state and territory, including ready access to brochures for events that are open for registration. Go to *News and Events > CPD Events > CPD Branch Events*.

NEW SOUTH WALES

Tuesday 24 September 2013

Sydney one-day workshop
"New Advances in Dysphagia Treatment"
 by **Dr Claire Langdon**

Monday 25 and Tuesday 26 November 2013

Sydney two-day workshop
"Best practice in the management of speech sound disorders in children: Making every session count"
 by **Dr Elise Baker**

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Thursday 5 and Friday 6 September 2013

Darwin two-day National Tour workshop
"Best practice in the management of speech sound disorders in children: Making every session count"
 by **Dr Elise Baker**

QUEENSLAND

Friday 20 September 2013

Rockhampton one-day workshop
"Learning to Read: Working with Literacy in School-Age Children"
 by **Dr Roslyn Neilson**

Sunday 13 October 2013 (Please note change of date)

Brisbane one-day workshop
"Expository Discourse in children and adolescents: Assessment and Intervention"
 by **Dr Marleen Westerveld**

National CPD Update

Monday 14 October 2013

Brisbane one-day workshop
"Supporting language development for people with complex communication needs who need to use AAC"
by **Gayle Porter**

Thursday 24 October 2013

Brisbane Sunset Seminar (5–8pm)
"Practical Management of Dysphagia and Associated Issues in Progressive Neurological Disorders" (Session 1 of 2)
by **Cate Barrett**

Thursday 21 November 2013

Brisbane Sunset seminar (5–8pm)
"Practical Management of Communication Disorders and Related Issues in Progressive Neurological Disorders" (Session 2 of 2) by **Cate Barrett**

Friday 8 & Saturday 9 November 2013

Brisbane two-day National Tour workshop
"Best practice in the management of speech sound disorders in children: Making every session count"
by **Dr Elise Baker**

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Tuesday 10 September 2013

Adelaide one-day workshop
"Child Language Research Update: Integrating clinical and public health perspectives"
by **Prof Cate Taylor** and **Dr Sally Brinkman**

Monday 21 October 2013

Adelaide one-day workshop
"Day ONE of New Developments in Dysphagia Diagnosis and Management" by **Dr Maggie-Lee Huckabee**

Tuesday 22 October 2013

Adelaide one-day workshop
"Day TWO of New Developments in Dysphagia Diagnosis and Management" by **Dr Maggie-Lee Huckabee**

VICTORIA

Monday 2 and Tuesday 3 September 2013

Melbourne two-day workshop
"Ageing and Dementia: Considerations for Assessment, Intervention and Holistic Care"
by **Margaret Pozzebon**, with an introductory session by **Prof David Ames**

Thursday 21 and Friday 22 November 2013

Melbourne two-day National Tour workshop
"Best practice in the management of speech sound disorders in children: Making every session count"
by **Dr Elise Baker**

Monday 25 November

Melbourne one-day workshop
"Aphasia Intervention: Client centred therapy – from vocabulary to social participation"
by **Dr Bronwyn Davidson**

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Wednesday 9 October 2013

Perth Sundowner
"The Importance of Gesture in the Assessment and Treatment of Aphasia"
by **Dr Naomi Cocks**

Friday 20 September 2013

VC/SCOPIA event
"Paediatric feeding therapy: What's the point?"
by **Karen Jardine**

Thursday 24 October 2013

Perth one-day workshop **DAY ONE ONLY** of
"New Developments in Dysphagia Diagnosis and Management: Implications for Intervention" (**THURS ONLY**)
by **Dr Maggie-Lee Huckabee**

Thursday 24 and Friday 25 October 2013

Perth two-day workshop **BOTH DAYS** of
"New Developments in Dysphagia Diagnosis and Management: Implications for Intervention"
(**BOTH DAY 1 & 2**) by **Dr Maggie-Lee Huckabee**

Wednesday 13 November 2013

Perth one-day workshop
"Receptive Language Impairment in Young Children"
by **Mellanie Sherwood**

Wednesday 27 November 2013

Perth one-day workshop
"Dementia Update: From Timely Diagnosis to Proactive Interventions" by **Jade Cartwright** and **Rachel Zombor**

Sharon Crane

Senior Advisor Professional Education & Certification (CPD & PSR)

Maintaining standards for assessment and reporting

SOME WOULD SAY that variety is the spice of life, but when it comes to assessing communication and swallowing disorders and the subsequent reporting of findings, consistency of style is of upmost importance. Consumers, referring professionals, employers and third party funders require and deserve certainty that standard assessment protocols will be adhered to and that a written report will be provided that clearly and accurately reports assessment findings.

I'm aware there are many of you out there who would admit that for various reasons you are being prevented from meeting best practice standards for assessment and report writing.

Common reasons in the public sector include:

- Limited or no funding to purchase all necessary assessment tools or to update tools;
- Pressure to spend less time than is necessary to complete an assessment;
- Pressure (or in one reported case it was a directive!) to not complete standardised assessments;
- Incomplete, out-dated or absent policies and procedures regarding the assessment and report writing standards for the service;
- Pared back assessment and report writing standards in an effort to reduce time and increase through-put.

Now you would think that in the private sector things would be easier in some respects, because the private practitioner (PP) purchases their own

resources and develops their own policies and procedures. However, what seems to happen here is that PPs feel pressured to reduce the costs for either themselves or their client.

I've actually had members who are setting up a private practice tell me that they aren't going to do assessments because the assessment tools are too expensive and they can't afford to purchase them! I'm not joking... I have actually heard this on more than one occasion. I'm sure you will all agree with me that if you are going into business then you are obliged to purchase all of the necessary equipment and tools to run that business, and in the case of a speech pathology practice that includes assessment tools.

I also personally know the dilemma of trying to keep the cost down for a client and being tempted to squeeze an assessment into as short a session as possible, or avoid multiple sessions for an assessment and cater for the possibility of the client possibly not wanting a report if they know that they have to pay extra for it.

We are beholden as members of the only profession qualified to assess and diagnose communication and swallowing disorders to set and maintain consistent best practice standards for the process of assessment and reporting.

To assist our members to achieve that aim SPA has developed two documents:

- A guideline for speech pathologists, and;
- an information sheet for consumers.

We urge you to put these standards into practice and, if you are meeting

resistance, to let us know so that we can support you to effect change.

One situation we are hoping in particular to prevent is when you are asked to change or omit information in a report. Being clear on what should be included in a report and the legal entity of a report once it is published may help resolve or avoid this situation.

