



**DRTA 2018 Award
for Excellence**



Programme

20th to 21st September 2018

(& pre-conference workshop 19th September)

Caulfield Racecourse Function Centre

East Caulfield VIC



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Welcome

Diversional and Recreation Therapy Australia would like to welcome you to the 2018 National Conference. The conference theme 'Out of the Box' has attracted speakers locally, interstate and internationally to present papers and posters on a range of professional issues. The DRTA Board encourages you to embrace the variety of philosophies, ideas and concepts presented over the next two days as we celebrate Diversional and Recreation Therapy and explore sharing space, cohesion and unity. To assist you to have a positive experience at the conference, here are some important tips:

- > **Negotiating the conference programme:** We have put together a full and diverse programme. Please refer to the programme as some sessions are concurrent and we don't want you to miss out! We have provided you with the abstracts of each presentation and suggest you read them to help make the best choice on which session meets your learning interests. Please move quickly between sessions to ensure each speaker has the full allotted time – plenty of time to chat during breaks. Please remain seated once the presentation has begun.
- > **Conference Room:** Please refer to the programme for the location of the presentation you are wishing to attend. The Committee Room will be the main room and breakout session held in the Black Caviar Room. .
- > **Mobile phones:** Please ensure that all mobile phones are switched to silent during the presentations.
- > **Networking:** The conference provides a unique opportunity for you to meet a range of professionals from both similar and different backgrounds to you. Make the most of the networking opportunities provided, meet as many new people as possible, exchange contact details and make plans to network with people from whom you can learn from and share experiences with, but can also learn from you.
- > **Trade Exhibition:** The trade tables are located both in the foyer and in the Committee Room. You are able to visit the tables before conference, during morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea and end of conference. Take the opportunity to visit them all, you will find so much to help in your practice and further your education.
- > **Conference Cocktail Party and DRTA Awards:** The cocktail party will be held on Thursday from 5.30pm – 7.30pm for the delegates with full 2 days registration. Our special guest and DRTA Board will present the 2018 DRTA Award for Excellence, conference prizes and Professional Development Awards. After the formalities, it is time for networking, catching up with old friends and relaxing.

On behalf of Diversional and Recreational Therapy Australia we wish you a wonderful conference experience and walk away feeling innovative and reinvigorated about the future of Diversional and Recreation Therapy, Leisure and Health.

