



WE ARE TALKING ABOUT A REVOLUTION



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ENDORSED
COURSE

This conference is endorsed by ACN according to our Continuing Professional Development Endorsed Course Standards. It has been allocated the below CPD hours according to the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia – Continuing Professional Development Standard.

10 November: 6 CPD hours
11 November: 6.5 CPD hours
Total: 12.5 CPD hours



Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 and 11 November 2015
9:00am-5:00pm, Crowne Plaza Coogee Beach, 242 Arden Street, Coogee

WE ARE TALKING ABOUT A REVOLUTION SCHEDULE



DAY ONE: TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2015

8:00am – 9:00am

Registration & Exhibitors

SESSION 1

9:00am – 9:10am

Welcome – [Christine Harrison](#), President, Montessori Australia Foundation and [Anne Kelly](#), Managing Director, Montessori Ageing Support Services

9:10am – 9:20am

Official Opening – [Sue Pieters-Hawke](#)

9:20am – 10:25am

The Prepared Environment: From the Classroom to the Care Centre – [Pamela Nunn](#) and [Jennifer Brush](#)

The environment can be designed to facilitate maximum independent learning and meaningful engagement by the child and the adult alike. In the calm, ordered space of the Montessori prepared environment, individuals experience a blend of independence and support in a place especially designed to meet their needs.

10:25am

Memorable Moment

10:30am – 11:00am

Morning Tea

SESSION 2

11:00am – 11.45am

The DementiAbility Checklist for Change: Practical Strategies for Changing the Culture of Dementia Care – [Gail Elliot](#)

Changing the culture of dementia care begins with educating staff about new evidence-based informed practices that embrace a new philosophy, vision, mission and overall change in the organisation's culture of care. This new emphasis, is placed on the person, rather than tasks. The focus is on enriching the lives of those living with dementia. The journey begins with organisational readiness and the commitment to educating staff, with emphasis placed on moving knowledge to practice.

11:45am – 12:05pm

“A Right Royal Ball: Creating Meaning Through Dance” – [Linda Griffin](#) and [Mark Pentecost](#)

In 2013 Anglican Retirement Villages commenced a project called Rhythm of Life which has become our Philosophy of Care. Our staff are the enablers of this philosophy and through living these principles and adopting Montessori principles we have changed the way we care for people. Building on each residents' strengths and abilities, we strive to bring joy and meaning to residents' lives. One activity that brings meaning to many is dancing. This is the story of The Right Royal Ball.

12:05pm – 12:25pm

Why Not? – [Kim Alpert](#)

We do need to follow legislation that governs our practice and those that keep residents safe, but sometimes these very legislations are used as an excuse as to why certain practices such as residents folding serviettes or wheeling trolleys cannot be allowed. Interpretation of legislation is as diverse across the industry as is the diversity of residents. We need to advocate for the residents dignity of risk with both families and/or other staff who are risk averse.

12:25pm – 12:35pm

Questions to Speakers

12:35pm

Memorable Moment

12:45pm – 1:45pm

Lunch



WE ARE TALKING ABOUT A REVOLUTION SCHEDULE



DAY ONE: TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2015 – CONTINUED

SESSION 3

1:45pm – 2:05pm

Montessori A Universal Care Model – As They Say in German – “Wir Konnen Alles Machen” (We Can Do It All) – Natasha Wilkinson

You can speak any language and get the same outstanding results with Montessori. Traditional Aged Care, provides a quality of care for residents which could be described as over caring. Tabulam and Templer Homes for the Aged a German aged care home was no different, we wanted to look after our residents and soon they became dependent on us. Since our journey with Montessori our residents and families are ecstatic with the changes and growth in our residents. We don't focus on what they can't do, we focus on what they can do. Residents now have a sense of worth with the day being about watering gardens, doing the washing, ironing, setting tables, cooking meals, preparing food, rehearsing in the choir, going out for lunch or dinner, visiting a friend, folding the laundry, the list goes on...

