

# speakout

FEBRUARY 2015



**Challenge  
Broaden  
Revolutionise**  
CANBERRA 2015



Speech  
Pathology  
Australia  
National  
Conference



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Registrations for Speech Pathology Australia's  
2015 National Conference now open

# Speech Pathology Australia

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The official booking form must be received at National Office by  
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# speakout

FEBRUARY 2015

## Highlights in this issue...



**PAGE 16: 2015 SPA NATIONAL CONFERENCE:**  
Join us in Canberra for *Challenge, Broaden, Revolutionise*



**PAGE 10:** We recap SPA's significant achievements last year; **PAGE 14:** Nominations and judges sought for the 2015 Book of the Year Awards.

## Contents

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 3 From the President   | 13 Spotlight on Professional Support   |
| 4 Association News <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2014 Research Grants</li><li>• 2015 Research Grants</li><li>• Federal Budget submission</li><li>• Ethics Board nominations</li><li>• Telepractice Position Statement</li><li>• Project Officer EOIs sought</li><li>• A snapshot of Australian speechies</li></ul> | 14 Book of the Year news   |
| 10 2014 SPA achievements   | 16 2015 National Conference news   |
| 12 Feature: Volunteering in the Philippines  | 18 National CPD update   |
|  | 24 Professional Practice news  |
|  | 25 Ethics news   |
|  | 26 Branch news: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New South Wales</li><li>• Northern Territory</li><li>• Southern Australia</li><li>• Tasmania</li><li>• Western Australia</li></ul> |

## From the President



### *Happy New Year to you all! Welcome to this first edition of Speak Out for 2015.*

**AS YOU WILL SEE**, this *Speak Out* is filled with a plethora of information for members on workforce characteristics, policy initiatives, human resources and industrial relations, professional support, and continuing professional development. I also draw your attention to the highlights of 2014 which reflect the range of activity undertaken by the Association over the past year. The support and information provided by the Association exemplifies the benefits of SPA membership.

This edition highlights the program of the upcoming National Conference— *Challenge, Broaden, Revolutionise* – to be held in May 2015. By the time you receive this *Speak Out*, online registration for the Conference will be open, with early bird registration closing on 8 April. I hope you are planning to attend the Conference in order to engage in professional development and networking with colleagues.

Other exciting announcements relate to the National Tour speakers for 2015 and 2016. We are pleased to inform you that Associate Professor Jane McCormack and Jade Cartwright, respectively, will conduct these tours. These speakers will provide members with the most current information and insights into childhood speech impairment, and the communication disorders associated with dementia.

Speech Pathology Australia is committed to increasing the evidence base for speech pathology practice and we are pleased to announce the recipients of the 2014 research grants in this issue. Congratulations to clinicians and students who have received these rewards. We look forward to hearing about the outcomes of your research in the future.

In this *Speak Out* we also announce the release of the Telepractice Position Statement which has been informed by a comprehensive review of current evidence, other international positions statements and guidelines, and member consultation. An essential 'read' for all members considering telepractice. Congratulations to the project officers,

Claire Burns and Dr Anne Hill who led the development of this position statement.

Continuing professional development is a core service provided by the Association to its members. In this edition of *Speak Out*, our CPD team in National Office, ably led by Sharon Crane, has provided an outline of each type of professional development activity supported by the Association as well as a summary of member engagement in these events. The professional development support available as a member benefit has been outlined in a similar manner. The overall participant ratings for events (>4.5 out of 5) reflect the high standard of CPD provided to our members. CPDLive online events commenced in March 2014 and since that time, just under 500 members have engaged in six events either live or offline. The growth in member engagement in these events is very promising. As part of the Strategic Plan (Professional Standards), the Association is pursuing further development of an online learning platform that is widely accessible and relevant to its members. I would like to congratulate all CPD coordinators around the country and the CPD team at National Office for their efforts in developing and maintaining a strong professional development program for our members.

Listed in our 2014 highlights and included in the December *Speak Out* was the extraordinary achievement of Professors Mark Onslow and Ann Packman who were recently awarded the most prestigious ASHA journal award – the Alfred K. Kawana Award for Lifetime Achievement in Publications – at the 2014 ASHA Convention. A remarkable achievement for both Mark and Ann, and a tribute to their undisputed excellence and international leadership in stuttering research. They have raised the bar another notch!

There is much to achieve in our Association and profession in 2015 but based on 2014, I feel sure that our benchmarks will be surpassed.

**DEBORAH THEODOROS**  
National President

## 2014 Association Research Grants awarded

**SPEECH PATHOLOGY AUSTRALIA** is committed to developing the evidence base for speech pathology practice in Australia. One strategy is the provision of funding for research. In 2014, grants were offered in four categories – Clinician Research Grant, Entry Level Student Research Grant, Research/Higher Degree Student Research Grant and the Nadia Verrall Memorial Research Grant. These grants were available to applicants from across Australia. In the Clinician and Higher Degree categories two grants were available – one of \$10,000, the other of \$5,000. Applicants were able to apply in more than one category, but were only able to receive a single grant.

A fifth category, the Queensland Registration Board Legacy Fund Research Grant scheme, was open to applications from clinicians and academics eligible for membership of SPA and residing and working in Queensland. This scheme utilises funding that has become available following the disbanding of the Queensland Registration Board.

A record number of applications was received – in total, 32 applications were assessed. The Association thanks all those who took the time to prepare and submit applications. It is clear from the number, quality and breadth of scope of these applications that members are keen to engage in research for the good of the profession.

The process of assessing applications in order to identify the projects which will be funded depends on the contributions

of volunteers from around Australia who take the time to evaluate and provide feedback on the proposed projects. The grateful thanks of the Association goes out to all those who undertook this crucial task. My particular thanks to those who I contacted at short notice to provide third reviews when required.

### The projects that received funding in the 2014 round were:

#### Clinician Research Grant

**\$10,000**

**Adele Wallis**, QLD. Investigating the narrative abilities of adolescents with a diagnosis of anxiety.

**\$5,000**

**Dr Nicole Byrne**, NSW conduct a systematic review of speech language pathology (SLP) assessment and intervention for children in out of home care (OOHC).

#### Higher Degree Student Research Grant

**\$10,000**

**Karen James**, NSW. The language and social characteristics of adolescent students attending public behavioural schools: A controlled group comparison.

**\$5,000**

**Marie Atherton**, VIC. Supporting the emerging profession of speech therapy in Vietnam – a collaborative initiative.

**\$5,000**

**Rachael Unicomb**, NSW. Concurrent treatment of stuttering and speech sound disorders: A phase I trial.

#### Nadia Verrall Memorial Research Grant

**\$5,000**

**Shane Erickson**, VIC. The impact of pre-school aged children's stuttering on their parents' well-being.

#### Entry Level Student Grant

**\$700**

**Ashleigh Beales**, Curtin University, WA Primary Progressive Aphasia: Exploring generalisation following a lexical retrieval intervention.

**\$700**

**Fiona Low**, Flinders University, SA. How universally applicable are the 'International' Long-term Average Speech Spectrum and the Speech Intelligibility Index? An investigation of the appropriateness of these measures for Australian Aboriginal speech and hearing.

#### Queensland Registration Board Legacy Research Grant scheme

**\$10,000**

**Dr David Trembath**. Predicting early intervention outcomes for children with autism.

**\$10,000**

**Kerrin Watter**. Reading comprehension interventions for adult brain injury in sub-acute rehabilitation.

We look forward to the outcomes of these projects, and to a new round of applications in 2015

**CORI WILLIAMS**

*National Advisor, EBP & Research*

## 2015 Research Grant Program

**IN LINE WITH** the Association's commitment to promoting and funding high quality research, Speech Pathology Australia is pleased to again offer research grants in 2015. Research Grant applications are invited in the following five categories:

- clinician
- postgraduate
- undergraduate
- Nadia Verrall Memorial Research Grant, and
- the Queensland Registration Board Legacy Fund Research Grant (Queensland speech pathologists only).

Please refer to the [SPA website](#) for further information, including application details and closing dates. We look forward to receiving your research grant applications soon.

**GAIL MULCAIR**

*Chief Executive Officer*

# Federal Budget 2015–2016 Submission – Medicare Rebates for Stuttering Treatment

**SPEECH PATHOLOGY AUSTRALIA** recently submitted a proposal to the Australian Government Department of Treasury for the federal budget 2015-2016. Given the difficult political and budgetary climate, and in anticipation of a government response to the recommendations made from the Senate Inquiry – the budget proposal focused on a single budget initiative.

We argued that Medicare should be targeted towards health interventions that are evidence-based, effective, safe and minimise future health treatment needs. Our proposal focused on an internationally recognised intervention, developed in Australia and based on the most robust scientific evidence of effectiveness – the Lidcombe Program – to treat stuttering in young Australian children.

Thank you to the team at the Australian Stuttering Research Centre who provided expert advice about the evidence base for the Lidcombe Program and supported the Association's submission.

**Our proposal...** That Medicare rebates be made available for the evidence-based speech pathology intervention 'Lidcombe Program' for eligible three and four-year-old children for the treatment of stuttering. The estimated investment is \$15.2 million per year from the federal budget.

**Future Budget Submissions?** We are keen to hear from members if you have an idea for a future budget submission. Ideas need to focus on an evidence-based intervention for a specific group of people or condition. Send ideas to [policy@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au](mailto:policy@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au).

**RONELLE HUTCHINSON**

*Manager, Policy and Advocacy*



Maximize your early language intervention services...

## Involve parents by using an evidence-based coaching framework

Attend an It Takes Two to Talk® Certification Workshop and gain a proven parent coaching framework from The Hanen Centre, an international leader in parent-implemented early language intervention.

You'll learn how to effectively engage parents through explicit teaching, coaching and scaffolding and help them become effective language facilitators for their child. You'll also take home a set of highly practical, easy-to-use materials for use in your It Takes Two to Talk® parent programs and your one-to-one consultations with families.

**Space is limited! Register today for one of these upcoming It Takes Two to Talk workshops:**

Brisbane, QLD ..... Apr 29 – May 01, 2015    Perth, WA ..... Jun 25 – Jun 27, 2015  
Adelaide, SA ..... Jun 22 – Jun 24, 2015    Sydney, NSW ..... May 2015, TBA

See our complete workshop schedule at [www.hanen.org/workshops](http://www.hanen.org/workshops)

# Call for Nominations

## Elected Members and Community Representatives

### Ethics Board, Speech Pathology Australia

The Association is seeking nominations from current members of the Association (who are not members of the Board of Directors) for elected member positions, as well as nominations from members of the public to apply for community representative positions.

