



HAVE YOU REGISTERED for the ATCA Conference?

The Conference is just 1 month away, and we have an amazing line up of international and national speakers – including our own ATCA members who will present on a range of innovative programs and interventions.

This is your opportunity to learn, to network and to

Each year the Australasian Therapeutic Communities Association (ATCA) hosts an international conference – and this year we are in Adelaide from Monday 28 October to Thursday 31 October. This will be followed on Friday 1 November with a stimulating and informative Professional Development Workshop, offered by Associate Professor Gery Karantzias.

The conference site and program can be found at www.atca2019.com.au, with details including information on Site Visits on Monday 28 October 2018, together with a special event on Wednesday 30 October, which invites us to: *Focus on Restorative Practices*.

And just announced! A workshop for women with Naya Arbiter:
Women in the TC, Women in the World.
Thursday 31 October, 1.30pm – 3.30pm

This workshop will discuss women's roles as "culture carriers", providing sanctuary and ceremony. When we structure the TC to be "women friendly" we improve the TC for everyone — both during residence, and afterwards. This will include the importance of bringing children and families into the TC where providing 'treatment' for the adults simultaneously is providing effective prevention for the children.

Naya Arbiter began her work at Amity (USA) in 1981 and has been responsible for the total transformation of this organisation and its recognition nationally and internationally as one of the most innovative and effective. She has developed restorative paradigms for those marginalised through addiction, poverty, racism, sexism, trauma, and violence. She has been recognised for the development of pro-social strategies for people that represent populations that have confounded the mainstream; her efforts in prisons have evidenced the highest recidivism reduction with the most criminogenic population ever studied.



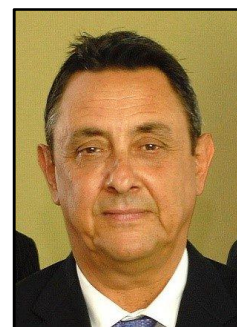
This workshop will be important for all women working in the field – both within TCs and all other residential services. Family and Child Aware Treatment Practices are an important focus area of this year's conference – don't miss this unique opportunity to work with Naya in this workshop.

Focus on Restorative Practices

Wednesday 30 October will provide delegates with a special opportunity to **Focus on Restorative Practices**, with presentations from key speakers working with clients within the justice system and in partnership to provide options that provide clients and participants with the chance of restoring hope.

The scene for Wednesday will be set by **Gino Vumbaca**, who will present **Justice Reinvestment: Maranguka Justice Reinvestment - The First Five Years**.

Gino Vumbaca is the Treasurer of Just Reinvest NSW (Aboriginal Legal Service), and President and Co-Founder of Harm Reduction Australia. He has extensive experience in the HIV/AIDS and drug and alcohol fields both in Australia and internationally. He is a Churchill Fellow, has completed a Social Work degree and a Master of Business Administration at the University of Sydney and is a qualified Company Director. Gino is the former Executive Director of the Australian National Council on Drugs – a position he held for over 15 years.



Wednesday's presenters include: **Professor Rick Sarre**, who is Professor and Dean of Law in the School of Law, University of South Australia, having taught law and criminology in four countries for over thirty years.

He has degrees in law and criminology from Adelaide, Toronto, and Canberra, and an honorary doctorate from Umeå University, Sweden. He is a Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology and sits on the management committee of Restorative Practices International (South Australia).



Matua Rāwiri Pene (Ngā Puhī, Tainui) is the AODT Courts' Pou Oranga (the Courts' tikanga cultural adviser and recovery role model – an innovation of the AODT Courts in Aotearoa). Rā brings his extensive lived experience of recovery with his knowledge of Te Reo Māori me ona Tikanga to the role. He has worked in the addiction field as a clinical and cultural facilitator, practitioner and adviser for many years. Currently Rā also works for Higher Ground/Papa Taumata in Te Atatu, Auckland.

Matt Wilson is the Statewide Program Manager of the Family Drug Treatment Court in Victoria. Matt has an extensive professional history of more than 20 years across the child and family welfare sector in a range of statutory, non-statutory, clinical, leadership and managerial roles. With a particular interest in addiction, Matt's professional passion is for the delivery of innovative systemic responses to complex problems impacting on children, parents and familial systems through driving proactive and creative practice.