2:05pm – 2:25pm

“A Reason to Get Up Every Day” – Capability Model at Aldinga Beach Court Life Care – Sarah Miles and Merridy Schofield

Life Care is an innovative provider of services that strives to partner with people to enable them to Live Every Day as they age. We believe traditional models of care that focus on task, that separates staff functions into siloed units and that relies on a separate lifestyle program to entertain residents contribute to outcomes that can disengage residents and reduce the likelihood of individual residents having meaningful and purposeful days. Our service model trial at our Aldinga facility aims to liberate people by having them engaged and connected to their environment. Through a combination of our recently completed building program that incorporates contemporary dementia design elements plus our Capability Model, which embraces Montessori principles, that focuses on ability and reablement through the use of 'roles' for residents we are achieving success in having engaged residents that have real meaning and purpose in their lives, in fact a reason to get up each morning.

2:25pm – 2:45pm

“Raising the Curtain on the Theatre for Memories” – Julie Dunn

“Raising the Curtain on the Theatre for Memories” was a new program provided by Hastings District Respite Care, as part of their day respite service for people living with dementia in the Port Macquarie area of NSW and developed in response to requests made by clients and carers of the service. The aim of the project was to recognise everyone's right to express their creative talents contributing to a feeling of accomplishment, dignity and fulfilment. Maintaining community inclusion and having fun were major ingredients for the project! Through the weekly sessions over this time the participants have created 3 performances and a silent movie which they wrote together and have performed in the community. Music is always an essential part of the workshops promoting memories, fun and fostering communication amongst participants. Much of the script is based on stories and songs from the client's earlier memories taking advantage of retained long term memory.

2:45pm – 2:55pm

Questions to Speakers

12:55pm

Memorable Moment

3:00pm – 3:30pm

Afternoon Tea

3:30pm – 5:00pm

SESSION 4 – WORKSHOPS – CHOICE OF 3 (SEE OPTIONS LISTED)

5:30pm – 6:30pm

Conference Reception

Enjoy drinks and canapés, catch up with old friends and make new ones at this informal gathering and celebration of this important work.



WE ARE TALKING ABOUT A REVOLUTION SCHEDULE



DAY TWO: WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2015

8:00am – 9:00am	Exhibitors SESSION 5
9:00am – 9:10am	Welcome Back
9:10am – 10:00am	Decision-making in Dementia: Tools to Maintain Personal Autonomy – Michelle Bourgeois When communication deficits related to dementia limit a person's ability to respond reliably to questions about their preferences, caregivers serve as proxy respondents due to their assumed knowledge of the wishes and desires of the person. Research shows, however, that persons with dementia and their caregivers often have very different responses to quality of life questions. The purpose of this presentation is to share research-supported techniques that allow the person with dementia to make their own decisions and caregivers to better understand the preferences of the person.
10:00am – 10:25am	Rhythm of Life and Montessori – The Perfect Partnership – Kris Rice Anglican Retirement Villages (ARV) commenced an organisational wide change program to implement our newly defined philosophy of care 'Rhythm of Life' in 2012. This included the integration of Montessori principles into the Rhythm of Life, in 2013. More formally in 2015 ARV commenced a structured approach to Montessori which included all 16 Homes. This perfect partnership has contributed to increased resident and relative satisfaction and staff enthusiasm to provide dementia enabling environments within all of the Homes.
10:25am – 10:50am	Montessori Meal Time Magic – Promoting Independence at Meal Times – Vironique Vermaak Maintaining independence, especially when feeding oneself, is an essential means of preserving older adults' personhood and dignity. Too often in aged care facilities, when full independence may not be possible, staff may take over this role without realising they are "stealing" from the resident. This presentation will share some of the success stories at St Vincent's Aged Care in Guildford, WA, as well as providing strategies on ways to promote resident independence along the continuum of care.
10:50am – 10:55am	Questions to Speakers
10:55am	Memorable Moment
11:00am – 11:30am	Morning Tea
11:30am – 1:00pm	SESSION 6 – WORKSHOPS – CHOICE OF 3 (SEE OPTIONS LISTED) SESSION 7
2:00pm – 2:25pm	The Power of Engagement: Introducing Montessori into a Planned Activity Group Setting – Wendy Henderson Taking a Montessori approach in a Planned Activity Group (PAG) setting has set a new precedent to broaden our thinking about meaningful engagement for a person living with dementia long before their journey progresses to residential aged care. Alzheimer's Australia Vic has been working with a number of community organisations to move from "the ways things are" to "the way things can be". The objectives are to enhance every individual person's quality of life, strengths and abilities built upon the cornerstone of knowing who they are.
2:20pm – 2:55pm	One Step at a Time – Sue Mark In a small rural nursing home a Montessori journey began. A journey that was to give residents a purpose and a journey that was to change the way staff worked alongside residents to enable them to achieve their full potential. This is the story of changing the world of people living with dementia one step at a time.
2:55pm – 3:00pm	Questions to Speakers
3:00pm	Memorable Moment
3:05pm – 3:35pm	Afternoon Tea SESSION 8
3:35pm – 4:00pm	Don't Give Me Eggs That Bounce and More – Peter Morgan Jones Regardless of age mealtimes are important. The opportunity to share and enjoy meals should be a right of all people living in residential care. Meals need to be nutritious, tasty and enjoyable. It is possible to restore dignity and improve morale by the serving of food that stimulates both the senses and the memories
4:00pm – 4:10pm	Conference Close – Christine Harrison and Anne Kelly