Oh, and I thought it might be helpful if I shared with you some of the frequent complaints we receive from consumers about reports (that way you can make sure you don't get caught out in the same way).

Complaints received include:

- having to wait an unreasonable amount of time to receive the report (six months is not unheard of);
- not being aware that there is a charge for the report;
- querying the amount of information contained in the report compared to the cost, and;
- inaccuracies in the report including the client's name being incorrect, the wrong pronoun being used throughout the report or background information being inaccurate.

Please share the information in the guideline with colleagues and management and feel free to provide the information sheet to clients too. Together we can work to set and maintain appropriate standards for assessment procedures and reporting writing.

Christine Lyons
Senior Advisor Professional Practice

Since writing this article, DisabilityCare has been launched and it has become clear that the participant centred planning (PCP) process and the fee schedule provided under this scheme may require us as a profession to carefully consider the need, purpose and content of reports. A greater emphasis on outcomes may require us to provide less detail about the assessment process and more detail about the recommended plan for therapy/support and the focus on patient centred care will necessitate considering the use of inclusive language (for example Easy English). We may also need to be prepared to advocate for ourselves if, for example, a plan requests an assessment and report but does not have enough time allocated for this. We will certainly keep you updated as we learn more about the practicalities of DisabilityCare (and of course continue to liaise with DisabilityCare regarding issues and concerns). In the meantime you can have input into the discussion through our Disability Member Community.

Jemma Skeat
National Advisor Research & Policy

Christine Lyons
Senior Advisor Professional Practice

Our professional responsibility to our colleagues should be held in high esteem

IN 2011/2012 the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) received 7,594 notifications (i.e. complaints) about health practitioners. Happily this equates to only approximately 1.2% of the 548,528 registered health practitioners.

However, what really caught our interest in the AHPRA Annual Report (really interesting reading for those of you who would like more information about which professions complaints were made against and why) was that a large number of these complaints were made by other practitioners.

Now, rightly so we hear you say. If someone is doing the wrong thing then they should be reported to the appropriate authority, and we agree. However, what we are hearing at Speech Pathology Australia (SPA) is that some of those complaints were vexatious and may have been motivated more by professional jealousy or commercial rivalry than a desire to protect the community, and that got us thinking.

In our years as speech pathologists we have been proud of the fact that there is a strong sense of support and camaraderie between colleagues and we would hate to see an erosion of this professional standard resulting in vexatious complaints being made against colleagues for personal gain. Sadly we are noticing at SPA an increase of examples where this professional standard has not been upheld.

This includes situations where a speech pathologist has:

- Spoken disparagingly to a client or another professional about a colleague or the service they provide;
- Posted a negative and/or unsupportive comment on social media;
- Advertised in a way that undermines a colleague's practice or service;
- Not expressed concerns with an employer or colleague (where appropriate) before making a complaint to SPA or others;
- Attempted to obtain clientele from a colleague or a previous employer (without consultation);
- Set up a private practice adjacent to or next door to a previous employer (without notification);
- Worked for an employer to gain experience or knowledge and then set up a practice in competition;
- Not given appropriate notice of intention to leave a practice;
- Not completed all work or to an appropriate standard required prior to leaving a practice;
- Photocopied or used resources, including assessment tools, without an employer's knowledge or permission;

- Employed or engaged colleagues in a way that is not legal and doesn't meet their legal obligations re leave and other entitlements (i.e. contractor or casual when they should be employed as a permanent part-timer);
- Employed or engaged staff in a way that is exploitive (i.e. seeing an unrealistic number of clients per day);
- Not advised a client of another service available to them because it is provided by a competitor or by an alternate sector (i.e. public sector not referring to private and vice versa).

Now we are sure you will all agree that in most instances the speech pathologist may not have done anything illegal and there is always going to be two sides to every story. We do believe, however, that all of our dealings with our colleagues must be conducted with the utmost integrity and we must take personal responsibility for our actions.

It should also be highlighted that some of the situations reported to SPA have not just been lapses in professional conduct or standards, or for that matter personality clashes, but unprofessional behaviour which has been a potential breach of SPA's Code of Ethics (2010). It is timely to remind all SPA members that as members we agree to read, understand and apply the Code of Ethics (the Code) within all our professional interactions.

So, how can we maintain the highest professional standards in our dealings with our colleagues and meet our obligations to uphold the values, principles and standards of the Code? Our advice would be to read the Code and in particular take note of Section 3.4, 'Duties to our Colleagues' where it states:

We treat our colleagues with honesty, fairness, respect and good faith.

We work collaboratively with colleagues...

We support our colleagues...

We do not exploit our relationships with our colleagues...

We urge you to keep these principles in mind at all times when dealing with colleagues and if a situation arises discuss your concerns with your colleague. If, however, you are unable to resolve your differences or need advice then seek the assistance of your manager or human resources department (where applicable) or contact either of us to discuss.

Christina Wilson
Senior Advisor Professional Issues

Christine Lyons
Senior Advisor Professional Practice

2015 National Conference

Training course for educators



Call for 2015 Conference Planning Committee

Speech Pathology Australia is now calling for expressions of interest from ACT members for a position on the 2015 National Conference Planning Committee. Expressions of interest should include a covering letter stating relevant experience and a curriculum vitae to support the application.

The application should be submitted to **Michelle Foley – National CPC/SA Councillor** via email: CouncillorCPD.SA@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

Applications close **Friday 13 September 2013**

2015 Conference Convenor

Speech Pathology Australia is pleased to announce that **Felicity Martin** has been appointed the 2015 Conference Convenor and we look forward to a successful Conference in Canberra!

Bringingwordshome: volunteering in Zimbabwe

‘CHILDREN LEARN through play, they develop language during play. Teachers should not dominate play, they instead should just help children to learn different vocabulary by helping their interaction in an environment where vocabulary learning is possible.’

This was the response of one lecturer to the question, ‘How would you adapt your talking in the classroom to assist children with language and communication difficulties?’ when he attended a two-day course on ‘Speech, language and communication development and difficulties in children’. The course, which was one of two run in Zimbabwe in January 2013, took place at Madziwa Teachers College in Shamva, north-east of Harare, and was delivered to the college’s lecturers. Similar responses were given during the second course held in Harare which was attended by teachers, rehabilitation assistants, paediatricians, psychologists, nurses, psychiatrists and parents.