**IN 2000**, Speech Pathology Australia established the Ethics Board to manage and, when necessary, to enforce the Code of Ethics. The board has ten members: the chair of the board, three senior members, three elected members and three community representatives. The three elected member positions become vacant in May 2015, one community representative position is currently vacant, and another becomes vacant in May 2015. **Nominations will close 13 March 2015.**

Please consider your own interest in sitting on the Association's Ethics Board and/or if you consider colleagues or persons in the community who would be suitable. Community representatives must not be speech pathologists and must be capable of fairly representing the views of the community.

The board has four teleconferences per year, plus biennial face-to-face meetings and training at the National Office, Melbourne.

#### Elected member Positions

The elected Member positions are open to any interested member of SPA (other than current members of the Board of Directors). Current members of the Ethics Board may be considered for re-election providing that they have not exceeded the maximum allowable term.

**Please complete the nomination form, available on the website under [Information for Members > Ethics](#), and return it by post to the Senior Advisor Ethics and Professional Issues at National Office by 13 March 2015.**

SPA members will vote for each elected member position by confidential electronic ballot prior to the Annual General Meeting at the SPA National Conference in May. To assist members in making an informed appointment to the Ethics Board, members are provided with a statement written by the nominee. The successful nominees will be announced during the AGM.

#### Community Representatives

The objectives of the community representative positions are to represent community interests and views within Ethics Board activities.

Criteria for appointing a community representative 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.

Interested persons will be asked to submit a brief CV and a short statement about their interest, reasons and capabilities for serving on the Ethics Board, to the **Senior Advisor Ethics and Professional Issues** at Speech Pathology Australia, by **13 March 2015.**

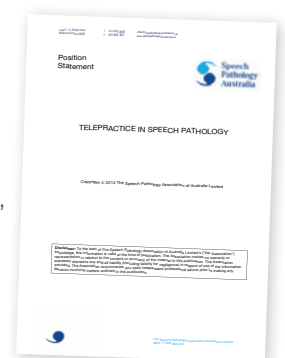
For further information please contact **Trish Johnson, Senior Advisor Ethics and Professional Issues** at Speech Pathology Australia.  
**Email: [tjohnson@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au](mailto:tjohnson@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au)**  
**Telephone: 1300 368 835**

## Telepractice Position Statement

**THE TELEPRACTICE POSITION STATEMENT** is now available on the website.

The position statement has been produced to assist speech pathologists considering implementing telepractice in the Australian context. The position statement has been informed by current available evidence on the use of telepractice, existing national and international position statements and guidelines, professional community consultation, and consensus opinion. A comprehensive summary of the current evidence for the delivery of speech pathology services via telepractice has also been provided.

Speech Pathology Australia thanks project officers Clare Burns and Dr Anne Hill and the working group for the development of this wonderful resource.



## Expressions of Interest (EOI)

Project Officer

### FEES Clinical Guideline

The project officer will develop an evidence-based clinical guideline on behalf of Speech Pathology Australia on Fibreoptic Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing (FEES). This clinical guideline will replace the existing FEES document developed in 2007.

The clinical guideline will provide guidance to speech pathologists in the implementation of FEES in Australian healthcare contexts. The clinical guideline will be evidence-based and will discuss current practice in Australia and internationally, outline the skills and knowledge required to perform FEES, issues related to governance, minimum standards of practice, credentialing and models to support education and training.

Interested members should submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to the Senior Advisor Professional Standards (Stacey Baldac) by **23 March 2015**. Stacey 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 Professional Standards)
- 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 **Stacey Baldac** by email: [saps@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au](mailto:saps@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au) or by phone on **03 9642 4899**.

## Expressions of Interest (EOI)

Project Officer

### Working in a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Society Clinical Guideline

The project officer will develop an evidence-based clinical guideline on behalf of Speech Pathology Australia on Working in a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Society.

The Speech Pathology Australia Working in a Multilingual and Culturally Diverse Society clinical guideline was first published in 2001 and then revised in 2009. The clinical guideline will provide information to speech pathologists and speech pathology service providers in developing policy and best practice guidelines with regards to working with clients from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. The clinical guideline will outline trends in Australia's population and reflect recent literature in the area of speech pathology and our culturally and linguistically diverse society.

Interested members should submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to the Senior Advisor Professional Standards (Stacey Baldac) by **23 March 2015**. Stacey 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 Professional Standards)
- 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 **Stacey Baldac** by email: [saps@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au](mailto:saps@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au) or by phone on **03 9642 4899**.

# A snapshot of Australia's speechies

LATE IN 2014, Health Workforce Australia (HWA) produced a publication that brought together available information from various sources about the speech pathology workforce in Australia. Speech Pathology Australia worked closely with HWA and provided significant information about our membership numbers to assist in developing this publication. This is a graphical presentation of some of the key information that was included – full publication information and data sources can be found at <http://www.hwa.gov.au/publication/speech-pathologists-focus-0>

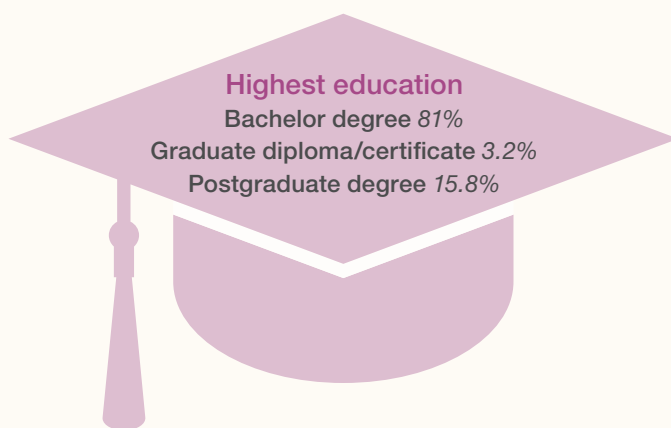
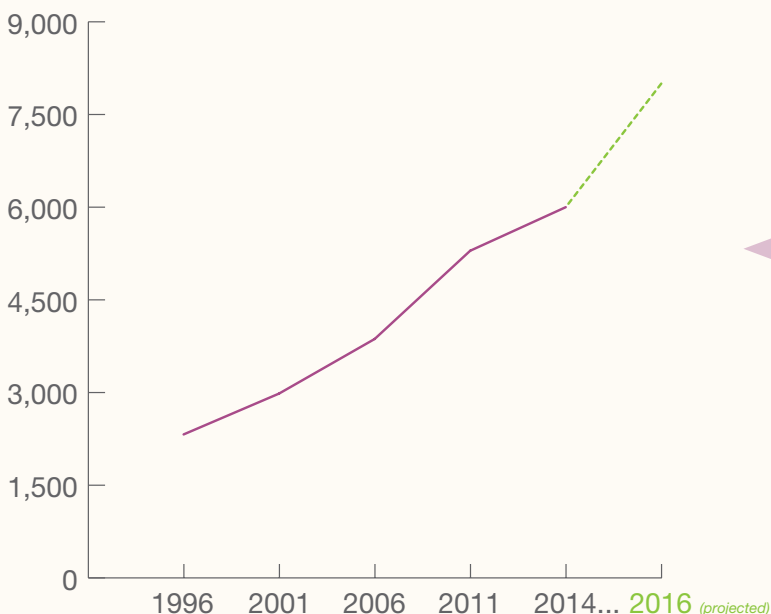
**RONELLE HUTCHINSON**  
 Manager, Policy and Advocacy

Where do we fit in the health sector?



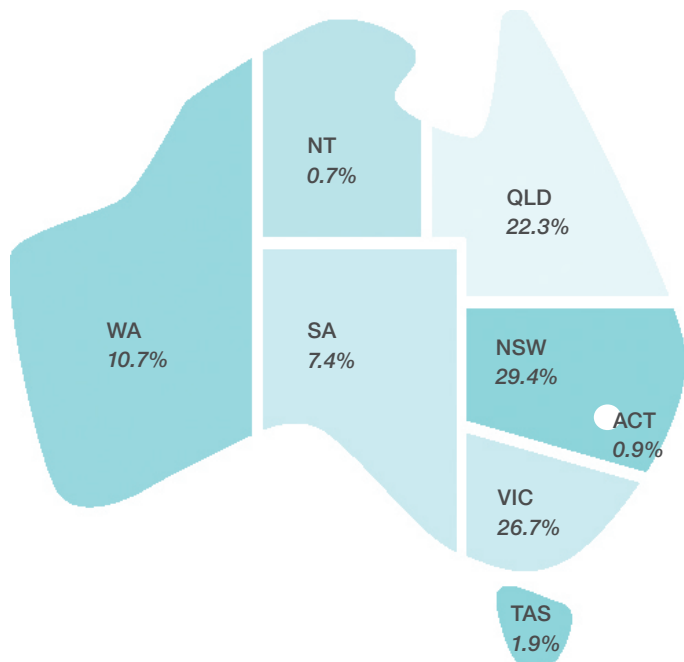
## How many of us?

Our profession has been growing over the past two decades with a steep increase in the number of practising speech pathologists in the past five years. With an increase in courses (currently 15 universities offer 24 speech pathology programs across 19 locations in Australia) our profession is expected to continue to grow from 700 up to 1,300 new graduates each year.





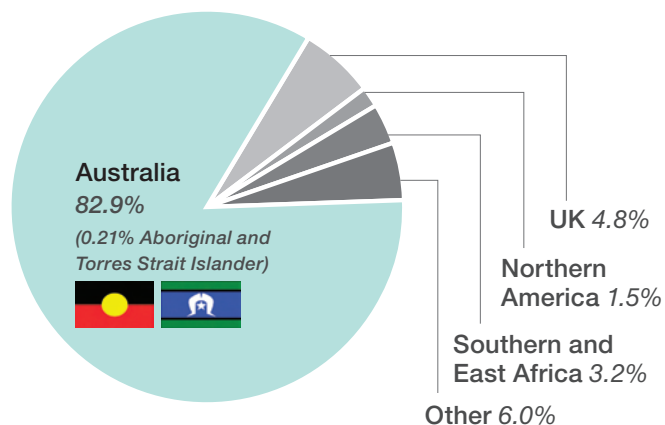
# Where are we?