WE ARE TALKING ABOUT A REVOLUTION WORKSHOP OPTIONS



WORKSHOP OPTIONS – DAY ONE: SESSION 4

1. Dementia CSI (Common Sense Interventions) for Caregivers – Gail Elliot

Caregivers who are put into the position of caring for loved ones with dementia often lack the skills and supports required to fulfil the demands of their new role. One of their greatest struggles is to understand and address the behaviours that are commonly associated with dementia. Research has shown that when caregivers are provided with the skills required for the job the outcomes can positively affect both mental and physical health.

2. Designing for Dementia – Jennifer Brush

This interactive workshop will discuss environmental design strategies for people with dementia that reduce the demands on the impaired communication functions, compensate for impaired function by using the preserved abilities, and enhancing the ability of a caregiver to provide assistance. Come prepared to brainstorm and create a plan for the environment where you work!

3. It's All About Sex – Panel of three speakers

Opportunities for sexual expression in aged care are few. Many organisations have an attitude of “Not under my roof” when it comes to a person's right to form loving and close relationships. We make judgements and decisions based on our views and attitudes and on what makes life easy for us. Like so many things in our industry, it is not about us, it is about the resident/client and we have an ethical obligation to meet all needs including those of sexual expression and sensuality. A panel of three speakers, representing sexuality in the older people, Sex workers in aged care and the issues around LGBTI will each present some information on their area of speciality, then the workshop will be open for exploration of individual attitudes and questions. A workshop that is likely to challenge your attitudes and your practice.

WORKSHOP OPTIONS – DAY TWO: SESSION 6

1. Validation Communication Techniques for Dementia – Gail Elliot

When working with individuals with dementia, who struggle to remember details that contribute to meaningful conversation, people often conclude that conversation is no longer possible. They falsely conclude that when communication strategies fail there is no way to connect with this individual. Validation techniques provide an effective remedy for communication breakdown in dementia. This session will also provide opportunities to challenge your thinking about communicating with individuals in all stages of dementia, including those who have lost virtually all ability to converse.

2. VoiceMyChoice™: A Decision-Making Tool for Dementia – Michelle Bourgeois

Participants will learn how to use visually based materials to solicit reliable responses from persons with dementia about personal preferences ranging from food and activity choices to advance directives and end of life care planning. Participants will learn how to select and implement person-specific materials to facilitate choice making by persons with dementia.

3. If You Are All Sitting Around Watching Me, It's Not Montessori: Utilising the Montessori Approach to Enrich Activity Programs – Elizabeth Oliver

To overcome the 4 Bs of aged care: bingo, bowls, bus trips and bowels, Elizabeth and her team of Occupational Therapists at Catholic Homes Inc in WA have implemented a range of activity groups that utilise the Montessori Principles. At this workshop, attendees will have the chance to participate in one of these innovative groups, as well as taking away practical strategies for enhancing resident leisure activities. Be sure to bring your passport, as this is an adventure you won't want to miss!



