



*promoting the value of play*

## South Australia

### A message from the South Australian Interim Chair Simon Bradley



Welcome to the latest edition of the Play Australia - SA Branch (PASA) Newsletter.

We have been busy in recent months hosting a number of events; some of these events are featured in this Newsletter. We have received very positive feedback from participants and look forward to seeing you at an upcoming event.

If you're not already, I would encourage you to become a member of Play Australia. Play Australia is the only membership organisation of its kind in Australia. It provides members a unique opportunity to access specific information in relation to playgrounds and play experiences for children, families and the community.

The innovation in play opportunities throughout our wonderful state continues to amaze me and I am proud that we are often leading the way in Australia.

Remember, if you have a new innovative form of play or increased play opportunity for children, families and communities, we would love to promote it. Please contact one of the Committee Members to discuss.

I would like to thank my fellow Interim Committee Members for their contribution in progressing PASA so far in such little time. It is a joy to work with like-minded colleagues in the promotion of the value of play throughout South Australia.

Don't forget that our next PASA Networking Event showcasing the upgraded St Kilda Adventure Playground and playspace at Playford Alive on 20 May 2016. Details are provided overleaf.



## Welcome to our new committee members

Late last year PASA called an Expression of Interest for PASA Interim Committee Members.

After the review of a high number of quality nominations I am pleased to announce the following new Committee Members:

Alex Bennett, Gavin Faithbrother and Carley Jones.

Welcome Alex, Gavin and Carley and look forward to working with you in promoting the value of play throughout South Australia.

#### Interim Committee Members

Chair	Simon Bradley, Rural City of Murray Bridge
Secretary	Alicia Clutterham, City of Marion
Rep Design	Amanda Balmer, WAX Design Pty Ltd
Rep Supplier	Callum Anderson, Forpark Australia Pty Ltd
Rep Landscape Architect	Peter Semple, PSLA Pty Ltd/City of Marion
Rep Education	Alex Bennett, Catholic Education SA
Rep Health	Gavin Faithbrother, SA Health/ Campbelltown City Council
Rep Early Childhood	Carley Jones, Playgroup SA Inc

## PASA Constitution and Strategic Plan

Play Australia has developed a Strategic Plan 2014-19 to provide a clear pathway to grow and transform the organisation.

This document sets out what Play Australia needs to do over the next five years and beyond to grow the organisation and position itself as the 'go-to' organisation for all matters about children's play.

The five Key Strategic Areas (KSAs) represent the areas of activity in which Play Australia needs to focus its efforts over the next 5 years in order to realise its Phase 1 vision. The KSAs are:

- Membership acquisition
- Revenue growth
- Strategic communication
- Adequate staffing
- Board experience

The Play Australia (IPA Australia) Incorporated Constitution was adopted at the 2015 Annual General Meeting. This document sets out Play Australia's rules and purposes. It is broken down into numbered clauses, with sub-clauses.

To view either of these documents please go to the Play Australia website.

## Getting the Balance Right, a presentation on Play Australia Risk Management Guide

In February this year PASA was excited to host a forum by Liz Cummins, author of 'Getting the Balance Right – Risk Management for Play', kindly hosted by the City of Charles Sturt.

Liz provided an engaging and stimulating summary of the guide and challenged the audience to consider their role in providing high quality, well maintained play opportunities and environments which create play value and promote the benefits of risk.

The main focus of the presentation was to unpack the thinking behind what we do as professionals and how we do it. Evaluating the decisions made with regards to the creation of play environments whilst considering the provision of public safety and compliance with standards and regulations.



The guide asks many questions and encourages an objective and balanced approach to play provision and Liz asked the same of the audience.

The later part of the morning session was broken up into a workshop format where we worked in groups to consider opportunities provided to us as children, and how these differ from the current external environments which we are able to create for this generation of children. Group discussions provided some interesting themes and outcomes which lead us into reviewing current challenges presented to us by our different work place environments.

Liz also discussed how the guide provides a series of case studies which showcase commendable work already being done in the sectors of play provision. The risk benefit assessment strategies and frameworks discussed in these projects are considered and from a variety of sources, and work in conjunction with expert guidance and advice.

The session was concluded with a summary highlighting that public safety is an important issue, but not the only issue that needs to be considered in the creation of play environments and that a holistic approach is required to benefit communities, young people and families into the future.

The guide will be available through Play Australia as a free download to members on the website in the coming months, please look out for updates as to when it will be available.

## Upcoming PlayAustralia training and professional development



### PASA Networking Event - St Kilda Adventure Playground & Playford Alive Town Park

South Australia • May 20, 2016, 9.30am - 11.30am

Join us on a tour of St Kilda Adventure Playground, an iconic SA playspace that has been revitalised with a recent multi million dollar upgrade. Followed by a visit to another destination playspace at Playford Alive that aims to become the dynamic heart of a new northern community.

Register online for this event [playaustralia.org.au](http://playaustralia.org.au)

For more information please contact Alicia Clutterham [alicia.clutterham@marion.sa.gov.au](mailto:alicia.clutterham@marion.sa.gov.au)



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### Considering becoming a member

Play Australia is the national peak membership play organisation in Australia. It provides members a unique opportunity to access specific information in relation to playgrounds and play experiences for children, families and the community. Play Australia members come from all different walks of life. Many are involved in the development of playgrounds, equipment or just the love of play for children.

**Discounted membership available to new South Australian members, \$100 for the first 12 months!!!**

For more information on membership services, resources, news and events, or to contact Play Australia, please visit [PlayAustralia.org.au](http://PlayAustralia.org.au)



Please pass this newsletter on to a colleague or a friend who is interested in play!