The **Family Drug Treatment Court (FDTC)** is the only court of its kind in Australia and has been operating within the Family Division of the Children's Court of Victoria since 2014. Established to enable the Children's Court of Victoria to respond in a far more effective way to the increasing prevalence and complexity of parental alcohol and drug use in child protection applications coming before the court, the FDTC has now assisted in excess of 150 parent participants.

Amanda Lambden has been a Solicitor and Barrister for over 20 years, specialising in criminal defence in South Australia and the Northern Territory and throughout her career, she has worked with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and their communities. Amanda has also spent time working with youth and those with impaired capacity (as a result of mental impairment and addiction).



Amanda gained employment in 1998 with Katherine Regional Aboriginal Legal Aid Service (KRALIS) in the Northern Territory where she spent time working with Indigenous communities and in bush courts. From 1999 - 2000, Amanda worked for Legal Services Commission in South Australia. Following this, she then worked as a Solicitor for Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement (ALRM) to November 2007, working as the Criminal Practice Manager from 2007.

Amanda then started her own practice in 2008, specialising in criminal defence. Her experience includes representation of accused persons in all general criminal law, at all stages of proceedings; appearing before the Court of Criminal Appeal, Supreme Court, District Court, Magistrates Court and Youth Court, along with specialist courts including the Treatment Intervention Court, Nunga Court, Family Violence Court, Early Resolution Court, and Section 269 Court. In 2017 Amanda returned as Criminal Practice Director for Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement. She is currently working in this position today.



Rod Mullen began his work in therapeutic communities in 1967, when he was a non-resident member of Synanon, shortly after graduating from the University of California, Berkeley.

In 1968 he moved into Synanon, serving over the next twelve years in a variety of positions—Director of several of Synanon's facilities in California, as well as its in-house school. He joined his wife, Naya Arbiter, at Amity in 1982, and together they built what had been a small, troubled non-profit organisation into one respected both nationally and internationally. Rod served as Chief Executive Officer for thirty-four years and is currently serving as Amity's President.

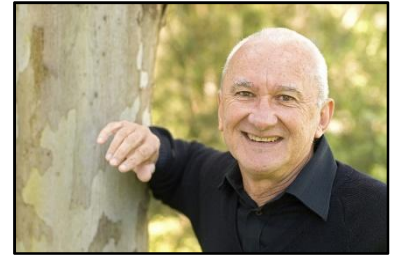
Leigh Garrett is the Chief Executive Officer of OARS Community Transitions and the Centre for Restorative Justice. Leigh commenced work with OARS SA in January 1994. OARS is well known for its work in providing homelessness support, advocacy, counselling, and drug and alcohol treatment for offenders, those at risk of offending, and their families. In 2010 the new business name OARS Community Transitions was created, reflecting the importance of transition points in people's lives and the risks associated with this.



ATCA Standard Technical Expert Training Thursday 31 October

Barry Evans, ATCA Project Officer

Since 2002, the Australasian Therapeutic Communities Association (ATCA) has been working towards the development and roll out of a Standard for therapeutic communities and residential rehabilitation services. This Standard is a benchmark that signifies to all stakeholders that an accredited organisation is operating under an internationally registered Standard that currently covers services in Australia and New Zealand.



The ATCA Standard for Therapeutic Communities and Residential Rehabilitation Services was registered with the Joint Accreditation System of Australia and New Zealand (JAS-ANZ) in 2014 and is currently being implemented across Australia.

A feature of the Standard is the inclusion in the audit team of a Technical Expert appointed by the ATCA Board. A Technical Expert (TE) must accompany the auditors on site visits and be available for consultancy in Stage 2 of the audit as well as in the report writing phase. The role of the TE within the Audit Team is one of support to the Auditor, providing expert opinion and interpretation of the evidence submitted by the service or program to support compliance against the Standard.

