

Across the Desk

Hume Palliative Care Consultancy Team



4th Edition April/May 2010



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Education and service delivery information for palliative care providers who share in the care across the region – specialist palliative care teams, primary care providers and people in the general community

Hume palliative care education and training offerings in 2010 – The latest!

Legend:

HPCCT

GV Hospice Care

Date	Workshop	Presenter	Audience	Location
13 & 14 May	'Who Cares...' 2 day Conference	Various speakers including international speaker from NZ.	Palliative care service providers	Shepparton
16 September	Creative Caring in our Community watch this space ...	Various	HPC Volunteers	Benalla

Hume Palliative Care Consultancy Team and GV Hospice Care are happy to discuss specific palliative care education requirements for your workplace. We are working together to provide palliative care education across the region.

Contact HPCCT at Ovens & King Community Health Service on 5723 2070 or email palliative@ovensandking.org.au.

Contact Sonia Strachan, Clinical Nurse Consultant at GV Hospice Care on 5822 0068 or email soniaa@hospice.shepparton.net.au. GV Hospice website <http://hospice.shepparton.net.au>.

"Who Cares ..." a 2 day workshop

- Date:** Thursday 13 & Friday 14 May 2010
Venue: The Carrington, 505 Wyndham Street, Shepparton
Cost: Varies depending on chosen package – see full flyer for details
Presenters: * Professor Margaret O'Connor (President Palliative Care Australia)
 * Judy Arpana (Consultant and Counsellor)
 * Irene Nolan (Social Worker specialising in loss and grief)
 * John Doyle (Psychologist)
 * Liese Groot-Albert (Grief Therapist)
 * Dr. Jennifer Phillip (Palliative Care Consultant, St. Vincent's)
 * Molly Carlile (Author, RN and Educator)

This is a two day conference for health care professionals and volunteers exploring ways to care for ourselves with the same dedication and compassion that we invest in others. Registration form is available on the website <http://www.ovensandking.org.au/home/topics-and-flyers.html>.

Detailed flyers (outlining content and charges) and registration forms for education in 2010 will be circulated and made available at www.ovensandking.org.au as sessions are confirmed. Please follow this link to directly access the Palliative Care Education page <http://www.ovensandking.org.au/o-k-palliative-care-education.html>.

Education Galore: Other education on offer

The table below is a summary of other current palliative care related education. More detailed information can be found in Appendix A on page 10 at the end of this newsletter.

Education being held in Hume region

Date	Title of Education	Provider
3 May	Professional Boundary Setting	HACC
3 – 6 May	10 th Global Conference International Federation on Ageing	International Federation on Ageing
4 May	Professional Boundary Setting	HACC
5 May	Healing Experiences around the End of Life	LaTrobe University
6 May	Professional Boundary Setting	HACC
6 May	Dealing with Loss & Grief	HACC
10 May	Writing Workshop for Palliative Care Clinicians	Monash University
26 May	The Victorian Bushfires: Supporting those experiencing trauma and grief in the wake of the fires	Australian Centre for Grief and Bereavement
27 May	Dealing with Loss & Grief	HACC
28 May	Dealing with Loss & Grief	HACC
29 May	Life & Death Matters – it's the care that counts 3 rd Gippsland PC Conference	Gippsland Region Palliative Care Consortium
3 June	Assessment & Care Planning Training	HACC
10 June	Dealing with Loss & Grief	HACC
17 & 18 June	Aged Care at the Crossroads	Aged & Community Care Victoria
22 June	Preparing Case Notes	HACC
25 June	Food with a Difference: Culturally Appropriate Meals in Aged Care	Centre for Cultural Diversity in Ageing

News Across the Region

Palliative Care Medical Consultancy in the Hume Region - business hours Monday to Friday

Dr Mark Boughey and his team of Palliative Care Physicians from St Vincent's are contracted with Hume Palliative Care Consortia to provide palliative care secondary consultancy and education to the Hume region. This service is available to palliative care clinicians and GP'S who have clients with complex issues who are/have been referred to their local palliative care services.

Please contact your local palliative care service for further information or Hume Palliative Care Consultancy Team on 57232073.

