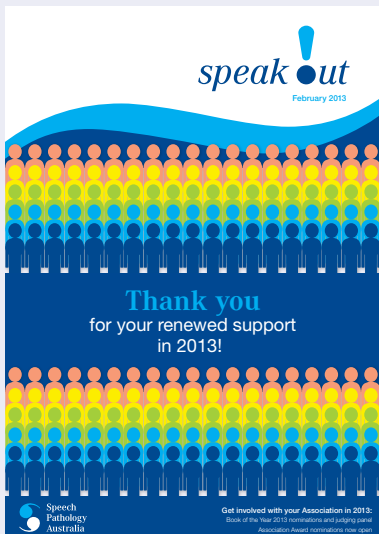




Speak *out*

February 2013

Thank you
for your renewed support
in 2013!



3	From our President
4	Association News CPSP and PSR information 2013 Award Nominations Council update – 2013 Budget Changes to Research Grants speechBITE™ online training Changes to Mentoring Program EBP update SPyce project update Autism Round Table
8	2012 SPA highlights
10	2013 Book of the Year nominations
12	2013 National Conference
14	CPD Update
16	Private Practice Advice about record keeping
17	SPA opportunities Project Officer Guest <i>IJSLP</i> Conference Editor
18	Branch Pages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New South Wales • Northern Territory • Queensland • South Australia • Tasmania • Victoria • Western Australia
24	SPA Online update
24	SPA profile – Kim Brookes
26	Classifieds
31	Notice Board

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See the Association website for further information

www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

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From our President



A WARM WELCOME to 2013 for all our new and returning members (all 5,000 plus of you!). I hope you had a relaxing holiday period and start the new year refreshed, rejuvenated and ready for action.

Speech Pathology Australia exists to operate in the interests of its members – YOU – and the clients and communities we serve. We want to make a difference. We want to be an effective and authentic voice for our members and clients. We want to have an impact. But we need you to help make that happen. We need your ideas, your eyes and ears and – most importantly – your voice.

This year is shaping up as a vital one for our Association and is ripe with opportunity on many fronts, each with significant implications for you and for our consumers. Throughout the year, we will be seeking your active engagement to inform our planning and to help deliver on our many objectives.

We are already very busy on several fronts. By the time of printing you will have commented on proposed changes to our constitution. I believe these changes will best position Speech Pathology Australia to be effective now and well into the future. I do hope you have had your say in shaping the future of your Association and hope to see many of you at the AGM on the Gold Coast to cast your vote.

We continue to be very active in the arena of registration and self-regulation. We are lobbying for reinstatement of registration in Queensland and have secured several high-level meetings as

reported in *e-News* and Branch news. We are also conducting important parallel work to strengthen our internal self-regulating practices to ensure these more closely mirror those required of the registered professions. Please take the time to read the important information about changes to the PSR program contained in this edition of *Speak Out*.

Our planning for the International Communication Project in 2014 is entering its final stage. This, and the push for a National Inquiry into the Social and Economic Impacts of Communication and Swallowing Impairment in Australia, are key platforms for the Association. We need your help to ensure more Australians, including our politicians, are convinced of the need for urgent action on behalf of the more than one million Australians who everyday live with disadvantage and diminished opportunity purely because of communication and swallowing disorders.

Later in the year you will also have the chance to shape our next strategic plan and identify our top priorities for 2014-17. Start thinking now about the future of our profession and our Association and be ready to *speak up*.

Getting involved, in large ways or small, and making your voice heard is easy. Look for opportunities advertised in *Speak Out* and *e-News*, get to know your local Branch members, send us an email, call National Office. Be an active participant in an exciting year.

I look forward to working alongside you in 2013.

Chris Stone
National President

Speech Pathology Australia Certified Practising Speech Pathologist

Thanks for being a SPA member in 2013.
Please take a moment to read this important information about PSR and CPSP.

WITH 2013 renewals, the importance of PSR was reflected in the renewal process and your 2013 membership certificate clearly reflects your PSR status either as a CPSP or as not having met the requirements to be Certified. Opting out of PSR ceased to be an option as of 2013 renewals, which followed on from all new eligible members being automatically opted in to PSR as of 2012 renewals.

In looking to 2014 renewals, CPSP status will not be a prerequisite for renewing as a Practising or Full-time Postgraduate Student member; however, the Association is working towards CPSP status being a requirement for practising members in the future. It is therefore strongly encouraged and recommended that members actively work towards earning CPSP status with their renewal each year. Currently, CPSP status is a requirement for service provision by certain funding bodies and organisations. It is also a criterion recognised in the Mutual Recognition Agreement signed by a number of international speech pathology associations. CPSP status is listed in SPA's online 'Find a Speech Pathologist' search and as of 2014, CPSP status will be a requirement for members to be listed in this practitioner search

which will become 'Find a Certified Practising Speech Pathologist'.

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. The Association is proud to be able to convey to stakeholders and the profession that the majority of Practising members have CPSP status and SPA looks forward to continuing to develop the commitment to CPSP status for practising speech pathologists.



Please feel free to contact **Sharon Crane, Senior Advisor, Professional Education and Certification**, who coordinates the PSR program at National Office on 1300 368 835 or email sappec@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au. Please feel free to make contact if you did not declare activities undertaken in 2012 and would now like to.

Sharon Crane

Senior Advisor, Professional Education and Certification

Inherent to speech pathology practice ... is the speech pathologist's responsibility to their clients and other stakeholders to undertake continuing professional development to ensure their professional knowledge remains current, relevant and evidence-based.

Fundamental to Speech Pathology Australia practising membership ... is the speech pathologist's obligation to maintain professional standards and abide by the Association's Code of Ethics (Speech Pathology Australia, 2010) that binds each member to "Continually update and extend our professional knowledge and skills through activities such as participating in professional development, and/or engaging the support of a mentor or supervisor".

In accord with SPA's strategic plan ... evidenced in the Association's commitment to robust self-regulation processes and strong and clear commitment to 'Quality Standards of Professional Practice' as reflected in SPA's Strategic Plan KRA 2.

Certified Practising Speech Pathologist (CPSP) status can be earned by Speech Pathology Australia (SPA) Practising and Full-time Postgraduate Student members who meet the requirements of SPA's Professional Self Regulation (PSR) program. Re-entry members and Non Practising members can be participants in the PSR program but can not earn Certified status. PSR provides a framework for acknowledging participation in activities which maintain currency of and enhance the speech pathologist's professional knowledge and skills. Speech pathologists can earn Certified Practising Speech Pathologist status thereby demonstrating to clients and their significant others, employers, colleagues, peers and the public that they have a commitment to updating and extending their professional practice abilities.

Time to get your Association award nominations in now!

AS A NEW YEAR begins, it is time to get pen to paper and start nominating your colleagues for an Association award.

The Association offers a range of awards to recognise those members that have contributed significantly to the profession and the Association. Members from many backgrounds, with varying years of experience and contribution can be nominated.

The range of awards includes the Early Career Award, for those members new to the profession who have demonstrated leadership and excellence in their contributions to the Association, through to the awards of Life Membership and Fellowship, which recognises those with considerable experience including broad and ongoing contribution to the profession.

Don't forget the Community Contribution award, available for non-member organisations

and individuals who have contributed through activities including lobbying and advocacy for the profession.

If you know of a member you believe should be recognised for their contribution to the profession and Association, start nominating now! If you are uncertain of which award and how to nominate, further detail of the range of awards, criteria and nomination process can be located under the 'Membership' tab on the website.

Award nominations must be forwarded to National Office before the end of April to ensure recipients receive their award at the 2013 AGM (June 2013).

For further information contact Felicity Martin via email at councillorVPC@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

Felicity Martin
Vice President Communications

Council update – 2013 budget

AN IMPORTANT component of the November Council meeting is the review and approval of the Association's budget for 2013. For 2013, the operating budget, including specific projects, proposes a moderate loss which will be accommodated through expected profits from the 2012 Accounts.

In addition to the operational costs of the Association, Council has allocated a significant amount of funds to strategic activities including the International Communication Project, supporting members' use of Evidence Based Practice, the Speech Pathology Services in Youth Justice project and Independent Study Resources. Keep an eye out for these strategic projects throughout the coming months.

Meg Ledger
Vice President Operations

Changes to Research Grants Program 2013

THE ASSOCIATION would like to announce some important changes to the Research Grants Funding Program for 2013.

In line with our commitment to promoting and funding high quality research we are pleased to advise of funding increases to the research grant categories as follows:

- **Clinician Research Grants:** Two grants will be awarded, one up to a maximum value of \$5,000 and one to a maximum value of \$10,000. These grants are available for clinically based research and are not available for research related to postgraduate studies or research undertaken by an academic.
- **Postgraduate Research Grant:** Two grants will be awarded, one up to a maximum value of \$5,000 and one to a maximum value of \$10,000. These grants are available to speech pathologists enrolled in postgraduate studies.
- **Undergraduate Research Grant:** Four grants will be awarded up to a maximum value of \$600. These grants are available to entry-level students enrolled in a research program.
- **The Nadia Verrall Memorial Research Grant:** One grant will be awarded up to a maximum of \$5,000. This grant is awarded to grant applications for research focusing on children with communication disorders and their families.

