

## PRESIDENT'S PIECE



Conference Month is Here!

We're thrilled about the exciting lineup of speakers we have for the conference this month. If you haven't registered yet, there's still time! We also offer 'Hub' discounts for groups of five or

more. If you and your colleagues can attend together as a group, contact the office to take advantage of the group discount.

As many of you know, ARTA's board and members have been actively raising awareness about the AN-ACC funding model with the Minister for Aged Care and Sport, the Honourable Anika Wells. We recently invited her to speak with ARTA members at the conference. She has sent a written response acknowledging our concerns, which will be shared with all members. Minister Wells emphasised, any feedback, concerns, experiences, and complaints should be directed through the appropriate channels. We encourage you to continue voicing your concerns through the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission. Additionally, the Health Services Union (HSU) recently held an online conference seeking feedback on these issues. We appreciate their advocacy and consideration.

Thank you to those who attended our three town halls in August; your support and feedback are invaluable.

We are still awaiting the outcome of our application for membership to Allied Health Professions Australia and remain optimistic. In the meantime, being a member of ARTA is more important than ever. If you need to re-register or are not yet a member, we urge you to join us. Power is in numbers, and your membership supports our cause.

A big thank you to our dedicated board members and the office team, Diana and Jodie, for their hard work. Our board volunteers their time in addition to their professional and personal commitments. We still have a board



**Australian  
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Therapy  
Association**

position open; if you're interested in learning more, please contact the office.

We look forward to seeing you on the 26th and 27th of September. With a fantastic lineup of speakers, it's going to be a great event. Help us spread the word by sharing our association's posts on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

See you at the conference!

*Renée Smith*  
**ARTA President**



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

## EXECUTIVE OFFICER

To ensure best practice for all board and council members a mandatory declaration form has been developed to ensure and all members representing ARTA are aware of the specific obligations required for the roles. This document contributes to formalising expectations of the associations representatives.

We will be sending out a survey to get our member perspective on the strategic plan for the association. Thinking about what direction and goal we should be striving for in the next ten years.

We should find out in the next month or so the outcome of our AHPA application - fingers crossed

We are also attending a Careers day next week for graduating health science students from Western Sydney University

The website has also been updated with a very special thanks to Daniella Greenwood for her work on this.

## EDUCATION

**Action:** Supporting conference convenor and working to finalise conference in September.

**Action:** Hour to Empowers are running regularly. If there are topics of education you are interested in, please email the office.

## OFFICE NEWS

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

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

**Update:** Mental Health CoP will merge with Disability CoP.

## DISABILITY

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## GOVERNANCE & PROFESSIONAL SCOPE

**Action:** CoP working on website including the scope of practice.

**Action:** Emailed ANZSCO– looking to update their classifications. This will be an ongoing process as it involves a change in how data can be processed and read.

## MARKETING

**Action:** Meeting day/time changing TBC

**Action:** Trialling the development of videos. This will be an ongoing process.

**Action:** Advertisement for social media creator has been completed for WSU Expo.

## CARE AND SUPPORT SERVICES

**Action:** Ongoing work with website - inputting scope of practice and specialisations for future students.



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 network groups is to foster peer support and information exchange amongst ARTA members. 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 find the concepts of diversity, inclusion and cultural competence for exploring resources, guides, and links to support the leisure and lifestyle team.</p>
Friday 27th August	Murgolo	<p><b>Volunteers as resources for your program</b></p> <p>To ensure human resources are well supported and appropriately matched.</p>
Monday 10th August	Kim Bromley	<p><b>Behaviour management plans</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>