

July 2009



ATCA News



Barry Evans inducted onto National Honour Roll

Congratulations to our Chair, Barry Evans on his induction onto the National Honour Roll presented at the National Drug and Alcohol Awards Dinner in Canberra last month.

Barry (pictured above with Prof. Ian Webster recipient of the Prime Minister's Award) has had a long association with the AOD sector, beginning in 1983 when he joined The Buttery. In 1988 he became Director of The Buttery and has continued in this role since.

Barry has developed The Buttery Therapeutic Community into a nationally recognised AOD treatment facility but his dedication to the sector is demonstrated by the many contributions he has made as a Board member and Chairperson of the Network of Alcohol & Drug Agencies (NADA) over a period of 14 years and the ATCA where Barry has been a Board member for 19 years and is the current Chairperson. Barry's focus has always been on quality treatment options and this became apparent when, as a member of the NSW Quality in Treatment Review Committee 2004-2006, he oversaw the "Drug and Alcohol Treatment Guidelines for Residential Settings 2007 NSW Health". He has also played a significant role in his local community.

Barry is very deserving of this award. His commitment to the TC model has been invaluable to the sector.

It is with a great deal of sadness that I inform you of my resignation. My position as EO of the ATCA has been one of the most enjoyable work experiences I have had and I will always cherish the camaraderie and support I have received from the directors and members of the Association. Unfortunately funding for my position is not assured and this uncertainty of tenure has left me little option but to look elsewhere

I would like to acknowledge the great work that is done by you, the ATCA's members and the significant positive impact the TC experience has on so many residents, graduates and their families.

In the three years, three months and thirteen days since I joined ATCA I have never failed to be moved by the dedication and professionalism of the TC sector. Whenever I have visited TCs, and I have visited over 45 throughout Australasia and internationally, I always leave in awe of what I have experienced and I know this will stay with me for a long time.

In my absence Lynne Magor-Blatch will be acting Executive Officer and I know I am leaving you in very safe hands. To the ATCA Board of Directors, thank you for your support and friendship and the enriching experience working with you has provided me.

To all the ATCA members, I wish you well for the future and thank you for three years of inspiration and encouragement.

ATCA Board Update

As NGOs we are all used to the vagaries of grants and the struggle to maintain funding once you have secured it. ATCA is currently going through a similar situation with the Commonwealth funding for our Secretariat. Many of you may not be aware that the Board has been working for some time now to secure a renewal of funding for our Secretariat position. To-date we have been unsuccessful and funding will soon run out.

In response to this lack of certainty Janice has secured another job and with regret will be leaving ATCA on July 17th.

After a steep learning curve Janice embraced her job with passion and commitment and over the last three years she has diligently supported the Board and the membership in its work. As a stickler for detail Janice has overseen the rewriting of our Constitution, our Strategic Plan, our drive for increased membership, the review of

membership categories, the community education across the nation, two annual conferences and numerous other tasks related to the advocacy and support of the Association. Throw into this mix a Board of well meaning but strong minded individuals and you can see that she has had a challenging three years. It is with a heavy heart that we have received her resignation, I know that she leaves with fond memories of everyone that she has met in the course of her work and that no future job will match her involvement with ATCA. On your behalf I wish her all the best.

Jill Rundle has finished the writing of the Standards for Therapeutic Communities as well as the Support Package that will be available on the web in the near future. You will recall that the "intention" of the Australasian AOD TC Standards was to:

- Give credibility to any service that identifies as a TC; and
- ➤ Support the fidelity of the TC model as it is applied to the ATCA member services. (Jill Rundle)

It is anticipated that each ATCA member will pilot the implementation of the Standards and provide feedback to the Board on their experience and the utility of the Standards and the Support Package.

At this point in time the implementation of the Pilot is scheduled for January 2010, however with the funding for the Secretariat unresolved this timeframe may be extended. The Standards will be released at the ATCA Annual Conference in September and by then the future of the Secretariat will be clear.

Our next Community Forum is in Melbourne at the end of July, interest has been strong and the Board is looking forward to the opportunity to engage with TCs and allied health professionals in Victoria, hopefully the weather will be warm.