A Technical Expert must be approved by the ATCA Board and will have at least five years' experience working in a Therapeutic Community and be acknowledged by the ATCA as an expert in Therapeutic Communities. The person will be engaged for his/her specialist knowledge and abilities. As well as time served working in a therapeutic community, a Technical Expert is required to complete the ATCA Therapeutic Community Training and the ATCA Technical Expert Training as prerequisites for registration and recommendation to Certification/Accreditation Bodies. In March 2019, Expectation 14 was developed and included into the ATCA Standard. Expectation 14 addresses Governance and Management.

This skills-based workshop will provide potential Technical Experts with the pre-requisite training to prepare them for a role in contributing to the continuous quality improvement of the sector. In addition, the workshop will provide an orientation to Expectation 14 in anticipation of the 'take-up' of this option by some member agencies seeking certification/accreditation.

Attachment theory and substance use: Bridging science with practice Friday 1 November



Associate Professor Gery Karantzas, Deakin University

It is well established that substance use is associated with relationship problems and relationship distress. Despite this, there is little by way of the application of relationship theories to understand substance use issues and their impact on relationship functioning. One widely studied theory of relationships that can offer a critical understanding is attachment theory. This is because attachment theory is not only a theory of human bonding, but, a theory of distress regulation. Thus, attachment theory can provide important insight into how substance use may reflect difficulties in people's abilities to deal with relationship problems and the challenges they face in managing distress.

You can register for this **full day workshop on the ATCA 2019: The Future is Today** website at:

<http://www.atca2019.com.au/skills-based-workshop/>

The workshop will provide a comprehensive background into attachment theory. In particular, it will provide participants with:

- An understanding of the functioning of the attachment behavioral system
- An understanding of different attachment styles
- How to accurately assess of attachment styles
- Strategies for practitioners in working with people who demonstrate different attachment styles
- A state-of-the-art review of the research into attachment and:
 - substance use
 - distress regulation strategies
 - key aspects of relationship functioning

**Spaces will be limited – so do not delay –
Register TODAY!**

<http://www.atca2019.com.au/registration/>

KEY DATES



- 1 October – ATCA Awards Nominations close
- 8 October – Nominations to ATCA Board close
- 28 October – Conference Site Visits
- 29-31 October ATCA Conference
- 29 October – ATCA AGM
- 30 October – *A Focus on Restorative Practices*
- 31 October – ATCA Standards TE Training – led by Barry Evans and followed by training with IHCA
- 31 October – *Women in the TC, Women in the World* – Workshop led by Naya Arbiter
- 1 November - *Attachment theory and substance use: Bridging science with practice* – Workshop led by Gery Karantzas

BECOME A SPONSOR

CONTACT US

ATCA Awards nominations CLOSE on 1 October!

ATCA Awards were first introduced in 2008 and each year are presented to individuals and/or organisations that have provided dedicated and innovative leadership, thus enhancing the TC model of treatment for alcohol and other drug issues.

These initially comprised three categories:

- ATCA Recognition Award

- Program or Intervention: Significant Contribution to the Therapeutic Community Movement
- Individual: Significant Contribution to the Therapeutic Community Movement

In 2016, the award categories were expanded with the introduction of two important categories:

- First Nations Innovation and Partnership Award – Organisational Award
- Excellence in Research and Evaluation Award

This year in 2019, we are delighted to announce a further category:

- Individual: Significant Contribution to development at an Organisational level

Recognition Award - The ATCA Recognition Award, which recognises the individuals who have made a contribution to the Therapeutic Community movement in Australasia and/or internationally, has this year been expanded in recognition of the many individuals who have worked with our services over a considerable number of years. Staff longevity is a hallmark of the TC Movement!

In addition to the traditional 10-year award, this award category has been expanded to recognise people who have worked within the TC movement for periods of 20 – 30 years and more. These individuals bring a wealth of knowledge and leadership to the movement, and their contribution is recognised.

Awardees in the category of ATCA Recognition Award receive a certificate, presented at the annual ATCA Conference or Symposium.

Winners in other categories will receive an engraved glass trophy, presented at the ATCA Conference Dinner on Wednesday 30 October.

Individual Award: Significant Contribution to the Therapeutic Community Movement - This award recognises the individuals who have made a significant contribution to the Therapeutic Community movement in Australasia and/or internationally over a considerable period of time. The goal of the Significant Contribution: Individual Award is to acknowledge and publicly recognise the exceptional work done by people who have worked tirelessly over a number of years to promote and develop the therapeutic community approach to treatment within the sector.

Program or Intervention: Significant Contribution to the Therapeutic Community Movement in Australasia - This award recognises an exemplary or commendable contribution to the Therapeutic Community (TC) movement in Australasia made by a program or intervention. Any TC treatment provider or intervention is eligible.

Individual: Significant Contribution to development at an Organisational level - This award acknowledges the individuals who have made a

significant contribution to the organisations in which they have worked over a considerable period of time. These people are the stewards of the Community as Method approach to treatment. Their daily presence as role models, teachers and mentors within these communities is vital to the success of the model. The goal of this award is to acknowledge and publicly recognise the important work done by them in preserving the model and guiding the implementation of new interventions, programs and innovations to treatment as they become relevant to the communities in which they work.

First Nations Innovation and Partnership Award. Therapeutic Community Movement in Australasia: Organisational Award - This award recognises organisations that have made a contribution to the Therapeutic Community (TC) movement in Australasia by way of innovation and forming Partnerships that make Therapeutic communities culturally safe and relevant to first nation's people.

The goal of this Award is to provide public recognition work done to include first nations peoples in the delivery of Therapeutic Community programs either by way of innovation or the formulation of partnerships that directly benefit First Nations residents.

Excellence in Research and Evaluation Award - Therapeutic Community research is essential to the development of effective and informed strategies to improve the lives of clients and residents accessing TC services and programs. This award recognises the individuals, research teams and TCs that have contributed to evidence-based research and evaluation of TC services and programs.

2019 Closing date and Nomination information

Nominations for each of the awards should be made on the nomination forms which accompany this newsletter, and be submitted by **1 October 2019** to:

Dr Lynne Magor-Blatch
ATCA Executive Officer
Email: atca@atca.com.au
Or mailed to:
PO Box 464
Yass, NSW 2582
Australia

For further information: Phone: +61 (0)422 904040.

ATCA Board Nominations called for four positions in 2019

The election of members to the Board of Directors of the Australasian Therapeutic Communities Association (ATCA) is to be conducted at the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 28 October 2019 at the ATCA Conference venue at the Grand Chancellor Hotel, Hindley St, Adelaide at 6pm.

As directed by the ATCA's Constitution, four positions for Elected Directors shall be declared vacant.

Standing down:

- **Carole Taylor, DASA, NT;**
- **Garth Popple, WHOS, NSW and Qld;**
- **Gerard Byrne, The Salvation Army Recovery Services, Australia; and**
- **Mark Ferry, Ted Noffs Foundation, NSW and ACT.**

The Call for Nominations and Nomination form accompanies this newsletter.

To nominate for a position on the Board please complete the accompanying nomination form and send together with a photograph and short bio to:

Dr Lynne Magor-Blatch, EO, ATCA
PO Box 464, Yass NSW 2582, Australia
Or by email to: atca@atca.com.au

Your bio should provide a personal statement, and let members know why you are standing for election, and what you believe you will bring to the Board in successful in your nomination.

**Nominations must be received by
6pm Tuesday 8 November 2019.**

Please note: All Organisational TC Members of ATCA are eligible to nominate and to vote. Associate Members (Residential Rehabilitation Service Members) are not eligible to stand for election but may be co-opted to the Board for a fixed term. Members in this category are eligible to vote.

New Zealand members at Cutting Edge Conference, Auckland



The Cutting Edge 2019 conference 'looking back, moving forward' was held in Auckland from 18 - 21 September at the Cordis Hotel. The theme of the conference focused on people affected by addiction and trauma and how we facilitate looking back so the person, family/whanau and communities can move forward.

As part of the conference the New Zealand ATCA members held an exhibition stall with the purpose of promoting ATCA and the Therapeutic Community Treatment model. The collaboration between the NZ ATCA members; Higher Ground, St Marks, Odyssey Northern and Odyssey House Christchurch was reflected in the exhibition and positive feedback from people attending the conference.

One of the strengths of the exhibition was the ATCA video that NZ members have developed collaboratively. The video helped people attending the conference understand and learn more about the Therapeutic Treatment model and how being a member of ATCA supports the therapeutic movement in NZ.

The ATCA NZ members are in the process of taking the learnings and successes from the exhibition and plan to look at other venues where ATCA/TC model can be promoted.

Employment Opportunities: ATCA Member Services



ABORIGINAL
DRUG AND ALCOHOL COUNCIL (SA) INC.

*The Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council SA.
(ADAC) is recruiting for:*

Program Co-ordinator – Stepping Stones Ceduna

The Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council SA offers a range of treatment and non-residential diversionary programs to Aboriginal people who live or come from outlying areas of Ceduna and are experiencing problems caused by alcohol and drug use. This position will be based at the Stepping Stones AOD Day Centre facility in Ceduna.

This is an exciting opportunity for a highly skilled person to lead a dedicated team in Ceduna, SA. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply.

How to apply

To obtain the selection documentation or for further information, please request a copy of the Job Application Pack phone: (08) 8351 9031 or email: scott@adac.org.au

Applications close: COB 11 October 2019.



BYRON PRIVATE
HOLISTIC TREATMENT CENTRE

Psychologist - Clinical Psychologist

Competitive Salary - Permanent Part Time - 4 days per week

About Byron Private

Set in the hinterland of Byron Bay, Byron Private is a 12 bed, integrative holistic residential treatment facility providing therapeutic support

for individuals suffering from depression, anxiety, drug and alcohol addiction, eating disorders and trauma. Byron Private maintains third party certification to ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management Systems.

Due to continued growth and increased demand an exciting opportunity exists for a progressive Psychologist / Clinical Psychologist to join Byron Private. As one of our primary clinicians, you will provide individual and group therapy along with psycho educational sessions to a small therapeutic community of up to 12 clients. The clinical team at Byron Private consists of medical staff and a multidisciplinary team of clinical psychologists, psychotherapists, nurses and alternative health care workers.

Byron Private operates within a recovery oriented framework providing short to medium term inpatient assessment, treatment and rehabilitation. Clinical management is structured around individualised care planning that addresses the expressed needs, goals and aspirations of the person receiving treatment.

About the Role

1. Provide comprehensive and professional case management to inpatient clients
2. Facilitate individual and group therapy and psycho-educational groups
3. Keep abreast of contemporary treatment centre methodologies
4. Attend team meetings and clinical supervision
5. Ensure the needs of the clients are met in line with Byron Private Philosophy and framework

Qualifications/ registrations/ experience

- MA in Psychology or Clinical Psychology
- Registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA)
- Demonstrated ability to collaborate effectively in a team setting
- Excellent communication skills
- Experience working with complex client presentation
- Positive, flexible, and solution-focused attitude

Enquiries: Kylie Beattie, Managing Director

E: kylie@byronprivate.com.au

M: 0413 961 174 W: www.byronprivate.com.au

The ATCA Standard 3rd Edition - Improving the Pathway to Certification

Barry Evans, ATCA Standards Project Officer

Learning by our mistakes and responding to feedback is part of the milieu of the therapeutic community. It is therefore only fitting that the development of the ATCA Standard has been informed in part by its mistakes and in the interests of continuous quality improvement, it has grown in response to feedback from ATCA members.

In the original draft version of the Standard, the domains of governance and financial management were included. However, many members were already engaged in quality assurance via an industry standard and the feedback was that it was superfluous to have these domains reviewed under the ATCA Standard as well.

Consequently, these domains were dropped, and the focus then concentrated on those domains that defined the therapeutic community and residential rehabilitation service. However, accountability within these domains remained a consideration when the requirements for membership of the Association were drafted, hence the expectation that an agency required both the ATCA Standard and a recognised industry standard to be considered a certified member of the Association.