WE ARE TALKING ABOUT A REVOLUTION SPEAKERS



KIM ALPERT has more than 10 years' experience working with people with dementia. She initially started her career working as a Diversional Therapist with people with dementia. Kim has used her training as a diversional therapist to facilitate meaningful engagement that is person centred and specific to each client's needs. Using knowledge of best practice and compliance has allowed her the ability to create innovative and creative programs to support each person's sense of worth and ensure dignity. Kim has supported many facilities through consultancy in gaining accreditation and supported those facilities who were non-compliant or sanctioned to full compliance and best practice. Kim is currently working for DBMAS as a consultant ensuring that clients' needs are met to reduce behaviours of concern. This involves investigation into client's clinical needs as well as their sense of purpose to ensure an improved quality of life.



MICHELLE BOURGEOIS is a Professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, University of South Florida. She has received numerous grants from the National Institutes of Aging (NIA) and the Alzheimer's Association to investigate interventions for spousal and nursing home caregivers designed to improve the quality and quantity of communicative interactions with residents with dementia, to evaluate memory aids and interventions for persons with dementia and traumatic brain injury, and to develop training programs for institutional caregivers. A clinical researcher, Dr Bourgeois has published numerous research articles, training manuals and CDs, and books. She was the recipient of the 2007 Barry Reisberg Award for Non-Pharmacologic Research, Theory, and Clinical Practice and a 2013 Erskine Fellowship at the University of Canterbury, New Zealand.



JENNIFER A. BRUSH, M.A., CCC/SLP has been working for over 20 years to change the face of dementia care in hospitals, assisted living communities, nursing homes and home care. She is an international speaker and recognised speech-language pathologist known for her work in the areas of memory, swallowing, and environmental interventions for people with dementia. She has served as the Principal Investigator on applied research grants that have examined issues pertaining to dementia, hearing impairment, dining, dysphagia, and the long-term care environment. Jennifer Brush is the co-author of four books: Creative Connections; I Care; Environment and Communication Assessment Toolkit™ (ECAT) and A Therapy Technique for Improving Memory: Spaced Retrieval. She is the author of Meal Time Matters, a training program that builds care partners' skills related to dining, swallowing disorders, and safe feeding assistance.



VICKY COUMBE is the Manager, of Training Programs at the Aids Council of New South Wales (ACON). ACON is NSW's leading health promotion organisation specialising in HIV and LGBTI health. Vicky has worked for ACON for eight years in a variety of roles. She has a background in allied health across a range of roles and sectors. Vicky and her team were involved in the development of the material for the national LGBTI Inclusivity Training for the Aged Care Sector initiative and the implementation of ACON's Living Older Visibly and Engaged (LOVE) project, which seeks to engage and empower LGBTI seniors to be proactive about healthy ageing.



JULIE DUNN is co-manager of Hastings Respite Care Centres for people living with dementia in the Port Macquarie area of NSW. She has a Bachelor degree in Social Work and has worked in both the U.K and Australia in the health, community and education sectors. Julie is a firm advocate for people living with dementia and those who care for them and is passionate about improving services and support for people living with dementia in the community. She is excited about the journey Hastings Respite Care has embarked upon in implementing Montessori principles across the day respite centres and into people's homes. Julie has a strong interest in creating opportunities for people living with dementia to participate in creative pursuits and includes creative arts activities in all programs at Hastings Respite Care.



GAIL ELLIOT is Gerontologist & Dementia specialist and the Founder and CEO of Dementiability Enterprises Inc. She retired from McMaster University, Ontario, Canada, in 2012 with the purpose of focusing on dementia education. She is passionate about changing the face of dementia, and dementia care. Over the past 30 years she has gained the reputation as a leading expert in the field of aging, with a focus on interventions for dementia. She has worked in academic settings and in the community. In her role as an educator she has delivered workshops, presented at conferences and taught at the college and university level on a variety of topics in the field of aging both locally, nationally and internationally. Gail is the author of a number of publications, including Montessori Methods for Dementia™: Focusing on the Person and the Prepared Environment (2011).