Finally another reminder about the Annual Conference in September, accommodation will be at a premium with Floriade happening at the same time so if you haven't booked you will need to move quickly.

Barry Evans. Chairperson ATCA

TC News

Completion of New Medical Building at the Gold Coast Drug Council

A new medical building has been erected at West Burleigh, funded by the Department of Health and Ageing under the Amphetamine Type Stimulant grants. The additional space will provide GCDC with the capacity to expand services through the use of private providers, and by applying for new funding opportunities as they arise.



In conjunction, the building will serve as additional infrastructure for existing GCDC programs and services. Our new Complex Needs Assessment Panel team, who coordinate case management and referral pathways, for complex clients aged between 19 and 29 years, will be setting up in the coming weeks.

Launceston City Mission

The Tasmanian State Alcohol and Drug Service have granted Missiondale recurrent funding (it will be a 3 year contract not the usual 1 year that we have been used to in other areas). This will mean three extra positions, two case co-ordinators and a psychologist which will increase our service delivery dramatically. Further, our building capacity project (ATS Funded Project) is well in the way, and by September 2009 we should be able to cater for 37 clients. This is exciting as increasing the size of our community will enable a stronger community dynamics and strengthen the process allowing the community to provide effective outcomes for clients wanting to address their substance use concerns.

Conferences

Interagency National Conference Alcohol and Other Drugs
Working Well Together - Diversity in the Desert
11-13th August 2009 - Alice Springs, NT
www.handsacrossthedesert.com

ATCA AWARDS

Each year at the ATCA Conference Dinner Awards are presented to individuals and/or organisations that have provided dedicated and innovative leadership, thus enhancing the Therapeutic Community model of treatment for alcohol and other drug issues.

Nomination forms can be down-loaded from $\underline{www.atca.com.au}$. Deadline for nominations is 1^{st} August 2009 so there's no time to lose. Get those nominations in now...



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CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Annual Conference 14 - 17 September The Rydges Hotel Capital Hill, Canberra



Canberra in the spring is one of the most beautiful times in the Nation's capital when the annual Floriade festival offers a range of tourism delights for visitors from Australia and overseas.

Mark this in your diary NOW – and book early!

The conference program features:

Monday 14 September - Visits to Canberra TCs and a special Welcome Ceremony.

Tuesday 15 – Thursday 17 September - An exciting conference program with keynote speakers Joel Porter, Christine King, Lauren Porter and Bob Jacobs.

Friday 18 - Saturday 19 September - Four separate one day workshops conducted by : Joel Porter (Motivational Interviewing and Stages of Change), Bob Jacobs (Wholistic approach to working with Young People), Lauren Porter (Families in Addiction, Attachment and Children at Risk) and ATCA Workshop (Working within the TC Model – especially for new programs and new staff).

Conference themes are:

- 1. Comorbidity: same people different settinas?
- 2. Indigenous Cultural Issues here and across the water. What can we learn?
- **3. Corrections** Drugs and Mental Health, getting the mix right for rehabilitation.
- **4. Families** Working with complexities.
- **5. Youth** More understanding and less pathologising.

ATCA invites applications for presentation of papers, project snapshots, agency displays, seminars and/or workshops which address the Conference themes.

We particularly invite presentations on Cultural Indigenous Issues from Australian and New Zealand delegates.

Poster presentations and agency displays will be on view at specified times.



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Applications will be assessed on the following criteria:

- The relevance of the abstract to the themes
- The validity of the evidence on which the presentation is based.
- The implications for practitioners implementing the findings.
- The relevance of innovative programs to other practitioners in the field.

Presenters are required to register for the Australasian Therapeutic Communities Conference. Abstracts & Biographies are to be submitted at abstracts@atca.com.au Please ensure the file you send is named the same as your presentation.

Abstracts should be submitted in Microsoft Word Format (not Vista) in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Name of the presentation and the name of the presenter.
- Abstract submission document must have the same name as the presentation topic.
- Maximum of 250 words
- Biographies maximum of 100 words

Closing date for the submission of extracts is 29 May 2009.

Clearly indicate the contact person for all correspondence and include their full name, organisation, telephone number and email address. Abstracts submitted will be published as submitted. Copy should be checked for accuracy and misspelling prior to submission. Abstract acceptance and program scheduling will be communicated via email only to the main contact person.