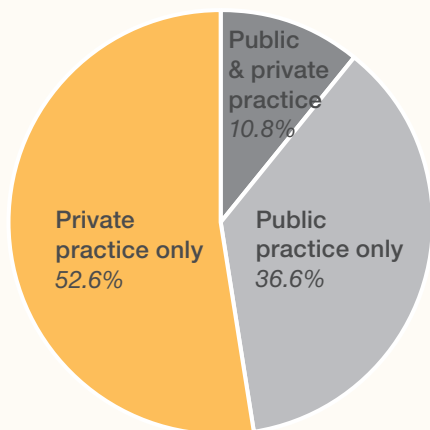
## Remoteness

Major cities 76.6%  
 Inner Regional Areas 15.9%  
 Outer Regional Areas 6.5%  
 Remote 1.0%

## Where do we come from?

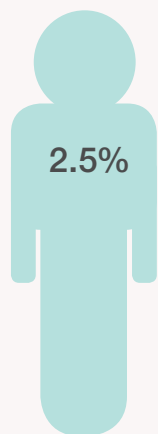


# Where do we work?

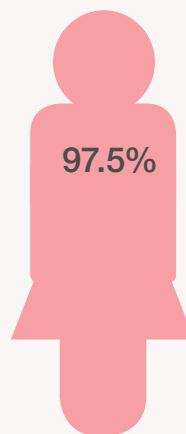


*We are seeing a shift in where speech pathologists work towards an increasingly large private sector.*

# Who are we?



Average hours worked in a week for male SPs 37.0



Average hours worked in a week for female SPs 30.2

## Age

Average age of practicing speech pathologists 37 years old

# A typical Australian speech pathologist is:

- female
- working part time (about four days a week)
- in her late 30s
- Bachelor's degree educated
- living and working in a major city area
- Australian born
- working in private practice.

# SPA celebrates the



- Membership of Speech Pathology Australia reached a record breaking 6,502.
- Dr Dimity Dornan was awarded an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in the 2014 Australia Day Awards (1).
- The International Communication Project 2014 (ICP2014) highlighted the importance of human communication and how communication disabilities significantly impact every aspect of life (2). An online Google Hangout 'Raising Awareness of Communication Disorders as a Global Health Issue' launched a year of activities in support of the project, with President Deb Theodoros representing SPA's contribution (3).
- Association funding was granted to CABDICO – The OIC Project in Cambodia and to the Trinh Foundation for activities in Vietnam to support improvements to speech therapy services in developing countries (4).
- Members and staff represented the Association on a range of key bodies, including: Allied Health Professions Australia, National Rural Health Alliance, National Aged Care Alliance, National Primary Health Care Partnership, Professions Australia, and National Alliance of Self Regulating Health Professions.
- The Association's National Conference (*Connections: client.clinician.context*) in Melbourne was attended by over 760 delegates (5).
- Fellowships awarded to Associate Professor Sue McAllister (6), Deb Phyland (7), Professor Leanne Togher (8) and Professor Liz Ward (9); the Elinor Wray Award to Professor Linda Worrall (10); and Recognition of Service Award to Petrea Cornwell (11).
- Five books and their authors/illustrators were awarded in the 11th anniversary of Speech Pathology Australia's Book of the Year Awards (12).
- A record 69 CPD events (including six online) were held with over 1,900 attendees, including the sold out National Tour by Dr Julia Starling (13).
- Series of highly successful Private Practice seminars.



**Speech Pathology Australia**  
Continuing Professional Development

# highlights of 2014!



14

• Speech Pathology Australia was signatory to the 'Close the Gap' Statement of Intent (as shown alongside Senator Fiona Nash) with regard to achieving equality of health status and life expectancy between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians by 2030 (14).



15

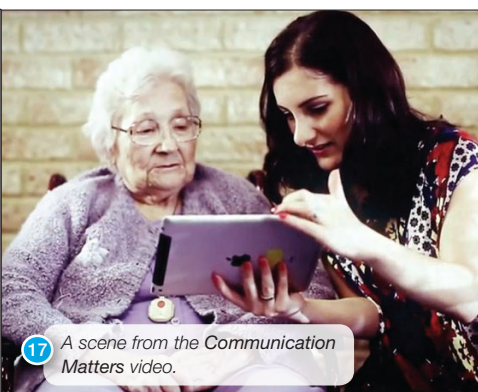
• The Association delivered a 116-page submission to the Australian Senate's Community Affairs Reference Committee, *Inquiry into prevalence of different types of speech, language and communication disorders and speech pathology services in Australia*; and National President Deborah Theodoros officially addressed one of the committee's public hearings (15). Following its inquiry the Committee tabled its report with ten key recommendations (16).



16

Senator Rachel Siewert tabled the Senate Inquiry report in Parliament in September 2014.

• The Western Australian Branch launched 'Communications Matters', a video highlighting the extremely low profile of speech pathology and communication services in residential aged care facilities (17).



17

A scene from the Communication Matters video.

• Alison Henty, Tasmanian Branch President, retired after 47 years in the speech pathology profession (18).



18

Alison Henty (left) was presented with a plaque from Kylie McKenna for her service.

• Claire Bolton, a University of Queensland speech pathology graduate received a Churchill medallion after completing her Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship (19).



19

From left: Attending the award ceremony was (from left) Jamie Balfour (Director General, Winston Churchill Memorial Trust), Claire Bunce, Dame Mary Peters and Claire Bolton.

• The *International Journal of Speech-Language Pathology* was elevated to fourth position on the list of 11 speech pathology journals in the field of Rehabilitation around the world.



20

• Cecilia Pemberton awarded the Van Lawrence Prize for her paper "Efficiency and Cost Effectively Managing Teachers' Voice Problems" (20).



21

• Dr Caroline Bowen was made an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists.

• A new and significantly revised Ethics Education Package was launched.

• ASHA awards its Alfred K. Kawana Award for Lifetime Achievement in Publications to Professor Mark Onslow and Ann Packman. The first time a team has received the award (21).

# Change of scenery



**AFTER A TRIP OVERSEAS** I realised I wanted live and work abroad, somewhere new and different to Australia. While I loved my job and home in Port Augusta, South Australia, I longed to challenge myself and apply my skills as a speech pathologist in an entirely different context. I realised volunteering was a good option as I could utilise my skills and hopefully benefit those who are not as fortunate to have a stable economy, robust education and healthcare systems.

The day after returning from overseas I researched the Australian Volunteers for International Development (AVID) program. AVID is an Australian Government-funded program that sends skilled volunteers to developing countries. Volunteers go to a particular location on an assignment that is designed together with a local organisation. Assignments have specific capacity-building objectives; to build the skills, abilities and resources of the local organisation so that when the volunteer leaves, the work can continue.

I applied for a ten month assignment in Albay, in the Philippines. Three months later I was training in Sydney and preparing for departure in January 2014! My assignment was at a large school with 3,000 students and more than 100 teachers. I was based in the Special Education Department which has five classes – multiple disability, autism, intellectual disability, hearing impairment and a transition class.

My goal was to build the teachers' and parents' capacity to support children with communication difficulties in the whole municipality. As there were no speech pathologists in the region (most in the country work privately in Manila), I had to create tools for the community that would last. As

well as running workshops for education staff and parents, I worked alongside them helping them to use techniques to support their child's communication. With teachers, I created a resource CD which included assessments, information and therapy tools. Imagine creating a speech assessment in Filipino language, choosing targets that are appropriate phonemically, familiar to children and culturally sensitive!

I also made the most of opportunities to have an impact outside of my assignment. These included working with and training several organisations that supported children with a disability, being involved in workshops and consultations at the local university and helping to run the Special Olympics for the region. I even ran sessions on Gender Equality at a camp for adolescent girls!

It was great to be able to have connections and make a difference with individuals as well. The students at school knew me as 'Teacher Lars'. When asked what he is going to do today, one of the students with autism said 'punta Lars' ('go to Lars'). After school, when asked what he did today he would say "kawat Lars" ('play with Lars'). His mother made a real effort to follow my advice, from modelling language with

him to making play-dough and encouraging independence. And to see change and growth in these children, as well as the work of the teachers and parents, was so gratifying.

And the lifestyle? I always felt prepared as the program was well supported from Australia and within the Philippines. There was also an excellent network of volunteers in Albay and the Philippines. I was lucky enough to climb volcanoes, island-hop, trek rice terraces and try some delicious foods. Filipino people were so friendly and would always say good morning or good afternoon – not just my colleagues but people in the neighbourhood like the owner of the Sari-Sari store (corner shop) I would pass every day.

It's amazing how much you can quickly establish a routine in a new place. I had a regular supermarket, favourite restaurants and market stalls. I caught jeepneys to work which were an iconic part of my time in the Philippines. Jeepneys are vibrantly painted, shiny commuter vehicles found around the Philippines. No windows, no doors, no seat belts, no suspension but a whole lot of fun! They really have a community feel; I'd often find myself having a chat or a sing-along (to whatever love ballad was playing on the radio) with fellow passengers. I'd sit on my jeepney on the way to work with my 3 cent pandesal (bread rolls) squeezing my tube of Vegemite onto them.

I learnt many lessons in my time in the Philippines. Like that I don't need electricity to be able to function, giving things a go nearly always results in a new and pleasant experience, I can cope without fresh cheese and that corn can go really well in dessert!

A powerful lesson for me was realising what affordable and accessible healthcare means for us in Australia. Most children I met did not have this luxury. Many children had cleft lip and palate that had still not been repaired at 8 years old. As well as very unintelligible speech, these children lacked confidence, as a result had poor engagement with education and often had related health issues. I saw several children with autism whose toe walking had not been managed and now had permanently arched feet, falling over often and requiring unaffordable surgery.

Despite these challenges, the children show the true Filipino spirit and resilience – when they fall down, they pick themselves up again and keep smiling. Their positive attitude is inspiring, and it certainly helps me to put my 'problems' into perspective. After a typhoon hit my region, several colleagues had their houses badly damaged and many possessions destroyed. They were back at work the next week, and still smiling. Their attitude is "we'll just have to get on with it" and "it happens, but it could have been worse" (and believe me, it has been much worse).

So what now? I returned in November and in a few weeks I start a new job in Perth. But the long term plan is to be able to return for visits to the Philippines, and work to support children post cleft repair. While my colleagues and the community indicated they got a lot out of my time there, I think at the end of the day I was the one who learnt the most.