LINDA GRIFFIN is a Diversional Therapist/Lifestyle Project Consultant and has worked for ARV, a not for profit Aged Care Provider in Sydney, New South Wales for over 15 years. Over the past couple of years ARV has embarked on a culture change through implementing a person centred philosophy called Rhythm of Life. Through this project the role of Lifestyle Project Consultant has been integral in supporting the facilitation of bringing meaning to peoples' lives. Much of this has been achieved through utilising lifestories, identifying strengths and facilitating meaningful activities and/or roles. In her role Linda has been able to advocate the use of Montessori principles in homes across ARV, which has been a big interest of hers over the years.



CHRISTINE HARRISON has been involved in Montessori education since 1985 and was Principal of the Canberra Montessori School, one of the largest Montessori schools in Australia, for over ten years. She is the founding Chair of the Montessori Australia Foundation and was Chair of the Association of Independent Schools in the ACT and on the Board of the Independent Schools Council of Australia. Christine has been involved in policy development, compliance, student care, curriculum development and educational leadership in schools and has a background in mediation, conflict resolution, adult education and a particular interest in governance in community organisations. Christine is a senior consultant for the Montessori Australia Foundation. Christine is on the Advisory Council of the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI).



WENDY HENDERSON has worked in the health, aged care and community care sector for 23 years. In her role at Alzheimer's Australia Vic she consults with and delivers education to a wide range of client groups including aged care staff, Planned Activity Groups, Home and Community Care staff, family carers, volunteers and the broader community. Her commitment to quality dementia care developed out of her own experiences with dementia – she is passionate about emphasising person-centred care with a practical, 'hand's on' approach and to aid this teaching is now an accredited Montessori Practitioner in dementia care.

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SPEAKERS



ANNE KELLY is a Montessorian Dementia Consultant. She has worked in dementia care both residential and community for the past 30 years. She is currently the Managing Director of the Montessori Ageing Support Services of Montessori Australia Foundation and Director of Montessori for Dementia Australia. In 2009 she was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to study Montessori methods for Dementia Care which enabled her to travel and work alongside world experts in this area including, Professor Michelle Bourgeois and Gail Elliott. Since her return from overseas Anne has been sharing the magic of Montessori for Dementia working with organisations who wish to change the lives of people living with dementia by creating Montessori Environments. Anne believes that Montessori environments are the Holy Grail of aged care.



SUE MARK has been an aged care manager for over 20 years. She has worked in three states and territories in a range of diverse and interesting aged care environments. She was the driving force behind the development of the Capability model, incorporating Montessori principles at LifeCare Aldinga Beach before moving to a small Victorian rural aged care facility in March this year. Sue has a passion for enabling and engaging people living with dementia.



SARAH MILES is an experienced care worker with many years' experience in both England and Australia working with people with both younger and older onset dementia. Sarah has a dementia training qualification from England and is currently in her second year of a Bachelor of Dementia studies at the University of Tasmania. Sarah immigrated to Australia in 2009 and has been working for Life Care since 2010. Sarah has been instrumental in rolling out the Montessori project across LifeCare at Aldinga Beach. She feels she has found her 'calling' in Montessori.



PETER MORGAN-JONES has cooked for the Royal family and alongside some of Australia's best known chefs and is now HammondCare's Executive Chef and Food Ambassador. Peter began work with HammondCare in late January 2012, after five years as Head Chef at the Art Gallery of NSW. Now Peter Morgan-Jones has embraced the opportunity to bring to the aged care sector his vast restaurant experience along with his love of "unadulterated" food where "the flavours do the talking" and fresh, seasonal and sustainable produce and innovation in modified meals. Peter was co - Author of a book "Don't give me eggs that bounce" in 2014 which shared some of his food recipes and innovation to people caring for a person living with dementia.



PAMELA NUNN has worked in the field of the education of young children for 30 years. Pamela is an AMI Trainer of Montessori teachers for the 3-6 year age range. She gained a Diploma in Early Childhood Education in South Australia, her AMI (3-6) Diploma with Sydney Montessori Teachers College, and has nurtured three children to adulthood. For 10 years, Pamela held the position of Directress and authorised supervisor with the Sydney Montessori Society at Lindfield. Pamela has been involved with professional development of Montessori teachers through workshops, Refresher Courses, Introduction to Montessori programmes, and has contributed to both national Montessori conferences and international congresses.