Kylie Rice
President
Diversional and Recreation Therapy Australia

Day 1 Thursday 20th September

| | |
|--|--|
| 8:00am - Registrations & Trade Exhibition | |
| 9:00am - Welcome - Kylie Rice, DRTA President | |
| <p>9:15am Keynote speaker: Phil Hayes-Brown, CEO Wallara Innovation and inclusion, how Wallara is Leading the Way Phil Hayes-Brown was appointed Wallara, CEO in May 2010 after 20 years across law, finance and sports marketing including 12 years with the American NBA with assignments in Singapore, Paris London and Hong Kong. At Wallara, Phil sees his role as attracting resources and partnerships to improve the conditions of the playing group, which in this case is 500 adults with different abilities, this can also drive greater awareness and social inclusion.</p> | |
| <p>10:15 Lifestyle, Enrichment & Engagement: Navigating Financial Impossibilities in Aged Care Daniella Greenwood, Author, Consultant, Activist A practical presentation that will conclude with a challenge to us all – and a resource to take home at the end of conference.</p> | |
| 10:30am MORNING TEA | |
| <p>11:15 Are we all the same? Professional practice in Australia, New Zealand, Japan and the United States Anne Richard, Executive Director, NCTRC (National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification) New York The International Therapeutic Recreation Coalition was formed to support the growth of similar professions and credentialing around the world. Compares scope of practice, settings, credentialing, and professional preparation for DT, TR and fukushi recreation. The name, credentialing, and professional preparation may vary, country to country, but the scope of practice, work settings, and ultimate goals are very much the same.</p> | |
| <p>12:00 Recovery Camp: Facilitating resilience and self-determination in people with a lived experience of mental illness Stewart Alford, PhD Fellow, University of Wollongong & Associate Lecturer, Western Sydney University Learn about the Therapeutic Recreation Intervention – ‘Recovery Camp’ a week-long immersive therapeutic recreation intervention and its developing evidence base in the mental health therapeutic recreation space..</p> | |
| 12:45pm LUNCH | |
| 1:45pm Concurrent Sessions | |
| <p>Introducing Diversional Therapy into home care in Japan Takako Serizawa, President DTAJapan Challenges of bringing DT into home care services – a new area in Japan.</p> | <p>Atrium Installation at Abrina Kerry Blake, Art Therapist & Betty Chow, Abrina was refurbished 15 years ago as a CALD RACF, catering for local Chinese languages populations. The internal ‘atrium space’ needed improvement so an art project was devised to enhance the site.</p> |
| 2:30pm Concurrent Sessions | |
| <p>Adventure Therapy changing lives around the world Tim Marchinton, Exec Director, Purple Soup, Melbourne Access, recreation and social inclusion</p> | <p>Look what’s in this box! Lesley Fox, Diversional Therapy Coordinator Carima Dordoy, Recreational Activities Officer This session shares 3 unique, interactive, activities that have successfully engaged residents, accommodating varied abilities.</p> |
| 3:15pm AFTERNOON TEA | |
| 3:45pm Concurrent Sessions | |
| <p>Which path to the CTRS (Certified Therapeutic Recreational Specialist) credential is right for you? Robin McNeal, Director of Credentialing, NCTRC Anne Richard, Exec Director, NCTRC</p> | <p>How new technology impacts seniors with Dementia, Stroke and Depression living in residential aged care Tim Phillips, National Lifestyle Manager, Regis New technologies such as robotic pets and interactive projectors are creating companionship and enabling social interaction. Use of interactive projectors, Virtual Reality and Music Memories programs will also be discussed in Regis’ future plans to use technology</p> |
| 5:00 CLOSE | |
| <p>Cocktail Party 5:30pm-7:30pm DRTA Award for Excellence, Join delegates, DRTA Board, and special guests for a drink and canapés to celebrate the runners up and winner of the DRTA Award For Excellence 2018 Don’t miss this important, fun event INCLUDED in your registration fee!</p> | |
|  | |

Day 2 Friday 21st September

| | |
|--|---|
| 8:15am - Registrations & Trade Exhibition | |
| 8:35am - Welcome DRTA | |
| <p>8:45am Keynote speaker: Bryan Lipmann AM, CEO Wintringham, Overcoming challenges - Who suffers when we are obsessed with risk</p> <p>Wintringham, is a secular, not-for-profit welfare company employing over 650 people to provide an extensive range of high quality aged care and housing services to elderly men and women, most of whom are homeless. Bryan has worked with elderly homeless people for more than 30 years.</p> <p>In 2011, the United Nations awarded Wintringham the Habitat Scroll of Honour, the most prestigious human settlements award in the world, and in 2012 he was invited by the OECD to join an international panel of experts on Integrated Services and Housing in Paris in 2012. Bryan was awarded an Order of Australia in 1999 and in 2015 was the Melburnian of the Year.</p> | |
| 9:45am Concurrent Sessions | |
| <p>Self-determination & Supported Decision-making in Aged Care: Daniella Greenwood, Author, Consultant, Activist Practical considerations when working with vulnerable people</p> | <p>Cutting through the red tape of risk Glenda Kubler, Diversional Therapist & Therapeutic Music Specialist How many times have you heard a client say 'I wish I could....' and the risk has been assessed with the outcome of 'No!?' To make the impossible possible requires a lot of thinking outside the box!</p> |
| 10:00am MORNING TEA | |
| 11:00am Concurrent Sessions | |
| <p>The SMART Board: Engagement in life through technology Orquidea Tamayo Mortera, DT NZ SMART Boards have been popping up in classrooms all over the world since 1991 - but not in Age Care facilities. This particular technology offers recording software, regardless of mobility and competence, so that anyone can use the applications.</p> | <p>Extending care beyond life Ellena Street, Diversional Therapist NSW Discusses delivering funeral services for people who I have looked after during their life and due to lack of family or friends, I have assumed the role of caring for their welfare after death - explores aspects of co-ordinating and delivering a funeral service, working within the wishes of the person</p> |
| 11:45am Concurrent Sessions | |
| <p>Inspire imagination and creative thought Janine Warne, Leisure & Lifestyle Coordinator Residents create a professionally published book, delivering results for residents, something to work towards and an achievement to be proud of.</p> | <p>An Intergenerational Program - The AVID Challenge Lindl Webster, DT NSW, Course Coordinator CSU Fantastic resident outcomes, National award winning, research rich and evidence based. Learn how the AVondale Intergenerational Design AVID Challenge has morphed over the years to become the focus of Master of Applied Gerontology research project</p> |
| 12:15pm LUNCH | |
| <p>1:15pm Shall we Dance - Finding your freedom through movement Gwen Korebrits, CEO & Co-Founder, Dance Health Alliance & Dr Ameeta Gajjar, Director, Dance Health Alliance, Integrative General Practitioner Hear some of the mounting evidence for wellbeing through dance and learn how DRTs can bring this to our clients and residents now.</p> | |
| <p>2:00pm Living and Working outside the Box! Dr Mark Brown, Pikes Peak Motivation, Colorado USA - (via Skype) Don't miss his presentation - Mark is back due to popular demand! 'International Sing-a-long' Darren Robinson, DT Coordinator, SA with the Barunga Village Choir - what they have achieved, with their International Skype concerts over the last 3 years and we'll finish off with a taste of this via Skype</p> | |
| 3:00pm Conference Close and Presentation of remaining Awards and Prizes | |
| 3:15pm DRTA Annual General Meeting | |
| All DRTA members invited to this session (to vote if needed). Non-members are welcome as observers. Close at 4:00pm | |