Dr Joseph Ding, Palliative Care Consultant who is based with GV Hospice in Shepparton is also available each Friday for secondary consultation for complex client issues.

Contact details: 58222530 (will take message) email jdjing@hospice.shepparton.net.au.

Journal Club with Dr. Joseph Ding

The first journal meeting for the year will be held on Wednesday 5 May at GV Hospice from 12.30pm – 1.30pm. The topic is methadone. If you are interested in linking up with this teleconference please contact GV Hospice on 5822 2350 or Anne Williams on 5723 2073. Journal club will be run on the first Wednesday of every month at the same time as above.

Labyrinth Workshop – 25 March 2010

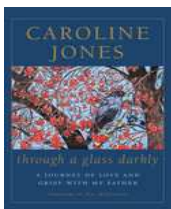
On 25 March 2010 HPCCT held a labyrinth workshop facilitated by Helen Malcolm. For those who have never attended a labyrinth workshop, the labyrinth can be used for stress management, as a walking meditation, for problem solving or reconciliation, or as a spiritual tool. Labyrinths are being increasingly installed around the world, especially in palliative care and cancer wards, hospitals and spiritual centres and allow us to slow down and centre ourselves.



One of the participant's comments on the day:

"I really enjoyed the Labyrinth workshop and think I would gain a lot more by doing it alone. My girlfriend has MS and thought she would struggle to make it thru as she has problems with walking but she was really surprised that she did it with ease. She actually said she felt like she was walking too fast so that was great for her too."

This Month's Book Release



Through a Glass Darkly: A journey of love and grief with my father – Caroline Jones

After decades of getting others to tell their stories, the veteran broadcaster Caroline Jones has now written a detailed memoir of dealing with the death of her father, and what was for her the shocking grief that followed.

'In my life, through *The Search for Meaning and Australian Story*, I have been given the wisdom of so many people's stories, and admired their struggles to keep faith in life through the hard times. I have committed them to memory and treasured them in my heart. Why then am I handling this so badly?'

Through a Glass Darkly chronicles Caroline Jones' immensely personal journey as she watched her deeply loved father die, and the challenging seven-year chapter of her life since. She was unprepared for the intensity of her grief; for a long time the experience of the final eight weeks of his life was locked up in images that haunted the dreams of her broken sleep, and startled her with their clarity when she awoke too early and unrefreshed.

She felt as though she was behind a pane of glass, on the other side of which people's lives went on. Yet in time she grew through her grief; she developed a more profound perspective on life, a new depth of spiritual maturity, and a heightened awareness of the suffering of others.

RRP \$35.00 available through the ABC shop by following this link <http://shop.abc.net.au/browse/searchresult.asp?SearchID=3012043&SearchRefineID=6445206>.

Last Month's Book Release



Looking for Lionel – Sharon Snir ***How I lost and found my mother through dementia***

Looking for Lionel is a warm, insightful memoir about how dementia entered Sharon Snir's family and left them struggling with fear and sorrow. As Sharon shares her inspirational story, she invites you into her world of laughter and tears. Written for family and friends of those with the disease, it helps readers regain their courage and find the joys of relating in the here and now.

Available from Allen & Unwin at <http://www.allenandunwin.com/default.aspx?page=94&book=9781741759518>. RRP \$29.99.

This Month's Website

TIME for dementia: The Victoria and Tasmania Dementia Training Study Centre
www.timefordementia.org



Welcome to TIME for dementia: The Victoria and Tasmania Dementia Training Study Centre

The Victoria and Tasmania Dementia Training Study Centre (TIME for dementia) has been established as part of the [Australian Government's Dementia Initiative](#).

TIME for dementia is one of five Centres nationally that promote dementia studies in Australian graduate and undergraduate curriculum as well as providing tertiary dementia career pathways.

Training, Innovation, Mentoring and Education for dementia (TIME for dementia) aims to provide flexible, multi dimensional education to Allied Health, Medical and Nursing professionals and healthcare students in Victoria and Tasmania.

TIME for dementia is conducting a series of workshops in 2008 and 2009; as well as providing curricula suitable for both undergraduate and postgraduate education. TIME for dementia also funds partial PhD scholarships for further dementia related research.

