

**ASPERGER SYNDROME PARTNER INFORMATION
AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ASPIA**

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

(Formerly GRASP Partner/Spouse Support Group)

NEWSLETTER – October 2006

Our next Aspia Meeting is this coming Saturday 7 October

Our speaker is JULIE PETERSON

one of our “highly recommended” professionals.

She will facilitate a discussion on

“Disclosure”

How do we tell our “suspected” Asperger partners about Asperger’s Syndrome?

How do we tell our families, friends and others?

2pm – 5pm, College of Nursing

14 Railway Parade, Burwood

Non-members \$5.00, Members \$2.00

. For our meeting on **4 November** we have tentatively arranged to have a TAFE representative give a presentation on “Social Skills” and “Employment Skills” courses available now for youth and adults through selected TAFE colleges

In December **ELEANOR GITTINS**, another of our “highly recommended” professionals will be speaking. Topic still to be selected - suggestions are invited. (We plan to discuss “Creative or obsessive collecting (hoarding!) at a future meeting but no date set yet for this one.)

Saturday 3 March 2007

Psychologist **Meg Perkins** from Brisbane will present

“Emotion Focused Therapy for Asperger / Neurotypical Couples”.

We may seek a larger venue for this and make it 10am – 5pm.

Meg attended our February ASPIA meeting and also our workshop with Tony Attwood, and has both professional and personal experience with Asperger’s Syndrome.

Further information to come later in October.

At our last ASPIA meeting we discussed Aspergers in females. Our conclusion was to suspect that it may primarily be society and family role expectations that cause apparent differences in males and females with AS, rather than the behaviours being different. Food for thought.

ASPIA Membership

Please remember that membership of ASPIA is now available. The membership fee is \$55.00 per year, and entitles members to discounts at meetings and events and access to our library, etc. Application forms available on request. We can take credit card payments.

Early notice to current members - we are holding our first AGM on Saturday 4 November, 12.30pm

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.

If anyone in Coffs Harbour or surrounds is interested in catching up with me over a cup of coffee during the second week of the school holidays, please let me know.

Enjoy the school holidays, and take care!

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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
info@aspia.org.au