In 1989/1990, as a fledgling speech and hearing therapist working in Zimbabwe (where I was born and grew up), I trained teachers from Harare Region schools to be the identified ‘speech teacher’ for their school – the teacher that would hold a specific role in relation to children with speech, language and communication difficulties (SLCDs). Many teachers attended training sessions and I even had the opportunity to support some of them on-site. Together we reviewed the children the speech teachers had identified, on the basis of the training that had been delivered, as requiring extra support due to SLCDs. After starting my career in Zimbabwe, I worked in the UK/Europe gaining a wide range of clinical and professional experience and then immigrated to Australia in 2010.

The ‘Bringingwordshome’ project was conceived a year ago. The aim was to contribute to my country of birth and to bring benefit to and for children with SLCDs in Zimbabwe. There is limited speech pathology available in the country, it was not therefore difficult to develop aims to provide input that would have impact. Networking with old and new colleagues and friends, we agreed that it would be best to deliver introductory training about speech, language and communication development and difficulties in children to teachers, a range of other professionals that work with children and lecturers who train teachers. The aim of the introductory training was to establish understanding of the impact of SLCDs on children’s learning and functioning and to develop skills and strategies:

- in identifying SLCDs in the classroom, and
- for enhancing communication in the classroom so that all children in education settings benefit.

At the end of the courses, course participants demonstrated increased knowledge regarding speech, language and communication and the identification of SLCDs in children.



From left: The lecture rooms at Madziwa Teachers College in Shamva, Zimbabwe; strategies for developing speech, language and communication skills in the classroom are discussed.

Dyslexia study **urgently** needs your help!

Do you have clients with dyslexia or with a family history of dyslexia, who are:

- 6-12 years old with diagnosis of dyslexia
- Parents of 0-6 month old infants?
- Expecting a baby?

The UWS MARCS BabyLab is examining the development of speech, language and cognitive abilities of 120 infants from six months through to 5 years of age. The study investigates possible acoustic, speech, and cognitive precursors of later reading ability, and what methods might be used for detecting such reading disabilities as **dyslexia**. We are **NOW** recruiting 6-12 year old children with a diagnosis of dyslexia to investigate how the brain tracks changes in sound passively.

Participants will receive BabyLab degrees for their child, a small gift and \$30 for each visit to cover travel expenses. For more information or to refer your client to our study please contact Rachel Lee on 9772 6313 or email rachel.lee@uws.edu.au



They also expressed improved understanding of and confidence in what they might be able to do when working with children with SLCDs. We discussed how participants might gain more knowledge in the area and further develop skills and strategies for working with children with SLCDs.

Sustainability is important to ensure the long-term impact of the bringingwordshome project. As I continue to volunteer my time, skills and expertise, course participants have also committed to further develop their knowledge and skills in the area. Apart from more targeted training, which will be delivered in Zimbabwe later this year, the project has already established another program – telehealth sessions have started, bridging the distance and time zones between Zimbabwe and Australia. 'Talking Telehealth' provides ongoing support to teachers/professionals who have already attended the introductory course to develop their skills in working with children with SLCDs and also works with children and their parents directly. It may be that the project will seek aid to set up a resource base and possibly bring 'talking' resources to schools in the Mashonaland East area, north-east of Harare, where Shamva and the Madziwa Teachers College are located. By continuing to work with key partners and course participants, the possibilities are limitless, but at all times plans will be shared and agreed before the project proceeds further.

It is not only words that can be brought home! As bringingwordshome develops it may be appropriate to establish an organisation that enables others to bring 'it' home. 'Bringingithome' could potentially bring sustainable skills and benefit to Zimbabwe, and other countries, in other areas of expertise.

What do you think?

Association membership information



Olwen Morgen (front, second from right) with staff from the Madziwa Teachers College.

Speech Pathology Australia, as well as the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists, kindly supported the participants of each bringwordshome course in Zimbabwe by sending promotional items, e.g. pens, balloons, notepads. Participants really appreciated the pens, and the notepads were given out as 'prizes' during the courses along with various sweets and lollies.

Sustaining support for a child with SLCDs: case study

Craig, a four-year-old boy, reportedly with limited speech and language skills, was briefly screened before I left Shamva. He was seen with his parents and Kundai Mukweshu, Madziwa Teachers College lecturer and friend, who committed to working with Craig with support from myself.

Craig was able to articulate words he had reportedly not been able to say before, such as 'moto' (car), 'imba' (house), 'amai' (mama), 'baba' (dada), 'bus', 'bye' and 'mazvita' (thank you) during our first meeting. Initial impressions were that he may be presenting with dyspraxia. A few days later, in another brief session, we found that Craig did not demonstrate comprehension of common objects and actions but he was able to articulate the words that he had learned during our first meeting.

Aims for supporting Craig's speech and language development were agreed with Craig's parents and Kundai, were reviewed in February during a telehealth session and will continue to be reviewed and expanded. An audiometrist who attended the Harare training course has volunteered to assess Craig's hearing.

For more information about the bringwordshome project, please see Olwen's blog at <http://bringwordshome.blogspot.com.au/> or contact Olwen via email at insynchronytherapy@gmail.com

Olwen Morgen
Speech Pathologist

Eligibility for Speech Pathology Australia membership – FAQs

GIVEN THE RECENT CHANGES to registration of the profession in Queensland, we have become aware a number of Queensland speech pathologists may wish to take up membership with Speech Pathology Australia. Where possible, please pass this information on to your colleagues.

SPA has set up the "Queensland Registration Board" webpage to answer frequently asked questions about how de-registration may affect speech pathologists working in Queensland. Below we outline some more general questions.

Queensland Registration Board Information

What date will registration cease?

Registration ceased as of 20 May 2013.

What happens to my Medicare Provider Status?

Queensland speech pathologists have until 31 August 2013 to become a practising member of SPA in order to retain their Medicare Provider Status. Membership is then required to be renewed each calendar year. For further information, please refer to SPA's *FAQ on Medicare Eligibility*.

What is SPA's Membership Year?

Membership is for a calendar year – 1 January to 31 December.

For Queensland speech pathologists who were not registered in the past 12 months the following applies:

- If you join SPA and pay by credit card or cheque you will be required to pay the full year's fee upfront e.g. \$495.
- If you elect to pay by direct debit you will only be charged for the number of months you join for the year, e.g. join in August and pay \$239.25.
- The only time a discounted fee is offered is when new members join after 1 September 2013.

What do I need to do if I work with children or young people?

You will need to apply to the Commission of Children and Young People and the Child Guardian for a Blue Card. The Act provides a period of three months from the cessation date of the registration scheme to obtain a Blue Card (<http://www.ccydpcg.qld.gov.au/bluecard/index.html>). Please check with your line manager to determine if a Blue Card is required.