This program and times given will be subject to changes due to circumstances beyond DRTA control.

Correct at time of printing.

Posters - presented on screen from digital media

Improving Daily Communication by Establishing a Morning Team Meeting

Subtheme: Unpack that box - theory to change practice

Sarah Fanakis, B Applied Science Leisure and Health. Dip Applied Science Diversional Therapy
Senior Diversional Therapist, Uniting, War Memorial Hospital, Waverley NSW

Josie Smith, B Health Science (Leisure and Health), Dip Diversional Therapy Redleaf College
Diversional Therapist, Uniting, War Memorial Hospital, Waverley NSW

Kathryn Zakroczymski, B Health Science (Therapeutic Recreation).
Diversional Therapist, Uniting, War Memorial Hospital, Waverley NSW

Rod Escobar, Grad Cert, Effective Leadership in Health, Health Management Cert Inspired Management, Cert IV Business Management - Frontline management, Cert IV Massage Therapy/Therapeutic Massage, Dip Applied Science Diversional Therapy
Day Centre and Transport Services Manager, Uniting, War Memorial Hospital, Waverley NSW

War Memorial Hospital, situated in Waverley Sydney NSW, is owned and operated by Uniting and is part of the South Eastern Sydney Local Health District (SESLHD). Services are comprised of a 35 bed sub-acute inpatient geriatric rehabilitation wards, Monday to Friday outpatient departments (Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Pathology, clinical Psychology, Podiatry, etc.), specialist community teams such as Transitional Aged Care, Aged Care Assessment Team, Geriatric Flying Squad, Young Onset Dementia program, and a 7 day a week Diversional Therapy Program in the Day Activity Centre.

This poster will exhibit a Quality Improvement Project implemented at the Day Centre service in 2017, which offers a Diversional Therapy and Leisure program. The poster will showcase how a better flow of communication amongst staff was achieved by establishing a 10-15mins morning operational team meeting which led to improved staff awareness, engagement and improvement in communication and clinical handover.

1. The Daily/Operational Plan for the day, including the activity leisure program, the number of clients attending the program on the day and clarification of individual staff roles throughout the day.
2. Clinical handover of information regarding: changes in clients' behaviour, medication needs, dietary needs and leisure goals.

The poster explores the existing staff behaviours, communication challenges, and the strategies implemented to improve on team dynamics, communication and workplace culture which led to positive outcomes and continuous improvement.

Implementing this "theory to change practice" has improved communication into day to day practice, staff are now well informed regarding the clients, the leisure program and overall service delivery.

All staff were involved in the project including the Manager, Diversional Therapists, Therapy Assistants, Drivers and Food Services Assistant.