An unanticipated consequence of this decision was the cost of maintaining two contracts for ongoing certification. The feedback from the smaller member agencies, in particular, and those services that only provided a therapeutic community or residential rehab, was that this was prohibitive.

In response to these concerns the ATCA Board approved the development of an additional Expectation (Number 14), which addresses the domains of governance and financial management. In order to provide maximum flexibility whilst maintaining accountability, it was decided to create several pathways to certification and to allow member agencies to decide which path to follow.

Services wishing to maintain their industry standard accreditation may continue to seek certification against the ATCA Standard, in addition to the industry standard, by completing Expectations 1-6 (Residential Rehabilitation Services) or Expectations 1-13 (Therapeutic Communities), leaving the existing industry standard to address the domains of governance and financial management.

However, services undertaking an audit against the ATCA Standard now have an option to gain full industry accreditation against the ATCA Standard, through the inclusion of Expectation 14. The membership requirement for an audit by a recognised industry standard as well as the ATCA Standard will no longer be the case if this pathway is followed.

For Residential Rehabilitation Services, this will require an audit against Expectations 1-6 plus Expectation 14; and for services wishing to be accredited as a Therapeutic Community, the completion of all 14 Expectations will be required.

The 3rd Edition of the ATCA Standard which includes Expectation 14 was approved by JAS-ANZ in June of this year after extensive consultation, it was published in August and it is now available to agencies seeking certification/accreditation.

Anyone seeking further clarification can contact Barry on 0455955988 or by email to: bjevans49@gmail.com.

WFTC Training Institute and EFTC Conference - Thessaloniki 2019



The **European Federation of Therapeutic Communities (EFTC)** has successfully held biennial conferences since 1982, with the aim of providing member organisations and colleagues from all disciplines of drug treatment provision, the opportunity to present, question, clarify and communicate the results and evaluation of the processes of addiction recovery achieved in TCs.

The 17th EFTC conference in collaboration with KETHEA and ARGO, took place in Thessaloniki on September 19-20, supported by the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and SERIOS Prevention Center. A small delegation of Australian participants attended, including Garth Popple, CEO of WHOS, ATCA Chair and Deputy President of WFTC; Bernice Smith, CEO Goldbridge; Wendy Shannon, Manager, Palmerston Residential Services; and Lynne Magor-Blatch, ATCA Executive Officer.

Lynne presented a full-day workshop as part of the WFTC Institute in the lead-up to the conference, which asked: **Ongoing Quality Improvement in the TC: Who needs it?** (a trick question of course – because the answer is – EVERYONE!)



The workshop focused on Community as Method – approaching it from both a training aspect, drawing materials from the TC Training Course, and quality assurance – drawing on the ATCA Standard. There is huge excitement in the ATCA Standard, and with QIP and ACHS both working with us to become Certifying Bodies, we will soon be in a position to take

the Standard internationally.

Workshop participants came from Greece, the Netherlands, Belgium, France and other parts of Europe – and as our trainers have found back home – the activity to design a poster on Community as Method, was embraced with enthusiasm and creativity.



Further TC Training in Perth WA

ATCA has concentrated heavily on Workforce Development training across Australia over the past 18 months, with 304 people having taken part in the training in Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Adelaide, Canberra and Darwin.

Graduations have also been taking place in all locations, and more graduates will be awarded their certificates at the upcoming ATCA Conference in Adelaide.



A further training course will take place in Perth at Cyrenian House, commencing with the first block on **Monday 4, Tuesday 5, and Wednesday 6 November** and followed by the second training block

on **Monday 2, Tuesday 3, and Wednesday 4 December**.

The Mental Health Commission has generously funded WA participants to undertake the training – and the recent Perth course included staff from Cyrenian House, Wandoo Women's prison, Palmerston, Hope Community and Yaandina's Turner River TC.

Places are also available (but not funded by the WA MHC) for staff from outside WA to attend – so this could be the opportunity to combine training with visits to our Perth programs.

To apply for a place in the Perth training please fill in the application form on Survey Monkey here <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/986Y5PR>

You will be asked to nominate which venue is preferred.

For more information, please contact Executive Officer,

Dr Lynne Magor-Blatch at atca@atca.com.au