**LARISSA ASHTON**  
Speech Pathologist

## Call for mentees and mentors

**WE HAVE HAD A GREAT RESPONSE** to our previous calls for mentors and currently have a good number registered under the *Find a Mentor* search.

So, consider the mentoring program if you are:

- new to an area of clinical practice
- new to a geographical area
- a sole therapist
- returning to the profession after a break
- wanting support to work towards some particular career goals.

Or, if you simply recognise how much you could benefit from having someone to reflect upon your practice with, go to the [SPA Mentoring Program page](#) and follow the steps to entering into a mentoring partnership.

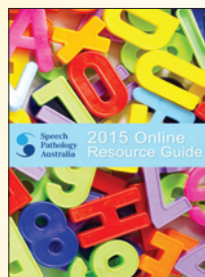
Go to this page if you are interested in signing up as a mentor. It is quick and easy to register, and your name will then appear in a *Find a Mentor* search for mentees who are looking for a mentor who may be suitable to support them to meet their learning goals.

Remember that mentoring is not a substitute for supervision and all speech pathologists can benefit from both.

For any questions regarding mentoring or supervision contact [psa@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au](mailto:psa@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au).

**MEREDITH PRAIN**  
Professional Support Advisor

### 2015 Online Resource Guide now available!



Speech Pathology Australia's 2015 Online Resource Guide provides members and the public with a reference manual of products and services which may be of use. The Online Resource Guide is an interactive resource, complete with links to websites and email addresses, and enabled to be conveniently viewed on portable devices such as mobile phones and tablets. To view the 2015 Online Resource Guide, click on the [Publications](#) menu on our website.

# BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARDS

## Best Books for Language and Literacy Development

The Speech Pathology Australia **Book of the Year Awards** raise awareness of the role speech pathologists play in assisting people of all ages to develop their language and literacy skills.

**THE SPEECH PATHOLOGY AUSTRALIA** Book of the Year Awards is now in its 12th year of rewarding Australian books that promote oral language development.

There are five award categories:

- Birth to 3 years of age
- Three to 5 years of age
- Five to 8 years of age
- Eight to 10 years of age
- Indigenous Children.

As in 2014, the Birth to three years category is strongly supported by Let's Read Australia.



### Call for nominations

Do you have a favourite children's book that you believe should be nominated for this year's awards?

We are seeking children's books that speech pathologists feel promote oral language development and literacy skills in the award's five categories.

A book needs to be exciting and stimulating, and satisfy the eligibility criteria:

- written by an Australian author;
- readily available in Australia;
- published in 2014 or 2015;
- retail for no more than \$30;
- facilitate interaction and collaboration;
- appeal to children; and
- maintain high production standards (graphics, design, paper stock, etc.).

The nomination form is available from the [Book of the Year page on the Association's website](#). The deadline for nominations is **15 March 2015**.

### Hall of fame nominations

When it is warranted, Speech Pathology Australia presents its Children's Language and Literature Award. This is the Association's 'Hall of Fame' award. In 2013 it was awarded to Ursula Dubosarsky.

This award recognises authors who have contributed significantly to children's language and literature. The award is not presented every year and only when a stand-out candidate is nominated by a member. There was no award in 2014.

The relevant nomination form and selection criteria are available from the Book of the Year page on the

Association's website. The deadline for nominations is **15 March 2015**.

### Seeking judges

Each of the five categories of the Book of the Year uses the services of eight volunteer judges. All judges are asked to read and critique the shortlisted books according to a pre-prepared judging template. Once the judging process is complete all the reviewed books are donated by a judge to an organisation that will benefit from receive them.

If you are interested judging the Book of the Year Awards in 2015 you need to satisfy the following criteria:

- an interest in children's language and literature;
- some paediatric experience (this may be through work or family experience);

## Empower Children's Language & Literacy!

Newsletters • Resources • Seminars

Sounds & Vowels

Two Vowels Talking

Phonological Fun

Created by Dr Susan Galletly  
Try them for free for 30 days



Register online for our Literacy Plus Newsletters,  
packed with great ideas and FREE downloads.

### Upcoming Canberra Seminars

Research theory plus lots of practical ideas:

**Friday 15 May** Ensuring a Gentle Start: Effective  
Earliest Word Reading Instruction for At-Risk Readers

**Saturday 16 May** Meeting the Instructional Needs of  
Adolescents Struggling with Literacy

Learning Made Fun!

[www.literacyplus.com.au](http://www.literacyplus.com.au)

**literacy**  
PLUS

- the time over June – August to read and critique approximately 12 shortlisted books; and
- the ability to work to a strict time deadline.

If that sounds like you please email [marketing@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au](mailto:marketing@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au) with the following details:

- your name;
- postal address;
- contact details;
- the category you would prefer to judge (one only); and
- a very brief description of why you would be a good judge.

The closing date for expressions of interest for judging is **17 April**.

And the winner is...

**MICHAEL KERRISK**

Communications and Marketing Manager



## Quality Mealtime Support Training Resource: Mealtime Assistance for Adults with Eating and Swallowing Difficulties.

This resource is specifically designed for use by speech pathologists and other health professionals in mealtime assistance training or information sessions for disability support workers.

The resource, in the form of a disc, includes MP4 videos and video clips, training activity ideas, and handouts to assist with quality mealtime support. The video content can be used to stimulate discussion about what quality mealtime support means and how to provide it. Important information about eating and swallowing impairments is also included, along with animations to illustrate the difference between choking and aspiration. Comments from people with disability, a support worker, parent and a service coordinator provide different perspectives on mealtime support and highlight the importance of a team approach.

Visit Scope's online shop ([www.scopevic.org.au](http://www.scopevic.org.au)) to purchase the resource.



**Spalding Education**  
INTERNATIONAL

## Multisensory Instruction in Language Arts 1 Teacher Training Course

Gain the skills to teach writing, spelling  
and reading to primary school students.

**January and July**  
Sydney and Melbourne

*Additional courses organised by demand*

### Contact

Robyn Grace

03 9889 4768

[robyn.grace@spaldingaustralia.com.au](mailto:robyn.grace@spaldingaustralia.com.au)



## 17–20 May 2015 National Convention Centre, Canberra, Australia



Major Sponsor

### Program Update

The CPC is pleased to advise that the **2015 National Conference – Challenge, Broaden, Revolutionise** 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.

Each author who received notification late 2014 that their abstract has been included, were emailed the 'official' confirmation. If for some reason you have not been contacted, please email the National Conference Manager on [conference@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au](mailto: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 sessions that will be presented. *Please note a change to the session names for M7 and M13.*

They now read *M7 Clinical education 1* and *M13 Clinical education 2*.

With regard to the conference program, the SPSC and CPC are delighted that the two Conference keynote speakers are each offering a masterclass presentation on the Sunday prior to the pre-registration and welcome event.

**Professor Nelson** will present a



Masterclass while in Canberra, providing delegates with practical methods to gather and analyse written story probes to describe a

student's strengths and weaknesses at multiple language levels. She will further teach delegates how to use a collaborative classroom-based writing lab approach to blend language instruction for all students including those with a range of special needs, a must for paediatric speech pathologists.

**Professor Emeritus Rosenbek**



will conduct a pre-conference clinical Masterclass; the emphasis will be on a variety of specific aphasia interventions

including attention and intention therapies, VNeST and ARCS. Professor Rosenbek will include description of the active ingredients needed for successful therapy. This class is a must for clinicians working in the area of aphasia.





## Registration for connections: Challenge, Broaden, Revolutionise

A reminder, that the Online Conference brochure and registration will be available from the Conference web site from **Monday 9 February 2015**. Please ensure you have renewed your membership for 2015 to take advantage of the early bird registration rate. The early bird rate closes **Wednesday 8 April 2015**. 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.

## Restaurant Night

The Restaurant Night is on the Tuesday evening of the Conference and has been a long tradition. 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 Tuesday 19 May so restaurant reservations can be finalised.

## Call for Student Volunteers/Assistants

Speech Pathology Australia is calling for speech pathology students who are financial members of the Association to volunteer as staff assistants for the **connections: Challenge, Broaden, Revolutionise *Speech Pathology Australia 2015 National Conference***. You will assist the National Conference Manager and need to be available from the morning of Saturday 17 May through until the evening of Wednesday 20 May 2015. 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 on [conference@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au](mailto:conference@speechpathologyaustralia.org.au) no later than **Thursday 5 March 2015**. Please include your area/s of interest so if you are successful she can try to match you to relevant sessions.

## Call for Session Chairs

Speech Pathology Australia members are invited to chair one or more program sessions at the 2015 National Conference. 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 Katina Swan, Scientific Program Sub-committee Chair, on [Katina.Swan@calvary-act.com.au](mailto:Katina.Swan@calvary-act.com.au) with your details and a short list of your topics of interest, no later than **Thursday 5 March 2015**.

## Accommodation

PR Conference Consultants is ready to take your booking. Please visit <http://www.pccc.com.au/spa2015/> for the hotels/apartments available and to book online.