The Association is dedicated to supporting the development of evidence-based data relevant to communication and swallowing disorders and was very pleased with the high number of grant applications in 2012.

Priority will be given to research applications that align with the Association's strategic plan. Please refer to the SPA website for application details and closing dates.

We look forward to receiving your research grant applications soon.

Michelle Foley
National Scientific Affairs Coordinator

Online training program at speechBITE™.com

WOULD YOU like to know more about how to critically appraise research articles? speechBITE™ has developed a free online training program for learning how to apply the PEDro-P rating scale to treatment research in speech pathology. This program is based on the training materials developed by PscyBITE.

The program includes a guide to using the scale, detailed descriptions of criteria, key definitions and examples. It can be used by clinicians, researchers or students in order to learn how to rate the methodological quality of randomised and non-randomised control trials using the PEDro-P scale. Users can also assess their knowledge by taking a short interactive test at the end of the program where they rate two published research papers.

Key features of the program include:

- A step-by-step interactive guide to understanding and applying the scale to research
- Key definitions for each of the 11 PEDro-P scale criteria
- Practical examples provided for each criterion
- A short interactive test using real research articles
- Completely free to use
- Enter and return as many times as needed.

The online training program was officially launched on 3 July 2012 at the 9th Conference of the Neuropsychological Rehabilitation Special Interest Group of the World Federation for NeuroRehabilitation (WFNR) in Bergen, Norway. The speechBITE™ team hope that it is a useful addition to your EBP resources!

Go to www.speechbite.com and click on this button to start using the program:



Please note this program is designed as an educational resource and is not a training program for becoming a rater for the speechBITE™ website.

Melissa Brunner
speechBITE™ Raters Network Manager

Changes to the Mentoring Program

FOLLOWING TWO years of successfully steering the Association's Mentoring Program, Yvonne Pearse is stepping down from the role as National Mentoring Coordinator. Yvonne has been a committed and enthusiastic coordinator, providing support and guidance to the Branch mentoring leaders and has always been willing to tap into her professional networks to assist with making mentoring matches. Thank you Yvonne, your contribution to the Mentoring Program is much appreciated.

At the same time the Association has been taking the opportunity to review the current program, evaluate its successes and challenges and consider other potential program options. Considerations have been informed by member feedback, other association programs and best practice models. It is planned that a revised Mentoring Program will be re-launched in early 2014.

In the meantime the Mentoring Program will continue in its current form, with existing partnerships continuing to be supported during 2013. New registrations for Mentee and Mentors will be accepted until 31 March 2013. Mentoring Leaders will continue their valuable work in matching Mentees and Mentors, as well as providing partnerships with support throughout the year.

The Association would like to thank all the Branch Mentoring Leaders past and present for their time and expertise and we also look forward to having their input into how the revised program will look next year.

Marni Bradley
Manager, Member Services & Operations

EBP update – 2013 plans

WELCOME TO 2013! Why not make this your year to develop skills in EBP? We will be presenting a workshop at the National Conference in June – so if you would like to learn more about EBP, meet interested others and/or plan on collecting practice-based evidence, please come along!

Watch out for 'Evidence Alerts' – by email, Facebook and Twitter – which aim to provide you useful information. Thanks to those of you who have posted comments, or 'liked' the posts on social media. We will continue to post these on a monthly basis. Later in the year we'll ask you to let us know which method of delivery you prefer.

In the coming year I plan to investigate other means of providing EBP support to members – if you have an idea, a need or a wishlist, drop me a line at ebp@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

Cori Williams
National Advisor, EBP and Research

Speech Pathology in Youth Custodial Education (SPyce)

IN RESPONSE to concerns about the lack of speech pathology support available to young people on remand or serving custodial sentences, a group of professionals met in September 2012 to explore the opportunities for speech pathology services as part of the curriculum to young people in custody in Victoria.

The following professionals formed the project's working party:

- 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, Speech Pathology Australia (SPA)
- Christine Lyons – Senior Advisor, Professional Practice, SPA
- Robyn Stephen – Councillor, SPA
- Gail Mulcair – CEO, SPA

There was significant goodwill and interest from Parkville College to seed a feasibility project. It was agreed SPA would fund a three-month project involving gathering information and the scoping of possibilities for a significant speech pathology role in collaboration with the teaching staff within Parkville College in 2013 and forward. Laura Caire became the project officer.

As part of the project a Clinical Reference Group was created to provide the project officer with information and resources to support the curriculum at Parkville College with particular reference to speech and language competencies of the students. The CRG consisted of SPA members across Australia with expertise or experience working in:

- Mental health
- Social/emotional/behavioural disorders
- Youth Justice
- Education (particularly at a secondary level)
- Adolescent speech, language and/or communication impairment
- Service provision to vulnerable or at-risk children and adolescents
- Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) and/or Culturally And Linguistically Diverse (CALD) populations

The project has been successfully completed with the development of a comprehensive final report outlining a best practice model of how speech pathology services could be provided within the Parkville College model. Speech Pathology Australia is grateful to members who contributed expert advice to the project – special thanks to Brendan Murray for his passion and leadership in thinking about the education needs of young people in custody and to Dr Pamela Snow who has spent 10 years conducting research into this area and has produced a body of work that is credited nationally and internationally. SPA would also like to thank Laura for taking on the project officer role at short notice and engaging a number of people to establish the needs and resources for speech pathology services as part of the curriculum and for producing an excellent report.

For further information about the SPyce project, please contact Christina Wilson or Christine Lyons at National Office.

Christina Wilson

Senior Advisor, Professional Issues, Speech Pathology Australia

Speech Pathology Australia presents at Autism Round Table

ON 30 OCTOBER 2012, Speech Pathology Australia was represented by Robyn Stephen at a Victorian Parliamentary Labour Party, Round Table, "Autism in Education".

The Round Table was led by Victorian opposition leader, Mr Daniel Andrew and the Shadow Education Minister, Mr James Merlino. Their aim was to engage with key stakeholders across a range of disabilities affecting the learning needs of children in schools to inform policy initiatives which could help to improve the way government approaches the provision of the best possible education for these children.

This Round Table initiative coincided with the release of the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission report 'Held Back: the experiences of students with disabilities in Victorian schools' September 2012. This is a report into the experiences of students with disabilities in Victorian schools which found that there are systemic barriers to students with a disability accessing education on the same terms as other students and that education for students with a disability is 'hit and miss' in Victorian education.

Key stakeholders represented at this Autism Round table were advocacy

groups for children with a disability, disability discrimination legal services, autism specific groups and autism and special school principals. We appreciated contributions from Gloria Staios, Christine Kendall, Charmaine Tu and Gaenor Dixon in preparing key messages to take to this Round Table.

For details of SPA's key messages go to the Victorian Branch page on the website or contact Robyn Stephen at councillorPWGC@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

Robyn Stephen

Councillor Practice Workplace and Government Communications

SPA looks back on the



- Dr Cori Williams announced as National Advisor – Evidence Based Practice (1)
- Dr Jemma Skeat announced as National Advisor – Research and Policy (2)
- Fellowships awarded to Dr Jacinta Douglas, Dr Cori Williams and Professor Pam Snow and Recognition of Service Award to Tennille Burns (3)



- Successful transition of *ACQuiring Knowledge in Speech, Language and Hearing (ACQ)* to the *Journal of Clinical Practice in Speech-Language Pathology (JCPSLP)* (4)



- Almost 60 CPD events, including the sold out National Tour by Dr Roslyn Neilson (5)
- *Communicate: Our Natural State* National Conference in Hobart, attended by 500 delegates and featuring eminent speakers such as Prof Bruce Murdoch, Dr Angela Morgan and Dr Mabel Rice (6)



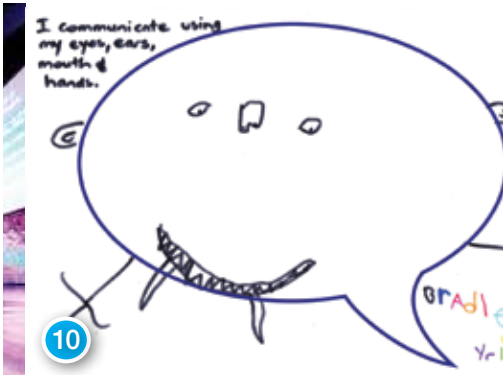
- A year of lobbying and representation including meetings with the Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities and carers regarding the addition of children with SLI to the *Better Start for Children Disability* initiative; the Queensland Minister for Health regarding the Queensland Registration Board; the Victorian Liberal Party Congress regarding the NDIS (7); and the opportunity to present the case for a National Inquiry into the social and economic impact of communication and swallowing impairment to the Senate Community Affairs References Committee (8)



- Speech Pathology Week 2013 'Tell your story' with over 500 stories received (9-11), resulting in *The Great Australian Communication Story e-Book* (12)



highlights from 2012



10

- Successful Book of the Year Awards and ceremony, with authors and representatives from the speech pathology, health, education and literacy communities in attendance (13-14)
- Proposed revisions to the Association's constitution and roadshow to the states and territories
- 13 government submissions, two clinical guidelines, 13 FAQ documents produced



14



11

- Series of highly successful Private Practice seminars
- Strengthening of international ties, including face-to-face meetings at the RCSLT in the UK
- Continued planning for a global initiative in 2014 – 'The International Communication Project' (15)



15



12

- Continued work to strengthen the demonstration of members' commitment and obligation to undertake professional development – as reflected in earning CPSP status – with all new eligible members being automatically opted in to PSR as of 2013 renewals program (16)



16



13

- Beginning of Youth Justice pilot program, SPyce (Speech Pathology in Youth Justice Custodial Education)
- Historic year as the NDIS becomes a reality and continued work with the NDIS Advisory Groups to make sure Australians living with communication difficulties benefit fully from the program (17)
- Preparation of a bid to host the International Association of Logopedics and Phoniatrics (IALP) Congress in 2019



17

Email pubs@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au for an index of 2012 *Speak Out* items.