Posters - presented on screen from digital media

Jack in the Box, Personal Mastery Boxes

Subthemes: Beyond activities to Quality of Life

Lesley Fox, Cert 4 Leisure and Health, Cert 4 Frontline Management, Cert 4 Community Services Work, Cert 3 Home and Community Care
Recreational Activities Supervisor, Wesley Vickery NSW

We have all heard the saying Jack of all trades, master of none. Here at Wesley Vickery Sylvania in our Year of personal Mastery we are turning that upside down. We may be Jacks of all trades, but we are becoming Masters of Some.

In 2017 we began a journey of good wellbeing that involved some goal setting and thinking about reaching our dreams. No matter what age we are or what ability we have. This prompted the creation of Personal Mastery Boxes to assist this process for clients. These boxes go beyond just being about activity delivery and encompass person centered, goal driven, and quality of life enhancing boxes that assist a person to master something they dare to dream to achieve. Every box is uniquely put together to fit the owner of the box. Making it person centered in every way. The boxes house the activities, tools, or resources and assistances needed to help a client work towards reaching a desired goal.

Allowing them to become jacks of all trades and masters of some!

In their uniqueness every box, houses the potential for greatness in someone. This potential for greatness is already inside all of us. Choosing to personally master something brings out greatness in a person. It brings out the "Jack in the Box."

There is so much we can do as an in industry to go beyond activity delivery and make all we do about adding more quality to life.

Posters - presented on screen from digital media

Between the cracks - dementia education for operational staff

Subtheme: Beyond activities to Quality of Life

Claudia Stephson, B Health Science (Div. Ther.)
Diversional Therapist in Private Practice

Have you ever found yourself in a mood – good or bad – without realising just what caused it? Something happened and left a lingering feeling behind... Imagine someone with dementia, someone whose memory has started to let them down more often than not. Imagine that person like a ping pong ball on the waves – not realising the forces that move them, but suffering the resulting emotions

Maya Angelou said it so well: They may not remember what you said, they may not remember what you did, but they will remember how you made them feel.

Most facilities provide services for residents with dementia these days. Dementia education programs are increasingly available. The University of Tasmania's Wicking Centre free MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) Understanding Dementia and Preventing Dementia are excellent examples. The biochemistry of plaques and tangles is explained, the mechanics of synapses are demonstrated and strategies to help, stimulate, soothe and entertain are taught. Dementia architecture is a growing field: Facilities can obtain advice on how to design spaces, how to decorate to minimise confusion and the use of dementia-friendly activities is strongly promoted.

Unfortunately, operational and other non-clinical staff are often overlooked with dementia education programs even though they have frequent interactions with residents and can have a significant impact on the environment and behaviour of residents with dementia. For example, at one facility I visited, well-meaning operational staff overdecorated and overstimulated the residents.

Wouldn't it be nice if all staff who regularly interact with residents had a sound understanding of dementia to guide them in their interactions? To really understand how it feels, to experience how it affects one's ability to do everyday things, to understand instructions, to make sense of the world?

To increase active participation and engagement of staff, I am developing an interactive workshop, during which some of the concepts of dementia are explained briefly, followed by a hands-on experience.

The aim of this training is to raise awareness – not of the mechanics of dementia at large, but of how your residents experience the world and how your actions impact on people with dementia; and explaining that behaviour often stems from feelings – the feeling of being patronised, humiliated, overwhelmed, frustrated, embarrassed and vulnerable. To include all staff who have interactions with residents could create a multi-disciplinary care team in the broadest sense.

Posters - presented on screen from digital media

Tech Savvy Programming

Subtheme: Beyond activities to quality of Life

Leah Sullivan, Diploma Leisure and Health
Lifestyle and Wellbeing Teamleader, Anglicare Southern Queensland

Leah has extensive experience working in community and residential settings with both aged care and clients living with disabilities, cognitive changes and their support networks.

The poster shows some practical strategies to support people living in both a Residential and Community setting (both aged and those living with disabilities) to widen their knowledge and skills in regard to current technology and savvy usage of the same.

Through discussion and participant testimonials we will ignite excitement and enthusiasm for you to consider ways to embed improved technology skills into your Leisure and health programming to improve the quality of life for clients/residents across a number of aspects including social inclusion, reduced isolation, cognitive function and increased personal and hobby related skills.

These learning and practical experiences will enable clients to embrace a world which will open new endless opportunities to connect with others, stay informed of current information, enabling control over their lives and so much more.