**FELICITY MARTIN**  
Conference Convenor 2015

**PAMELA RICHARDS**  
National Conference Manager



# SPA Professional Development

**Paying registrants – Open to Members + Non Members  
non SPA members pay double (with some exceptions)**

National Conferences	Events/ workshops (other)	CPD workshops	National Tours • workshops • CPD Live Events	Online CPD live events	Online CPD live event recordings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual</li> <li>• Keynotes</li> <li>• Concurrent sessions</li> <li>• Workshops/ Masterclasses</li> <li>• Rotates through Branches</li> <li>• Exhibition</li> <li>• Sponsorship</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private practice seminars</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Face-to-face - 2 days - 1 day - half-day workshops</li> <li>• Branch</li> <li>• Multi-Branch</li> <li>• Annual National Tour</li> <li>• Traveller's rate discount registration fee for rural and regional members and members in small Branches (ACT, NT, TAS)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual</li> <li>• Varying area of clinical practice within scope of Speech Pathology practice</li> <li>• Multi-modal format 2014 + onwards speaker presents workshops across Australia followed by CPD Live Online event at end of year</li> <li>• Recording of final workshop each year for CPD Events Library</li> <li>• 2010 followed by videoconference</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monthly 90-minute live online events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recordings available for 12 months after live event</li> </ul>
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can register for live event or to view recording</li> </ul>	

**At a glance**

*Averages over last 5 years*

- Registration numbers 500–900
- Average number of presenters = 150
- 3 days in length or 4 if Masterclass included
- Exhibition of 40–60 exhibitors

**2014**

- 765 registrations (including full and day registrations, speakers and exhibitors)

**At a glance**

*Averages over last 3 years*

- Offered in larger Branches
- Average registrations per event = 39
- Average Overall Event Rating = 4.5 out of 5

**At a glance**

*Averages over last 5 years*

- 57 workshops per annum
- 1664 registrations per annum
- Overall Event rating = 4.5 out of 5
- Quality of Presentations = 4.6 out of 5
- Traveller's rate = 266 registrations

**2014**

- 69 events inc 6 CPDLive online events
- 1,874 registrations
- Overall Event rating = 4.7 out of 5
- Quality of Presentations = 4.8 out of 5
- Traveller's rate: 395 registrations

**At a glance**

*Average registrations over last 5 years*

- Average of 332 registrations
- Each year, nearly all workshops sell out (e.g. 6 out of 8 in 2014)

**At a glance**

**2014**

- Commenced 26 March 2014
- Moved to monthly events as of November 2014
- Number of registrations for six 2014 CPDLive events as at end of 2014:
  - Live = 101 registrations
  - Recording = 383 registrations
  - Total = 484 registrations

**Feedback, Evaluation, Planning, Action – continual, reflective, multiple channels**

- Surveys
  - for **all** PD
  - all registrants – members and non-members
  - conducted online and at events
  - surveys cover satisfaction, delivery formats, future planning etc.
- Data collection
  - for **all** PD
  - observing patterns, evaluating, to inform future planning

## Looking back on 2014...

SPA WAS PLEASED to offer professional development through a variety of delivery formats and across a wide range of professional areas. The PD options for 2014 are summarised in this chart, with averages over the past five years also included.

### Some of the highlights from 2014 included:

- The record number of CPD events including six CPD live online events Registration numbers were also at an all-time high – Branch events had a total of 1874 registrants, of which 395 were Traveller's rates, and National CPD live online events had a total of 101 registrants for the live events, with a further 383 registrations to view the recording of the events.
- The average evaluation ratings for Branch CPD events were also the highest on record – 4.7 out of 5 for the average Overall Event rating, and 4.8 out of 5 for the average Speaker Quality of Presentation rating.
- The successful and well-attended 2014 National Conference in Melbourne.
- Independent Study Resources being made available to members at no charge via the website – both the Ethics Education Package and the Evidence-Based Practice ISR.
- The growth in the SPA online Member Communities.
- Looking forward to this year – what's planned for 2015?
- We have a wonderful year planned for SPA professional development in 2015, including the National Conference in Canberra, monthly CPD live online events, and the 2015 National Tour by Associate Professor Jane McCormack – see over for more details.

**SHARON CRANE**  
Senior Advisor, Professional Education and Certification

## Member Only Professional development

### Paying

### No charge = Member Benefit

#### CPD Events library

- Recordings at CPD workshops
- DVDs
- Dedicated recordings - Independent Study Resources section/modules + self-study questions (e.g. Voice ISR, Dysphagia ISR)
- Utilised by those undergoing Eligibility Assessment
- Suits those with low tech access

#### Online Independent study resources

- Access for Members Only on SPA website
- Independent Study Resources (ISRs) recordings with sections/modules and self-study questions
  - Autism ISR
  - Ethics Education Package
  - Evidence-Based Practice ISR
  - Ethics and EBP packages form part of Provisional CPSP and Eligibility Assessment requirements

#### Online member communities

- Closed groups/ Members Only
- Online
- Use social media platforms
- Information sharing + networking
- Segmented (by location, clinical areas, stage of SP "life")

## General

#### Other Social media for Professional Development

- YouTube
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Instagram
- Google+

### At a glance

#### Number of loans

- 2014 = 224
- 2013 = 200

### At a glance

#### 2014

- Ethics education package accessed by 195 members
- Evidence-Based Practice ISR made available online

### At a glance

#### Member Community numbers at end of 2014:

- Ageing and Aged Care = 167
- APPropriate Apps = 1,330 (first group)
- Disability = 394
- Mental Health = 97 (newest group)
- SPA Network of Students = 242
- Private Practice = 728
- Rural and Remote = 289
- SPs in Education and Learning = 469
- Working with developing communities = 169

### At a glance

- Conference impressions (a metric for how far and wide your messages have reached):
  - 2013 = 1,299,350 people
  - 2014 = 2,634,776 people
- Facebook fans:
  - Jan 2013 = 2,112
  - Jan 2014 = 4,058
  - As at 6 Jan 2015

- Overarching membership surveys - include PD/events feedback

National Office has a 1300 368 835 number to support members within Australia to have equity in telephoning National Office for the cost of a local call. When calling about CPD, please have your SPA member number ready to help us assist you as efficiently as possible.

## Exciting announcements of both the 2015 National Tour and 2016 National Tour speakers!

Speech Pathology Australia is delighted to announce the 2015 and 2016 National Tour speakers are continuing the tradition of highly respected and knowledgeable speech pathologists.



Speech Pathology Australia is thrilled to announce that the 2015 SPA National Tour speaker will be **Associate Professor Jane McCormack**, presenting a two day workshop on Childhood Speech Impairment in various Branches, with dates to be advised.

This two-day workshop will be in the area of Childhood Speech Impairment, and will encompass:

- The International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) – Children and Youth (WHO, 2007) and its application to the assessment and management of children with speech impairment.
- Insights from the life experiences of children with speech impairment and their families, and the contribution these make to our practice.
- Values, beliefs and attitudes of early childhood educators/teachers and SLPs regarding communication impairment, and the importance of health/education collaboration in supporting children with speech impairment.

Associate Professor Jane McCormack (BHlth Sci (Sp Path) (Hons Class 1), PhD) is the Speech Pathology Discipline Leader at Charles Sturt University. Jane oversees the delivery of, and teaches across, both the Bachelor of Speech and Language Pathology and the Master of Speech Pathology programs, specifically subjects relating to child speech and language impairment and

professional practice. Prior to commencing at CSU, Jane worked as a speech-language pathologist in community health and early intervention settings.

Jane conducts research into the experiences of individuals with communication difficulties and their families, the application of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF; WHO, 2001) in speech pathology, collaborative practice and alternative models of speech pathology education and service delivery. In 2009-10, Jane was awarded the Sir Robert Menzies Memorial Scholarship for Research in the Allied Health Sciences and in 2011, was awarded the SCOPUS Australian Young Researcher of the Year for Humanities and Social Sciences for her research. In 2012, Jane received an Early Career Research Fellowship at CSU to extend her research in the health and wellbeing of children in the early years. She was runner-up in the international Pursuit Award for research in childhood disability in 2013.

The Association is looking forward to Jane sharing her passion and knowledge in the area of holistic care of children with speech and language impairment and their families.



The 2016 SPA National Tour speaker will be **Jade Cartwright**, presenting *Dementia is our Business: Speech Pathology Services for People Living with Dementia across the Continuum of Care*. This will be a two day workshop in various Branches, with dates to be advised.

Dementia is of growing concern to individuals, societies, and cultures around the world. As the number of people living with dementia increases, so does the need for enhanced knowledge and understanding. This workshop will explore the links between the biology of the diseases that cause dementia and the symptoms that arise as a result, with a particular focus on communication. The role of speech pathologists in working with people with dementia will be explored across the continuum of care, with the goal of improving quality of life, promoting autonomy and enabling access to meaningful conversations.

Jade Cartwright is a speech pathologist with 14 years of clinical experience working in adult neurology, including provision of services to clients and their families living with dementia,

Huntington's disease and stroke across acute, rehabilitation and community settings. Jade completed her PhD at the University of Western Australia in 2014 in the area of primary progressive aphasia (PPA). Her thesis sought to better understand and characterise the nature and psychosocial impact of progressive language difficulties experienced by people with PPA. Jade is a strong advocate for proactive and strengths-based interventions for people with dementia that aim to enable participation and meaningful engagement, while optimising social inclusion and quality of life.

The Association is looking forward to Jade sharing her knowledge, experience and vision for the future to expand speech pathology and communication services for people living with dementia in Australia.

**SPA Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activities are supported by a strong and wonderful team of SPA members in each Branch.**

## CPD – who's who in 2015

SPA is pleased to have a strong team of CPD Leaders heading in to 2015.

- Many thanks to all the members who volunteer their time, knowledge and support through their active involvement in their Branch CPD committees.
- We thank all those continuing in leading the Branch CPD role – Katina Swan (ACT), Christine Sheard (NSW), Maureen Liddy and Stella Martin (QLD), Barbara Lyndon (SA), Alison Gardner (TAS), Kate Bridgman and Linda Crisci (VIC), and Kelly Robinson (WA). We look forward to their continued expertise and commitment in the coming year, and thank them for all their hard work in 2014.
- Finally, a warm welcome to Erin Coonan, who has taken up the NT CPD Leader. We look forward to working with Erin, and would like to thank Melissa (Melba) Ridd for her years of dedicated and professional input to NT CPD. Now let's hand over to Erin to introduce herself ...

**MY NAME IS ERIN COONAN** and I am very excited to be taking on the CPD Leader role for the NT Branch this year. I am based up in the Northern Territory as part of the Children's Development Team – Darwin Urban. We cover Darwin and up to 200 km in most directions. Previous CPD Leaders up here have worked so hard to provide us with PD opportunities reflective of a much larger population and we are extremely grateful. I look forward to continuing their work in providing



support and coordination to continue to attract high quality presenters and trainers from the Speech Pathology field. Another frequently utilised source of knowledge is the CPD Events library from which we arrange viewings of key presentations on areas highlighted by our Members. We are extremely appreciative of all the work that goes in to support our small local

SPA community to continue to develop their skills despite the geographical isolation! Hoping this year is a fabulous one!

**ERIN COONAN**  
NT CPD Leader

- Thanks also to all those members who volunteer their time, knowledge and support through their active involvement in their Branch CPD committees.

The CPD leaders and committees are supported by paid staff, who are SPA members. These include CPD Coordinators in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria and Western Australia:

- Shirani Gomes, New South Wales CPD Coordinator
- Tricia Chardon, Queensland CPD Coordinator
- Catherine Quin, South Australian CPD Coordinator
- Erin Masson, Western Australian CPD Coordinator.

Branch CPD committees are supported in the running of their events by staff based at National Office - Sharon Crane, Senior Advisor, Professional Education & Certification (also a SPA member) and Anita Rodricks, Professional Education Administration.