Abstracts submitted with your application must be able to demonstrate the practical application of evidence available. Innovative programs should be supported by evaluation evidence. This evidence may range from impact evaluation and action research, to independent research.

Types of Abstracts you may submit

Paper: A typed paper for oral presentation. Presentations in concurrent sessions are normally 20 minutes, plus a five minute question and answer period.

Project Snapshot: Each project snapshot will be allocated 10 minute oral presentation time with the use of audio-visual equipment if desired and four minutes of questions.

Seminar: Several presenters are encouraged to submit a group of abstracts on a specific topic and share a 90 minute presentation time as they explore the topic in depth. These sessions will be led by a facilitator.

Workshop: Interactive training and skills enhancing session involving active participation of delegates. Workshops are of one hour duration.

Agency Displays: Please be aware that there may not be any hanging space available.

Note: The ATCA will invite presentations to be posted on its website and seek to further publish articles and presentations in its newsletter and other relevant publications.

Abstracts should be sent to abstracts@atca.com.au

Any correspondence should be sent to conference@atca.com.au





Annual Conference 14 - 17 September The Rydges Hotel Capital Hill, Canberra



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Mark this in your diary NOW - and book early!

The conference program features:

Monday 14 September - Visits to Canberra TCs and a special **Welcome Reception.** (Announcement to follow!)

Tues day 15 – Thurs day 17 September - An exciting conference program focusing on the increasingly important area of evidence-based practice within our TCs, with keynote speakers Joel Porter, Christine King, Lauren Porter and Bob Jacobs. The program will also include more than 20 peer refereed presentations and workshops, project snaps hots and seminars, highlighting innovative and evidence-based practice currently being undertaken.

Friday 18 - Saturday 19 September - Four professional practice workshops.

The Venue:

This year's conference will be held at **The Rydges Hotel**, **Capital Hill**, **Canberra**. The Conference Organisers have negotiated a special rate, set at 2008 prices. This is exceptional value, considering the Conference will occur during Floriade – a wonderful time to visit Canberra. Because it is a busy time, we urge everyone to book early. Rooms are **Superior Queen** and **Twin Rooms** at \$199 per room (based on double or twin occupancy). **Breakfast is an additional \$18.00 per person**. Please quote Block Code **R-1309ATCA** when booking.

Rooms have also been reserved at **The Diplomat Hotel** in **Manuka**, on the corner of Canberra Avenue and Hely Street. This is not far from the Conference venue (5 mins by car, along Canberra Ave). Rooms are **Standard** and **Deluxe**. Cost is **\$174.00 Standard** and **\$185.00 Deluxe per room** (based on double or twin occupancy). **Breakfast is additional**. Please quote Group Number **61930**, when booking.

There are a range of other hotels and serviced apartments nearby if you would like to consider alternate accommodation. Once again, we urge everyone to consider the dates – including Agency visits on Monday 14 September, the Conference from Tuesday 15 – Thursday 17 September and Professional Development Workshops on Friday 18 & Saturday 19 September when making flight and accommodation bookings.



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ATCA Conference The Rydges Hotel Capital Hill, Canberra

The focus of the 2009 Conference is on Evidence-Based Practice within the TC and other settings in which we work. The Conference will attract delegates from TCs, other AOD, Mental Health, Youth and Family sectors. It will particularly address the populations with whom we work & focus on the Conference themes of Comorbidity, Indigenous Cultural Issues, Families – including discussion of childcare programs, Youth and Correctional settings. All speakers will develop these themes within the context of the TC setting. There will also be more than 20 refereed papers and presentations, highlighting the range of innovative programs we provide.

Tuesday 15 September:

Keynote Speakers Joel Porter will present Plenary and Workshop sessions which address Addiction: An intimate relationship and Personality Disorders and Addiction. Christine King will focus on Aboriginal cultural learning with her presentation, Aboriginal Learning Circles within Therapeutic Practice, expanding this in a short experiential workshop, Running a Therapeutic Learning Circle.