ELIZABETH OLIVER is the Senior Occupational Therapist for Catholic Homes Inc (CHI), a not for profit aged care provider in Perth, Western Australia. Elizabeth has 10 years of experience working with older adults in community and residential care settings, as well as lecturing in Gerontology. With a passion for improving the lives of people with dementia, Elizabeth has led a number of practice initiatives that foster wellbeing and quality of life outcomes, and is convinced that the Montessori Approach truly is the holy grail of aged care.



MARK PENTECOST recently started working for ARV in a newly created role as a Music Consultant. Mark's aged care experience is practical and hands on. He spent eight years helping to organise, market and literally drive (as a coach captain) a coach holiday travel program for ARV's retirement villages. An experienced entertainer, last year he also performed 140 concerts at residential care homes, gaining further insight into the aged care field. He is now using his musical knowledge and experience to implement a music and entertainment program across ARV's sixteen villages.



SUE PIETERS-HAWKE is the author of the best-selling book Hazel's Journey, the story of her mother Hazel's experience with Alzheimer's disease. She cared for her mother during her long illness with dementia, until her admission into Residential Care. Sue co-chairs the Federal Minister's Dementia Advisory Group, and works throughout the community to raise awareness of dementia and the need for significant dementia reform. She is an occasional columnist with The Australian Newspaper. She is well known as an advocate for issues surrounding dementia, healthy aging, carer support, healthy lifestyle and innovative social engagement.



KRISTENE RICE is a Registered Nurse with a wide range of experience in the public health and aged care services. Kristene has post graduate qualifications in neurology and a Masters in Health Administration. Kristene has held clinical, management, quality improvement, and project roles over the past 32 years, culminating in the portfolio of General Manager Care Services at ARV. Kristene has a passion for improving the quality of life for residents and clients living in aged care services and has been responsible in leading the implementation of ARV's new philosophy of care and operating model to support the 'Rhythm of Life'.



MERRIDY SCHOFIELD is an experienced manager with over twenty five years of experience in both community and residential settings providing services to older people, people with disabilities, people living with mental health issues and their carers. She has a strong history of developing services that support and engage older people to live more fully in their communities.



VIRONIQUE VERMAAK is a dynamic Physiotherapist at Catholic Homes Inc, a not for profit aged care provider in Perth, Western Australia. Vironique entered the aged care industry as a new graduate two years ago with enthusiasm and passion to enhance the lives of residents, learning quickly that it is the small things that make the world of difference. Vironique has been an important change agent, utilising the Montessori Principles to rehabilitate high care residents to boost their independence and self worth, and being a positive role model for staff.



NATASHA WILKINSON is the CEO of Tabulam and Templer Homes for the Aged. Natasha has over 7 years' experience in aged care. She has a Bachelor of Business majoring in IT and accounting and a Diploma in Marketing. She has extensive hospitality experience and very focused on customer service. Natasha is participating on the LASA CALD Interest Group and the Knox Healthy Ageing Advisory Committee. Her passion for aged care with her business background provides a sound business base for running TTHA, she ensures that every day is a day worth living and is passionate about what all residents can do.

MONTESSORI AGEING SUPPORT SERVICES 2015 CONFERENCE VENUE & REGISTRATION



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* Early Bird offer ends 30th June, 2015.

WORKSHOP PREFERENCES:

Please indicate your order of preference for the workshops available. Every effort will be made to accommodate your first preferences over both days.

- DAY ONE, SESSION 4:**
1. Dementia CSI (Common Sense Interventions) for Caregivers
 2. Designing for Dementia
 3. It's All About Sex
- DAY TWO, SESSION 6:**
1. Validation Communication Techniques for Dementia
 2. VoiceMyChoice™: A decision-making tool for Dementia
 3. If you are all sitting around watching me, it's not Montessori

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE 27 OCTOBER 2015

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