**CPD program ...** To view events open for online registration, watch out for the monthly *Events* and *Branch e-News*, and/or check out the SPA website under *Upcoming Events*, and/or go to the webpage > *SPA News and Events* > *CPD Events* > [CPD Branch Events and CPDLive](#). Earlybird rates available for registrations up to one month before the event date, after which an additional fee of \$66 applies post-Earlybird close.

**Registrations are now open for the CPD Events listed below.**

### CPD Events

**Register before the Earlybird rate for 2014 SPA CPD Events and save \$66...**

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.

#### NEW SOUTH WALES

**Thursday 26 and Friday 27 February 2015**

*Sydney* Supporting older school-aged children and adolescents with language and literacy difficulties: Time for some creative thinking! by **Dr Julia Starling**

**Friday 21 August 2015**

*Sydney* Receptive Language Impairment in Young Children by **Mellanie Sherwood**

#### NORTHERN TERRITORY

**Monday 30 and Tuesday 31 March 2015**

*Darwin* Multimodal, Augmentative and Alternate Communication for people who have complex communication needs by **Gayle Porter**

#### QUEENSLAND

**Friday 20 March 2015**

*Brisbane* Apraxia of Speech: Interesting Developments in diagnosis and treatment by **Associate Professor Kirrie Ballard**

**Friday 1 May 2015**

*Gold Coast* An update on research of word retrieval impairments and their treatments by **Professor Lyndsey Nickels**

**Saturday 2 May 2015**

*Gold Coast* A Journey through NARNIA: Integrating verbs, sentences and discourse in aphasia therapy by **Associate Professor Anne Whitworth**

#### SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**Friday 6 March 2015**

*Adelaide* Receptive Language Impairment in Young Children by **Mellanie Sherwood**

#### VICTORIA

**Thursday 26 February 2015**

*Melbourne* Receptive Language Impairment by **Mellanie Sherwood** **SOLD OUT**

**Friday 27 February and Monday 2 March 2015**

*Melbourne* BLADES – Adding Meaning and Interaction to Language Therapy for 2-5 year olds by **Mellanie Sherwood** **SOLD OUT**

**Thursday 19 and Friday 20 March 2015**

*Melbourne* Ageing and Dementia: Considerations for Assessment, Intervention and Management by **Margaret Pozzebon**

**Thursday 23 and Friday 24 April 2015**

*Melbourne* Utilising FEES as part of an Evidence-Based Approach to Dysphagia Assessment and Management by **Michelle Cimoli** and **Rhonda Holmes**

#### NATIONAL

**Online 90-minute events run in conjunction with CPDLive**

##### Recordings available via CPDLive

*What is the DSM-V criteria for autism, and how will it affect clinical practice?* by **Professor Andrew Whitehouse**

Live event ran on 26 March 2014

[Viewing available until 26 March 2015](#)

*Developmental Pathways to Language Competence and Language Disorder: Implications for Speech Pathology Practice* by **Dr Patricia Eadie**

Live event ran on 11 April 2014

[Viewing available until 11 April 2015](#)

*Managing Dysphagia via Telepractice: What's the Evidence?* by **Professor Liz Ward**

Live event ran on 2 July 2014

[Viewing available until 2 July 2015](#)

*The role of speech pathology with clients with mental health disorders* by **Mary Woodward** and **Natalie Albores**

Live event ran on 28 August 2014

[Viewing available until 28 August 2015](#)

*A clinical advantage: the art of accent modification within a speech pathology context* by **Tristan Nickless**

Live event ran on 19 November 2014

[Viewing available until 19 November 2015](#)

A professionally collaborative approach to supporting upper primary and secondary students with language and literacy difficulties by **Dr Julia Starling**

Live event ran on Friday 12 December 2014

[Viewing available until 12 December 2015](#)

### Upcoming live events via CPDLive

Live event to run on **Tuesday 24 February 2015 (1–2.30pm AEST)** *Enhancing practice with children and families from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds* by **Professor Sharynne McLeod and Sarah Verdon**

Live event to run on **Wednesday 25 March 2015 (2.30–4pm AEST)** *Stuttering across the lifespan: Could I use telehealth?* by **Dr Kate Bridgman**

Live event to run on **Wednesday 15 April 2015 (11am–12.30pm AEST)** *Diagnosing and treating apraxia of speech for optimal outcomes* by **Associate Professor Kirrie Ballard**

**SHARON CRANE**

Senior Advisor Professional Education & Certification (CPD & PSR)



Aberdeenshire, North-East Scotland, Adult Speech and Language Therapy Team

## Highly Specialist Speech and Language Practitioner

**Salary £30,764 - £40,558 per annum, Full-time 37.5 hours per week**



An exciting opportunity has arisen for an experienced Speech and Language Therapist to join the Aberdeenshire Adult Team. Aberdeenshire is an area of outstanding beauty in the North East of Scotland, with easy access to the vibrant City of Aberdeen as well as stunning mountain and coastal scenery, including the world-famous Royal Deeside.

This is a permanent contract. It is a community-based post covering adults with a range of acquired disorders including neurology, voice and dysfluency. This will be in clinic, domiciliary and community hospital settings. We are looking for someone with vast experience of working with adults, including the ability to manage dysphagia independently.

The team has a robust supervision and mentoring programme and you would be expected to take part in this, as well as training programmes and other service development projects and initiatives.

An attractive Relocation Package of up to £8k is offered to the successful candidate.

*If you would like an informal chat about the post, please contact Emma Coutts on 00 44 1346 585107, email: [emmacoutts@nhs.net](mailto:emmacoutts@nhs.net) or Hazel Welbon on 00 44 1466 765013, email: [hazel.welbon@nhs.net](mailto:hazel.welbon@nhs.net)*

**To apply please visit: [www.nhsgrampian.org/jobs](http://www.nhsgrampian.org/jobs) and search for Ref No RP9938.**

**Closing date for applications 11th March 2015.**



**Join our team...** for more information: [www.nhsgrampian.org/jobs](http://www.nhsgrampian.org/jobs)

# Human Resources and Industrial Relations Support

*Did you know that Speech Pathology Australia has recently engaged the services of WorkPlacePLUS to provide a range of practical services to members?*

**ANNA PANNUZZO**, director of WorkPlacePLUS has over 20 years of experience in areas such as Aged Care, Health and Community Services, TAFE, local government and higher education.

Members can now call WorkPlacePLUS directly to receive advice on issues relating to:

- employment of staff
- contracts and awards
- human resources
- training and staff development.

The WorkPlacePLUS team can also offer a range of additional services at a fee for members. Services could include preparation of employee contracts, training, assistance with staff recruitment and restructuring, review of HR, OHS and WorkCover policies and procedures, and additional written advice. During the consultation, members will be informed when fees apply and what the estimated costs will be.

If you are setting up a new practice or need assistance with the production of a range of policies and procedures

then members can also purchase a Human Resources Manual prepared by WorkPlacePLUS and customised for your workplace. This manual includes information and templates on issues such as performance management, equal opportunity, disciplinary and grievance policies, harassment and bullying, and procedures around termination and redundancy. The manual can be updated on an annual basis for an additional charge.

**Below are some examples of times when it might be helpful for members to call WorkPlacePLUS.**

***If you own a private practice and you would like to employ a staff member you can request:***

- clarification about whether the staff member should be a contractor or an employee
- information about the Award that the new staff falls under
- assistance with the recruitment process, such as developing an advertisement, reviewing applications and short listing, etc.
- help with writing an employment contract.

***If you own a private practice and would like to ensure staff are engaged, do not take excessive sick leave and turnover of staff members is low, WorkPlacePLUS can:***

- help you with the interviewing process
- conduct a Health Check on employees
- provide practical advice for your business.

***If you would like to know more about ensuring your workplace is free of bullying and harassment issues, WorkPlacePLUS can:***

- provide direction on the steps to be taken to mitigate operator risks
- conduct Respect and Responsibility Training to all staff in the practice.



To find more about the range of services provided by WorkPlacePLUS, please visit [www.workplaceplus.com.au](http://www.workplaceplus.com.au) or contact Anna Pannuzzo on 0419 533 434.

**NICHOLA HARRIS**

*Practice and Clinical Support Advisor*



## From Clinical Educator to Referee – what can I say?

**AS A CLINICAL EDUCATOR**, we are often asked by students to be listed as a referee as they apply for new graduate jobs. This is a rewarding experience, as we can assist our students transition into the workforce, where they will become our colleagues. In recent years however, I have become concerned about the increasing occurrence that employers are asking for information beyond the scope of what I think is appropriate.

As a referee, I have assumed that it is appropriate to speak to the student in context of the placement they have had with me, and their performance as I have indicated on their COMPASS. I have however felt that being asked if I had any knowledge of a physical or 'other factor' that would impact the applicant's performance is inappropriate. I too, have sat on interview panels, and have wanted the best applicant for a position, but I don't feel it's appropriate to ask a third party to disclose such personal information.

I have tried a variety of answers in recent years – “not to my knowledge”, “no”, “not that I observed in this placement” to getting cheeky and saying “I can't answer that as I don't know fully what the job would entail”. This year however, I decided to stop answering that question – and have told agencies I don't think it's appropriate. I have wondered what answer they are looking for. What type of information do they want from me that they can't get from the applicant. And how subjective would they, and I even, be around certain issues.

After being pushed for an answer this year and being concerned that my not answering may disadvantage my students, I decided to contact Speech Pathology Australia to ask for their ethical opinion. I was delighted to hear from **Trish Johnson**, Senior Advisor Ethics and Professional Issues who within the hour had consulted with WorkPlacePLUS, the organisation that SPA members can access for advice on Human Resources issues. Both agreed that “as a third party you cannot disclose this sort of personal information”. Further a response to any questions beyond the scope of a student's direct Clinical Experience may be “following advice from SPA and as advised by WorkPlacePLUS I cannot disclose this sort of personal information”.

This is in line with ASHA's guidance relating to student confidentiality:

*At all levels of professional education, students and student clinicians have privacy rights that educators must respect... But, once again, safeguarding the privacy of information entrusted to a teacher, program administrator, or institution is an ethical and not just a legal obligation.*

*According to Principle of Ethics IV of the ASHA Code of Ethics, “Individuals shall honor their responsibilities to the professions and their relationships with colleagues and students.” Professional regard for students and student clinicians involves respecting each student as the arbiter of what personal information may be divulged and to whom it may be divulged<sup>1</sup>.*

So then I got to thinking, is this just a student issue, or could these questions be asked about me?