Abstracts - Day One

12.00pm Thursday 20th September- Plenary Room

Recovery Camp - Facilitating Resilience and Self-determination in people experiencing Mental illness

Subtheme: Beyond activities to Quality of Life

Primary Author: **Stewart Alford**, PhD Candidate, University of Wollongong (UOW) & Associate Lecturer Health Services Management, Western Sydney University

Dr Dana Perlman, Director of the Pedagogical Laboratory for Physical Education and Sport UOW

Dr Susan Sumskis, Lecturer in Health and Social Wellbeing, Nan Tien Institute

Professor Lorna Moxham, Professor of Mental Health Nursing, UOW; leader Living Well, Longer challenge in the Global Challenges Program.

Dr Renee Brighton & Chris Patterson, School of Nursing, Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health, UOW

Ellie Taylor, Research Officer for the Global Challenges Program, UOW.

Tim Heffernan, Peer Support Worker, and person with a lived experience of mental health, Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District mental health service

Recreation has the ability to empower, heal and build up individuals of all ages, backgrounds and forms of disadvantage. This presentation aims to discuss the Therapeutic Recreation Intervention – ‘Recovery Camp’ and its developing evidence base in the mental health therapeutic recreation space. In particular, facilitating self-determination and resilience within personal recovery from mental illness, through a week-long outdoor therapeutic recreation program.

Therapeutic recreation camps through their immersive and comfort-zone-challenging elements have been seen to benefit service users across multiple health and social areas of practice. This presentation will provide a brief introduction to the use of therapeutic recreation in Australia within the context of recovery from Mental illness and discuss the theoretical frameworks of self-determination theory and resilience within the emerging research from recovery camp. Highlighting therapeutic recreations ability to inspire self-determination and resilience for camp participants with an enduring mental illness.

Abstract

Recreation has the ability to empower, heal and build up people from all ages, backgrounds and forms of disadvantage (Caldwell, 2001; Hildebrand, 2017; Iwasaki et al., 2014; Stumbo et al., 2015). This paper aims to discuss the Australian Therapeutic Recreation Intervention – ‘Recovery Camp’ and its developing evidence base in the mental health therapeutic recreation space, In particular, recreation’s role in facilitating self-determination and personal resilience. The individual personal growth witnessed through the week-long outdoor therapeutic recreation program aimed at supporting a consumer’s journey toward personal recovery is important and supported by research evidence.

Therapeutic recreation camps, through their immersive and comfort-zone challenging elements, have been seen to benefit participants across multiple health and social areas of living (Alison, Negley, & Sibthorp, 2013; Békési et al., 2011; Hill & Sibthorp, 2006; Meier, 2012; Rawson & McIntosh, 1991). This paper will provide a brief introduction to mental health therapeutic recreation in Australia and discuss the theoretical framework of Self-Determination Theory (Deci & Ryan, 1975) and Resilience (Rutter, 2000) that underpins Recovery Camp.

Resilience is a term gaining increasing definition in health literature and can be understood as individual’s active defence mechanism in the face of challenge, which then enables them to thrive in the face of that adversity (Davydov, Stewart, Ritchie, & Chaudieu, 2010). The concept has emerging links with leisure research, in particular recreation participation and psychological well-being of elementary students (Byun & Roh, 2011), leisure as a stress survival strategy for diverse populations (Iwasaki, Mactavish, & MacKay, 2005) and leisure interests and participation assisting young people with visual impairment to thrive despite adversity (Jessup, Cornell, & Bundy, 2010)

Abstracts - Day One

1.45pm Thursday 20th September - Breakout Room

Atrium Installation

Subtheme: Beyond activities to Quality of Life

Kerry Blake,

Art Therapist, Uniting Residential & Health Care Sydney South East

Betty Chow

Lifestyle Officer, Abrina (Chinese Specific), Uniting Residential & Health Care Sydney South East

The home was refurbished 15 years ago as a CALD RACF catering for local Chinese languages populations. The Manager was concerned about the visual impact of a light well, or internal 'atrium space' on the site that several day rooms looked onto. It needed improvement, and we sought to devise an art project to enhance this difficult site. We determined to improve the outlook, and create something culturally affirming, too. Another challenge was that the space could be viewed from ground and first floors, and so the idea of creating a mechanism whereby artworks can be seen from both floors was crucial, and the idea of an 'Art installation' was born.