Book of the Year 2013 nominations

BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2013

CULMINATING IN a presentation in October, these annual Awards continue to grow in stature and generate positive public and media interest each year.

Speech pathologists are in a unique position to recommend books to parents and educators that assist children's speech, language and literacy development.

This year marks only the third year books are open to be nominated for the 'Best Book for Language and Literacy Development – Indigenous Children', part of SPA's initiative to bridge the gap in literacy rates between Indigenous and non-Indigenous children.

Our first step is to collect book nominations, but if you'd like to be a particularly integral part of this initiative, why not consider expressing your interest as a judge?

Call for Nominations

Share an enticing children's book – it's nomination time! We're asking you, your families and the people around you to nominate a best book for language and/or speech sound development.

Each year we receive a number of nominations from non-members, but it is crucial that we have input from you to maintain a speech pathology focus for the awards.

The four categories awarded are:

- **Young Children** (age range 2-5 years)
- **Lower Primary** (age range 5-8 years)
- **Upper Primary** (age range 8-12 years)
- **Indigenous Children** (up to 12 years)

Each book should be exciting and stimulating, and needs to satisfy a list of eligibility criteria:

- Written by an Australian author
- Readily available in Australia
- Must have been published in 2012 or 2013
- Retail for no more than \$30
- Facilitates interaction and communication
- Appeals to a child
- The book must have quality graphics, design and production

Nomination forms can be found by clicking on the 'Book of the Year Awards' link on the website.

The deadline for nominations is 8 March 2013

Children's Language & Literature Award: Call for Nominations

A special part of the Book of the Year Awards is the presentation of the Children's Language and Literature Award.

This award is a 'Hall of Fame' concept which aims to recognise a writer who has contributed significantly, and in an ongoing manner, to children's language and literature.

By recognising a well-known author, additional media spotlight can fall on these Awards, and in turn highlight speech pathology to a mass audience.

Previous winners include: Paul Jennings (2005), Colin Thiele (2006) Mem Fox (2007) and Graeme Base (2012).

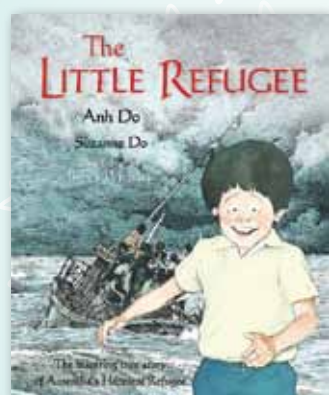
This Award is no longer annual, but will be presented if a suitable candidate is nominated. We are now seeking nominations from members for a potential candidate for 2013.

Book of the Year 2013 nominations

2012 WINNERS



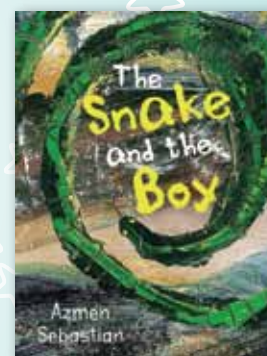
COME DOWN, CAT!
By Sonya Hartnett



THE LITTLE REFUGEE
By Anh & Suzanne Do



THE INVISIBLE HERO
By Elizabeth Fensham



THE SNAKE AND THE BOY
By Azmen Sebastian

A nominated author needs to satisfy the list of eligibility criteria:

- The author must be Australian or reside permanently in Australia
- The author must have published a significant number of books for children over a 10 year period or more
- Books written by this author would meet the eligibility criteria for the Book of the Year Awards

Nomination forms for this award can be found on the Association website's homepage, under the link 'Book of the Year Awards'. Again, **nominations must be received at National Office by 8 March 2013.**

Seeking Judges

Do you have:

- an interest in children's language and literature?
- some paediatric experience (this may be through work or family experiences)?
- the time to devote several hours over May – June to read and critique (approximately 12) books that have been shortlisted?
- an ability to work to strict timeframes?

If you answered yes to all of these questions, we would love to have you on the Book of the Year judging panel in 2013! We are seeking eight judges for each award category (Young Children, Lower Primary, Upper Primary and Indigenous Children) from all states. Judges will be asked to read and critique books according to a pre-prepared judging template.

Please note: books will be donated to worthy organisations at the end of the year.

We are especially looking for members with experience working with Indigenous communities to shortlist and judge our new Book of the Year category. Nomination and judging criteria for the new award are available from the website, or email marketing@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au for further information.

In addition to judges for the book awards, we may require a small number of judges, depending on nominations, to assess the suitability of authors for the Children's Language and Literature Award – Hall of Fame.

If you are interested in judging nominations for the Book of the Year Awards 2013, please email marketing@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au. Include your name, postal address and contact numbers. Please also be sure to highlight the Book of the Year award category in which you are most interested, and why you feel qualified to critique.

Closing date for expressions of interest for judging: 12 April 2013. We look forward to hearing from you!

Tennille Burns
National PA Coordinator

Joanna Wood
Communications & Marketing Manager

Conference News

23–26 June 2013

Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre, Broadbeach QLD



Program Update

The CPC is pleased to announce that the **SEA change: Synthesize, Evaluate, Act!** program has been finalised. This was a particularly challenging process this year given the large number of high quality submissions that were received. Despite the SPSC and CPC trying many and varied program formats, there unfortunately was not enough space to include every submission into the overall program and theme. We acknowledge and thank those for the time and effort taken to submit their abstracts.

We are very pleased with the program, and believe there will be an excellent range of high quality presentations under a number of topics that will be of interest to a wide cross section of the profession.

The SPSC and CPC are particularly pleased to announce the inclusion of two workshops on the Sunday prior to the pre-registration and welcome.

The first workshop, “You can be a Researcher too”, will appeal to anyone wanting to develop skills in identifying, analysing, applying and gathering evidence in everyday clinical practice. Participants will be provided with the opportunity to choose a research question and formulate an action plan for implementation in their workplace.

The second workshop, “Intensity and Aphasia Rehabilitation”, being organised by staff from the CCRE in Aphasia Rehabilitation, The University of Queensland, will examine the theory and application of intensive aphasia rehabilitation to provide attendees with current insights into the “who, what, when and how” of intensive therapy.

Both workshops are optional extras to the Conference registration.

Presenter Notification

Each author who received notification in December 2012 that their abstract had been included in the Conference program were emailed the ‘official’ confirmation on 21 January 2013. If for some reason you have not received this email, please contact the National Conference Manager on conference@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

Conference Program Flyer

Included within this issue of *Speak Out* you will find a copy of the Conference Program Flyer. This is an overview of the Conference format and sessions.

Registration for SEA change: Synthesize, Evaluate, Act! 2013

A reminder that the Online Conference brochure and registration will be available on the Conference website from **Friday 8 March 2013**.

Please ensure you have renewed your membership for 2013 to take advantage of the early bird registration rate. The early bird rate closes **Tuesday 7 May 2013**.

We ask that you read through the Conference program, select the sessions you wish to attend, and then proceed to the online registration process. This will ensure a faster process and less chance of being logged out.

Conference News

23–26 June 2013

Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre, Broadbeach QLD

Restaurant Night

The Restaurant Night is on the Tuesday evening of the Conference and has been a long tradition. This year, to help facilitate the process and have a clearer estimate of participant numbers, we are asking members to select their restaurant preference at the time of registration. A variety of restaurants with various cuisines have been selected. At the Conference, delegates will be asked to re-confirm their attendance by morning tea on Tuesday 25 June so restaurant reservations can be finalised.



Call for Student Volunteers/ Assistants

Speech Pathology Australia is calling for speech pathology students who are members of the Association and attending either Central Queensland, Griffith, James Cook and Southern Cross Universities in Queensland to volunteer as staff assistants for the **SEA change: Synthesize, Evaluate, Act!: Speech Pathology Australia 2013 National Conference**.