This is what I found:

*“Providing information that relates directly to the employment relationship between an employer and employee is not a breach of Commonwealth privacy laws. Information that directly relates to the employment relationship can include things such as the employee's skills, performance, conduct, and their terms of employment.” (p.4)<sup>2</sup>*

and for Australian Government Agencies:

*“Supervisors should avoid any comment in a referee report that is unrelated to the employee's work performance, such as their political or religious views and, generally speaking, health information.”<sup>3</sup>*

So, as speech pathologists recruiting I think we need to report this back to any employers that is asking us to source personal information, and as referees I think we need to start communicating back to the larger agencies that is not appropriate. Perhaps 2015 can be the year of “following advice from SPA and as advised by WorkPlacePLUS I cannot disclose this sort of personal information”.

**KATE BRIDGMAN, PHD**

*Clinical Educator, La Trobe University*

<sup>1</sup> ASHA (2013). *Issues in Ethic: Confidentiality*. Retrieved from [www.asha.org/Practice/ethics/Confidentiality/#sec1.6](http://www.asha.org/Practice/ethics/Confidentiality/#sec1.6) on 05/12/14

<sup>2</sup> Australian Government (2014). *Fair Work Ombudsman: Best practice guide workplace safety*. Retrieved from [www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/policies-and-guides/best-practice-guides/workplace-privacy](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/about-us/policies-and-guides/best-practice-guides/workplace-privacy) on 05/12/14

<sup>3</sup> [www.oaic.gov.au/privacy/privacy-topics/government/what-privacy-issues-should-supervisors-in-australian-government-agencies-take-into-account-when-providing-referee-reports](http://www.oaic.gov.au/privacy/privacy-topics/government/what-privacy-issues-should-supervisors-in-australian-government-agencies-take-into-account-when-providing-referee-reports)

### Room for Rent Southport, QLD (Chirn Park)

Consulting room availability is offered to a Speech Pathologist to join our team on a sub-let basis.

We are a professional, well respected Allied Health team who enjoy the challenge of our work and the comradery of working in a team. We prioritise the comfort of our health care providers and the care of our patients.

The practitioner we are seeking should have a sound business and work ethic, with preference to having an established client base.

Currently the clinic has two (2) established Osteopaths, a Massage Therapist, Soundwave Therapist, and a Hypnotherapist who all work on a casual basis.

The practice is situated in new, modern premises in Chirn Park, along the main shopping village.

The room has internet, phone and is tastefully furnished. The clinic has a kitchenette, toilet, HICAPS, EFTPOS, disabled access and also offers reception services. The clinic uses TM2 software.

This is a wonderful opportunity for an established practitioner to develop their own business within a professional, friendly environment. For expression of interest, please email **Deborah** at [debjcal@aapt.net.au](mailto:debjcal@aapt.net.au)

## More than one way to tell a story...



**AS A RESULT** of cerebral palsy, I am unable to walk, use my hands and have speech difficulties. Because of a profound hearing loss, which was caused by Meniere's disease, I have bilateral cochlear implants. Geoff, my loving husband of almost 30 years, also has cerebral palsy.

One big passion of mine is children. I adore them. Until recently, all of my young nieces and nephews lived interstate and overseas, so I rarely saw them. To fill this void I decided to see if I could volunteer at a preschool for a couple of hours a week. After a long process and some rejections, I was extremely fortunate to be accepted by a centre that's located 5 minutes from our unit.

When I'm at the preschool, I interact with the children. I do this by talking to them, joining in their games and reading stories. Because of my fluctuating speech, I use my speech-generating device to "say" the words (which I've already programmed into my device), while my carer holds the book up for the children to see. I then use my voice to talk about what's happening in the pictures.

Being the second eldest of six, I am very aware of what children will say and do when they encounter anyone or anything that is different. Having been granted the wonderful attribute of a sense of humour, I always see the funny side of life, particularly when the jokes are on me. Nothing the youngsters ask or say embarrasses me. I find their innocence and honesty very refreshing. One day I was talking to a little chap and he said, "You talk funny", to which I replied, "Yes, I do". Seeming happy with this, he went on his merry way. A few weeks later the same young fellow asked, "When are you going to talk properly?" He probably thought my speech would improve over time, like babies!

There's no doubt my speech-generating device has opened up many opportunities for me. It was of great benefit when I made initial contact with the children and I'm certain this will continue in the future.

CLARE WHITE



See Me Talk is an easy to use AAC iPad app designed to help children with speech delays communicate in an engaging way.



[www.seemetalkapp.com](http://www.seemetalkapp.com)

## Elucidating differences between private and public practice in Darwin and around

WITH THE COMPLETION of my speech pathology degree in December 2013, I decided to move “home” to Darwin to start my career as a speech pathologist. My experience as a new graduate working within the paediatric field has been both challenging and inspiring. Working across the Northern Territory, particularly within Darwin has afforded me the opportunity to work with a variety of clients, with varying presentations, and from a range of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.



In the past year I have fortunately had the opportunity to work across private and public sectors. Although I worked from a family centred approach within a multidisciplinary team, in both cases, I noticed the following differences in my practice:

- The service delivery framework varied completely across the two settings. Within a private setting, I had greater flexibility in providing services as I was not restricted by a specific set of principles and policies guiding my practice. As a consequence, I had more opportunities to develop a strong rapport with my clients and their families and particularly enjoyed watching the progress that we were able to achieve together. Due to high demand yet limited staffing within the public sector, I had to learn to work in a very different way, focusing on a parent led therapy approach, as we do not have the opportunity to provide ongoing therapy.
- Caseload demands and the degree of direct client contact differed greatly between private and public settings. Particularly from a new graduate perspective, the caseload demands within a private setting are challenging and require strong organisational and time management skills and a degree of confidence within your practice. At times, I felt overwhelmed by my caseload and felt that my service delivery was impacted by a reduced amount of time allocated for planning and preparation.

- Another key difference across the two settings is the degree of collaborative practice. My service delivery and role within the public sector heavily involves working cooperatively with other organisations and services to ensure my clients are receiving a holistic and well-supported service. Due to the limited number of sessions families receive within the public sector here, this is particularly important as it provides families with support and management distributed across respective services.
- Although I received mentoring and professional development opportunities within the private setting, I felt somewhat isolated with only one other speech pathologist, who was also a new graduate, on the team. The larger team in the public sector offers me greater opportunities to discuss client matters and request clinical support and supervision when required.

Although I have had quite varied experiences over my graduate year working across private and public sectors, I have thoroughly enjoyed both opportunities. Overall, I have learnt that it is particularly important to know your strengths, areas for improvement and interests, as they are the driving forces behind your success with your clients irrespective of the nature of the service.

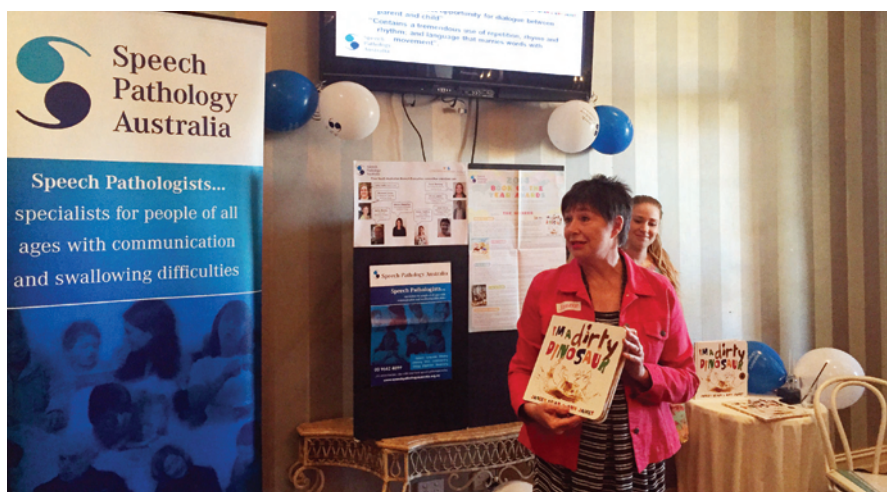
**CHRISTINA SPINELLA**  
[Christina.Spinella@nt.gov.au](mailto:Christina.Spinella@nt.gov.au)

## SA Branch celebrates 2014 with an end-of-year event

**THE SPA SA BRANCH** celebrated a successful 2014 with a fantastic end-of-year cocktail event, which was held on Monday 1 December at the Benjamin on Franklin in Adelaide. The SPA SA Branch Chair, Cathy Clark, welcomed approximately 70 attendees to the event. The evening then kicked off with a 'Welcome to the Profession' for South Australia's newest qualified speech pathologists, featuring drinks and scrumptious catering arranged by the Public Awareness Strategic Working Group. This was an opportunity for our brand new graduates to celebrate their qualifications, catch up with each other at the end of a busy year, and network with more experienced local clinicians and the SPA SA Branch Executive.

This event also featured the launch of an exciting new SPA SA Branch support group for final year students and recent graduates, named New And Aspiring Speechies (NAAS). Emily Morris, Emma Foreman, Selena Petrou, and Tara Shem launched NAAS to their peers, encouraging local students and recent graduates to become involved in this self-driven group which aspires to arrange regular social and professional development events addressing the group members' self-identified professional development goals, with the support of the Member Engagement Strategic Working Group. NAAS is an exciting local initiative involving an energetic and inspiring group of students and clinicians, and we look forward to the first NAAS event early in 2015. Look out for further updates about the development of this group on the SA Branch page of *Speak Out!*

Public Awareness Strategic Working Group Leader Abbey Homfray and group member Jessica Baggallay introduced the 2014 SPA SA Branch Book of the Year (BOTY) presentations at the end of year event. BOTY judge Christine Beal spoke about her experiences of judging, and presented books to Reverend Peter Sandeman, the CEO of Anglicare. Fellow BOTY judge Kathryn Halyburton also shared



Above: Author Janeen Brian read aloud her book *I'm a Dirty Dinosaur*, which won the 2014 SPA Book of the Year Award in the Birth to 3 Years category. Right: Jessica Baggallay and Abbey Homfray introduced the BOTY presentations on the night.

her experience of being involved in the Awards, and presented books to Melanie Hallett-Patterson from the Reaching Prisoner's Kids' program, run by Prison Fellowship Australia. We were also very fortunate to have South Australian author, Janeen Brian, attend the end of year event to speak about the development of her fantastic book, *I'm a Dirty Dinosaur*, which won the 2014 BOTY Award for the Birth to 3 Years category. Janeen treated attendees to a very engaging, expressive reading of her book, and was generous enough to sign copies of *I'm a Dirty Dinosaur* for presentation to attendees as lucky door prizes.