TIME for dementia is headed by La Trobe University's Australian Centre for Evidence Based Aged Care, in collaboration with Alzheimer's Australia Tas, Alzheimer's Australia Vic, Bayside Health, Bendigo Health, Monash University, the National Ageing Research Institute, St Vincent's Health and the University of Tasmania, with support from Bayside Health and Bundoora Extended Care Centre.

TIME for dementia education modules: The education modules aim to assist health professionals to care for people with dementia. Whilst developed as education modules the information is presented in such a way that it can be used as a resource manual. You can view the introduction page to see the content available once registered as a user.

Access to TIME for dementia education package and mentorship program

TIME for dementia: The Victoria and Tasmania Dementia Training Study Centre is an Australian Government initiative. Access to the educational material is restricted to health professionals and healthcare students resident in Australia.

The mentorship program is available to health professionals and healthcare students resident in Victoria and Tasmania and undertaking the education modules.



Other interesting news ...

Australian Centre for Grief and Bereavement

Bushfire Bereavement Support Services

Kids Grieve Too (KG2) – Groups for children who have lost someone close to them in the 2009 Victorian bushfires

Following consultation with community groups, bereaved people and professionals, a need has been identified for support groups for children who have experienced the death of someone close to them through the Victorian bushfires. These groups will provide an opportunity for children aged 5-14 to meet with other bereaved children in a safe and non-threatening setting. The first Kids Grieve Too (KG2) bushfire group is already running in Kinglake with the likelihood of other groups being developed in Ringwood, Strathewen/St. Andrews, Gippsland and North Melbourne.

The program is a joint project of the Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Authority, the Department of Health and the Australian Centre for Grief and Bereavement, and funded by the Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund.

If you are interested in hearing more about these groups please contact the ACGB Counselling and Support Service on (03) 9265 2111 or email support@grief.org.au

2011 International Grief and Bereavement Conference



Planning is now well underway for next year's joint Association for Death Education and Counseling (ADEC) and the International Conference on Grief and Bereavement in Contemporary Society conference, "Making Connections: Dying, Death and Bereavement in the Global Community". If you visit the ADEC website you'll find a page dedicated to the 2011 conference, listing professional development courses, keynote speakers and invited symposia - <http://adec.org/conf/2011/index.cfm>.

The abstract submission process is planned to commence on 15 June 2010. You can download a conference brochure by following this link http://www.grief.org.au/docs/2011_conf.pdf.

ACG&B 2010 Education Calendar

To view the 2010 education calendar http://www.grief.org.au/education/programs/education_program.

Caresearch

New Pages on the Caresearch Website

Living Alone

By 2026 over 3.5 million Australians will be living alone and nearly a quarter of these will be older Australians (aged 75 years and over). As a result many people requiring palliative care may be living alone. Three new pages have been released that look at this issue for health professionals and for patients and families.

- Clinical Practice

Living Alone

www.caresearch.com.au/caresearch/ClinicalPractice/SpecificPopulations/LivingAlone/tabid/1417/Default.aspx

Further Reading

www.caresearch.com.au/caresearch/ClinicalPractice/SpecificPopulations/LivingAlone/FurtherReading/tabid/1430/Default.aspx

- For Patients and Families

Living Alone

www.caresearch.com.au/caresearch/ForPatientsandFamilies/SpecificGroups/LivingAlone/tabid/1419/Default.aspx

CNIN March 2010

The CareSearch Nurses Information Newsletter for March 2010 is now available. The March issue looks at:

- Clinical Uses: Supporting Multicultural clients
- Evidence Based Practice: Validating tools for those from a different culture
- CareSearch Page Profile: CareSearch Multilingual modules

You can view the March edition of the newsletter by following this link http://www.caresearch.com.au/Caresearch/Portals/0/Documents/Professional-Groups/Nurses/CNIN_newsletter_Mar_2010.pdf.

CareSearch Review Collection

There were 53 systematic reviews added to the CareSearch Review Collection during March 2010.

