

**ASPERGER SYNDROME PARTNER INFORMATION
AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ASPIA**

***Mutual acknowledgement and understanding
of the Asperger marriage experience.***

(Formerly GRASP Partner/Spouse Support Group)

NEWSLETTER – November 2006

Our next ASPIA support group meeting is this coming **Saturday
4 November, 2pm – 5pm**

College of Nursing, 14 Railway Parade, Burwood.

Our plan to have a special TAFE representative speak is still tentative, to be confirmed this week. Two TAFE Colleges in Sydney are offering courses on “social skills” and “employment skills” that would be very suitable for people with Asperger’s Syndrome, and therefore of interest to our group.

This presentation will be followed by an informal discussion – please bring questions or topics you’re interested in discussing, including ideas for our Christmas Party on December 2.

Members please be reminded that this coming Saturday at **12.30pm** is our Annual General Meeting. All paid members would have received a Notice and Financial Statement by post.

Lunch will be provided on arrival.

Notes are available from our last meeting where we discussed “**Disclosure**”. This was in relation to “how to tell” our partners and others about Asperger’s Syndrome. Psychologist Julie Peterson was our facilitator.

Support Group Meeting and Christmas Party on **2 December**
ELEANOR GITTINS, another of our “highly recommended” professionals and long-time supporter will be speaking. Topic still to be selected - suggestions are invited.

Please Note that ASPIA does not hold support group meetings in January

Hot off the Press!

For our first 2007 meeting on **3 February**, Clinical Psychologist JEROEN DECATES will be presenting “**Life Coaching for Aspies**”. We are looking forward to having Jeroen speak at an ASPIA meeting again, and always appreciate his support and referrals. Jeroen has been involved in supporting ASPIA since before we began official meetings (as GRASP).

Saturday 3 March 2007, 10am – 5pm

Psychologist **Meg Perkins** from Brisbane will present
“**Emotion Focused Therapy for Asperger / Neurotypical Couples**”.

Venue still to be confirmed; further information to come.

ASPIA Membership is \$55.00 per year.

Your support via membership is greatly appreciated

Attention families from the North Coast of NSW. Cheryl Froude, an ASPIA member, is undertaking some research on the availability of resources for families who have an adult with Aspergers in that area. Anyone interested please contact Cheryl on cfroude@optusnet.com.au or 02 6677 1671. The Dept of Rural Health, Northern Rivers Uni is helping to support this project.

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**Providing information, contacts and support
for partners (and family members) of adults with Asperger’s Syndrome
Visit our website for more information and useful links**

www.aspia.org.au
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