What do I need to do if I work with adults with a disability?

You will need to apply to the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services for a Yellow Card or exemption notice. The Act provides a period of three months from the cessation date of the registration scheme to obtain a Yellow Card (<http://www.communities.qld.gov.au/disability/key-projects/criminal-history-screening/forms/application-for-criminal-history-screening-prescribed-notice-yellow-card-form-10-1>). Please check with your line manager to determine if a Yellow Card is required. As an employee of a State Government agency, your health service may undertake this application on your behalf and meet the associated costs. Please seek advice from your line manager or human resource contact officer.

What do I need to do if I wish to obtain health insurance rebates for eligible speech pathology services?

You will need to obtain Practising membership of SPA if you have not already done so. The Commonwealth Department of Health has amended the Health Insurance (Allied Health Services) Determination 2011 from 1 May 2012. This will allow a four month transition period until 31 August 2013 in which affected speech pathologists can obtain practising membership.

Hospital and Health Services will be amending job descriptions by:

- removing “proof of registration” as a requirement for employment, and for speech pathologists insert “The possession of a tertiary degree in Speech Pathology providing eligibility for practising membership to Speech Pathology Australia” as a requirement for employment.

Other QLD organisations and employers may also implement this.

Credentialing for Queensland Employers?

SPA does not provide this service for employers in Queensland. This is not offered in any other state of Australia. SPA can confirm if a speech pathologist is a member, their member type and CPSP status but no further details can be provided especially if they have requested not to be displayed on our ‘Find a speech pathologist’ search.

Further information can be obtained by contacting SPA on **1300 368 835** or membership@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au



Volunteers at SPA's stand at the QLD Pregnancy, Babies and Children Expo.

THANK YOU TO ALL the volunteers who gave up their time to help out at our Speech Pathology Australia stall at the Pregnancy, Babies and Children Expo. It was a very successful event, with over 4,000 people attending the expo each day. Our colourful blue and white stand was very popular, with many parents stopping by for a chat. Everyone who volunteered was enthusiastic and ready to talk to parents about a variety of topics such as how to find a speech pathologist, language and literacy, speech development, and how to join the speech pathology profession. A big thank you to everyone who helped out – it would not have been possible without your support, and I think I speak for everyone when I say it was a pleasure to work with such a lovely, happy bunch of people!

Anna Follent
PA Portfolio Co-Leader

SA Branch at the National Conference

THERE WAS A definite buzz in the office as a group of my colleagues returned from the Speech Pathology Australia 2013 National Conference, inspired by three days of learning and revived by some Queensland sunshine (causing others to turn green with envy). In this *Speak Out* edition we present two different perspectives on the Conference; one from a new graduate and another from a Conference presenter.

Rachel Trebilcock
SA Branch Editor



SA Branch members at the 2013 SPA National Conference.

A new graduate's perspective

The SPA National Conference in June 2013 was a jam-packed three days of presentations, workshops, exhibits, networking and information! As a recent Masters graduate from Flinders University, the "SEA change" (Synthesise, Evaluate, Act) theme to the Conference was everything it promised and more!

For three days I was updated on the latest research carried out across not only Australia but the world. I was speechless (!) by the presenters' drive to fill in the gaps in order to help our profession achieve the best for the clients we work with. The mix of presentations and workshops allowed me to appraise information on a variety of topics.

A particular highlight was the final day workshop presented by Dr Tiffany Hogan on "Increasing lower and higher level language skills to improve reading comprehension". I have walked away from that workshop empowered about the importance of the "building blocks" of reading comprehension. These skills, I believe, will lead to greater conversations between schools and myself and this can only benefit children.

While I feel I am still processing (or evaluating) everything, three words resound in my head; encouraged, inspired and challenged. I am encouraged by the breadth of information and research that is available to put into practice with the children and schools I work with. I have been inspired to do more, and grow more as a speech pathologist. But perhaps most importantly I have been challenged to put all of this knowledge into action.

Jodie Davis
Speech Pathologist

A presenter's perspective

As a research higher degree student, I was enthusiastic about attending the National Conference this year to present my research for the first time.

My PhD is entitled "Perceptions and enactment of client-centred speech-language pathology practice for adults with aphasia across the rehabilitation continuum". My supervisors are Professor Elizabeth Armstrong and Associate Professor Deborah Hersh, and I'm enrolled at Edith Cowan University in Western Australia, although I'm based in Adelaide and work at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital and Repatriation General Hospital.

Clinical placement insights

It was exciting and affirming when the abstract I submitted was accepted as a paper presentation for the Conference, and that provided motivation to continue despite the many challenges I've encountered during the course of my PhD.

After a frantic couple of months collecting and analysing data in the short space of time between gaining ethics approval and the Conference, it was rewarding to finally be able to discuss preliminary findings of my research among peers. It was also great to have a deadline to work towards during the early stages of data collection for my PhD, and arriving at the Gold Coast was a fabulous reward after my frantic preparation.

I was grateful that many of my Adelaide colleagues were able to attend my presentation, and it was fantastic to have their support. Presenting my research at the Conference was a valuable opportunity to gain feedback from peers, address questions about my research and to make connections with other PhD candidates researching similar topics.

It was also exciting to present my research alongside highly respected research and clinical peers, in an inspiring Conference session focusing on aphasia research. The panel discussion at the end of the presentations provided an opportunity to share more detail about my research, and to learn more about other presenters' research.

Overall, attending the National Conference helped to consolidate my clinical, research and presentation skills, extended my professional perspective and networks, and provided motivation and inspiration for continuing to develop my research and clinical skills.

There was a focus on embracing social media and disseminating research through Twitter at the Conference, which was a lot of fun and a useful way of keeping tabs on presentations I was interested in but was unable to attend.

The SPA National Conference was an amazing experience, and one I'd highly recommend to both clinicians and researchers.

Josephine Kemp

SA Branch Executive, Professional Standards Portfolio

Congratulations Sue!

The South Australian Branch would like to congratulate Sue Horton on receiving a Fellowship Award at the 2013 National Conference.

We thank you for your significant contributions to SA Branch and the field of speech pathology.

Experiences of a rural and remote placement in Hobart

DURING MAY AND JUNE of this year, I was lucky enough to complete a paediatric placement with the Department of Education in Hobart, Tasmania. This opportunity arose through the combination of a Rural and Remote scholarship from the NAHSSS, the hard work of La Trobe University's Clinical Placement Officer Jai Rankine, and my own desire to undertake the challenge of completing a clinical placement interstate.