- Warren M. Metastatic breast cancer recurrence: a literature review of themes and issues arising from diagnosis. *Int J Palliat Nurs.* 2009 May;15(5):222-5.
This literature review examined the main issues affecting breast cancer patients with recurrent metastases, and identified key differences between this group and those diagnosed with other forms of breast cancer. The review comprises 10 papers which attempt to describe women's reactions to a diagnosis of recurrent metastatic breast cancer, although many do not focus solely on the experiences of this group of patients.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19491747?itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_RVDocSum&ordinalpos=39.
- Johnson MJ, Oxberry SG, Cleland JG, Clark AL. Measurement of breathlessness in clinical trials in patients with chronic heart failure: the need for a standardized approach: a systematic review. *Eur J Heart Fail.* 2010 Feb;12(2):137-47.
Chronic breathlessness is a major symptom for patients with compensated chronic heart failure (CHF). However, despite breathlessness being an important and limiting problem for patients with CHF, the review found no consensus on which tool should be used for breathlessness severity, little methodological research to develop such a tool, and a lack of focus on breathlessness as a symptom.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20083623?itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_RVDocSum&ordinalpos=1.
- McWilliams K, Keeley PW, Waterhouse ET. Propofol for terminal sedation in palliative care: a systematic review. *J Palliat Med.* 2010 Jan;13(1):73-6
This review looked at the published evidence of the effectiveness of propofol for terminal sedation. Only four articles – all case series or case reports – were found with generally favorable reports of the use of propofol as sedation for intractable symptoms in the last days of life especially when one or more other drugs have failed.
<http://www.liebertonline.com/doi/abs/10.1089/jpm.2009.0126>.
- Cherny NI, Abernethy AP, Strasser F, Sapir R, Currow D, Zafar SY. Improving the methodologic and ethical validity of best supportive care studies in oncology: lessons from a systematic review. *J Clin Oncol.* 2009 Nov 10;27(32):5476-86. Epub 2009 Jun 29.
The purpose of this review was to systematically review the best supportive care (BSC) literature and to evaluate ethical and methodologic validity issues. Forty-three published papers were identified that described 32 studies. There was a lack of rigor in BSC studies. Ad hoc SC and lack of standardization of SC delivery may be sources of systematic bias or error in BSC trials.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19564538?itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_RVDocSum&ordinalpos=1.
- Duke S, Bennett H. A narrative review of the published ethical debates in palliative care research and an assessment of their adequacy to inform research governance. *Palliat Med.* 2010 Mar;24(2):111-26. Epub 2009 Dec 4.
The quality of research, and the resulting quality of evidence available to guide palliative care, is dependent on the ethical decisions underpinning its design, conduct and report. However an assessment of the quality and synthesis of the central debates had not

been undertaken. Fifty-seven papers were reviewed. The debates addressed vulnerability, moral appropriateness, consent, gate-keeping and inclusion and research culture. There was little debate about the ethics of reporting of research and the ethics underpinning research leadership.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19965950>.

- Reeve JL, Lloyd-Williams M, Dowrick C. Revisiting depression in palliative care settings: the need to focus on clinical utility over validity. *Palliat Med.* 2008 Jun;22(4):383-91.

This study looked at the literature on depression in palliative care patients to identify implications for development of clinical practice and individual patient care. Eighteen studies were identified in the search and included in this review. The authors concluded that risk factors may contribute to depression prevalence but through a complex interaction of factors making individual risk levels hard to determine.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18541643>.

What's New in the Palliative Care Community

- National Pain Summit
- Acute Pain Management: Scientific Evidence Third Edition (2010)
- Methylnaltrexone injection (Relistor)
- National Health and Hospitals Network
- ANZSPM forums
- Changes to the MBS primary care items
- Report of the Review of Health Technology Assessment in Australia
- Research news

For further information on the above topics and to view the entire April edition of the Caresearch newsletter follow this link <http://www.caresearch.com.au/Caresearch/Portals/0/Documents/About-caresearch/News/@CareSearch2010Aprilweb.pdf>.

Conferences in 2010 and 2011

Please follow this link for an up to date list of conferences –

<http://www.caresearch.com.au/caresearch/Education/Conferences/tabid/74/Default.aspx>.

To access the Caresearch website follow <http://www.caresearch.com.au>.