Cathy Clark presented a brief Annual General Meeting to attendees, followed by a brief presentation of the 2014 achievements and future plans of each SPA SA Branch Strategic Working Group. Barbara Lyndon from the Professional Learning Strategic Working Group, Jenny Moody from the Lobbying and Influencing Strategic Working Group, Abbey Homfray from the Public Awareness Strategic Working Group, and Emma Leeson and Josephine Kemp from the Member Engagement Strategic Working Group, summarised their group objectives and planned activities for 2015. When the attendees had enjoyed further excellent catering and networking opportunities, the evening concluded



with an informative presentation about the current status of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) by keynote speaker Cathy Olsson, SPA's Disability Project Officer.

The SPA SA Branch end-of-year evening was an action-packed evening, and a great opportunity to connect with our local members. Thank you to everyone who came along and helped to make the evening such a great success! The SPA SA Branch is keen to hear from members about what they need from their local professional association, and from any members who would like to be involved in the many exciting activities we have planned for this year. Please contact me (Josephine) on the email address below if you are interested in becoming involved. We look forward to working with more of our local members during 2015!

**JOSEPHINE KEMP**

*Editor and Member Engagement Strategic Working Group Leader, SPA SA Branch*  
[SPA.SAbranch.editors@gmail.com](mailto:SPA.SAbranch.editors@gmail.com)

**THE TASMANIAN BRANCH** of Speech Pathology Australia meets once a month. All members are welcome at our meetings. Would you like to have a more active role in Speech Pathology Australia in 2015? Come along to one of our meetings with video link-ups across the state.

## Meet Some of the Branch Exec for 2015...



### Rosie Martin

Rosalie (Rosie) Martin is one of the senior speech pathologists at Speech Pathology Tasmania, a state-wide private practice. She is also now developing a benevolent organisation, Chatter Matters Tasmania, the objects of which are to foster language and literacy development projects in vulnerable populations.



### Alison Gardner

Alison Gardner works with school-aged children in northern Tasmania. She is continuing in the role of Continuing Professional Development Leader for the Tasmanian Branch in 2015. She began this role in 2013, and has enjoyed meeting and working with other branch members and also working with National Office in the organisation of CPD events. She has also enjoyed the opportunities to hear about events that other branches are running through the National CPD Leaders and Coordinators Teleconferences. Alison says "Being a Branch member has been an excellent way to meet other Speech Pathologists in Tasmania and to stay up to date with current research."

# RIDBC Renwick Centre

For Research and Professional Education

## The Action Is In The Interaction DIR / Floortime Stage 1 and 2

[http://www.ridbc.org.au/renwick/courses/cpe\\_detail.php?ID=113](http://www.ridbc.org.au/renwick/courses/cpe_detail.php?ID=113) **DIR 1:** Monday 23 and Tuesday 24 March 2014

**DIR 2:** Wednesday 25 and Thursday 26 March 2015

**Presenter:** Mari Caulfield and Kathy Walmsley

### Course Description

The **D**evelopmental **I**ndividual difference, and **R**elationship Based® model (DIR®) is a framework to assist clinicians, parents and educators conduct a comprehensive assessment and develop an intervention program tailored to the unique challenges and strengths of the child. DIR® carefully considers the impact of the unique individual neurobiological profile of the child and of caregiver patterns on development across functional domains. Through tailoring interactions, DIR promotes healthy foundations for overall social, emotional, language and intellectual functioning. Therapeutically guided interaction with children in play and learning situations is the means of moving children up the developmental ladder.

Stage one training offers a unique opportunity to experience an integrated approach to the child's sensory processing capacities, emotional development and developmental language acquisition. Participants will gain an understanding of relationship-based intervention and will learn therapeutic "tools" to guide their practice in the clinic, home and school based settings. They will leave with an introductory knowledge of this model and its relevance to their daily practice with children.

Stage two, seminar model case presentations will be used as well as assessment and intervention case clips. These two days provide extended opportunities for professionals in case analysis, goal setting, and how to integrate DIR® within your discipline, clinical practice.

### Ways to Enrol

**Online Stage 1:** <http://secure.ridbc.org.au/renwick/events/2015/dir/-/floortime-stage-1>

**Online Stage 2:** <http://www.ridbc.org.au/renwick/cpe-event/action-interaction-dir-floortime-stage-2>

**Email** our Continuing Professional Education Coordinator for further information [trudy.smith@ridbc.org.au](mailto:trudy.smith@ridbc.org.au)

**Phone** our Continuing Professional Education Coordinator for further information (02) 9872 0302



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## CARAH Compass experience in the Outback

AS ACTIVE MEMBERS of our rural health club, WAALHIIBE (a member of the National Rural Health Students Network (NRHSN)) we were offered the opportunity to apply for the CARAH Compass experience from 28 October to 2 November 2014, provided by the Northern Territory Medicare Local (NTML). We were lucky enough to be selected as two of the eight allied health and medical students from across the country to participate.

The CARAH Compass experience aimed to introduce interested health students to the natural beauty of the Northern Territory as well as the methods of healthcare delivery in rural and remote Central Australia. These experiences were provided in the hope that we will seriously consider undertaking a rural or remote practicum during our degree and eventually employment in the Northern Territory.

While in Alice Springs we visited some remote Aboriginal communities in order to explore their culture and gain a firsthand view of the health delivery services. In Santa Teresa (Ltyentye Apurte), a community 80kms from Alice Springs along an unsealed road, we spoke to nurse Debbie Star who has lived and served in the community for four and a half years. She gave us an insight into living conditions in the community and the prevalence of chronic disease, such as kidney disease. A visit to the Ntaria Clinic at Hermannsburg highlighted the importance of improving health services, with the community being closely involved in the planning of a new \$5 million clinic to ensure cultural appropriateness, such as separate male and female entrances.

We were afforded the opportunity to meet with speech pathologists, Libby Coy, Anna Ritchie and Ha Young Lim (Summer), at Alice Springs Hospital who gave a perspective of speech pathology services in remote communities and in a hospital setting. They encouraged us to consider how paediatric services could be improved and built upon in



Above: Paige (left) and Nickee (right) visited the Royal Flying Doctor Service, and the Alice Springs Hospital (below) while in Alice Springs.



remote communities to improve future outcomes, as well as gave us some fantastic tips of areas to focus on as we continue through our studies. Meeting Libby, Anna and Summer was a highlight of our trip as we had the unique opportunity to discuss topics and ask questions of specialists in our field living in a town so different to home.

Another wonderful opportunity that we were able to partake in was visiting Alukura, a women's only clinic that provides a range of culturally appropriate health services to Aboriginal women. We met Dr Claire Jarvis and some of her amazing staff and were impressed with the cultural inclusivity and passion

for women's health delivery in an often difficult, environment.

Our week in Alice Springs provided an excellent opportunity to not only experience the magnificent scenery of Central Australia, but to network with other allied health and medical students and qualified health professionals. We are very grateful to NRSHN, NTML and Rural Health Workforce Australia for providing this wonderful opportunity and highly encourage other students interested in rural or remote health to get involved within their own rural health club.

**PAIGE CHEWTER**  
and **NICKEE PRIESTMAN**  
First-year Speech Pathology,  
Edith Cowan University

# A View From The Floor

A developmental approach to supporting children with developmental difficulties, learning challenges, regulatory disorders and autism spectrum disorders.

## February 27th & 28th, 2015

Hillsong Convention Centre 1-5 Solent Circuit, Baulkham Hills NSW 2153 (corner Norwest Blvd)

Expert clinicians, Beth Osten and Chithra Kathiresan, present A View From The Floor. This innovative course provides an introductory training in the DIR® Floortime Model developed by Dr Stanley Greenspan and Serena Weider to treat children with a range of difficulties. The DIR® (Developmental, Individual Difference, Relationship Based) Model uses therapeutically guided interaction with the child as a means of moving the child up the developmental ladder. The DIR® Model uses emotional and experience-based learning to improve social skills, language, independence, and to teach specific concepts and academics.

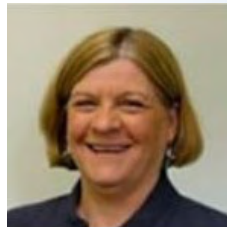
### Learning Outcomes

- ◇ Identify the principles underlying Floortime
- ◇ Describe the six stages of functional emotional development
- ◇ Explain the specific core capacities that interrupt the developmental process (language abilities, motor planning, sensory processing and regulatory abilities, etc.)
- ◇ Discuss the developmental language model used to organise treatment protocols
- ◇ Use and integrate the DIR® philosophy into treatment and home interactions
- ◇ Develop an awareness of current research in early identification of autism spectrum disorders and monitoring of siblings



Chithra has 22 years experience as a Speech & Language Therapist, including training and experience in DIR/ Floortime, the Hanen programs and Social Thinking. She lectures on these approaches internationally. She is a member of the Social Thinking Speakers Collaborative and is considered a DIR Floortime Expert

with ICDL and is a DIR Trainer with Profectum. Chithra is the owner of Connect and Communicate LLP in Singapore.



Beth has 40 years of experience as an Occupational Therapist. She is trained in Neuro-Development Treatment (NDT), Sensory Integration & Praxis Test (SIPT) certified and co-author of The Test of Infant Motor Development. Beth is a faculty member with the Interdisciplinary Council on

Development and Learning Disorders and Profectum. She is the owner of Beth Osten & Associates and teaches within the U.S. and internationally.

### Registration    Professional: \$495    Parent: \$395

Please Fax to (02) 8883 0077 or mail to: MoveAbout Therapy Services, 304/14 Lexington Drive, Bella Vista NSW 2153 or email to admin@moveabout.com.au

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ I am registering as a:  Professional  Parent

Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I am paying by:  Visa  Mastercard  Cheque    Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_ \_\_ / \_\_ \_\_    Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



# Life's easier with your member benefits



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Visit [www.memberadvantage.com.au/spa](http://www.memberadvantage.com.au/spa)



For further information, please contact SPA Member Advantage:

Call 1300 853 352 or visit [www.memberadvantage.com.au/spa](http://www.memberadvantage.com.au/spa)