I was placed within the Department's Learning Services South division, which allowed me to gain an insight into the diverse range of practice for speech pathologists working within the Education Department in this region. Not only was I able to regularly visit local primary schools to conduct speech and language therapy, but I also gained exposure to the 'ins and outs' of an early childhood intervention centre, as well as a support school for children with high needs.

The varied caseload (and the insistence of my supervisors that I get a full range of experiences while on placement!) provided me with ample chances to put into practice much of the theory I had learnt throughout my degree, and my competence and confidence as an entry-level clinician grew with every day that passed. Certainly, by the conclusion of my six weeks' experience, I was left wishing I could stay on and continue working with the clients and the colleagues who had made the placement so enjoyable.



Eve exploring the sights in Tasmania.

Hobart too, exceeded my expectations in terms of its accessibility and natural beauty. Mid-week visits to the historic Salamanca precinct or critically acclaimed Museum of Old and New Art were excellent ways to get my culture fix, while on weekends I was able to explore the picturesque regions of Bruny Island, Port Arthur, the Tamar Valley and Launceston. I even scaled the mighty Mt

Wellington for a stunning finale to my Tasmania adventure!

I feel extremely lucky to have had this experience and encourage anybody who is interested in undertaking a rural or remote placement to actively pursue any opportunity that arises. I am much indebted to both Isobel Lewis and Karina Heier, who served as my clinical educators during the placement, and provided much support and hospitality during my stay in Hobart.

Eve Jongbloed

La Trobe University, Melbourne

Congratulations to our award winners!

Victorian members' achievements recognised at the 2013 SPA National Conference

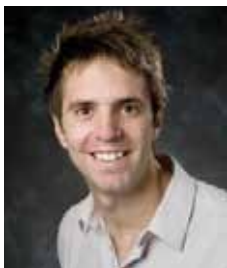
AT THE SPA National Conference on the Gold Coast, a number of Victorian Branch members' achievements were recognised. We congratulate and honour these members!

Dr Amanda Scott's long and outstanding contribution to the profession was rewarded with a Fellowship award. This honour is awarded to a person with considerable experience, responsibility and standing within the speech pathology profession.

Amanda is a greatly admired speech pathologist with more than 30 years' experience. She is a highly regarded clinician, researcher and educator who has actively and generously shared her expertise with many speech pathologists.

A big congratulations to Amanda!

We also wish to extend our congratulations to Victorian members Shane Erickson and Susan Block who won the 2012 JCPSP Editor's Prize, sponsored by ACER.



Co-authors
Shane
Erickson
and Susan
Block won the
2012 JCPSP
Editor's Prize.

Shane and Susan were two of the authors of *Stand-alone Internet speech restructuring treatment for adults who stutter: A pilot study* (published in *The Journal of Clinical Practice in Speech-Language Pathology (JCPSP)* in Volume 14, number 3, 2012) which was judged by the JCPSP Editorial Committee to be of the highest merit in 2012.

To read more about Amanda's Fellowship Award and the JCPSP Editor's Prize, please see page 7.

We also would like to pass on our congratulations to Megan Howe and Zoe Stewart-Johns from La Trobe University who were both awarded SPA Student Awards for their hard work throughout their studies.

Megan and Zoe will each receive their award at the 2013 Faculty of Health Sciences Prize Ceremony at La Trobe University.

Cathy Naismith

La Trobe Intensive Fluency Program now offered rurally – Bendigo region

FOR THE FIRST TIME, the student-delivered La Trobe Intensive Fluency Program will be available in the Bendigo area for teenagers who stutter.

Final-year Speech Pathology students at the La Trobe Rural Health School, on the Bendigo campus of La Trobe University, will have the opportunity to learn how to treat adolescents who stutter and they will provide a valuable community service to young people who stutter and their families.

It is common for adolescents with speech problems such as stuttering to be referred to clinics in Melbourne because of a lack of intensive or specialist treatment options locally. This initiative is an attempt to meet the needs of rural students, to provide support and professional development for local speech pathologists and to provide specialist clinical experiences for the La Trobe rural students.

Staff from the La Trobe Rural Health School, the Catholic Education Office and Department of Education and Early Childhood Development are delighted to offer the opportunity for children in Bendigo and surrounding regions

to benefit from intensive treatment for chronic stuttering.

The program is a collaboration between the three departments, as well as private clinicians working in the area.

The program will be conducted at the newly built Health and Human Sciences 2 building at La Trobe University Bendigo's Edwards Street campus. It will provide La Trobe University's first cohort of final-year speech pathology students valuable work experience under the supervision of experienced expert and local clinical supervisors.

The program is being coordinated by Dr Susan Block, from the Department of Human Communication Sciences at the Melbourne campus of La Trobe University, in association with Ms Sheryn Long from The Catholic Education Office and Ms Madeline Leyden from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development in Bendigo.

Student perceptions of SPA membership

What does Speech Pathology Australia membership mean to you? A survey of speech pathology students

ONE OF THE current strategic goals of the WA Branch is to grow student membership and engagement, while harnessing the enthusiasm and energy that students bring to the profession. Research from other disciplines has shown that joining a professional association helps students to feel connected to their profession at an early career stage and to start developing a sense of professional identity. As a result, it is expected that promoting student membership will have mutual benefit for student speech pathologists, the Branch, and the profession as a whole.

To achieve this goal, the Branch identified the need to survey a sample of students to explore factors that influence their decisions to join the

Association or not, their knowledge of Association functions, and the member services and resources that are valued and accessed most. Student representatives helped with the design of the survey and ethics approval was obtained from Curtin University. The survey was distributed electronically to students enrolled in Curtin's speech pathology programs with 40 students completing the survey. This included 22 student members and 18 student non-members.

The survey results were interesting and some of the key findings of interest to the Branch are outlined below. Overall, the responses clearly demonstrated that students value the functions of the Association and recognise the importance of professional membership

for being a speech pathologist. One student commented, "I think that as a graduating health professional it is VERY important to have professional affiliations with a professional association like Speech Pathology Australia".

Students strongly endorsed Association membership as a way of keeping up-to-date with the profession, valuing access to resources such as professional development events, publications, and clinical guidelines. A number of student members noted that such resources have assisted their university studies with one student commenting, "I have used a lot of the articles from current and past publications in assignments, they were really helpful", and another said that "access to these journals

THE SPA WA Branch 'Fundraising and Networking' event for 2013, an afternoon High Tea, was held on Sunday 26 May at Duchess Bar in Claremont. The event was a sold-out success, attended by speech pathologists, speech pathology students, and friends, for an afternoon of tea, coffee and sweet and savoury treats. Make-up artist, Megan Da Siva, was on hand to ensure that all attendees were looking lovely. Thank you to Megan for donating her time and expertise to the event!