Palliative Care Australia

The April edition of the PCA e-Bulletin has recently been released. Some articles included:

- Policy report – preventable pain at the end of life
- NSAP review – have your say
- National Palliative Care Week
- PEPA events

To view the full April edition of the PCA e-Bulletin please follow this link <http://www.palliativecare.org.au/Portals/46/E-Bulletin/PCA%20e-bulletin%20-%20April%202010.pdf>.

Palliative Care Victoria

National Hospital & Health Reforms

At this stage, we are unable to add to the information already released in the public media regarding the outcomes of the health reform negotiations. While additional funding for Victoria's health system is very welcome, it is not clear what the implications will be for palliative care services. We will let you know as soon as more detail comes to hand.

National Palliative Care Week Sunday 23 – Saturday 29 May 2010

If only I knew... how to talk about dying

During National Palliative Care Week (23 – 29 May 2010), Palliative Care Australia is encouraging all Australians to talk a little more about dying, death and achieving a good quality of life at the end of life.

Palliative Care Australia has also partnered with the Australian Library and Information Association, the Australian General Practice Network and the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia to promote the messages of National Palliative Care Week to the wider community.

Resources, including a postcard and poster set highlighting the theme, will be available through libraries, self-care pharmacies and general practices.

Palliative Care Australia anticipates that it will be able to distribute resources in the first week of May 2010. The resources will be able to be viewed and ordered from their website: www.palliativecare.org.au. We will advise you as soon as these are available. You can also contact gretchen@palliativecare.org.au or call (02) 6232 4433.

There will be several national events during National Palliative Care Week, including a breakfast at Parliament House in Canberra, and a reception at Admiralty House in Kirribilli, with Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC, Governor - General of the Commonwealth of Australia and Patron of Palliative Care Australia. National Palliative Care Week will also be marked by a number of events around Australia.

Your contribution to National Palliative Care Week is instrumental in raising awareness in the community of the issues surrounding death, dying and loss and the value of palliative care.

If you are planning any events or activities for this week please let us know at Palliative Care Victoria so that we can promote these events via our website and inform Palliative Care Australia for their report back to the Commonwealth.

New Podcasts now available on the PCV Website

Dr Peter Martin, Clinical Director of Palliative Care for the Barwon South-West Region, speaks on the following topics:

- Breaking Bad News
- Family Meetings

Deborah O'Connor, Health Promotion Officer for the Palliative Care Unit at La Trobe University, talks about:

- Building community capacity and resilience in dealing with death, dying and loss through health promoting palliative care programs

These podcasts can be downloaded for iPod and Media Players. PCV will continue to feature experts advising on some of the issues faced by health professionals who support people living with a terminal illness.

To view go to the PEPA page on the PCV website <http://www.pallcarevic.asn.au/-pepa/podcasts>.

Any suggestions regarding future topics to be covered please email info@pallcarevic.asn.au.

Disability Residential Services Palliative Care Guide

A Disability Palliative Care working group has been meeting over the past 18 months to determine priorities to improve the Disability-Palliative Care interface. The group has palliative care and disability representation from government, peak bodies and the sector. One of the activities undertaken by the group has been to develop a 'Disability Residential Services Palliative Care Guide'. The guide has been recently published and is available on the Department of Health palliative care website at www.health.vic.gov.au/palliativecare.

Productivity Inquiry Submission into Aged Care

The Terms of Reference for the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Aged Care were announced by the Assistant Treasurer and the Minister for Ageing recently. These refer to a number of challenges facing the aged care sector, including the 'increasing need for psycho geriatric and for skilled palliative care'.

The Productivity Commission is requested to develop regulatory and funding options for residential and community aged care that meet a range of criteria, including the following relevant (indirectly) to palliative care:

- ...consistent with reforms occurring in other health services... recognizing that aged care is an integral part of the health system and that changes in the aged care system have the potential to adversely or positively impact upon the demand for other care modalities;
- ..reflect the cost of care and provide sufficient revenue to meet quality standards [and] provide appropriately skilled and adequately remunerated workforce.

The Inquiry provides an important opportunity to advocate for changes that will improve access to high quality palliative care for older people receiving residential care and community care services. Palliative Care Victoria will work with Palliative Care Australia to achieve this.

The Productivity Commission is to hold hearings, produce a draft report by December 2010 and a final report by April 2011.

The complete Terms of Reference can be viewed at: <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr10-je-je030.htm>.

