

## PRESIDENT'S PIECE



So exciting that our National Conference is underway. We have our key note speakers Michael Verde and Daniel Gray, along with finalising our program for the two days in September.

If you haven't registered please join us on the 26th and 27th of September for an informative and thought provoking two days.

ARTA board and members continue to lobby and engage in conversations with government bodies with regards to concerns and feedback in aged care. Jackie Quirke, Michael, Kim, and Kayla met with the Aged Care Quality and Assurance Division of the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care. Feedback was given regarding the quality indicators and definitions. Collectively we have given alternatives considerations for definitions and offered to become ongoing liaison for advice in this area. Thank you for continuing to advocate for positive recognition and changes in aged care - small amendments can have massive impacts to our industry.

We have reached out again to the Minister for Aged Care, Anika Wells, regarding ongoing observations and feedback in industry. We again encourage those of you impacted to be the voice, and to build strength and evidence to the current implications for aged care and vulnerable Australians.

I hope that you all are enjoying the Olympics and that those you support are enjoying the amazing dedication of our athletes representing our country. Go Aussies!

Until next month,

*Renée Smith*  
**ARTA President**



**Australian  
Recreational  
Therapy  
Association**

Please see below for updated actions over the past month from the Board.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**Action:** American study tour to visit Australia May 2025 to connect with our international counterparts.

**Action:** NCTRC meeting in regards to reciprocal credentialing arrangements for the future.

**Action:** Global leaders meeting – possible amalgamation as a special interest group with WLO. WLO congress 2025 in Netherlands with suggestion to have RT focus subsidiary group.

**Action:** Link magazine subscription ended and will not be renewed. They have invited ARTA to submit conference or other info and will be included if they have space.

## CARE AND SUPPORT SERVICES

**Action:** Victoria Angel (Director of QI section) thanked ARTA for our feedback back in March and invited us to make further comment and hear what they were thinking for QI for leisure and lifestyle. Feedback was given early July.

**Action:** Reaching out to Minister Wells and looking to partner up with external organisations for added lobbying to the Department of Health and Ageing.

## EDUCATION

**MEMBER ACTION:** Worried about cost for conference? This year organisations are able to arrange 5 or people to attend the conference at a special group booking price. Contact office for details.

**Action:** Mapping workshop attended by Emma with LBGTIQA community Daniel Witthaus.

ARTA National Conference 2024



**Choice  
Connection  
Community**



Virtual National Conference  
**26-27 September 2024**



## **CONFERENCE KEYNOTE MICHAEL VERDE**

An award-winning writer, speaker, documentary producer and teacher. Founder of Memory Bridge - an internationally recognised NGO dedicated to ending the emotional isolation of people with dementia.

## **CONFERENCE KEYNOTE DANIEL GRAY**

Recreation Manager, therapist, and international speaker.

At Wintringham, he oversees the recreation program, delivering high quality services to improve the lives of elderly clients who are homeless or at risk.



## MENTAL HEALTH

**MEMBER ACTION:** Seeking more members to join CoP. Please contact the office if you are interested.

## OFFICE NEWS

Membership renewals are overdue. Please contact the office if you have any questions or need assistance with membership renewal.

Thank you for your support as we work towards our Allied Health goals together. The strength in numbers has helped reinforce our AHPA application.

See the latest job adverts here: <https://www.recreationaltherapy.au/positions-vacant-wanted/>

## DISABILITY

**MEMBER ACTION:** Seeking more members to join CoP. Please contact the office if you are interested.

**Update:** Assisting Governance portfolio with NDIS.

## GOVERNANCE & PROFESSIONAL SCOPE

**Update:** Scope of practice – part 1 of AHPA applications completed.

## MARKETING

**Action:** Reaching out to various avenues to explore cost effective marketing options and to raise awareness and support for RTs.