Wednesday 16 September:

Keynote Speakers Lauren Porter will shift our focus to Families and C hildren with Through the Eyes of a Child: Essential Understandings and Misunderstandings about Attachment and a workshop session: Babies need Love, not Education: What Attachment, Neurology and Research tell us about Non-Parental Early Care. This workshop is particularly important for programs working with families, and for those who are concerned about the issue of childcare within AOD settings. Bob Jacobs will focus on Young People with a Plenary entitled "Celebrate, Don't Medicate" and Workshop, "Psychiatric Diagnoses of Children: Who Benefits and Who Suffers" – a key focus for programs working with young people with comorbidity.

A representative of the Drug Strategy Branch, Department of Health & Ageing and Barry Sanderson, Group Manager, Families Group, FaHCSIA will highlight the Government's Policy Directions and their significance for us working within TCs and the broader AOD arena.

Thursday 17 September:

The way in which these Policy Directions impact on our programs will be further explored in a **Roundtable Session**. This will bring together Government representatives, Keynote speakers and ATCA representatives.

Conference Dinner and ATCA Awards PresentationWednesday 16 September:

The Conference Dinner will be held at **The Lobby**, **King George Terrace**, **Parkes**, where you can dance and enjoy the music of one of Canberra's local bands. Buses have been arranged to take delegates from The Rydges and Diplomat Hotels to The Lobby, which began its life in 1968 when Parliamentarians at the Old Parliament House (opposite) decided they needed a place to entertain visiting constituents. This first class restaurant has been the scene of many political intrigues over the years, and will be a perfect location for ATCA to celebrate and present this year's awards. Numbers for the dinner are limited to **110**, the cost of **\$85.00** is not included in the Conference registration.

Please indicate your reservation for the Dinner on the registration form.



PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOPS

18 & 19 September, The Rydges Hotel Capital Hill, Canberra

For the first time, we are offering four Professional Development Workshops as an adjunct to the Conference. These will be an important training opportunity for practitioners working with AOD clients, families and young people in a range of settings; and for those working within Therapeutic Community and residential programs.

Friday 18 September

Lauren Porter: When Love is Not Enough: Vulnerable Families, Intergenerational Patterns, Addiction and Healing. We all know that early experience creates the lens through which future experience is viewed. An adult's neurological, psychological, emotional and spiritual outlook is intimately and intricately connected to those first foundational childhood

relationships, most especially those with mother and father. This workshop will seek to define the key concepts in relational life – attachment, attunement, regulation, theory of mind, rupture/repair, empathy and shame – and explore how they get developed from infancy onward, how they become our minds and personalities, and how they are transmitted from one generation to the next. Links to addiction and other mental illness will be discussed. Finally, we will look at how healing occurs, what support or key experiences may be necessary, and how to support parents trying to move beyond their childhood traumas as they parent their own children. This is an important workshop for family-focused programs working with parents and children.

Dr Bob Jacobs: "The Parenting Centre: A New Model for Clinical Work with Young People". This works hop will present an innovative approach for clinicians who work with young people. "Dr. Bob" Jacobs developed this model in clinical practice in the U.S. and currently utilises it at The Parenting Centre in Queens land. Dr. Bob will present the conceptual framework of this brief intervention model (typically 3-4 visits) and then work through "real life" case studies to demonstrate the model in action. This is particularly relevant for programs working with young people, providing an opportunity to explore the way in which this intervention can be transferred into the TC and other AOD and Mental Health settings.

Saturday 19 September

Dr Joel Porter: Addiction and Change: Motivational Interviewing and Beyond. Addiction treatment has a dynamic history. For those of us who have been around for a while, we have seen therapies and treatment programs come and go like fashion trends. Interestingly, Stages of Change and Motivational Interviewing have remained as fixtures in the addiction field for decades, and both are important tools within the TC. Is this because we are running out of clever ideas or that these approaches are actually helpful in bringing about change? This workshop is for people who have a basic understanding of both MI and the Stages of Change. The workshop will be both didactic and experiential with the aim to advance our skills and knowledge in applying both the theory and skills in the real world.