Next Issue – Any Contributions?

The June issue of Across the Desk will be distributed in the week ending 28 May 2010. If you have any articles that you would like to contribute, please forward them to Christine at petersoc@ovensandking.org.au by 25 May 2010.

Thought for the Month

SHAGGY DOG STORY



An older, tired looking dog wandered into my yard. I could tell from his collar and well fed belly that he had a home and was well taken care of. He calmly came over to me, I gave him a few pats on his head; he then followed me into my house, slowly walked down the hall, curled up in the corner and fell asleep.

An hour later he woke up and went to the door. I let him out. The next day he was back, greeted me in my yard, walked inside and resumed his spot in the hall and again slept for almost an hour.

This continued off and on for several weeks. Curious, I pinned a note to his collar: "I would like to find out who the owner of this wonderful sweet dog is and ask if you are aware that almost every afternoon your dog comes to my house for a nap." The next day he arrived for his nap with a different note pinned to his collar: "He lives in a house with 6 children, 2 under the age of 3 – He's trying to catch up on his sleep. Can I come with him tomorrow?"

*The Compassionate Friends Newsletter April/May ed 2010
Author unknown*

Appendix A: Education Galore

Professional Boundary Setting - HACC

Dates: 3 May (Wodonga)
4 May (Euroa)
6 May (Nagambri)
Time: 1.00pm – 4.00pm
Cost: \$22 (HACC staff) \$135 (non-HACC staff) person/program

Content covers:

- Professional boundaries for service efficiency and OH&S
- Concepts of professional boundaries
- Difficulties in setting up boundaries
- Strategies in tackling these difficulties

Contact your organisation's HACC training person or your manager to register. The program is open to all HACC staff in the Hume Region. Places limited to 25 people. For further information contact Sue Chen at hacctraining@riac.org.au.

Dealing with Loss & Grief – HACC

Dates: 6 May (Seymour)
27 May (Nathalia)
28 May (Cobram)
10 June (Yea)
Time: 12.00pm – 3.00pm
Cost: \$22 (HACC) \$150 (non-HACC staff) person

Program Outcome:

Grief is the personal response to any loss. A loss in any circumstances affects the whole person. It changes how we feel physically and emotionally. It affects our energy level and our activities. In a work environment, when loss and grief is being experienced, the recovery process creates temporary disturbance of work relation dynamics. This half day program covers:

- Grief tasks and stages
- How grief and loss affect an individual
- How to be of assistance to staff who are experiencing loss
- How to care for yourself while dealing with grief

Contact your organisation's HACC training person or your manager to register. The program is open to all HACC staff in the Hume Region. Maximum intake is restricted to 25 people. For further information contact Sue Chen at hacctraining@riac.org.au.

10th Global Conference on Ageing – International Federation on Ageing



Date: 3 – 6 May 2010

Venue: Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre

For the full program and list of speakers etc. please follow this link to the conference site <http://www.ifa2010.org/default.asp>.

Healing Experiences around the End of Life – LaTrobe University



Date: 5 May 2010

Time: 7.00pm – 8.30pm

Venue: The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne

Cost: Free of charge

Speaker: Dr. Michael Barbato

Healing Experiences around the End of Life is an evening seminar to explore the mystery of death and the extraordinary experiences that occur at the interface between life and death. The healing potential of these experiences will be a focus of the talk. Michael Barbato has been in medical practice for over 40 years, 20 of these as a palliative care physician.

Please register your intention to attend with: f.spain@latrobe.ed.au or phone (03) 9285 5259.

Writing Workshop for Palliative Care Clinicians – Monash University

Date: 10 May 2010
Time: 9.00am – 4.00pm
Venue: Monash Conference Centre, Level 7, 30 Collins Street, Melbourne
Cost: \$150.00 (includes light lunch and GST)
Facilitators: Professor Margaret O'Connor AM and Associate Professor Ysanne Chapman

Please note: Participants are required to bring along a 250 word outline of a project they would like to write about for publication.

This practical facilitated workshop aims to assist clinicians develop their confidence in writing, encourage clinicians to publish their clinical projects, and create a network of writers.