You will need to be available from the morning of Saturday 22 June through until the evening of Wednesday 26 June 2013. In appreciation of your commitment, your student Conference registration fee will be waived. You must be prepared to work hard, be flexible, responsive to organisational requirements and have some fun as well!!

If you are interested in this opportunity, ensure you are a current financial Speech Pathology Australia member and email your resumé to Pamela Richards, National Conference Manager at conference@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au no later than **Thursday 28 March 2013**.

Please include your area/s of interest so if you are successful Pamela can try to match you to relevant sessions.

Call for Session Chairs

Experienced Conference session chairs are invited to chair one or more program sessions at the 2013 National Conference. You must be a Speech Pathology Australia member and planning to attend the Conference to be eligible for consideration. We have already received a number of offers from people willing to be session chairs – thank you to all those people!

However there are still sessions available so if you are interested in assuming this valuable role, please email Liz Ward, Scientific Program Sub-committee Chair on liz.ward@uq.edu.au with your details and a short list of your topics of interest, no later than **Friday 15 March 2013**.

Accommodation

PR Conference Consultants is ready to take your booking. Please visit the Conference website and the Accommodation link for the online process.



Make sure you check the next issue of *Event e-News* for your opportunity to win a pair of **SEA change** promotional sunglasses and go into the main draw to win the 'Meet a dolphin' grand prize at the Conference!

Airport Transfers

Speech Pathology Australia has organised airport transfers with **Airport Con-x-ion** for the 2013 Conference attendees. **Airport Con-x-ion** is offering a 10% discount off the quoted fare. If you wish to avail this offer and make an online booking, please visit the Conference web site and the Airport Transfers link for the online process. The code for the booking is **SPA13NC**.

Alison Smith
Conference Convenor 2013

Pamela Richards
National Conference Manager

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.



2013 National Tour speaker – Dr Elise Baker

Dr Elise Baker will be presenting a two-day workshop –

“Best practice in the management of speech sound disorders in children: Making every session count” – exploring a range of evidence-based approaches for managing phonological impairment in toddlers, preschool, and school-age children.

Dr Elise Baker is a speech pathologist and lecturer with Discipline of Speech Pathology, at The University of Sydney. She is recognised nationally and internationally for her knowledge and expertise on intervention for speech sound disorders (SSD) in children, speech pathologists’ methods of practice with children who have SSD, and the conduct of evidence-based practice. Elise has been an invited speaker at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association convention, and has presented invited workshops

on the topic of SSD in children in Australia and USA. She is the lead author of a forthcoming scientific forum in the *International Journal of Speech-Language Pathology* on the optimal intensity of interventions

in speech-language pathology. As a steering committee member of the NSW Evidence-based Practice Network, Elise has a keen interest in helping clinicians put research into practice.

2013 National Tour Workshops

The planned itinerary is listed below. (Please note that this may be subject to change.)

Where	Dates of two-day workshop
Launceston	Thursday 4 and Friday 5 April 2013
Canberra	Monday 15 and Tuesday 16 July 2013
Adelaide	Monday 29 and Tuesday 30 July 2013
Perth	Thursday 1 and Friday 2 August 2013
Darwin*	Thursday 5 and Friday 6 September 2013
Brisbane	Friday 8 and Saturday 9 November 2013
Melbourne	Thursday 21 and Friday 22 November 2013
Sydney	Monday 25 and Tuesday 26 November 2013

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.

For members registering for CPD events – just to confirm that registrations are for the person whose name is entered when completing the online registration.

- This will be the name that appears on the certificate of attendance, name tags, and sign-in sheet, and

will be the name recorded against the event on the SPA database for the purposes of PSR and auditing for PSR.

- If there are any changes to the person attending, please contact National Office prior to the workshop as this change will need to be made to the database. We have had occasions where members are unable to make it to the workshop on the day (e.g., due to illness) and send someone to take their place – just to flag that if the person ‘standing in’ is a non-member they will be billed for the differential amount between a member and non-member registration fee rate.

Continuing Professional Development News

National CPD Update

CPD and earning points towards CPSP status in the Professional Self Regulation (PSR) program...

Do you attend CPD events, borrow items from the CPD Events Library, take part in the Mentoring program, participate in Association activities, read Association journals??

All of these activities, plus many others, can earn points in the Association's Professional Self Regulation (PSR) program...

Eligible members of Speech Pathology Australia are able to earn Certified status through participation in the PSR program. The program allows individual speech pathologists to demonstrate an ongoing commitment to updating and enhancing professional practice skills and to maintaining currency of knowledge. Practising members in the PSR program are eligible, or are earning eligibility, to use the post-nominals CPSP (Certified Practising Speech Pathologist).

Certified Practising Speech Pathologists can be identified by their 'Certificate of PSR Recognition' that states they are a CPSP for the current membership year. CPSP status is also listed as a detail on the Association's online 'Find a Speech Pathologist'.

Please see page 4 for further information about PSR and CPSP status.

2013 CPD program is up and running ...

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

Events open for online registration (at the time of going to print) are listed below:

NEW SOUTH WALES

Monday 18 February 2013

Sydney one-day workshop – “iPads are APPsolutely Amazing” by **Dr Kristy Goodwin**

Thursday 4 and Friday 5 April 2013

Sydney two-day workshop – “Across the Hemispheres: Left, Right, Read, Write” by **Dr Elizabeth Cardell**

QUEENSLAND

Tuesday 19 February 2013

Brisbane Sunset Seminar – “Central Auditory processing Disorder (CAPD) or developmental language disorder? The role of the SLP in the management of school-aged children” by **Dr Wendy Arnott**

Friday 8 March 2013

Brisbane one-day workshop – “Cognitive-communication disorders following TBI: Pragmatics and Social Cognition” by **Prof Leanne Togher**

Sunday 17 March 2013

Brisbane one-day workshop – “Play Skills” by **Dr Karen Stagnitti**

Friday 10 May 2013

Brisbane one-day workshop – “Treating Stuttering Children: Recent Developments” by **Prof Mark Onslow**

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Friday 22 March 2013

Adelaide one-day workshop – “Acquired Apraxia of Speech: Recent Advances in Diagnosis and Treatment” by **Assoc Prof Kirrie Ballard**

Friday 5 April 2013

Adelaide one-day workshop – “The Past, Present and Future of Autism Research: Implications for Clinical Practice” by **Prof Andrew Whitehouse**

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**

TASMANIA

Thursday 4 and Friday 5 April 2013

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

VICTORIA

Monday 25 February 2013

Melbourne one-day workshop – “iPads are APPsolutely Amazing” by **Dr Kristy Goodwin**

Wednesday 10 April 2013

Melbourne one-day workshop – “Literacy: Reading to Learn” by **Dr Roslyn Neilson**

Thursday 11 April 2013

Melbourne one-day workshop – “Literacy: Learning to Read” by **Dr Roslyn Neilson**

Sharon Crane

Senior Advisor Professional Education & Certification (CPD & PSR)

Are those client files piling up... time to get sorting!

WELL IT'S that time of year again where private practitioners have a bit of spare time – or maybe they just make a New Year's resolution – and decide to archive their client files. Not an easy task I know, especially if you don't keep on top of things. So, it's time to take those files out from under your bed or in the back shed and get sorting! And here are some tips to help make it simpler.

Know the retention rules

Retention rules aren't covered in the *Privacy Act (1988)*. As a result, the legislation is state/territory specific and in some cases the private sector is not covered by legislation. In these instances, members are advised to defer to the public sector legislation and meet those requirements. For current information about retention legislation go to www.yourhealth.gov.au and search retention requirements.

Store and dispose of files appropriately

So now that you know how long you need to keep the files, now you have to decide what to do with them. Legally they are required to be stored securely (i.e., in a locked room or filing cabinet). One tip is to sort them according to the date of birth of the client with a date to



be disposed sticker on the box or filing cabinet drawer. It's important to keep a log of client files and record when a file is destroyed. You can either choose to shred the files yourself or engage a company to destroy the files for you.

Plan ahead

Whilst no one likes to consider this scenario, on occasion a clinician may pass away before the retention period for some of their files has been met and it is important to know what will occur in this instance. As a general rule, your legal representative (executor or

administrator) will be responsible for maintaining the integrity of your records. It is important, therefore, for you to plan ahead and seek legal advice regarding this matter. It is also worth noting that if a client were to pass away the retention rules still apply.

For more information refer to SPA's FAQs documents on the website: 'Health records', 'Retention of client files' and 'Closing or selling your speech pathology practice'.

Christine Lyons

Senior Advisor Professional Practice

Private Practice Seminars 2013

The dates for the full day seminars have been set:

NSW – **Saturday 11 May**, Adina Harbourside, Sydney

SA – **Saturday 26 October**, Venue to be confirmed, Adelaide.

All members working in private practice are invited to attend the seminars.

Program details on the PP Resources page of the SPA website.

Travellers rates apply for non-metropolitan members and members in ACT, NT and TAS Branches*.

*Conditions apply – refer to brochure.



Expressions of Interest (EOI)

Project Officer

Telepractice Position Statement

The role involves developing a position statement on behalf of Speech Pathology Australia on the use of telepractice as a means to deliver professional speech pathology services.

This position statement will provide guidance to employers, consumers, policy makers and professionals about the use of telepractice in speech pathology clinical and research settings.

Speech pathologists may also wish to consult the document to clarify the position of the Association in this area.

Interested members should submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to the Senior Advisor Private Practice (Christine Lyons) by **8 March 2013**. Christine is available to answer queries and provide the project brief to members. **The written EOI should include the following:**

- Curriculum Vitae
- Statement against Key Selection Criteria (available in the Project Brief from the Senior Advisor Private Practice)
- An example of the applicant's professional writing skills
- The names of two referees.

For further information or enquiries regarding the above position, please contact Christine Lyons by email: sapp@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au or by phone on 03 9862 4899.



Guest *IJSLP* Editor sought for the 2013 Conference Proceedings

Expressions of interest are invited for the position of guest editor of the proceedings for the 2013 Speech Pathology Australia National Conference. The guest editor will coordinate the review process and selection of high quality papers to be published in the *International Journal of Speech-Language Pathology* to be published in June 2014. Each paper will be between 6,000-7,000 words in length.

Previous editorial experience is highly recommended. Direct enquiries to: Professor Sharynne McLeod, Editor, *International Journal of Speech-Language Pathology* at ijslp@csu.edu.au

Please forward your expression of interest and curriculum vitae to Gail Mulcair, CEO, Speech Pathology Australia at council@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au by **Friday 8 March 2013**.

Report on school-based speech and language program

PRIVATE PRACTITIONERS are accustomed to receiving requests for far reaching school visits, but this opportunity has proven to be one of a kind. Five years and seven visits later, speech pathology is gathering momentum at Nyngan Public School.

Nyngan is located in the heart of NSW in the Orana region, between Narromine and Bourke. It has a relatively small population of 2,500, with a greater percentage of Indigenous community members (15%) in comparison with Australia in general (2.3%; Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2006). It is a supportive farming and mining community.

The speech and language program at Nyngan Public School has developed collaboratively from the outset and each year continues to evolve and improve. The program has been made possible due to funding through the Priority Schools Program (PSP), which allows schools in low socioeconomic areas to access money to address individual school needs. Staff had become concerned with the increasing number of students with speech and language difficulties and the impact that this was having on their academic outcomes. They therefore decided that these skills should be a particular area of focus.

The speech and language program commenced with training staff in identifying and remediating language and literacy related difficulties. I was honoured to be able to present the program plan to key members of the community at an evening gathering. Initially the focus was on evaluation, as many of the students had been on waitlists for speech and language assessments. The remoteness of Nyngan added to the barrier of access to services, both public and private. With time, staff training, and discussion with teachers and parents, the school has developed independence in their implementation and adjustments to



Supportive environment: Students from Nyngan Public School have benefited from the introduction of a dedicated speech and language program.

Private Practice goes Rural: The Nyngan Speech and Language Program

the program as needed. Aides are able to conduct speech and language screening assessments and identify students requiring formal assessment. Strong links are in place connecting language and literacy development in therapy sessions and in the classroom.

Rural speech pathologists work within close-knit, spirited communities. This year my family was invited to accompany me on my visit and my children attended school with me each day. It was a wonderful opportunity for them to appreciate both the challenges and freedom of rural life.

In 2013 we have negotiated school-wide language enrichment sessions to be conducted each day in addition to individual and group sessions for identified students. I have also discussed a clinical education program with the executive staff and plan to take speech pathology students to be part of the program.

The evolution of the Nyngan speech and language program seems to mirror the history of my own

professional growth. This year I celebrate 20 years of private practice. Since graduating in 1993, I have taken on many challenges, both clinically and business related. My business has grown from being a sole practitioner to employing five full-time speech pathologists working with mixed paediatric and adult caseloads across the Nepean and Blue Mountains region.

In looking back, I could never have envisaged the ways in which my career would not only enrich my life, but that of my family's lives. Speech pathology has also improved the quality of a number of my close family's lives, who have called upon the skills of the profession to guide their swallowing and communication skills. I am now looking forward to continuing my speech pathology journey, wherever it may take me.

Belinda Hill
NSW Branch Private Practitioner Member
Network Representative and Director of
*Belinda Hill & Associates –
Speech-language pathologists*

SARRAH Clinical Placement Scholarship

‘DIFFERENT,’ ‘SCARY,’ ‘interesting,’ ‘challenging,’ and a plethora of other adjectives with negative connotations were the reactions when I told people I was undertaking an eight-week clinical placement block at Alice Springs Hospital (ASH). I was privileged enough to be a recipient of a SARRAH Clinical Placement Scholarship. It allowed me to undertake the placement without financial burden as it covered the expenses associated with my adult placement as part of my final year speech pathology studies.



Different perspective: The view from Anzac Hill, with Alice Springs Hospital (ASH) located at the end of the street; below, an Indigenous painting symbolising allied health professional services located in ASH's rehabilitation building.

Reflections from a remote speech pathology placement

This widespread opinion of what the healthcare worker's experience would be like in this location was contrary to what I had heard from those who had worked there. Prior to the placement I had spoken to speech pathologists and nurses who had worked at and undertaken placements at Alice Springs Hospital, especially regarding their cross cultural experiences and everyone seemed to have had a very rewarding time. They admitted to the challenges of working in such a place, acknowledging that it's not for everyone, but said that the positives outweigh the negatives.

This placement was challenging and different. It took me a while to get my head around working with adults as opposed to paediatrics and to adjust to the medical setting. It was extremely culturally diverse in terms of both staff and patients with a very transient population and health workforce. There are specialist wards to address specific health issues associated with this area such as a Renal Ward and Special Care Nursery and social issues were evident but as with most things in life, Alice and the NT are really not as bad as the general attitude of many Australians makes them out to be.

My speech pathology caseload included clients with speech, language and swallowing difficulties in the acute setting (medical and surgical wards, intensive care unit, high dependency unit, emergency department), sub-

acute (Continuing Care/Rehab ward), rehab outpatients and radiography department for modified barium swallow studies. Paediatric feeding patients were seen in the paediatric ward and in the Special Care Nursery. The caseload was comprised of predominantly Indigenous populations presenting with complex medical conditions and primarily for acute inpatient swallowing.

As well as participating in clinical experiences common to placement sites, such as assessment and analysis of data, and the planning and delivery of speech pathology interventions, there were also unique placement experiences. These experiences included: undertaking Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Training; attending family meetings with patient and relatives to discuss and plan for future client care; working with Aboriginal Liaison Officers (ALOs), acting as interpreters for Indigenous patients; providing in-services on Texture Modified Diets/Thickened Fluids to nursing staff on all wards; collaborating with ALOs to develop resources for enhanced communication between English and Central Australian Aboriginal Language speakers; and a multidisciplinary rehabilitation clinic outreach service visit to Tennant Creek where both adult and paediatric clients were seen.

Much of your learning comes from 'on the job' training where you become aware of the 'dos' and 'don'ts' of working



with such populations. This includes how your approach to clients and the whole service changes when engaging with certain communities. This prac was a great opportunity to experience cultural diversity and exposure to health conditions rarely seen in other parts of Australia as well as experiencing the lifestyle and working conditions. I was also able to enjoy some of the gorgeous countryside of Central Australia as Australia is a very beautiful country. I learnt lots but there is still lots to learn.

Thank you to SARRAH for providing me the financial means to undertake this placement, our uni's Speech Pathology Fieldwork Coordinator for organising the prac, the clinical coordinator of our practical subject for her ongoing support and a massive thank you to my clinical educators at ASH for teaching me so much about the diversity, challenges and rewards of working as an allied health professional in a remote hospital setting.

Esther Jolliffe

*Graduate Speech Pathologist
(Charles Sturt University)*

Contact: estherjolliffe90@hotmail.com

Congratulations to new graduates



Fresh faces: Graduating students celebrated their achievements and mingled with SPA members during the 'Welcome to the Profession' brunch at James Cook University.

SPA hosts 'Welcome to the Profession' events

Congratulations to the graduating students of The University of Queensland and James Cook University!

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND (UQ) 'Welcome to the Profession' event took place at Vespa Pizza, Woolloongabba in November last year.

Attendees were treated to an 'all you can eat' pizza buffet, so the pizzas just kept coming! The event was a huge success, with attendees leaving absolutely satisfied (perhaps even stuffed?!) but more importantly, with new professional partnerships formed.

Thank you to Speech Pathology Australia and the Branch members who joined in welcoming us – we look forward to working with you as official speech pathologists!

Anastasia Fife and Hannah Day
4th Year UQ SPA student representatives

THE NORTH QUEENSLAND speech pathology community officially welcomed the speech pathology new graduates from James Cook University into the profession on 26th October 2012.

Speech Pathology Australia hosted a 'Welcome to the Profession' brunch at James Cook University which allowed Speech Pathology Australia members working in North Queensland and new graduates to meet and celebrate the beginning of their speech pathology careers. It was a great opportunity for established speech pathologists to meet the graduates entering the profession and for the new graduates to network and create professional links within their new profession.

Candice Coe
North Queensland SPA regional representative

Changes to school start dates and *Motor Speech Matters*

Same first day of preschool/school

THERE WILL soon be changes to the way children start preschool and school at public schools in South Australia. From 2014, South Australia will have the same first day of preschool or school for all children. This will be the first day of Term 1. The new start date will mean that all children will have four terms of preschool and four terms of reception.

For example (preschool), a child who turns four before 1 May, will start preschool on the first day of Term 1 in that year. A child who turns four on or after 1 May, will start preschool on the first day of Term 1 the following year. The same dates apply for turning five and starting school. 2013 will be a transition year for preschools. Further information is available on the Early Years Website <http://www.earlyyears.sa.edu.au/pages/HOME/samefirstday/>

Year of birth	Child's birthday	Can start preschool
2009	Prior to 29 January	Term 1, 2013
	From 29 January to 30 April	Term 2, 2013
	from 1 May to 31 December	Term 1, 2014
2010	from 1 January to 30 April	Term 1, 2014
	from 1 May to 31 December	Term 1, 2015
2011	from 1 January to 30 April	Term 1, 2015
	from 1 May to 31 December	Term 1, 2016

Children with additional needs may start preschool early. This will be decided on an individual basis.

For families enrolling in preschools/schools in South Australia, the following website may also be useful <http://www.sa.gov.au/subject/Education%2C+skills+and+learning/General+information/The+education+system+in+South+Australia>

Amy Maurischat
Speech Pathologists in Education & Learning
Member Network Representative (SA)

Motor Speech Matters book launch in Adelaide

THE LONG AWAITED and much anticipated *Motor Speech Matters* book launch took place on 4 October 2012 at the Stamford Grand in Glenelg, Adelaide. A number of speech pathologists, work colleagues, friends and family gathered to

celebrate the event and enjoyed canapés and drinks on a balmy Adelaide afternoon with sea breezes. The publisher (Pearson Clinical Assessment) hosted the event with their own consultant speech pathologist, Amanda Hreszczuk, in



Many years of work: Motor Speech Matters authors (from left) Jo Murray, Anne Walter, Anna Correll, Margaret Manning and Alinka Krol.

attendance. The authors of *Motor Speech Matters* are Adelaide speech pathologists Margaret Manning, Alinka Krol, Anna Correll, Anne Walter and Jo Murray. Margaret Manning described the eight years of hard work this collaborative team took to develop, edit and publish *Motor Speech Matters*. We believe this is a 'must have' resource for any clinic, rehabilitation centre, student unit or hospital.

Motor Speech Matters is a therapy resource for speech-based treatment of motor speech disorders. It was developed in Australia and features:

- hierarchically structured content
- the use of familiar, everyday words as core vocabulary
- culturally appropriate language and speech sound arrangements for Australia and New Zealand
- easy to read stimulus materials in large, clear font
- 500 pages of reproducible therapy sheets you can photocopy or print from the CD which includes a fully integrated index for quick access
- An introduction with an up-to-the-minute literature review of the evidence base for the behavioural treatment of motor speech disorders.

It consists of therapy items ranging from CV syllables to paragraphs and includes consonant blends, multisyllabic words, sentences, breath support and prosody exercises, as well as functional stimulus items.

For more information or to purchase the resource, head to the Pearson Clinical website <http://www.pearsonclinical.com.au/productdetails/498>

The authors of *Motor Speech Matters* would like to thank Amanda Hreszczuk and the Pearson team for taking on our idea and seeing our dream come true.

Margaret Manning
Author

Technology in education

IN THE Education Department of Tasmania the funding through the 'National Partnership Agreement: More Support for Students with Disabilities' initiative has been made available. Part of this funding has been used to purchase assistive technology to support the teaching and participation of students with a disability, to enable them to access and engage in the curriculum but especially in literacy learning and augmented communication.

Assistive technology is being used, for example TapSpeak Choice, TapSpeak sequence and Proloquo2Go to help provide alternative and augmentative communication (AAC) for these students.

Speech pathologists are required to prescribe appropriate applications. This process which involves school staff, parents and speech pathologists has increased the awareness of oral communication skills in students with special needs. It is promoting an understanding that all students cannot communicate verbally and other means are required.

This new program has affected all speech and language pathologists in education as the number of students require assistance has grown with the increased awareness in schools. Speech pathologists have been involved in training, parents, teachers and teacher aides in the use of iPad technology. Specific training for speech pathologists has also been a part of the roll out. There have been two phases to the roll out, which is now complete and in 2013 programming and training for the use of the iPads and applications for the individual students will occur.

Speech pathology issues in DHHS

BUDGET CUTS have impacted significantly on services, which is problematic because reports for each region show annually increasing numbers of referrals.

Major hospital redevelopments are proceeding which has resulted in new programs being implemented, with some minor increases in speech pathology establishments (e.g., Acute Medical Unit and Slow Stream Rehab unit in the north, a Day Rehab Unit in the south and the Rehab in the Home program in the northwest).

All regions are fully committed to ongoing student education with students attending from a range of universities.

There has been an increasing focus on the use of AHAs across allied health. The DHHS has funded workshops on working effectively with AHAs and some regions are involved in the speech pathology components of Certificate IV training course. The emphasis is on AHAs being multi-skilled across the therapy disciplines, including speech pathology.

An AHP Statewide symposium is planned for this year. Another round of allied health awards is planned for late 2013 through the Tasmanian Allied Health Professionals Advancement Committee. (TAHPAC).

Alison Henty
Tasmanian Branch President

A fond farewell to our clinic queen – a La Trobe speech pathology icon departs!

KATHY NEWBURY will be known to all speech pathologists who have graduated from La Trobe University (and many who graduated from Lincoln Institute) in Melbourne.



Kathy has been the public face of the La Trobe Speech and Hearing Clinic for 23 years. Her warmth and even temper have made her a very popular figure in the Department of Human Communication Sciences. She has excelled at managing unintelligible clients, very anxious clients, demanding clients, demanding students, anxious students and all the myriad of demands and stresses from busy staff. She did this with grace, poise, respect, even-handedness and good humour.

Kathy resigned from the university in December to enjoy her two main passions: her grandchildren and travel. She has left a huge impression on all those who have had contact with her. She has left a very big hole to fill in the clinic and we'll all miss her.

All the former students, all the staff and the multitude of clients who have passed through the clinic over the years salute your dedicated service, Kathy. We all wish you well and hope you take the time to enjoy smelling the roses, wherever they might grow! We offer our heartfelt acknowledgement for your outstanding contribution to the university and the profession. We send you off with our very warmest wishes.

Many thanks for all the years Kathy, from the staff in the Department of Human Communication Sciences in the School of Allied Health in the Faculty of Health Sciences at La Trobe University (a far cry from the old days of Speech Science at Lincoln at Abbotsford and Carlton!!).

Shane Erickson
Victorian Branch Editor

Our new WA Editor describes clinical placement in West Bengal

AS THE new Publications Editor for the WA Branch, I spent the remaining weeks in 2012 with allied health students in rural India on a placement organised by Curtin University. On 12 November, a group of nine students from Perth, consisting of speech pathology, nursing, health promotion, and pharmacy, set off for Katwa in rural West Bengal, India. There we volunteered for 4 weeks at Ananda Niketan, a home for people with mental and physical disabilities.

Ananda Niketan is a home to more than 200 residents of all ages who have been orphaned or neglected by their family because of their various disorders or disabilities. We worked with these residents on an individual, group and population level, addressing their mental and physical health needs. Weekly groups, such as sensory stimulation, sports, and conversation groups, were developed and run with various residents.

A definite highlight was working with a teenage boy who spent his days lying on the hard concrete floor, because he was unable to move himself due to cerebral palsy. As a group we combined our knowledge to fix and adjust his broken wheelchair, and the transformation was unbelievable. All of a sudden this non-verbal boy was communicating with us using gestures, Bengali and even English words he had picked up over the years. Best of all, he was smiling and laughing. This occurred all because he was sitting up in a chair, and could actually engage with the world around him.

We spent time teaching the carers and higher functioning boys how to position him in the chair and feed him during meals. The sense of community and care between the boys was inspiring – they almost fought as to who would feed him or push his wheelchair out to cricket. By the end of our stay, he would be in the chair by the time we arrived for breakfast without our prompting. Moments like these were heartwarming and made our day.



Lessons from India



Life lessons: (clockwise from top) Work in India included sensory group work with the boys; promoting self-sustainability, with new clothes for the residents made by the residents, and sharing smiles in the girl's shelter.

At other times it was frustrating, and infuriatingly slow work. The pace in India is at its own level of slow. A trip downtown in India to buy some herbs takes three hours – in Australia it would be in and out of Bunnings in one hour maximum. Meetings take two hours instead of one, and finding the carpenter to attach seesaw planks takes a whole morning. The only thing they do fast is drive. But you soon come to learn that this is the Indian way – it's all about rapport and relationships. It's about the process, not the end result. You learn to take the time to listen to a person's story and gain a mutual respect before addressing any clinical objectives.

Ananda Niketan, India and I have shared so many lessons. We have both learnt life and clinical skills from each other, and will remember this experience for a lifetime. My favourite lesson by far came from a very wise woman in India, "something as simple as eye contact, a smile or a caring touch, can make a huge difference for the people we work with". Oh, how true this is – in a country where we didn't share a mutual language with our clients, we spoke endless words to each other through our eyes, smiles and hugs.

Johanna Eppler

2013 WA Branch Editor and final year Curtin University speech pathology student

SPA Online update and SPA profile



SPA Twitter update

Links to recent newsworthy articles tweeted on the Speech Pathology Australia Twitter feed in January included:

- Does language development change in children adopted from abroad?
- Singing helps some stroke patients suffering from non-fluent aphasia according to a new study from Germany
- How does teaching style impact on children's speech and language development?
- Toddlers' language skills predict less anger by preschool
- Forbes has named speech pathology as one of the top ten jobs for work and family balance

Join in the conversation and follow Speech Pathology Australia on Twitter: [@SpeechPathAust](https://twitter.com/SpeechPathAust)

Are you part of the SPA online community yet?

SPEECH PATHOLOGY AUSTRALIA is active on social media platforms Facebook and Twitter and we encourage everyone to join the online discussions!

While we post important Association information and updates in *Speak Out*, *e-News* and occasional dedicated emails to members, becoming part of SPA's online community gives members the opportunity to keep informed about articles and events that may be of interest to speech pathologists and to comment

and interact with a global group of peers with similar interests.



Facebook

All SPA members and the general public can visit the SPA Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Speech-Pathology-Australia/206849462687352> to view links to articles of interest, SPA news and member comments. If you are an existing Facebook member, you will receive SPA Facebook updates in your newsfeed if you 'Like' the SPA page. You will also be

Volunteer profile – Kim Brookes



Role within SPA?

I became actively involved with SPA as a new graduate. I joined the CPD committee in the mid 90s and became the CPD Portfolio Leader at the turn of this century!

What do you do in this role?

My role as WA CPD Leader is an easy one, as I am supported by an amazing committee of speech pathologists who are enthusiastic about their own and others' professional development. As a team, we work to develop and provide a comprehensive CPD program for WA speechies. We have representatives from all sectors of WA Speech Pathology practice to ensure a well-rounded and balanced calendar. We

also strive to introduce new modalities and formats for CPD to enable a wider audience to attend events.

Role outside SPA?

I have two roles in my day-to-day work life: Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital (SCGH) Speech Pathology Head of Department & SCGH Allied Health Coordinator.

What do you do in this role?

As HOD, I manage the running of a large, adult tertiary hospital Speech Pathology department. SCGH provides a comprehensive range of clinical services and is home to WA's only comprehensive cancer centre and is the state's principal hospital for neurosurgery and liver

SPA Online update and SPA profile

able to 'like' and comment on articles posted on the SPA page. At the time of printing, SPA has an impressive 2,224 Facebook followers!

Some SPA members currently active on Facebook also participate in the 'APPropriate Apps – Member Group' and 'SPA Student Member Group'. In the App group, members can share feedback and discuss apps and mobile devices that may be of interest to speech pathologists, while the Student Group is a general forum in which those studying speech pathology can access and share information and receive peer support.



Twitter

SPA members and the general public can view the SPA Twitter feed at <https://twitter.com/SpeechPathAust>



Like Facebook, SPA's Twitter feed provides up-to-the-minute updates and web links about news related to the speech pathology profession, but within the short and sweet format of a "tweet" – that is, a snippet containing 140 characters or less.

SPA members can participate in the conversation on Twitter if they have an account. Currently, the SPA Twitter feed has 1,189 global followers!

When typing a tweet, SPA members can actively target their intended audience by typing a "hashtag" (a key phrase preceded by the '#' symbol) into any part of their message. Hashtags are useful for categorising tweets as belonging to a conversation about a specific topic or within a specific peer group. Members can also search for tweets with existing hashtags if they wish to navigate tweets within a certain context or identify tweets targeted to a certain audience.

Key predefined hashtags that are popular on the SPA Twitter feed include:

- **#slp2b:** This hashtag indicates a post targeted to SPA's student members
- **#slpeeps:** A general hashtag that indicates a tweet is intended for speech pathologists en masse
- **#slpchat:** Another general hashtag that tweeters may use to indicate their tweet is intended to generate/participate in a wider online discussion among speech pathologist peers
- **#SPAConf2013:** Indicates a tweet relating to the 2013 SPA National Conference (June 23-26 2013, Gold Coast QLD).

If you're interested in contributing to SPA's online community, we certainly encourage you to join and make your voice heard!

transplants. As such, I am fortunate to have a dynamic team of speechies with interests in both evidence based clinical practice and research. As Allied Health Coordinator, I represent the views and interests of SCGH Allied Health staff at Hospital Executive level. This is a challenging, yet extremely rewarding role. It has expanded my ability to see the bigger picture of Health and Health Planning, plus truly appreciate the amazing role Allied Health play in the patients' journey.

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

The favourite thing about my role is the people I work with, and with them,

I share my greatest achievements. In my HOD role, the Speech Pathology department has built strong collaborative relationships across SCGH, achieved amazing results in research, pushed the boundaries and expanded our scope of clinical practice, achieved excellence in quality improvement and student clinical education.

In my role as Allied Health Coordinator, the Allied Health Executive has expanded services and grown its staffing base, created a strong culture of research and training, and now celebrates achievements with an annual week of promotional activities culminating in an awards night.

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

I think workforce will be the biggest challenge for the speech pathology profession into the future. With the pressures of growing student numbers, it is crucial that we continue to provide high quality clinical education to produce high class graduates, and once we have developed these high class graduates, our next challenge is to keep our experienced staff engaged. I strongly support the development of advanced practitioner and extended scope roles for our profession as a way to enhance our professional capacity and qualifications.



An invitation to learn from one of the world's leading clinicians in stuttering therapy

David A. Shapiro, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, ASHA Fellow, Board Recognised Fluency Specialist, is the Robert Lee Madison Distinguished Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Western Carolina University (Cullowhee, North Carolina, USA).

In his fourth decade of providing clinical services for people who stutter and their families, Dr. Shapiro is a regular presenter at conferences and has taught workshops, provided clinical service, and conducted research in six continents.

Dr. Shapiro received the International Fluency Association's 2006 Award of Distinction for Outstanding Clinician and was recently elected IFA President.

Dr. Shapiro will be speaking in Sydney at the convention of the Australian Speak Easy Association on both Friday 15th and Saturday 16th March 2013

Register Now at www.stuttering2013.eventbrite.com.au



Specialist Certificate in Rural Paediatric Practice

SCiPP is an academic and clinical education masters level training program. It provides an opportunity for the health professional to develop a comprehensive knowledge and skills base to facilitate generalist or paediatric practice for rural health professionals working in rural or remote areas.

The course will enable participants to:

- Improve their skills for understanding and working with paediatric patients and their families
- Understand the complex nature of rural or remote practice & the interdependence of the clinical services
- Develop a sound clinical decision making process
- Communicate clearly and effectively with all age groups and with indigenous and ethnic populations
- Be able to develop a management plan for their patients

Course information

- In 2013, the Specialist Certificate will be run during Semester 1. Most teaching will be based at Echuca Regional Health and University of Melbourne Education Centre, Echuca and is likely to include clinical sessions at other venues.
- Course fees are \$7,100 (GST exempt)

How to apply

In 2013 Rural Paediatric Theory and Context (subject one) will be delivered from Monday 6th May to Friday 10th May, at the University of Melbourne's teaching facility at Echuca Regional Health, Echuca Victoria. In addition to these students will be required to complete approximately 15 hours of online learning for subject one.

Assessment will involve an oral presentation during the face to face delivery in Echuca in addition to an assignment submitted online following the delivery of week one.

Rural Paediatric Practice (clinical, subject two) will be completed during semester two, individual timetables will be developed for each student.

Academic Coordinator
Elizabeth (Liz) Williams OAM
Rural Health Academic Network (RHAN)
Coordinator
Echuca Regional Health with the Rural Health Academic Centre and Lecturer
Physiotherapy,
The University of Melbourne

M: +61 (0)419 309 724
T: +61 3 5485 5085
F: +61 3 5484 5849
E: ewilliams@erh.org.au





For more course information, visit
www.mccp.unimelb.edu.au/rural-practice



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

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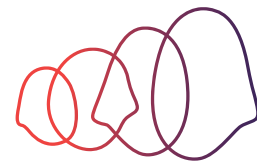


Classifieds



Refer your patients to the experts in paediatric audiology.

Now open, the Bendat Parent and Community Centre is a hub for Western Australian children and the community. Full hearing and diagnostic assessments are available for children of all ages at this state of the art facility. Refer your patients to the experts in paediatric audiology. Call Telethon Speech & Hearing on (08) 9387 9831 for a referral pad for your practice.



Telethon **Speech & Hearing**
Releasing children's potential

The Bendat Parent and Community Centre is the final capital addition to Telethon Speech & Hearing's Wembley campus.

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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 difficulties including high-functioning autism.

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

Brisbane March 21-22
Brisbane May 16-17
Melbourne May 23-24
Sydney June 3-4
Perth June 12-13

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agent
SOCIETY

www.sst-institute.net

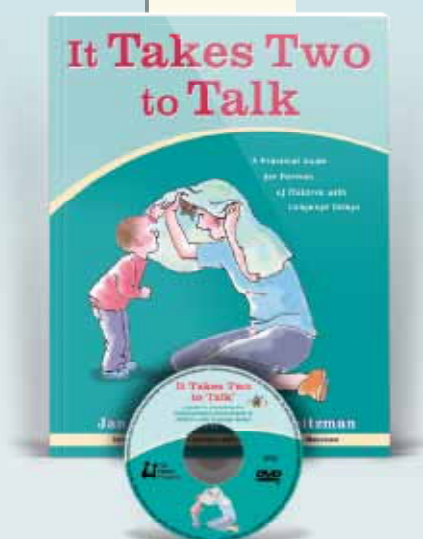
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www.hanen.org/online-store

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VICTORIA



Consulting room for rent in Caulfield North

Looking for a likeminded and friendly Speech Pathologist to join our growing child psychology practice in a highly sought after allied health location.
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Maddington Doctors Practice WA is leasing rooms for only \$250 per week.
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lucas.lang@bigpond.com, 0403 368 147

March 2013

Australian Bobath Neuro-Developmental Therapy Association workshop: Integrated Treatment Strategies for the rib cage, shoulder girdle and upper extremities
Perth: 7-9 March 2013
Melbourne: 18-20 March 2013
Register online at www.abndta.asn.au

Child Language Research: Discovery, intervention and policy implications
22 March 2013
Melbourne, Victoria
Contact: Louise Wardrop
T: 03 9345 6558
E: louise.wardrop@mcri.edu.au
<http://www.mcri.edu.au/research/research-projects/centre-for-childhood-language/news-and-events/>

4th Annual National Juvenile Justice Summit 2013
25-26 March 2013
Novotel Melbourne on Collins
To register, please visit <http://www.iir.com.au/juvenile2013>
T: 02 9080 4090
E: info@iir.com.au

April 2013

Reflux Infants Support Association – Infant Gastro-Oesophageal Reflux Disease Conference
20 April 2013
Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre
<http://www.reflux.org.au/conference/>

May 2013

AGOSCI 11th Biennial Conference
1-4 May 2013
Hilton Sydney
www.agosci.org.au

IWORDD: International Workshop on Reading and Developmental Dyslexia – From Theory to Practice
30 May-1 June 2013
Donostia-San Sebastian, Spain
www.bcbl.eu

June 2013

Speech Pathology Australia – National Conference 'SEA change: Synthesize, Evaluate, Act!'
23-26 June 2013
Gold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre, Broadbeach, Queensland
www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au/news-and-events/2013-national-conference

July 2013

Laryngectomy: Rehabilitation and Surgical Voice Restoration (Advanced Level)
8-12 July 2013
Imperial College London, UK
Contact: Eva Moreno
T: +44 (0)207 594 6885
E: cpd@imperial.ac.uk
www.imperial.ac.uk/cpd/svr

August 2013

Speech Pathology Week
25-31 August 2013
www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

September 2013

AAAPP Seminar: Hearing and Cognition – Theory, Research and Practice
20-22 September 2013
University of Sydney
Contact: Louise Collingridge
T: 0424 720 915
E: exec@aaapp.org.au
<http://www.aaapp.org.au/content.asp?c=7>

October 2013

10th National Allied Health Conference
17-18 October 2013
Brisbane Convention Centre
Further details TBA

Throughout 2013

Autism Association of WA – Free workshops for WA speech pathologists: Delivering interventions for children with autism and their families

Various regional locations and dates:

Bunbury: 19-20 February 2013

Narrogin & Katanning: 12-13 March 2013

Kalgoorlie: 10-12 April 2013

Geraldton: 22-24 May 2013

Albany: 19-21 June 2013

Karratha: 24-26 July 2013

Broome: 28-30 August 2013

For more information and to register online, please visit www.autism.org.au
E: regionaltraining@autism.org.au

Key Word Sign Victoria (formerly Makaton Victoria) workshops

Various metro locations and dates:

Box Hill VIC: 2 March 2013

Northcote VIC: 21 April 2013

Parkdale VIC: 17 May 2013

Glen Waverley VIC: 23 June 2013

Moonee Ponds VIC: 3 August 2013

Box Hill VIC: 12 October 2013

Further details can be accessed at www.newcastle.edu.au/kwsa

Secret Agent Society Practitioner Training

Various locations and dates:

Brisbane QLD: 21-22 March & 16-17 May 2013

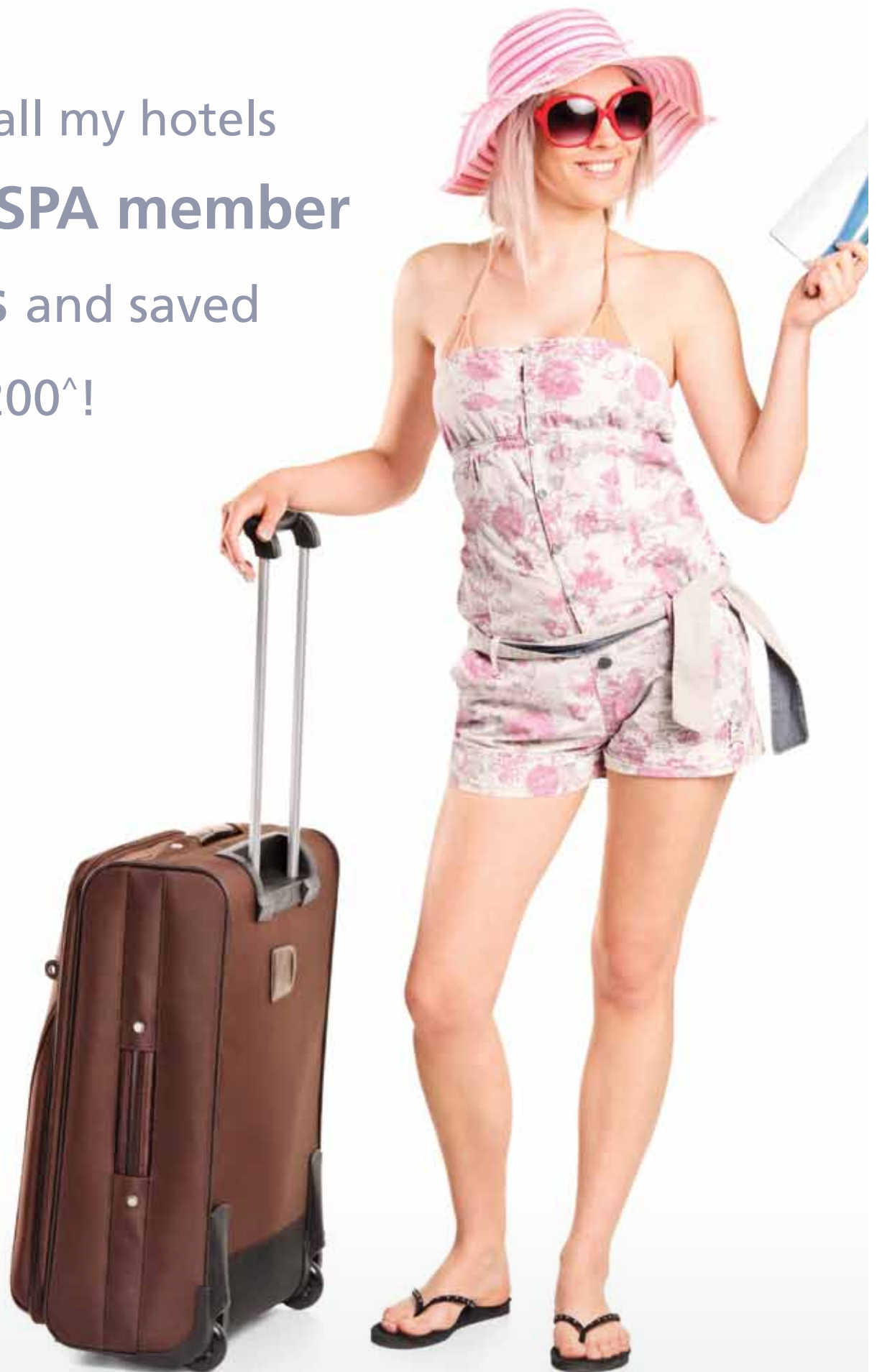
Melbourne VIC: 23-24 May 2013

Sydney NSW: 3-4 June 2013

Perth WA: 12-13 June 2013

Contact for all states: Caitlin Barker
E: training@sst-institute.net
www.sst-institute.net

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