A raffle, 'Guess the Jelly Beans' competition and a silent auction proved to be a huge success, raising a total of \$727 with proceeds for The Centre for Cerebral Palsy, Perth. Hazel Grunwaldt, Executive Manager for Corporate and Strategic Relations from The Centre for Cerebral Palsy, talked to the attendees about the Communication Devices program and the clients that the funds raised will help to support. The Communication Devices program will include a showroom for



communication devices and space for education on how to use them. A worthwhile initiative and it is exciting that the SPA WA Branch and its members are helping to support it!

Thank you to everyone who attended the event, and many thanks to the following companies for generously donating gifts and vouchers for the raffle and silent auction:

Jooj, Applecross; Il Ciao, Applecross; Duchess Bar, Claremont; Creations

Jewellery, Fremantle; Miracle Management & Wizard Warehouse; Kustom Cupcakes, Lathlain; The Lettuce Shop, Belmont; Hoyts Cinemas; Cleopatra's Temple, South Lake First Avenue, Kalamunda; Myaree Hardware, Myaree.

We look forward to seeing you at the WA Branch's Speech Pathology Australia Week Launch Event on Thursday 22 August 2013.

Ashleigh Pascoe & Emily Dawes
Public Affairs Portfolio

gives me an edge over my peers". The benefit of membership for course work was identified as a particularly salient selling point for promoting Association membership to students.

One of the findings that impressed upon the Branch was that student members felt a much stronger connection to the speech pathology community. 86% of student members agreed or strongly agreed that they felt connected to the community as compared to 31% of student non-members. One student commented that "being involved in the speech pathology community, especially as a student is important for networking reasons and to learn more about the profession", and another felt that through their membership they "maintained connection to the broader community of speech pathologists". This was identified as another important benefit to highlight when promoting student membership, while also demonstrating the need to encourage student attendance at local Association events to foster the sense of connection.

Given that the WA Branch is actively lobbying to improve access to and equity of speech pathology services for school-aged children, it was interesting that only 66% of student respondents rated political lobbying as an important

function of the Association. This suggested that students might benefit from further information about lobbying and awareness raising activities, particularly leading into the International Communication Project 2014. This was identified as an excellent opportunity to educate student members and non-members about the functions of the Association, while encouraging students to become actively involved with Branch activities.

It was pleasing to see that 100% of student members indicated their intention to renew their membership the following year and 92.3% of student non-members intended to join the Association following graduation. For non-members, the joining fee was the most significant barrier to student membership, with only one respondent agreeing that the benefits of joining were not worth the cost. This has prompted the Branch to explore creative ways of promoting the cost-benefit of membership to students.

When invited to suggest ways the Association could offer greater benefits for student members, common requests included more professional development events and networking opportunities. Two students identified the need for a publication or newsletter for students, as reflected by the

following comment: "Some sort of publication or section in *Speak Out* specifically designed for students so that they are informed of what is happening at other universities and things others students are doing". The student representatives will continue to work with the SPA Network of Students (SPANS) to explore forums for student networking across universities, including use of social media, while encouraging student contributions to *Speak Out*.

It is important to acknowledge the small sample size and the fact that students from only one local university were surveyed given the constraints of time and ethics approval. Despite the limitations, the findings have provided valuable direction for the Branch and SPANS, informing the development of a strategic action plan. The Branch and student representatives will look forward to sharing the outcomes of planned initiatives in the future and seeing its student membership numbers and engagement continuing to grow.

If you would like more information about the survey, findings or action plan please contact Jade Cartwright at j.cartwright@curtin.edu.au

Jade Cartwright
WA Vice President

SPA profile – Jennai Beckett



Role within SPA?

Griffith University SPA student representative.

What do you do in this role?

I share information about SPA to the GU student cohort and liaise with the SPA Exec committee.

Role outside SPA?

MSP student.

What do you do in this role?

Study, attend lectures, participate in clinical placements and drink far too much caffeine.

What is your greatest achievement/favourite thing about your current roles?

Maintaining a sense of humour while learning about this incredibly diverse profession.

What do you see as the future challenges/directions for speech pathology and/or SPA?

I hope that the job market keeps up with the ageing population's growing need for speech pathology services.



SPA Twitter update

Thank you to our National Conference contributors!



The SPA team was overwhelmed by the response of National Conference attendees who kindly took the time to tweet their impressions of the event, acting as the eyes and ears for those members/followers who were unable to attend.

It was exciting to witness the Twitter feed gathering momentum during the Conference and we were chuffed to see the official Conference hashtag **#SPAConf2013** generate such a high level of interest and discussion. Our final Twitter stats indicate we achieved more than one million impressions, meaning that our hashtag was exposed via tweeting/retweeting to a huge amount of Twitter followers around the world!



Well done on a fabulous effort and thank you to each and every one of our dedicated Twitter brigade!

Join in the conversation and follow Speech Pathology Australia on Twitter: [@SpeechPathAust](https://twitter.com/SpeechPathAust)
Don't forget to 'Start the Conversation' via Twitter for Speech Pathology Week, 25–31 August!
[#starttheconversation](https://twitter.com/#starttheconversation) and/or [#SPweek](https://twitter.com/#SPweek)



Speech Pathology Australia Facebook highlights from June to July included...



SPA's **APPrropriate Apps** Member Community was honoured to be recognised by Dr Caroline Bowen as her Speechwoman's Site of the Month for July 2013, with Dr Bowen tweeting "**Speechwoman's Site of the Month, July 2013. APPrropriate Apps – SPA Member Group. <http://tiny.cc/96rkzw> Nice @SpeechPathAus member benefit!**" Thanks to Dr Bowen for the recognition – which is very genuinely appreciated. And thanks to the approximately 800 SPA members of this community whose input and contributions make this a valuable SPA member community and forum for information sharing.



Our Facebook following is rising quickly – the Speech Pathology Australia Facebook site has now reached **3,168 followers** at the time we went to print. Thank you for your interest and support!



We ♥ Lentil

Lentil the little French Bulldog, born with a cleft palate and lip, is helping raise awareness and support for children with craniofacial conditions. If you would like to find out more about Lentil's amazing work please see <https://www.facebook.com/MyNameIsLentil>

“The phone is such a lifeline ...”