To register your interest, please send an email to: ShortCourses-SoNM@med.monash.edu.au with 'Writing Workshop for Palliative Care Clinicians – 10 May 2010' in the subject line.

The Victorian Bushfires: Supporting those Experiencing Trauma and Grief in the Wake of the Fires – Australian Centre for Grief and Bereavement

Date: 26 May 2010
Venue: Wyndhamere Motel-Best Western, 65-67 Wyndham Street, Shepparton
Cost: \$180.00 (ACGB member) \$220.00 (non-member) morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea included

Professionals working in various healthcare settings, support services, educational institutions and other workplaces are likely to come across people who were left traumatised and grieving as the result of the Black Saturday bushfires. This workshop will explore the impact of a disaster such as Black Saturday. It will focus on common responses to trauma, both during the immediate recovery phase and long term.

For further information go to http://www.grief.org.au/education/programs/education_program.

Life & Death Matters – it's the care that counts – 3rd Gippsland Palliative Care Conference



Date: Saturday 29 May 2010
Time: 9.00am – 5.00pm
Venue: Century Inn, Princes Highway, Traralgon West
Cost: Free of charge

The theme of this year's annual palliative care conference in the Gippsland region is "Life and Death Matters – it's the care that counts". Hear from speakers with extensive experience in palliative care and related fields. Participate in interactive workshops with practical relevance to your work. Topics include:

- Advance Care Planning
- Aged Care and Dementia
- Symptom management
- Cultural diversity and palliative care
- Clinical assessment

For further details go to www.gha.net.au/grpcc or contact Anthony Hooper, Consortium Manager on 0427 428 580 or email anthony@peppermintridgefarm.com.au.

Assessment & Care Planning Training - HACC

Date: 3 June 2010
Time: 9.00am – 5.00pm
Venue: Benalla
Cost: \$22.00 (HACC) \$330 (non-HACC staff) per person/program

Content covers:

Context of community care

- Responding to client needs while supporting independence
- HACC Active Service Model
- Balancing duty of care against client rights to decision-making

Framework for understanding client need

- Introduction and practical applications of WHO international classification of functioning, disability and health
- How this framework helps goal setting and care planning practice

Enhancing practice related to person centre care

- Participants to review current practice and consider opportunities for improvement at client, provider and organisational level

Developing care plans

- From problems to action plans

The role of communication in goal setting and care planning

- Reviewing interviewing skills

Revisit your goal setting and care planning practice

- What are the next steps

All HACC service assessment staff are encouraged to receive this training.

Contact your organisation's HACC training person or your manager to register. The program is open to all HACC staff in the Hume Region. For further information contact Sue Chen at hacctraining@riac.org.au.

Aged Care at the Crossroads – Aged & Community Care Victoria

Date: 17 & 18 June 2010

Venue: Melbourne Park Function Centre

Cost: Varies (see full registration flyer for details)

Features: Kevin Larkins (former CEO Palliative Care Victoria) *“Issues and practice in advanced care planning”*

Alan Hopgood (playwright and actor) in *“Four Funerals in One Day”*

This program has been developed with keynote speakers addressing critical topics such as:

- Intersections between aged acute and primary care
- Aged care industry reform issues
- Drivers of change in aged care
- Innovation in aged care financing

The Congress will feature a Trade Exhibition which will highlight over 40 commercial entities servicing the aged and community care sector. We encourage all delegates to take this opportunity to view the latest in industry trends and advances demonstrated in this comprehensive industry display.

For a full flyer and registration information, please visit the ACCV website by following this link <http://www.accv.com.au/>.

Food with a Difference: Culturally Appropriate Meals in Aged Care – Centre for Cultural Diversity in Ageing

Date: 25 June 2010

Time: 9.30am – 3.00pm

Venue: The University of Melbourne – Hawthorn Campus

Target Audience: Service managers and chefs/cooks

Description:

This seminar will explore the issue of providing culturally appropriate food in both the community care and residential settings. It will cover:

- The role of food in promoting the wellbeing of CALD older people
- Traditional and religious observances around food
- Models for delivering culturally appropriate food
- Menus and other useful resources
- Practical workshop

For more information please visit <http://www.culturaldiversity.com.au/Default.aspx?tabid=226>.