



**Early Childhood Australia Tasmanian Branch Inc. in partnership with
Professional Support Coordinator (PSCTas)**

2010 Branch Forum

Saturday 22nd May 2010

Aspect Tamar Valley Resort 'Grindelwald'

'Sustainability: Our children's future'

This is the Branch's second one-day Forum, celebrating the significance of the early years and the people who work with young children in Tasmania.

- ◆ Be inspired by the variety of presenters who will share their stories, knowledge and experience.
- ◆ Enjoy the company of colleagues and be stimulated by discussion and the sharing of ideas.
- ◆ Have fun at the Forum dinner.

Register early to secure your place. I am confident that this will be a day of learning, challenging and fun experiences. I look forward to seeing you in May.

Lyn Woolley
Branch President



The program

8:45am	Registration and arrival tea and coffee
9:30am	Introduction – Lyn Woolley Acknowledgment of country – Aunty Phyllis Pitchford
9:40-9:50am	Welcome by CEO ECA, Pam Cahir
9:50-10:50am	Keynote address – Catherine Lee <i>What the world needs now: Thoughts on peace, reconciliation and making the world a better place</i>
10:50-11:15am	Morning tea
11:20-12:20pm	Keynote address – Sue Elliott <i>Early childhood education for sustainability: Journeys of transformation</i>
12:30-1:25pm	Concurrent workshops
	A. Sue Elliott <i>Education for sustainability in practice</i>
	B. Colin MacDougall <i>Ecological approaches to healthy weight in childhood</i>
	C. Catharine Hydon <i>Yes you can ... Implementing the Early Years Learning Framework using a strengths-based planning approach</i>
1:25-1:35pm	All delegates to the Geneva room for address by Alison Dixon from HESTA – major sponsor
1:35-2:25pm	Lunch – sponsored by HESTA
2:30-3:30pm	Concurrent workshops
	A. Catherine Lee <i>The power of the environment</i>
	B. Catharine Hydon <i>Yes you can ... Implementing the Early Years Learning Framework using a strengths-based planning approach</i>
	C. Colin MacDougall <i>How can child-centred methods help adults to understand children's physical activity and eating patterns?</i>
3:40-4:20pm	Pam Cahir – closing address
4:30pm	Afternoon tea
7.00pm	Forum dinner sponsored by Guild Insurance



Pam Cahir

Chief Executive Officer, Early Childhood Australia

For 20 years, Pam Cahir has been the Chief Executive Officer of Early Childhood Australia (ECA), a national organisation which advocates on behalf of young children. Pam's interests are positioned in supporting parents and other professionals, who are responsible for the growth and development of young children, to do their work well. She is a strong advocate for quality, social justice and equity in all issues relating to the education and care of children from birth to eight years of age.

Pam initiated the National Children's Services Forum (NCSF) which brings together the national children's services peak organisations to discuss issues, reach policy agreement, and engage with Ministers and departmental officials. She was also responsible for the development of ECA's flagship magazine *Every Child*. She conceived and lead *Building Bridges: Literacy development in young Indigenous children* project. The methodology used in this project has been recognised worldwide as respectful of and empowering for, people from different cultural backgrounds.

Pam is committed to maximising the capacity of the internet to support those working with young children and to reduce their professional isolation. The outcomes of this have been the development of the ECA website, *ECA WebWatch*, and the work currently being done by ECA in regard to the potential of social networks to support those working with young children.

Keynote speakers



Sue Elliott

(Dip KTC, B.Sc. (Hons), M.Sc.)

Sue has worked in a range of early childhood settings and lectured at a tertiary level in early childhood training courses for many years. Sue is co-author of several books including *Early childhood environmental education: Making it mainstream*. She is the convenor of the Australian Association for Environmental Education Early Childhood Special Interest Group. Currently, she lectures at RMIT University and is completing doctoral studies investigating sustainable outdoor playspaces at the University of New England.



Catherine Lee

(Dip Teaching (Early Childhood), B.Ed., Dip. Ed. (Early Childhood Special Ed.), Certificate IV Workplace Assessment and Training)

Catherine has been teaching and managing a diverse range of early childhood services for over 25 years. Catherine has presented training for many childcare services and organisations including teaching Child Studies at TAFE for over 17 years. Catherine received the 2008 NSW Community Child Care Cooperative Cee Cee Award for The Director with Vision. Currently Catherine is the Director/teacher at the Point Preschool in Oyster Bay, NSW. The preschool's commitment to sustainability has been rewarded with several awards.



Catharine Hydon

(Early Childhood Consultant, Dip Teaching (Early Childhood), M.Ed. (Early Child Education))

Catharine Hydon is an experienced early childhood professional with extensive experience in a broad range of early childhood settings. Her involvement in the early childhood field is an important part of her commitment to the sector. She is a long time member of the ECA Victorian branch and is currently serving as a Director on the National Board of ECA. Catharine is best known as a strong advocate for professionalism, ethical practice and as a facilitator of pedagogical leadership.



