



promoting the value of play

South Australia



A message from the South Australian Chair Simon Bradley

Welcome to the Spring Edition of the Play Australia – SA Branch (PASA) Newsletter.

Following our networking event at Marshmallow Park, PASA held its AGM on Wednesday 25th July. At this AGM I thanked my fellow Committee Members Alicia Clutterham, Amanda Balmer, Peter Semple, Carman Wilson, Craig Johansen, Deb Auckland and Jane Barrett. Unfortunately Carman has not renominated as a Committee Member so I would like to thank her for her valuable contribution to the Committee for a number of years. Carman's experience within the child care industry has added value to our Committee. I would also like to welcome Dr Jane Webb-Williams to the Committee. Jane has a wealth of experience as an Early Childhood expert and highly experienced Social Researcher.

In 2018 we took the huge step in engaging our inaugural staff member. Georgia McPeake is our Marketing and Events Manager in South Australia. Funding for this part time position has been sourced from Play Australia. Georgia has already generated marketing inspiration and event management expertise and we look forward to working with Georgia. Funding for this role is only for 12 months so our challenge is to source additional funding so that this position may continue.

Amanda Balmer has also continued to represent South Australia with expertise and proficiency on the National Board of Play Australia.

I am very proud of what the PASA Committee has achieved in this past twelve months with such little resources. These achievements include:

- Living the values of Play Australia.
- Development and distribution of the quarterly Play Australia – SA Branch Newsletters.
- Coordinating numerous Networking sessions, showcasing innovation in play throughout metropolitan Adelaide.
- The expansion of the South Australian membership base.
- Implementation of the PASA Strategic Plan 2017-2020.
- The continuation of relationship building with other like-minded industry groups and associations.



Marshmallow Park:
Image courtesy of City of Adelaide

Welcome to our newest Committee Member

We are excited to announce the appointment Dr Jane Webb-Williams to the SA Committee. Jane is a leading education expert, highly experienced social researcher and Lecturer at the University of South Australia.

She holds a PhD in Psychology & Education and a Masters in Educational Research from Cambridge University, UK. Jane's career in education spans over 25 years in a variety of roles including Program Director, Master of Teaching, Primary School Deputy Principal and Classroom Teacher. She currently leads courses in Play, Learning and Development within the undergraduate and postgraduate teacher education programs at UniSA - responsible for training more than 600 students annually. Her research focuses on playful pedagogy, children's self-efficacy beliefs, social comparison, children's identity, voice and community connectedness.

Jane is excited about working on the committee and brings a wealth of knowledge about play to the team. As a passionate advocate of play, Jane is driven to ensuring that all children are given the opportunity to learn through play within schools and communities to benefit children's development and social and emotional wellbeing.



Upcoming Event: Learning Through Nature Play

Join us at the new integrated nature playspace for mainstream and special needs children at Christie Downs Primary School on Wednesday 31st October at 4.30pm.

Take part in a guided tour by Tara Graham Cochrane, Director & Senior Landscape Architect at Designwell, while enjoying drinks and delicious pizzas made by the school in a wood oven constructed as a student project. The new indoor and outdoor learning areas respond to the schools ethos of creating a welcoming, calming and safe environment for students of all abilities. The outdoor landscape is based on nature play principles, building on the schools desire for the use of natural materials and to maximise the sensory and textural experiences offered by natural environments.

Thank you to our supporters and lead project architects Brown Falconer and Christie Downs Primary School for hosting the event.

We hope to see you there!



Christie Downs Primary School: Images courtesy of Designwell

Exploring Marshmallow Park

Pityarilla Park 19 in Adelaide Parklands was a fitting destination for our latest networking event prior to our AGM on the afternoon of July 24th.

The project was initiated from a State government funding package to rejuvenate the parklands. A budget of \$5m for the precinct saw the realisation of a new fenced dog park, community plaza, outdoor events lawn, bike boulevard and an upgrade to the popular Marshmallow Playspace and so much more.

Thank you to Janelle Arbon from the City of Adelaide and Lyndon Slavin from Aspect Studios who both provided the background to the projects realisation. PSLA and Climbing Tree also supported Aspect in the children's voice consultation process and work shopped concept development opportunities. The precinct upgrade coincided with the adjacent creekline rejuvenation and was seen as an opportunity to create a series of play nodes beyond the enclosed playspace that intertwined with the creekline. This extended the play value and complimented the enclosed junior playspace allowing older and more adventurous children to be catered for. The project preserved and enhanced the appeal of the Marshmallow Playspace whilst also embracing the Adelaide Parklands natural assets as an opportunity to play beyond.



Upcoming PlayAustralia training & networking events



Networking Event

Wednesday 31st October 2018 at 4.30pm-6pm

**Christie Downs Primary School
Elizabeth Road, Christie Downs**

Come and visit Christie Downs Primary School's new integrated nature playspace for mainstream and special needs children.

Event to be hosted in conjunction with Brown Falconer and the school, with the tour lead by Designwell. Wood oven pizzas and drinks to be provided.

Members: Free

Non-Members: \$20 pp

Register online for events at: www.playaustralia.org.au

For more information email: play.sa@playaustralia.org.au

Professional Development

We are excited to announce that we will be offering Professional Development Training Programs with regards to Playground Standards throughout 2019. More details to come.

Welcome to our newest SA members

+ Superior Outdoor Living Specialists

+ Dr Jane Webb-Williams



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.

For more information on membership services, resources, news and events, or to contact Play Australia, visit www.playaustralia.org.au



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

