

**ASPERGER SYNDROME PARTNER INFORMATION  
AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED  
ASPIA**

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

**November 2008 – NEWSLETTER**

Our next regular support group meeting is  
**this coming Saturday November 1**  
**2pm – 5pm**

Our speaker this month will be one of ASPIA's long-time members

**MICHELLE BARRETT**

Michelle will share aspects of her own story including strategies that have helped,  
and will facilitate a general discussion and question time.  
Michelle will also talk about how her own studies in Psychology have impacted on her  
understanding and her situation.

Usual venue – College of Nursing, Burwood  
14 Railway Parade, Burwood, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
\$5.00 non-members; \$2.00 members

Members, please remember the AGM and also to return any library books

\* \* \*

**ASPIA Lunch Club** meets prior to ASPIA meeting  
**TOMOYA RESTAURANT, 119 Burwood Road Burwood**  
above the Avondale Hotel (opposite Hungry Jack's)  
From 12 noon – 2.00pm. Great food and friendship

\* \* \*

**Other news and items ...**

**2009 Workshops with DR TONY ATTWOOD & DR ISABELLE HÉNAULT**

Flyers are ready and will be distributed next week

**Workshop Title is**

**ASPERGER'S SYNDROME BEYOND CHILDHOOD**

**Friday 13 March 2009: Topic – Adolescence**

**Saturday 14 March 2009: Topic – Couple Relationships**

**Venue: Wesley Conference Centre, 220 Pitt Street, Sydney**

Online registration facility is available now

[www.aspia.org.au](http://www.aspia.org.au)

**Addition to ASPIA's website – Literature for Sale**

All of our best articles and meeting hand-outs are now listed on our website on the information page and are  
available for a small fee per article to cover administration. Payment is by PayPal.

[www.aspia.org.au](http://www.aspia.org.au)

The same articles are also available by mail order – please email if you'd like an order form

[info@aspia.org.au](mailto:info@aspia.org.au)

**ASPIA INC (Asperger Syndrome Partner Information Australia Incorporated)**  
**Providing information, contacts and support for partners (and family members) of adults with Asperger's Syndrome**  
PO Box 57 Macarthur Square LPO, MACARTHUR NSW 2560 (Aus)

Enquiries: Carol Grigg 0432 507 828

Visit our website for more information and useful links

[www.aspia.org.au](http://www.aspia.org.au)

[info@aspia.org.au](mailto:info@aspia.org.au)

## **December ASPIA meeting – 6 December 2008**

This will be our Christmas party

Our speaker will be Patricia Berrutti who will talk to us about self-care and survival.

Patricia has been involved in Carer Support work for many years  
and runs groups and courses for carers.

I would also like to make this meeting an ASPIA REUNION

We are hoping that lots of our “old” ASPIA members will be able to join us as  
someone special from our past is planning to be there.

\* \* \*

## **New Phone Number for ASPIA**

ASPIA now has its own phone

**0432 507 828**

The idea is that I will answer the phone if I am available for ASPIA work at the time, otherwise there is a recorded message that asks you to please leave your name, phone number and a short message and I'll phone back as soon as I am available to do ASPIA work.

This phone has been purchased with the Attwood/Henault workshops in mind particularly so that I can manage telephone registrations a little more sanely this time.

\* \* \*

## **School Aged Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD's)**

Due to increased government interest and funding a number of initiatives are being made in relation to the support of families who have children with ASD's.

I have recently received some brochures from ASPECT on “Positive Partnerships” by the Australian Autism Education & Training Consortium. They are holding Workshops and Information Sessions commencing in November for parents/carers of school aged students on the autism spectrum.

Call: 1300 881 971 or visit [www.autismtraining.com.au](http://www.autismtraining.com.au)

We can only hope that these government supported initiatives will help bring about an increased level of awareness within our Australian communities that eventually will have a flow-through effect to the identification of adults with Asperger's Syndrome and recognition that families affected by an adult with Asperger's Syndrome need support too.

\* \* \*

## **Melbourne Psychologist**

We will be adding the name of another Psychologist to our list for Melbourne

Dr Janine Manjiviona

Clinical Psychologist

Ph: 03 9891 6835

I enjoyed a wonderful telephone conversation with Janine a few weeks ago and feel very confident in her ability to provide support and guidance to partners and adults with Asperger's Syndrome. Janine has had experience working with Tony Attwood in a clinical setting.

\* \* \*

## **Our Thought for the Month . . .**

“The question of whether Asperger's Syndrome is a condition that needs to be treated is answered by the fact that human interaction is a pre-requisite for making the world a better place.”

View the link below to read more about the “Asperger's Oxymoron”

<http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=Careers&articleId=327425&taxonomyId=10&pageNumber=2>

(supplied by M Barrett)

\* \* \*

**ASPIA INC (Asperger Syndrome Partner Information Australia Incorporated)**

**Providing information, contacts and support for partners (and family members) of adults with Asperger's Syndrome**

PO Box 57 Macarthur Square LPO, MACARTHUR NSW 2560 (Aus)

Enquiries: Carol Grigg 0432 507 828

Visit our website for more information and useful links

[www.aspia.org.au](http://www.aspia.org.au)

[info@aspia.org.au](mailto:info@aspia.org.au)