Colin MacDougall

(BA (Hons), MA, PhD)

Colin MacDougall is Associate Professor of Public Health in the School of Medicine at Flinders University and an Executive member of the Southgate Institute for Health, Society and Equity at Flinders University. Currently, he is involved in research on location and health, bushfires and community recovery, farmers, climate change and resilience and the relationship between child development, health and wellbeing and control over the environment.

Workshops

Sue Elliott

Education for sustainability in practice

Being green isn't necessarily easy! This workshop is an opportunity to explore challenges and share what works. The potential for sustainable practice in early childhood centres will be illustrated and explored through discussion, interactive experiences and consideration of current resources.

Catharine Hydon

Yes you can ... Implementing the Early Years Learning Framework using a strengths-based planning approach.

A strength-based approach is fundamental to the effective implementation of the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF). This interactive workshop will provide participants with the opportunity to explore the notion of strength-based planning and why it makes a difference, what it looks like in daily practice and how it relates to the EYLF.

Catherine Lee

The power of the environment

Be inspired to look beyond equipment and stretch your view of the power of the environment to identify places of inspiration, strength, wonder, nature, peace and beauty in children's services. There will be opportunities to discuss and view a diverse range of outdoor experiences, and practically explore how to look at your existing outdoor equipment and experiences in a different light.

Colin MacDougall

Workshop 1. 12:30-1:25pm

Ecological approaches to healthy weight in childhood

The workshop will start with a brief description of an ecological perspective that builds on the mid 1970's upstream-downstream metaphor proposing that interventions often work downstream, by pulling bodies out of the river; instead of working upstream to investigate why the bodies are falling in to the river in the first place. Recently we have expanded the gaze of this metaphor to look beyond the river to encompass broader ecological, environmental and social determinants in the ecological system of which the river is a part.

Workshop 2. 2:30-3:30pm

How can child-centred methods help adults to understand children's physical activity and eating patterns?

The workshop starts with a brief outline of the sociology of childhood that starts from the position that:

The way in which society treats children provides for their childhood and the extent to which it listens to children are core social values ... Children's lives take place in and across a wide variety of networks, organisations and institutions. The extent and character of their involvement in them is therefore crucial for a better understanding of both children and these social contexts. [Research] ... will consolidate and build on this work through a focus on children as social actors. This will be achieved by examining children as active agents, influencing as well as being influenced by the worlds they live in ...

Registration

PSCTas has been appointed secretariat for this event.
Please direct all queries and registration details to PSCTas:

Phone: 03 6230 6824

Fax: 03 6230 6811

Email: psctas@gowrie-tas.com.au

Cost

Individual (early bird) \$55.00

Individual (booking made after **11th May 2010**) \$65.00

Registration fees

Registration includes admission to the Forum, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea.

Refund and cancellation policy

All registrations, including discounted, will incur a \$55.00 cancellation fee for cancellation on the day or cancellation within 14 days of the Forum.

Substitute delegates

If a registered delegate is unable to attend, another delegate may attend in the original delegate's place, provided 48 hours notice is given to PSCTas, prior to the commencement of the Forum.

Forum dinner – Geneva room commencing at 7:00pm

The Forum dinner is an additional charge for all delegates and is not included in the day registration. The cost of the dinner is \$45, which includes food and entertainment. The Forum dinner is sponsored by **Guild Insurance**.

Accommodation

Two bedroom chalets, hotel suites and villas available at the Aspect Tamar Valley Resort, accommodation rates (per person, per night) are as follows:

- \$101.00 – single hotel suite or villa
- \$64.00 – double or twin share hotel suite or villa
- \$74.00 – twin share two bedroom chalet
- \$61.00 – triple share two bedroom chalet
- \$51.00 – quad share two bedroom chalet

Rates are inclusive of the full hot and cold buffet breakfast.

Bookings can be made by calling reception on: 03 63 300 400 (ask for the discounted conference rate) or by email: reception@tamarvalleyresort.com.au

All registrations close 19 May 2010.

Registration form

Please complete a separate form for each delegate.

Early bird registration - \$55.00 (closes **11th May 2010**) Standard registration - \$65.00 (closes **19th May 2010**)

Delegate's name: _____

Organisation/Service: _____

Please indicate if delegate is currently an ECA member (individual, service or organisation): _____

ECA membership number: _____ ECA membership category: _____

ECA member organisation or name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____

Email: _____

Phone: (B) _____ (M) _____ Fax: _____

Dinner tickets: number of tickets _____ @ \$45 per person (guests are welcome) \$ _____

Special dietary requirements: _____

Payment

(Please circle) Mastercard Visa Amex Diners

Total \$ _____

Cardholder's name _____

Card Number

Expiry Date ____/____/____ Signature _____

Post registration form to: PSCTas, PO Box 263 North Hobart, 7002 or Fax to: (03) 6230 6811.