We sought to devise a culturally specific project to enhance the site and improve the visual impact of a difficult outlook, onto brick walls and windows. We also took the opportunity to boost residents' creativity, encourage engagement and increase the focus on residents' capacities. The benefits of this project are ongoing, as artworks are changed according to seasonal and cultural celebrations, reflecting Chinese 'folk traditions', and western Christian traditions, as many older Chinese residents embrace both eastern and western beliefs.

The installation is a project with three parts;

Firstly, with the design and construction of the installation device; Secondly the initial art project 'Chains of Silver' run in conjunction with the Community Artist and Art Therapist implemented over a ten-week period; and Thirdly, the ongoing project space where the Art Therapist and Lifestyle devise and instigate art projects then generated by residents themselves, and occasional family members, often using industrial discards and/or recycled materials.

These artworks are then suspended from the installation mechanism inside the atrium space, to be viewed both from the ground floor, and from the first floor simultaneously, as many windows look onto this light well. Artworks can also be changed according to seasonal and cultural celebrations, as Chinese 'folk traditions', like Chinese New Year, the Autumn Lantern Festival, Moon Festival and Dragon Boat Festival, are acknowledged as well as the important Christian traditions of Christmas and Easter, along with national celebrations like Australia Day.

Atrium Installation was realised from a project funded via a Cultural grant from Ashfield Council. The grant allowed for the employment of a Mandarin speaking UK trained Community Artist, to work closely with residents, Lifestyle, care staff and ancillary staff, volunteers and family members, in collaboration with the Art Therapist currently employed, with the many stages contributing to the overall success of the program.

Notes:

Abstracts - Day Two

9:45am Friday 21st September - Breakout Room

Cutting through the red tape of risk: risk assessment ‘thinking outside the box’

Subtheme: Unpack that box- theory to change practice

Glenda Kubler Associate Degree Social Science Aged Care, Therapeutic Music Specialist, Eden Associate Diversional Therapy Manager, Azure Blue Residential Aged Care for Blue Care

How many times have you heard a client or say I wish I could.... & the risk has been assessed with the outcome of “no”?

We need to think how we can achieve the best outcome for the individuals and sometimes just make the impossible possible. This requires a lot of thinking outside the box!

Some areas to consider

- Outings,
- Tasks,
- Food,
- Relationships
- Choice
- Legalities.

We must always empower those we care for to make informed decisions and be prepared to find options to suit their needs to support them emotionally, spiritually and socially, and physically, while maintaining their dignity.

Let’s take some examples of what impossibilities can be achieved.

I want to fly a plane again by 99 year old Bill

I want to go fishing /deep sea fishing- vision impaired person Flo age 92

I want to go sailing- 86 Frank with a diagnosis Parkinson

I want to ice skating- 94, 96, 92, 95 ladies and gents in aged care

We want to move into a shared room we’re in love. Mental health residents in their 70s

I want prawns and crabs- 98 year Mary on fully thickened meal modification

I want to skydive when I turn 100.

I want a stripper for my birthday. 100 year old Jessie

I just want to talk with and see my sister in Croatia

I want to have a ride on a motor bike.

I want to watch a sunset with my partner – palliative care gentleman 48.

I don’t want everyone coming to visit me looking sad it’s depressing- 25 year old with terminal cancer.

These are just some typical examples of requests that most organizations will say no, or put it in the too hard basket. Some even call them a bucket list.

These are genuine things that people want and in most cases need to do. Because we are ill, have a diagnosis or are aged, it should not stop us from doing anything!!!!!!!!!!!!

I will discuss some of the road blocks and red tape and how to navigate your way out of the box that says NO!

And where to start along the pathway to success.

Notes:

Abstracts - Day Two

11.00am Friday 21st September - Plenary Room

The SMART Board: Engagement in Life through Technology

Subtheme: Beyond activities to Quality of Life

Orquidea Tamayo Mortera, B International Relations and Human Rights; National Cert Business, Growth and Development; National Cert Diversional Therapy; National Cert Vocational Adult Literacy and Numeracy, New Zealand Registered Diversional Therapist
National Group Diversional Therapist, The Selwyn Foundation (Selwyn Village), Auckland NZ

Every generation develops their own slang, and with the development of technology in recent years, the gap has widened between the older and younger generations. For example the term 'communication skills,' might mean formal writing and speaking abilities to an older adult, and e-mail and instant-messenger savvy to a twenty something.

