

Dementia and Recreation

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2008

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Day 1 Program - October 15 2008

- 0915 Welcome & Introduction Wayne Woff Manager - Total Aged Services**
- 0930 "I need to see mum!"** The key note presentation for this year's conference will address the constant emotional challenge that dementia presents for clients, staff & families/friends. The ability to address one's emotional response to the challenges & pleasures so often associated with dementia is a key to establishing an optimum living/working environment. This session will underpin the debates, discussions & deliberations throughout the conference.
- 1000 "What I want versus what you offer!"** If we were to analyse the programs & experiences offered to clients, how well aligned are they to their preferences, life profiles, abilities & needs. Do we thoroughly assess & engage our clients, only then to say which of "our" programs would you like to participate in? Does the rhetoric of individualised recreation programs match the reality? Or are we too concerned with what "looks good", "the accreditors like" or "earn us more funding points"? A topic sure to create much discussion & debate.
- 1045 Morning tea, networking & trade expo**
- 1115 Quality of life & communication** Communication is at the heart of the human experience & an essential part of any Aged/Health Care Service. This presentation will examine how quality of life for clients with dementia can be enhanced by the support, management & possible treatment of communication difficulties.
- 1200 Reminiscence Therapy** This session aims to provide an essential update on Reminiscence Therapy. Although well recognised for its potential beneficial outcomes, are we structuring our programs in this area in a timely, appropriate & individualised manner? A terrific professional opportunity to reflect & review.
- 1245 Lunch, networking & trade expo**
- 1345 Clinical update - Hearing Loss** Our annual clinical update addresses Hearing Loss - including information regarding incidence, causes, management & new technology.
- 1415 Art therapy ... "Reflecting & revealing"** Charles Horton Cooley, an American sociologist once said: "An artist cannot fail; it is a success to be one." This presentation will explore the emergence of art therapy & the opportunities it can provide for clients with dementia.
- 1445 Award & Grant Presentation**
- "Award for Excellence"
 - Victoria University "Research Grant"
- 1500 Afternoon, networking & trade expo**
- 1530 Stories from the field (1)** As always, these 'stories from the field' are sure to motivate, inform & delight you.
- 1615 Close Day One**

Day 2 Program - October 16 2008

- 0915 Welcome & Introduction Wayne Woff Manager - Total Aged Services**
- 0930 Research Project - "Well-Being Program"** Since being selected as the winner of the Victoria University Research Grant at the 2007 Conference, the team at the Yackandandah Bush Nursing Hospital & Yamaroo Hostel, Vic. has been undertaking the introduction & assessment of a comprehensive "Well-Being Program" to support residents in adjusting to life in residential aged care. This session will explore their journey, findings, outcomes & conclusions drawn.
- 1000 ACFI** By the time the Conference is presented, the ACFI (Aged Care Funding Instrument) will have been in place for just over 6 months. This session will review its introduction, use & implications for documentation by recreation professionals.
- 1045 Morning tea, networking & trade expo**
- 1115 Legal update - Risky Recreation** Should Mary be able to help with pruning the roses? Can Ted go on the Bus trip given his "heart condition"? What about the daughter who doesn't want her mother to do anything because she "might get hurt"? Providing a framework for decision making when assessing risk & our professional response, this update is essential for all recreation professionals.
- 1200 Recreation & dementia in home care settings** Is the role & relevance of recreation being recognised and incorporated into home care service provision? This session will provide insights & information as to how recreation can & should become an integral part of home care service planning now & into the future.
- 1245 Lunch, networking & trade expo**
- 1345 The world in review** A new session for this year's conference which will review the latest trends, research, projects, surveys, programs in the world of recreation & dementia.
- 1415 Horticultural therapy** The potential benefits of horticultural therapy encompass the physical, emotional, social, cultural, cognitive, sensory, spiritual ... an impressive list indeed. This session aims to provide a roadmap for the professional integration of horticultural therapy as part of a holistic program for appropriate clients.
- 1445 Stories from the field (2)** To close our conference, more 'stories from the field' to inform & inspire.
- 1530 Close of conference**