

The Early Years (0-8yrs) – Building a solid foundation for our Tall Poppies to grow...

WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCE

Conference: Saturday MARCH 29 2008: 9.30-5.30pm

Venue: Provided By Sponsor: ACG Parnell College 2 Titoki St, Parnell, Auckland

MC/Panel Moderator: Dr Roger Moltzen **Patron:** NZ Association for Gifted Children

Panel Member: Sonia White

Speakers:

- Dr Cathie Harrison *Young Gifted Children - Their Search for Complexity and Connection*
- Mimi Wellisch *The Authentically gifted child and the Gifted Spectrum*
- Lynn Berresford *'The need for recognition of gifted new entrants'*
- Sue Breen *'Signs of Giftedness in Early Childhood / How to cater for gifted children in ECC'*
- Gay Gallagher: *"Transition from Early childhood centres to primary schools"*
- Glynis Brummer: *'The importance of sensory integration in the early years'*
- Panel Discussion with experts

Workshops:

BOOK EARLY - WORKSHOP NUMBERS ARE LIMITED

Wednesday 19th March; Evening Workshop 7.00- 9.30pm; Dr Cathie Harrison and Ros Meager

'Be inspired, be very inspired - Snapshots of Scandinavia'

Venue: ACG Parnell College 2 Titoki St, Parnell, Auckland

Insights and Possibilities from the Scandinavian Early Childhood Experience. In this power point presentation and workshop we will share photos, insights and reflections from a study tour to early childhood centres in Finland, Denmark and Sweden inspired by the early childhood experience in Reggio Emilia, Italy. The images of both indoor and outdoor learning environments provide both inspiration and challenge. They offer an opportunity for us to pause and reconsider the incredible magic that can be part of the early childhood experience. The images will provide a catalyst for dialogue, discussion and reflection about the potential of the early childhood learning environment for exploration, imagination, creativity, investigation and collaboration by children, educators and families.

Friday 28th March 7.00- 9.30pm; Dr Cathie Harrison and Ros Meager

'Engaging young children's curious minds'

Venue: ACG Parnell College 2 Titoki St, Parnell, Auckland

In this workshop for families and early childhood educators Cathie and Ros will share ideas and images that reflect young children as eager, engaged and curious learners. The workshop will explore contemporary images of childhood, the power of play for learning, sharing big questions with young children, and the role of early childhood experience in the transition to school and life long learning.

Sunday 30th March, 10.00 – 4.00pm; Mimi Wellisch

'Optimising Young Children's Strengths and Talents'

Venue: ACG Parnell College 2 Titoki St, Parnell, Auckland

The workshop is aimed at preschool-and-up-to 8's teachers working with children in a normal (non-gifted) setting. It addresses how to run a strength-based curriculum, with information about young gifted children, eight intelligences, development of giftedness, programming etc. There is a workbook that comes with the workshop.

Monday 31st March: 9.30-12.30, Parent Workshop; Mimi Wellisch

'Gifted Children with Learning and Other Difficulties'

Venue: Indigo Assessment and Counselling Centre, 541a Remuera Road, Remuera, Auckland

This workshop is aimed at parents of gifted children who are looking for answers to their learning and other difficulties. You will learn about your child's special place within the gifted spectrum, how their problems may have arisen and ways that these may be addressed. Topics will include: how to strengthen your child's gifts, how to best channel your child's energy through enhancing a positive state of mind and what future strategies you may put in place to ensure that your child will develop to his or her full potential.

Monday 31st March: 3.00 – 9.00pm; Mimi Wellisch

'Optimising Young Children's Strengths and Talents'

Venue: Indigo Assessment and Counselling Centre, 541a Remuera Road, Remuera, Auckland

See Description above

NZAGC 2008 Conference and workshops

Workshop Presenters:

Dr Cathie Harrison

Dr Cathie Harrison is a Senior Lecturer in Early Childhood Education at the Australian Catholic University in Sydney. Cathie's research has been in the area of giftedness in early childhood and early childhood pedagogy. She is the author of the books *Giftedness in Early Childhood* and *Young Gifted Children- Their Search for Complexity and Connection*. Cathie has a diverse range of experience within early childhood education as academic, teacher, Early Childhood Advisor to the ABC television program for children - *Play School*, and consultant to a number of museum projects. Her work has been strongly influenced by the early childhood educational experience in Reggio Emilia, Italy and Scandinavia. Cathie offers a range of consultancy and professional development services to community organizations, government and business sectors and to early childhood educators and families.



Ros Meager

Ros Meager is the much respected and admired director of KU Phoenix, an innovative pre-school in the inner west of Sydney. The pre-school is part of KU Children's Services, the largest not for profit early childhood service provider in NSW. Ros has been exploring innovative approaches to planning, programming and documentation and has undertaken visits to early childhood services in Finland, Denmark and Sweden. Ros's work in the area of documentation has been strongly influenced by the NZ experience of Learning Stories after a visit to NZ in 2003. Her work has featured in a number of early childhood texts and her centre is frequently visited by students, academics and other local and overseas visitors.



Mimi Wellisch



Mimi Wellisch is an early childhood educator and a registered psychologist. She entered the teaching profession as a mature student, having discovered how passionately she felt about her own children's educational experiences. Mimi has taught in many areas of early childhood over a 25 year period, including in a multi-cultural long day care centre and preschools both in Sydney and country NSW.

Her later work experiences also include school counselling, supervision of tertiary early childhood students and licensing and monitoring of children's services as a Children's Services Adviser.

Mimi has a Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood from and a Master of Early Childhood from Macquarie University, as well as a Diploma and Post Graduate Diploma of Psychology (with Distinction). Her unique combination of backgrounds in both early childhood and psychology gives her a special vista into the world of gifted children, and is particularly helpful in the identification of learning opportunities as well as in the nurturing of children's strengths and talents.

Mimi is the author of a number of books and articles and has presented at a number of conferences. She has also conducted workshops on a variety of topics, including on building social competence, managing challenging behaviours and gifted children. Mimi Wellisch is currently enrolled as a PhD student at Macquarie University, and the topic of her research is gifted children. She is also the Director of Clever Kids Consultancy, a service for gifted children and their families.

www.cleverkidsconsultancy.com

Option:	Members:	Non Members:
A: 19 th March: Wednesday Workshop: 7-9.30pm Dr Cathie Harrison and Ros Meager	\$75	\$75
B: 28 th March: Friday Workshop 7-9.30pm Dr Cathie Harrison and Ros Meager /29 th March Saturday NZAGC Conference (light lunch included)	\$175	\$200
C: 29 th March: Saturday NZAGC Conference ONLY (light lunch included)	\$125	\$150
D: 29 th March Saturday NZAGC Conference/30 th March Sunday Workshop 10-4pm Mimi Wellisch	\$275	\$300
E: 28 th March: Friday Workshop 7-9.30pm Dr Cathie Harrison and Ros Meager/29 th March Saturday NZAGC Conference/30 th March Sunday Workshop 10-4pm Mimi Wellisch	\$295	\$320
F: 31 st March Monday Parent Workshop 9.30 – 12.30pm with Mimi Wellisch	\$50	\$50
G: 31 st March Monday Workshop 3-9pm Mimi Wellisch	\$150	\$150