Friday 18 & Saturday 19 September

Lynne Magor-Blatch - ATCA Workshop: Working in the Therapeutic Community: What makes the community therapeutic? This comprehensive "hands-on" workshop is particularly geared to new staff working in TCs, to newly developed TCs and programs that are working towards registration as a TC. We will explore the history of TCs; treatment and recovery utilising the TC approach, Community-as-Method, structure and stages within the TC, how residents change in the TC and staff roles.

Workshop Saturday 18 September Addiction and Change: Motivational Interviewing and Beyond

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS & WORKSHOP LEADERS

Joel Porter

Joel has over 15 years of dedicated clinical experience in the addiction field and has practiced in a wide range of community and residential treatment programs in the United States, Germany and New Zealand.



Joel received his training in Motivational Interviewing from William Miller, PhD and Theresa Moyers, PhD in Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA; and in Crete, Greece; and is a member of the Steering Committee for the International Motivational Interviewing Network of Trainers. He is also a Senior Clinical lecturer with the National Addiction Centre - Christchurch School of Medicine and a lecturer in the Wellington Institute of Technology's Alcohol and Drug Studies program.

Joel is a charter member of the New Zealand School of the Addictions organising committee. His research and professional interests include the systemic impacts of addictive behaviours, trauma and addiction, and professional training in treating addictive behaviours. Since 2004, Joel has developed a research and training interest in the area of gambling treatment. Joel has a particular interest in therapeutic communities, and has worked with TC staff over a number of years, providing training in Motivational Interviewing and Stages of Change.

Christine King

Christine King is an Aboriginal woman from the Northern Territory. Her mother is a Warumungu woman from the Tennant Creek area. Her father was a Larrakia man from the Darwin area. Christine is a social worker with experience in the areas of Juvenile Justice, Child Protection, Youth Work, Project Management, Community Violence, Community Development, Counselling, Substance Misuse, Aged Care, Policy Development, Mental Health and Suicide Prevention.



She is the head of the Indigenous social work group of AASW and the Chairperson of the National Coalition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Workers Association, and Indigenous Co-Chairperson of the Stolen Generations Alliance. She was heavily involved in the background work with regard to the recent Apology to the Stolen Generations. Christine is currently in the process of completing a PhD through the Australian Catholic University. Her topic is, 'The Aboriginal Kinship System: Informing Social work theory and practice in Australia'.



Works hop Friday 17 September When Love is Not Enough: Vulnerable Families, Intergenerational Patterns, Addiction and Healing

Lauren Porter

Lauren Porter is a clinical social worker, consultant and psychotherapist, and Co-Director of the New Zealand-based Centre for Attachment (www.centreforattachment). She holds a BA in East Asian Studies and a Masters Degree in Social Work. Since receiving her MSW in 1995, Lauren has been dedicated to working with families, children and adolescents in the field of mental health counselling and training.

Lauren has worked in a wide range of settings and communities, including Germany and the US, in addition to New Zealand. Her experience has focused on families struggling with issues pertaining to conflict and trauma, including child sexual abuse. Her current professional focus is the merging of attachment theory with neuroscientific data, with an eye toward the practical applications of everyday life.

She is an Executive Committee member of Infant Mental Health Association Aotearoa New Zealand (IMHAANZ) and a consultant for the 2006 and 2007 *Nought to Five* television series (TVNZ/Homegrown TV New Zealand). Lauren is the mother of two children.

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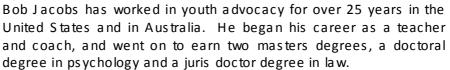
Getting better all the time—

Collaboration

Bob Jacobs has worked in youth advoca

United States and in Australia. He bega

Bob Jacobs



Bob is a registered clinical psychologist in Queensland and is a licensed attorney in the United States. During the late 1990's Bob was host of the government-access television show "Parenting with Dr. Bob" which won a National Association of Counties award for "Innovation in County Government".

Bob has written and spoken extensively in the U.S. and in Australia on the issue of the overuse of psychiatric diagnoses and prescription drugs with children and young people. In 2003 he was a keynote speaker at the Queensland State Youth Conference in Mackay, and in August of 2005 Bob was invited to present on this issue to the Australian Senate Subcommittee on Mental Health in Canberra.