“... I advise many of my clients with speech or hearing impairments to use the NRS.”

The **National Relay Service** makes it easier for people with complex communication needs to retain their networks and independence – to phone a friend, contact the bank or book a taxi.

Learning to use the NRS is straightforward. Training is free and can be done in your client’s home.

Relay calls are available 24 hours a day and cost about the same as a local call.

The NRS can provide customised support for people with a speech or hearing impairment and their families.

Ask for our **free DVD** and other resources.



- 1800 555 660
- helpdesk@relayservice.com.au
- www.relayservice.com.au

4/10



A phone solution for people who are deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment.



An Australian Government Initiative

Two more good reasons SPA partners with Guild Insurance...

more cover and 2 months extra at no additional cost.



When you take out a policy with Guild Insurance, you'll get a range of additional new covers, including expanded cover for legal fees, intellectual property breaches, liability for loss of important documents and so much more.

You'll also get an extra 2 months cover at no additional cost. That's 14 months for the price of 12 months - now that's great value!

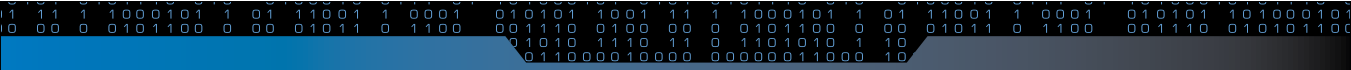
Already with Guild Insurance? You'll automatically get these great new benefits when you renew your cover.

With so much extra, there's no better time to be with Guild Insurance. Apply today.

 guildinsurance.com.au/2monthsfree

Insurance issued by Guild Insurance Ltd, ABN 55 004 538 863, AFSL 233791. Guild Insurance supports your association through the payment of referral fees. This document contains general advice only and does not take into account what you currently have, want and need for your personal circumstances. It is important for you to consider these matters and read the Product Disclosure Statement (PDS) and policy before you make a decision about an insurance product. You can get a copy of the PDS by calling 1800 810 213.





SOLVING the MYSTERY of SOCIAL ENCOUNTERS



Dr Renae Beaumont's Secret Agent Society (SAS) is an evidence-based social skills program for 8 to 12 year olds with social and emotional challenges including high-functioning autism spectrum conditions.

SAS features a spy adventure computer game, child and parent sessions and teacher tip sheets. Kids learn how to recognise and manage emotions, talk and play with others, prevent and manage bullying and much more!

2013 practitioner training dates

- Sydney September 16-17
- Auckland September 19-20
- Brisbane October 17-18
- Melbourne October 31-November 1
- Adelaide November 11-12



www.sst-institute.net



Conference Announcement

Achieving Effective Outcomes: Language, Learning & Literacy 12th & 13th September 2013, Parramatta RSL

Keynote Speaker: Professor Nickola Wolf Nelson
Program Director, Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology, Western Michigan University.

Evidence based practices that aim to improve effective outcomes for children and adolescents with language and/or learning impairments will be presented at this conference.

Professor Nelson is well known for her contribution to our current understanding of language disorders and has published widely, including her book 'Language and Literacy Disorders: Infancy through Adolescence.' She will present on models of spoken and written language disorders; assessment, diagnosis and intervention for children with language/literacy disorders.

Other speakers include Associate Professor Cori Williams, Associate Professor Genevieve McArthur, and Dr Roslyn Neilson, amongst others.

Register now & don't miss out!

To view the conference program and register on-line visit our website.

<http://www.cheri.com.au/conferences.html>



Speech Pathology Australia's bi-monthly members' magazine *Speak Out* is mailed to more than 5,000 speech Australian and international pathologists.

For more information about advertising opportunities please contact Publications Officer Lana Busby at pubs@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au



ROOMS FOR RENT

NEW SOUTH WALES

Rooms for Lease / Rent – Bella Vista NSW

Two rooms available for permanent lease or casual rent within an established psychology practice located in Norwest Business Park. Both rooms are furnished, air-conditioned, sound-proofed and cabled for IT.

There is also a shared waiting room and dedicated secure car space included.

Other occupiers within the complex include a dentist, accountant, cafe and other medical and health care specialists.

For further information please contact Eleni Langas on (02) 8883 4702 or 0418 699 224 Email: eleni@langas.com.au

LANGAS & Associates
Consulting Psychologists

PRACTICES FOR SALE

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

SPEECH PATHOLOGY PRACTICE FOR SALE

Established in 1985

This practice deals mostly with a paediatric caseload with speech and language delay, stuttering and literacy disorders. The occasional adult is also assessed and treated.

The practice is located in beautiful Kalamunda which is 26 kilometres from the GPO and within a Wellness Centre which is a fresh new environment with lovely colleagues to work with.

The caseload consists of about 20 regular weekly or fortnightly bookings each week with another 25 clients on review. There is potential for further development of the caseload.

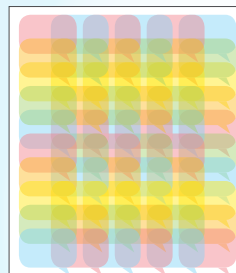
The practice is currently spread over 4 part days but could easily be managed over 3 days or less.

After almost 38 years as a speech pathologist and over 28 years in private practice, I have decided to retire.

\$43,000 ONO

Please contact Claire Cowen on **0409 571 595** or at home on **9293 22 79** or via email on clairecowen@bigpond.com for any enquiries.

2014 Speech Pathology Australia Online Resource Guide – Applications open soon!



Speech Pathology Australia 2013 Resource Guide

The SPA Resource Guide is a booklet the Association has been producing annually since 2000, and provides advertisers a unique opportunity to showcase their products and services to more than 5,000 Australian speech pathologists.

The Resource Guide has traditionally been sent out with the December issue of *Speak Out*, however the 2014 edition will be made available only as an online resource in order to make it a more interactive resource, complete with active links to advertisers' websites and contact email addresses.

If you would like more information about advertising in the 2014 Resource Guide, or to be added to the mailing list to receive the booking form, please contact pubs@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

Derbyshire Language Scheme

Three Day Training Workshop Brisbane October 2013 Registration Form



The Derbyshire Language Scheme (DLS) is a developmentally organised and structured language program with linked assessment. This developmental approach to language remediation can be used as the basis for 'structured teaching to objectives' or as a checklist of language objectives with all teaching and assessment in free play, or a combination of both methods. It is easy to adapt to TEACCH methodology, Applied Behavioural Analysis, usage with Visual Materials and for ESL learners or other students with language needs.

Dates: Fri 4th, Sat 5th & Sun 6th October 2013

Time: 8.30 to 3.30pm

Venue: To be confirmed- Brisbane Metropolitan area
Cost: \$1120.00 +GST (includes morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea). Extra for equipment purchase.

Participants: Suitable for Speech Language Pathologists, AVTs, Early Intervention Teachers & Special Education Teachers/ Support Staff.

Registration is on a first-come first serve basis and not guaranteed until full payment received.

Limited places will be available.

Presentors: Janet Eales (M.Ed., School Guidance and Counselling; Dip. Spec Ed., Cert Play Therapy) and Sue Park (M.Sp.Path., B.Sp.Thy., CPSP, MSPA).

Contact: Janet Eales, e: learningsteps@optusnet.com.au

or Sue Park e: susanepark@optusnet.com.au; Janet and Sue are qualified presenters, with 30+ years of experience. They have successfully used the DLS with children diagnosed with delayed and/or disordered language. This scheme is suitable for use with children diagnosed with SLI, ASD, II, HI, PI and learning disorders. "Hands on" practice activities, videos and detailed handouts are included in the presentation. Certification will be provided following the course completion. Toys for the test kit and some therapy items may be pre-ordered with your Workshop Confirmation. Please indicate interest on form.

RSVP: 30th August 2013. Please complete the registration form and return by email (see left) or post to: Sue Park 85 Gellibrand St., Clayfield Q4011

Cancellation Policy: No refund unless a suitable replacement is found.

Personal Information

Participants Name _____

Title _____

Home Address _____

State _____ Post Code _____

Phone _____ Mob Ph _____

email _____

Payment: Visa/ MasterCard/ Cheque (to Speech, Language and Learning)

Card Number _____

Expiry Date _____

Cardholder's Name _____

Signature _____

-Interested in purchase of:

◆ Program toys with the workshop? YES/ NO

◆ Pre- shipped Scheme&Test Manuals YES/ NO

-Special Dietary Requirements YES/ NO



Alternative & Augmentative Communication AAC provides **essential tools** and strategies for your clients & patients of all ages. If **speech** does not meet all daily needs a voice amplifier or Speech Generating **Device** may assist. To start **exploring** or to **trial** devices please contact our Speech Pathologists to discuss. We are here to help.

ZYTEQ Pty Ltd

PO Box 190 South Melbourne VIC 3205

Ph: (03) 9696 2944

Freecall: 1800 818 353 (outside Melbourne)

www.zytek.com.au

info@zytek.com.au

Fax: (03) 9696 1755 ABN 81 132 895 268



VOICECRAFT® FOR SPEECH PATHOLOGISTS STUDENT WORKSHOP

17th & 18th August 2013

VENUE: University of Queensland, QLD

VOICECRAFT® FOR SPEECH PATHOLOGISTS STUDENT WORKSHOP

14th & 15th September 2013

VENUE: Macquarie University, NSW

VOICECRAFT® FOR SPEECH PATHOLOGISTS STUDENT WORKSHOP

21st & 22nd September 2013

VENUE: University of Sydney, NSW

VOICECRAFT® FOR GENERALIST SPEECH PATHOLOGISTS WORKSHOP

11th to 13th November 2013

VENUE: Logan Hospital, QLD

VOICECRAFT® 4-DAY EXTENDED WORKSHOP

25th to 28th November 2013

VENUE: Ko Awatea Centre for Education and Innovation Middlemore Hospital - Auckland NZ

VOICECRAFT® FOR SPEECH PATHOLOGISTS STUDENT WORKSHOP

30th Nov to 1st Dec 2013

VENUE: Massey University, Palmerston North NZ

Registration forms can be downloaded from our website www.voicecraft.com.au/UpcomingWorkshops.html

If you would like to assist us with the organisation of a workshop in your local area contact our office to find out what is involved.

All enquiries & registrations to:

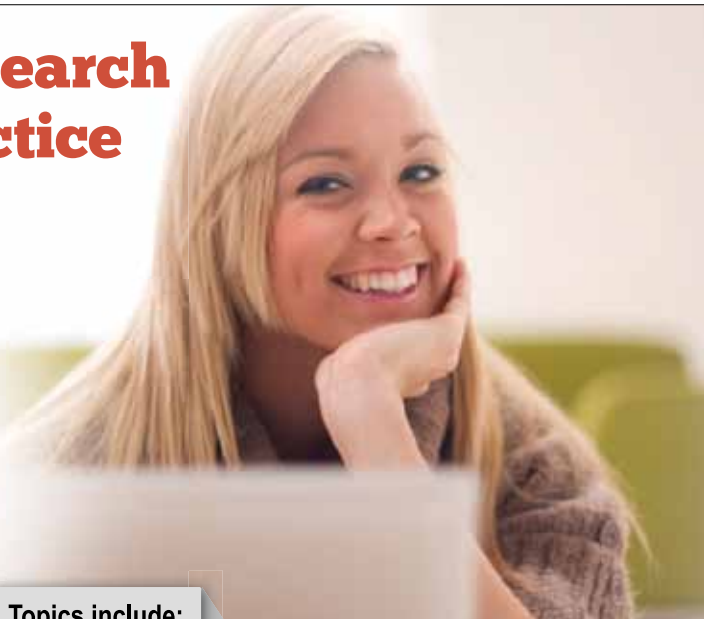
Voicecraft® International Pty Ltd

Ph: 08 8239 2088 Fax: 08 239 2238

email: anchor@voicecraft.com.au

Apply the latest research to your clinical practice

From the comfort of your home or office, gain practical knowledge and strategies you can apply to your work right away. Based on the most current research in early childhood language intervention, Hanen's two-hour e-Seminars are designed to give you immediately usable tools for working more effectively with families.



Topics include:

- ▶ Coaching Parents in How to Play
- ▶ Involving Parents in Diagnostic Intervention for Toddlers with Suspected Motor Speech Difficulties
- ▶ Starting Early: Red Flags and Treatment Tips for Toddlers on the Autism Spectrum (also available on demand)

New group pricing and expanded eligibility

It's now easier than ever to attend a Hanen e-Seminar with your entire team. Attend with your speech pathology assistants and other colleagues and take advantage of discounted rates.



Learn more at: www.hanen.org/onlinetraining



**I drove away with \$4,000 in savings
when I used the **Car Buying Service**,
as part of my **SPA membership**.**



1300 853 352 | www.memberadvantage.com.au/spa

^ Indicative only. Based on average savings of \$3,655 made by SPA members in 2012.