AUSTRALIAN RECREATIONAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION  
NETWORK GROUPS 2024

STATE	GROUP NAME	GROUP LEADER	PHONE	EMAIL	FREQUENCY
ALL	Hospital Interest	Renee Rizzo	02 8738 5557	<a href="mailto:Renee.rizzo@health.nsw.gov.au">Renee.rizzo@health.nsw.gov.au</a>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month 2pm
NSW	Sydney Aged Care Interest	Briony Kennedy	0407 972 697	<a href="mailto:artaagedcaresyd@gmail.com">artaagedcaresyd@gmail.com</a>	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the Month Hurlstone-Canterbury RSL club
NSW	The Hills	Mary Morris	0404 170 860	<a href="mailto:hillsdiversionaltherapygroup@gmail.com">hillsdiversionaltherapygroup@gmail.com</a>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month
QLD	Toowoomba	Chris Gauld Lynda White	0428 171 001 0422 789 327	<a href="mailto:Chris.gauld54@yahoo.com">Chris.gauld54@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:Lynda_c65@hotmail.com">Lynda_c65@hotmail.com</a>	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of the Month (5.30pm EST)
SA	Adelaide	Sallie Shippides	08 8389 5030 0419 933 203	<a href="mailto:marsal03@bigpond.com">marsal03@bigpond.com</a>	TBC
SA	Lower North	Lisa Anders	0439 852 523	<a href="mailto:lisa.anders@sa.gov.au">lisa.anders@sa.gov.au</a>	TBC
TAS	Tasmania Network Group	Emma Preston	0452 070 875	<a href="mailto:epreston18@hotmail.com">epreston18@hotmail.com</a>	Online Group
VIC	East Gippsland Remote	Dawn Sulley	0438 560 253	<a href="mailto:dawn.h.sulley@gmail.com">dawn.h.sulley@gmail.com</a>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday Tri-Monthly (Feb - Nov)
ALL	Online Dementia Specific Group	Eira Steane	Zoom meeting	<a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88358937783?pwd=eDdTRU5lRmNUMjZkTmlBZ3orT1ZNQT09">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88358937783?pwd=eDdTRU5lRmNUMjZkTmlBZ3orT1ZNQT09</a> Meeting ID: 883 5893 7783 Password: 095285	Zoom Meeting  Second Wed of every month 6.30pm EST
ALL	Associate Member NG	Kim Bromley	Zoom Meeting	<a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlvcu2tpzktEtz79RlLeTPy1gk-kMkvTxL">https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlvcu2tpzktEtz79RlLeTPy1gk-kMkvTxL</a> Meeting ID: 862 5459 2788 Passcode: 590414	Zoom meeting  1 <sup>st</sup> Monday every 2 <sup>nd</sup> month 7.00pm EST

Reminder: Cert IV network group recommencing: 1st July. Further meeting dates: 2nd Sept and 4th November.

## Do *YOU* attend your **Network Group?**

*The purpose of networks groups is to foster peer support amongst Diversional Therapist's and recreational activities officers and provide peer level information exchange. Access to ARTA network groups are a membership benefit of Australian Recreational Therapy Association (ARTA). By attending network groups, members are able to use the ideas, skills, knowledge and resources of those members on a regular basis.*

*Only financial members of Australian Recreational Therapy Association are eligible to attend network groups.*

The list of ARTA Network Groups is above – find the closest one to you and get in touch – they will warmly welcome a new member!

(Free with your membership!)



# Education:

## *Hour to empower*

Immerse yourself in our dynamic 1-hour education sessions to enhance recreational therapy programs. Our expert-led sessions are designed to empower and support your practice, one hour at a time. Each month adds to your toolbox, exploring a variety of topics and applications in your program.

Month	Presenter	Topic
Wednesday 3rd July	Kim Bromley	<p><b>Resources to support cultural diversity</b></p> <p>To define the concepts of diversity, inclusion, and cultural safety, before exploring resources, guides, and links to support the leisure and lifestyle team.</p>
Tuesday 6th August	Michael Murgolo	<p><b>Volunteers as resources for your program</b></p> <p>To ensure human resources are well supported and appropriately matched.</p>
Monday 19th August	Kim Bromley	<p><b>Behaviour plans and progress notes</b></p> <p>Explore examples of progress notes and how these can help to support behaviour management plans.</p>
Wednesday 9th October	Kim Bromley	<p><b>Programming with Montessori principles</b></p> <p>To understand Montessori principles and how to incorporate them into your program.</p>
Friday 18th October	Emma Preston	<p><b>Community resources to support integration.</b></p> <p>To incorporate a range of ideas for clients to integrate and access community resources.</p>
Thursday 7th November	Adam Wilson	<p><b>Adaptive equipment for leisure</b></p> <p>To increase knowledge of adaptive equipment and funding options available.</p>
Monday 18th November	Kim Bromley	<p><b>Program planning for the year ahead</b></p> <p>Plan a well-balanced program for the year ahead and how to provide evidence that residents have input.</p>
Friday 6th December	Emma Preston	<p><b>Socialisation and peer support programs</b></p> <p>To develop programs inclusive of socialisation and peer support.</p>