Bob spent over a decade on the Advisory Board of the International Center for the Study

of Psychiatry and Psychology (ICSPP) from 1993 and served a term (2002-2004) on the National Steering Committee for the Children's Rights Network of Amnesty International USA. In May of 2007 he was a keynote speaker at the Australian National Youth Conference in Melbourne. In December of 2008 Bob migrated permanently to Australia where he is working with Youth Affairs Network of Queensland (the state's peak youth body) and maintains a private practice. He is very interested in the work of TCs, particularly with young people with issues stemming from comorbidity of mental health and substance use.



Workshop Friday 17 September "The Parenting Centre: A New Model for Clinical Work with Young People"



Lynne Magor-Blatch

Lynne is a clinical and forensic psychologist, who commenced her training in TCs in the United Kingdom in 1974, working at both Alpha House in Portsmouth and the Ley Community in Oxford, before returning to Australia, to take up a position with the Victorian Government in Community Education and later, with the Victorian Health Department, working in drug education and prevention at school and community level.

She has more than 30 years experience within the Alcohol and Other Drug field, in both the non-government and Government sectors, as a program and clinical director, policy officer, lecturer, researcher and consultant. She has worked within Mental Health as Secretariat Manager to the National Mental Health Working Group and the National Comorbidity Taskforce, in crisis counselling and forensic services. Lynne has extensive experience in program planning and development, particularly in the area of diversion initiatives for offenders and in the establishment of therapeutic community programs for women and families.

Lynne is currently working as a specialist consultant to the AOD field and in private practice. She is also the National Convener of the Australian Psychological Society's Psychology and Substance Use Interest Group and Adjunct Professional Associate – AOD Work, Mental Health & Forensic Psychology, University of Canberra.

Workshop
Friday 17 &
Saturday 18
September
Working in
the
Therapeutic
Community:
What makes
the
community
therapeutic?

ATCA 2009 CONFERENCE: 14 – 17 SEPTEMBER 2009
"TCS: GETTING BETTER ALL THE TIME PARTNERSHIPS, PRACTICE & COLLABORATION"
PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOPS: 18 & 19 SEPTEMBER 2009
RYDGES HOTEL, CAPITAL HILL, CANBERRA.



REGISTRATION FORM & TAX INVOICE

Australasian Therapeutic Communities Association ABN: 41 893 350 365

REGISTRATION DETAILS - Please use one registration per delegate

Name:	Email:		
Organisation:	State/Country:		
Telephone:Mc	obile: Fax:	:Fax:	
Please ensure this is the email addre	ess of the delegate		
CONFERENCE FEES - Austr	alian dollars (including GST)		
Registration Type	Early Bird	Normal	Total
(Please tick)	Book before 30.06.09	AUD\$	AUD\$
□ Full Registration (ATCA Member)	\$450	\$500	
□ Day Registration (ATCA Member)	\$150	\$170	
□ Full Registration	\$500	\$550	
□ Day Registration	\$170	\$185	
□ Conference Dinner & ATCA Award	Presentation \$85	\$85	
Day/s attending (Please tick)			
□Tuesday □ Wednesday □ Thurs	cay		
WORKSHOP FEES			
Friday 18 September			
Lauren Porter: When Love is Not Er	nough: Vulnerable Families,		
Intergenerational Patterns, Addiction and Healing		\$150.00	
Bob Jacobs : "The Parenting Centre:	A New Model for Clinical Work		
with Young People"		\$150.00	
Friday 18 & Saturday 19 September	er (2 days)		
Lynne Magor-Blatch - ATCA Worksh	nop: Working in the Therapeutic		
Community: What makes the comm	nunity therapeutic?	\$250.00	
Saturday 19 September			
Joel Porter: Addiction and Change: M	lotivational Interviewing and Beyond	\$150.00	
PAYMENT DETAILS			
Name of Cardholder:	TOTAL PAY	TOTAL PAYMENT AUD\$	
Card No:		ırd 🗆 Bankcard 🗆 '	Visa
Expiry date: / /	Signature:		

Post registration with cheque to: ATCA 09 Conference PO Box 154,

Collaroy NS W Australia

Fax registration with credit card details to: +61 (0) 2 9972 3044

For more information please email: