



Graduate Network

Presidents Message

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Early Childhood Graduates Inc.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Message	1
Graduation Anniversaries	1
Charles French Folland	2
Inquiry into Early Childhood Services	3
Community Creche Training	3
Pianos	4
Child Protection Chair	4
The Millennium Project	4

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Annual General Meeting Flier

Nomination Form

Greetings to all our readers. This newsletter is our means of communication with all our members. During the year committee members have been heartened and we thank you for the support we have received.

In this issue we report that we are now well equipped to record information from early graduates. Helen Miller and Pauline Butler have taken the role of coordinating the Millennium Project and interviewing early graduates.

The centenary of the establishment of the Adelaide Kindergarten Training College is fast approaching and the Associations committee members are formulating ideas for the celebration of the centenary in 2007. We envisage forming a 'Centenary Celebration Committee' and

have begun to co-opt members to join in planning of events to celebrate this milestone.

Early childhood teacher education in South Australia has a fascinating history and we have an interesting archival collection. Quoting from Christopher Dowd's book *The Adelaide Kindergarten Teachers College: A History 1907-1974* (p. 25-26)

"The Adelaide Kindergarten Training College was in large measure the personal creation of [Lillian] de Lissa. She necessarily had the support of others within the Kindergarten Union", ... "but there can be no doubt that de Lissa was the driving force behind the decision to move into the sphere of teacher training". ... "She later claimed that her desire to move into the area of teacher

training was inspired by the following lines from Browning:

'To know

Consists rather in opening up the way

Whence the imprisoned splendor may escape'"

We are seeking the support of members to make the 2007 centenary celebrations a success. If you have any ideas or are willing to join the 'Centenary Celebration Committee' please let me or other committee members know.

Formal planning for centenary celebrations will begin at our annual planning day in January 2005. Members will receive regular updates in newsletters.

Best Wishes

Christina McPherson

Graduation Anniversaries

Congratulations to members celebrating the following graduation anniversaries.

70 years (1934) - Mary Bleby (Harvie) celebrated her 70th anniversary with us at the annual dinner held recently at the Cremorne Hotel.

50 years (1954) - Josie Bishop (Nelligan), Gillian Clampett (Jeanes), Rhonda Colquhoun (Patterson), Jean Henderson and Mary Pearce.

30 years (1974) - Jenny Allen.

Best wishes to you all!



Charles French Folland

An address given by Patricia Isam (Williams) at the Winter Lunch held at the Enfield Folland Park Kindergarten.

Patricia is a great grand daughter of Charles French Folland Senior and this story delighted everyone present at the lunch and now we wish to share it with all our graduates.

Christian McPharlin

Charles French Folland Senior and his wife Charlette (Nickery) sailed from Barnstable North Devon in September 1938 on the ship Resource and arrived in Holdfast Bay in January 1939.

Their first daughter Ellen died aboard the ship. As second daughter also named Ellen was born on the ship but also died. Their third daughter born in South Australia was also called Ellen and lived to be South Australia's first centenarian. They had four more children after the third Ellen—Selina, Eliza, Charles and John.

Charles French Folland was trained as a painter-decorator and glazier and was described among the most

skillful and interesting pioneer settlers of Enfield. Following his arrival in Holdfast Bay he built a house at Walkerville from which he moved to Pennington Terrace, North Adelaide. He then contracted to purchase 80 acres of section 39 at Pine Forest from John Morphett.

The land at Pine Forest when cleared would grow anything. He laboured 18 hours a day, planting malting barley, oats and canary seed. In the garden he planted vines, almond and fruit trees, melons and potatoes. The almonds were sold to R. Charlick and the barley to Hindmarsh brewer E. J. F. Crawford. As a self-confessed teetotaler and a Methodist lay preacher it is surprising to read "my wine being superior I sold it at 6/- per gallon". The buyers were not recorded but one must assume that the communion table was well supplied. Charles had a varied and successful life and was a member and Chairman Yatala Council

Charles loved the native flora and fauna of the Northfield area and was concerned that it would be lost as clearing of the land continued. So he set aside eight acres of his land to be preserved in its natural state forever.

This land is still preserved in its natural state and is now called Folland Park. This area includes Enfield Folland Park Kindergarten. Charles would be delighted to know that the children at the kindergarten are being encouraged to propagate seeds from the trees and shrubs and grow them in the kindergarten grounds.

Pat Isam

Folland Park

Approximately 8 acres of the 200 acres of land owned by Charles French Folland was set aside as bushland setting. This area was not touched at all and was meant to be kept as representative of the natural flora of the Northfield area. Such was the foresight of this first settler.

In 1949 the South Australian Housing Trust bought the land for sub-division. This natural area was excluded from home sites and bequeathed to the Enfield council for conservation in the future and this small reserve adjacent to Turnbull road became known as Folland Park.

Annual Dinner

The annual dinner was held on August 31, at the Cremorne Hotel, Unley.

Twenty five of our graduates and friends gathered and enjoyed a delicious meal together. The noise level was higher this year as there was more groups sitting near us and we, of course, added our fair share to convivial atmosphere.

This year Barbara Constantine gathered together her graduate friends—all whom are in South Australia except one were able to come and they en-

joyed their evening.

There were a number of apologies but we were pleased to have the company of Dr. Glen Cupit from the University of South Australia and his wife Cecily.

A side table was piled high with brightly coloured parcels as prizes for the raffle which caused the usual hilarity. Thanks to all of those who brought prizes.

As the president I was honoured to make the announcement of the launch of preparations for the centenary cele-

brations of the establishment of The Adelaide Kindergarten Training College in 2007.

We also received a delightful card from Judy Grey-Gardener who is still in Alice Springs. She will be attending a performance by Bill Co. of 'A Midsummer Nights Dream' soon and recently she saw the Australian Ballet perform "Nutcracker". Judy sends her regards to all her graduate friends.

Christina Mc Pharlin

Inquiry into Early Childhood Services

The State government recently announced an inquiry into early childhood services in South Australia. The inquiry has been established to explore early childhood services provision and whether this is meeting the needs of parents and children.

It is the first State inquiry of this nature in early childhood in over 20 years. The last such inquiry in South Australia resulted in the abolition of the Kindergarten Union.

Documentation from the website for the inquiry gives an indication that integrated services, and the suggested benefits which accrue to families from such services, are a major focus for the inquiry. An additional focus will be on the transition from preschool settings to school. The inquiry steering group includes representatives from the childcare sector, the primary school sector, kindergarten sector, government departments (Education; Families and Communities and Hu-

man Services), United Trades and Labour Council, Aboriginal Education and private industry.

There have been consultations undertaken within the community and hopefully members have been able to attend and make their contributions known. There were opportunities for those interested to contribute their views to the inquiry via the inquiry website <http://www.ecsinquiry.sa.gov.au> where questionnaires were available to be completed either online or by downloading the relevant document. The associations committee made a joint submission with School of Education staff teaching in early childhood programs at the University of South Australia. The substance of the submission was that in any service which offers education and care for young children early childhood curriculum leadership is crucially important to ensure the implementation of play based curriculum which offers choice, challenge,

freedom and optimal learning. In addition, it was argued that families and communities should be empowered to identify their own needs and determine models of service provision which meet local community requirements.

The inquiry's September update gives details about the inquiry's progress. A number of activities have occurred since its inception, including reviews of the relevant literature, establishment of working groups to look at future directions, an adjustment to the Terms of Reference of the inquiry, the development of a range of consultation options such as questionnaires, telephone surveys, background papers and community forums. With all this activity, we can do without looking forward to some forward looking suggestions being made which will place early childhood services at the leading edge of service provision for children and families.

Donna Broadhurst

Community Creche Training

An initiative developed by the Junction Community Centre, in conjunction with TAFE, is assisting women in the western suburbs to start work in the child care sector by a popular community-based creche training course.

One of our recent graduates and Vice President, Ms Donna Broadhurst, is the person responsible for the training. Donna reports that the training course is providing opportunities to disseminate the important message that young children have rights and should be accorded the same respect as adults when we interact with them. She tells us that the participants are very enthu-

siastic and lots of lively discussion ensues amongst participants about the issues raised.

Many of the participants tell of how they are interacting with their own children and their friends' children differently as a result of doing the course. For these women, it may be the first time they have attempted any focussed learning since their school days. Many of the women left school early and do not have any formal education beyond year 10, others are new arrivals to Australia and want to find a way to enter the workforce by working with young children.

Whatever their motivation, it is encour-

aging that in small ways many of our members are constantly working across the State to improve the lives of children.

We would welcome member's contributions to the Newsletter. Items for inclusion can be sent to 'The Editor' - see address top page 4.

Items for the next Newsletter, due to be published March 2005, should be submitted to the editor no later than January 31, 2005.

**The Newsletter of the de Lissa Association of
Early Childhood Graduates Inc.**

The Hon Secretary
C/O School of Education
University of South Australia
GPO Box 247
Adelaide SA 5001

www.unisa.edu.au/del/alumni/index.htm



Pianos

Graduates own three pianos. We lend these to kindergartens which are unable to purchase their own. We believe that the music and movement program is much enhanced if supported by a well-tuned piano.

These instruments are currently situated at Rose Park Kindergarten, Athelstone Kindergarten and O'Halloran Hill Kindergarten. The pianos are on loan for two years and this period may be extended if no other requests are received.

It has been several years since these pianos have changed centres and whilst there is still a need in these Kindergartens, the Association's committee is keen to make this service widely known and to share the resources.

Please let Pauline Butler know (tel. 8261 5374) if you would like to have a piano in your centre. There is an annual charge of \$100.00, and pianos are to be tuned regularly and care taken to keep them in good order. Requests must be made before the 1st November, otherwise the pianos will remain at their present locations for another year.

Pauline Butler.

Child Protection Chair

In the March 2004 newsletter we reported that a new Chair in Child Protection had been established at the University of South Australia; with ten year funding from the Australian Government to provide a national focus for multidisciplinary research on child protection issues in a social context.

Melbourne expert in child and family welfare, Associate Professor Dorothy Scott, has been appointed to the position.

Associate Professor Scott has extensive research and practice experience in the field of child and family welfare and is currently Head of the School of Social Work at the University of Melbourne. She is one of the founding members of the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY) and has been actively involved as a member of the Collaboration Working Group, the Research Agenda Working Group and the Research Committee. She is also a founder of NIFTeY, a member of the Australian Council of Children and Parenting and has been involved as Executive Director of the Ian Potter Foundation.

Associate Professor Scott will take up her new appointment in March 2005.

Millennium Project

Interviews with our Senior Graduates

The most recent interviews have been with Mary Bleby (1934), Elizabeth Richards and Dorothy Grant both graduates of 1938.

Now that we have recording equipment which is superior to the tape recorder used for the earliest interviews, we hope to re-interview some of those graduates. The mini discs we are now using have a life of about 70+ years compared to a much shorter life for the tapes. Copies of the interviews will be filed in the Sommerville collection at the State library, with permission from the interviewee, and therefore be available for research purposes.

Helen Miller & Pauline Butler

KUSA Centenary

2005 is the centenary of the establishment of the Kindergarten Union of South Australia Inc. Many of our members had close associations with the Kindergarten Union during its 80 year history. The Association committee is planning to mark the occasion with a special celebratory focus at the 2005 annual dinner. Further details will be published in the March 2005 newsletter.