In today's age people often have private conversations in a crowded room through mobile phones, computers and hand held devices, and younger generations increasingly rely on personal technological devices like mobile phones to define themselves. This in turn changes the way they communicate with their parents, and even more so their grandparents. Although the younger generation are more connected than ever, they are also far more removed from their elders.

We believe that communication is crucial in order to enrich older people's lives. In 2015 we identified a communication device that would provide benefits to the way in which our elders, staff, family, friends and visitors could communicate in a very interactive way and despite age or physical and cognitive abilities. In 2015 we found The SMART Board technology!

The SMART Board was built for education purposes in 1991, and they have been around for several years. SMART Boards have been popping up in classrooms all over the world but, never in Age Care facilities. This particular technology offers recording software so that regardless of mobility and competence, anyone can use the applications available. In New Zealand there's no known Aged Care provider that has shown interest in this type of technology for retirement villages, making The Selwyn Foundation the pioneers in our country to implement this kind of technology.

The SMART Board has helped us promote accessibility and engagement by providing support for individuals with visual, auditory, physical and mobility restrictions, as well as social and communication needs, increasing both social and cognitive interactions. We have been able to move the SMART board in a trolley among the buildings which has allowed all our residents to access this new technology despite all their challenges.

The SMART Board has also become a crucial part of the worldwide Cyber Senior Project. It has not only helped us to connect our elders to the digital age, but we have been able to pair children and teenagers to help our elders with digital literacy. But most importantly our elders have been able to share their wisdom and experience in such a unique way.

There are fewer and fewer opportunities for elders and millennials to encounter one another in daily life and the SMART Board have helped us to reduce the current intergenerational gap and to enrich our elders' lives.

Notes:

DRTA Award for Excellence 2018

Award For Excellence



OBJECTIVE: To recognise a DRTA member who has exhibited excellence in DRT practice, in a viable and relevant manner, which has contributed to the wellbeing of the individual and the organisation/facility or community environment, whilst also encouraging personal professional development.

ELIGIBILITY: Any financial member of Diversional and Recreation Therapy Australia.

CRITERIA: Design, implement and evaluate a Diversional and Recreation Therapy special event

The 2018 Award for Excellence will be announced at the Cocktail Party Event, Thursday 20th September by Mr Wayne Woff, from Total Aged Services and Fiorella Anselmi, from Skills Training Australia, DRTA's 2018 Gold Sponsor

Congratulations to all entrants – the projects are all outstanding.

These 2018 Finalists listed below are all already winners by their achievements. Such a difficult task for the judges! The ultimate winner will be revealed at the Cocktail Party....

Shannon Azzopardi, Diversional Therapist, Garrawarra Centre, Waterfall, NSW
with **Garrawarra Centre Multisensory Environment**

Margaret Bailes, Diversional Therapist, Mercy Care Centre, Young, NSW,
with **Memories Program**

Felicity Bain Smith, Diversional Therapist, Charles O'Neill Hostel, Catholic Healthcare, Mayfield West, NSW
with **Tea cup Community Garden Library**

Vijay Pillay, Diversional Therapist, St Andrew's Village, Glendowie, Auckland, NZ
with **Inter-Resthome Indoor Bowls**

Janine Warne, Leisure and Lifestyle coordinator, Woodlands UPA Hunter Region, NSW
with **Inspire Creative Thought**

DRTA Award for Excellence Proudly sponsored by Skills Training Australia



DRTA Professional Development Award

Congratulations to these DRTA members who have achieved their award by giving evidence of completion of 100 points of recognised professional development within any 2 year period.

Natalie White, Project Co-ordinator Day Respite, Blue Cross, Hawthorne East, VIC

Felicity Bain Smith, Diversional Therapist, Charles O'Neill Hostel, Catholic Healthcare, Mayfield West, NSW

DRTA is proud to present these members with their awards during the Awards Cocktail Party Event Thursday 20th September – don't miss this special celebration!

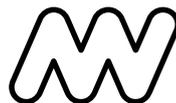
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