

ASSBI Newsletter

Australasian Society for the Study of Brain Impairment

June 2018

Issue 63

Working together to improve the lives of people with brain impairment



ASSBI COMMITTEES

[EXECUTIVE](#)

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WORDS FROM YOUR PRESIDENT



Back in the March edition of the newsletter, I began this column by commenting on the numerous exciting events ahead for 2018 including our 41st Brain Impairment

Conference in Adelaide. Now in June, I can begin the column by reflecting not only on the wonderful success of the conference but also the enjoyment of *Connecting and Collaborating* that accompanied the event. Truly enormous thanks are due to Liz Williams and her team who worked tirelessly to produce a fabulous multifaceted experience for delegates. We had the privilege of being part of the "This is me" art exhibition which profoundly set the scene for the conference through sharing the work of South Australian artists and their stories of living with brain impairment. The artwork created such a strong feeling of connection and permeated the entire event. Caleb Rixon's powerful personal keynote address set the programme proper off to an exceptional start from the insider's perspective – wisdom and entertainment so skilfully crafted! Through workshops, keynote addresses, how to sessions and platform, datablitz and poster presentations, research, knowledge and skills were there to be sampled across the broad range of ASSBI interests.

I would also like to congratulate all our award winners announced at the conference. Our award winners are typically selected from an amazing field of candidates and this year was certainly no

exception. ASSBI congratulations go to our 2018 winners.

- ASSBI Early Career Clinical Innovation Award: joint winners Rebecca Andrews and Kate Gould.
- The Douglas Tate Award for the best research paper published in 2017 in *Brain Impairment* was a tie between Renee Roelofs for her paper Roelofs, R., Wingbermhle, E., Egger, J., & Kessels, R. (2017). Social Cognitive Interventions in Neuropsychiatric Patients: A Meta-Analysis. *Brain Impairment*, 18(1), 138-173. doi:10.1017/BrImp.2016.31 and Nicholas Ryan for his paper: Ryan, N., Mihaljevic, K., Beauchamp, M., Catroppa, C., Crossley, L., Hearps, S., Anderson, V. (2017). Examining the Prospective Relationship between Family Affective Responsiveness and Theory of Mind in Chronic Paediatric Traumatic Brain Injury. *Brain Impairment*, 18(1), 88-101.
- The Kevin Walsh award for the most outstanding Masters student: Kelly Stagg for her presentation "A scoping review of the working alliance in acquired brain injury rehabilitation".
- The Luria Award for the most outstanding doctoral candidate: Lee Cubis for his presentation "The importance of staying connected: mediating and moderating effects of social groups on psychological wellbeing after brain tumour".
- The Travel Award for students: Liz Williams for "Getting on the same wavelength: Clinician's perspectives of the therapeutic alliance in community brain injury rehabilitation".
- The Mindlink Brightwater Award for Interdisciplinary research: Glenn Kelly for "The Building Bridges project: Linking disconnected service networks in ABI and criminal justice".

Now from looking back to our 41st conference it is time to look forward to 2019 and Wellington, NZ where we will be holding our 42nd Brain Impairment conference in collaboration with the New Zealand Rehabilitation Association (NZRA) Biannual conference as the inaugural ASSBI/NZRA Trans-Tasman Conference. The

2018 conference report and details for 2019 can be found on our website

<https://assbi.com.au/ASSBI-Conferences>

There is much else on offer as the year progresses so be sure to check out the professional development section of the newsletter.

Learned societies like ASSBI are as strong as you the membership and particularly members who take on a significant role in the continuing work of the organisation. Prof David Shum is one of these generous colleagues and it is with sadness that I acknowledge David's resignation from the ASSBI executive committee. David has made a substantial contribution to ASSBI over many years across multiple roles including that of President and former associate editor of *Brain Impairment*. David's contribution to the work of ASSBI is acknowledged through his recognition as a Fellow of the society. David is returning to Hong Kong and while we will sorely miss him here in AUS, we look forward to our continuing connection and collaboration with him in Hong Kong.

Warmest winter wishes to you all,
Jacinta Douglas, President

SOCIAL MEDIA



Like us on [Facebook](#),
[Follow ASSBI](#) on Twitter
Join [Psychwire](#) and follow ASSBI.

Become a contact on LinkedIn

If you have anything interesting you would like tweeted or mentioned on facebook, contact Lizzie via admin@assbi.com.au.

WEBSITE

Signing in whether you are a member or not will give you the opportunity to update your own information **including your email address**. You are in the Website database if you received an email from me today. If you want to change your email address login with your old email address or email Margaret to change it prior to you logging in.

Proudly supported by



We would like to collect stats such as your discipline and where you come from to get a better idea of our community.

When your membership is due you will receive a couple of reminder emails and you can renew and pay online by Visa, MasterCard and PayPal if you have an account. You can also transfer your fees via the bank or send a cheque.

If you have anything you wish to go on or have any feedback please email me at admin@assbi.com.au.

Margaret Eagers, Webmaster!

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT



#assbi2018, in my opinion, was a hit! We had 303 delegates and over 260 attend the Shine Lawyers' Welcome Reception and Art Exhibition which, by the way, was

fantastic and if you were not there you missed out! Looking forward to #assbi-nzra-2019, we have 3 confirmed speakers - on the Professional Development page of the website.

I personally will be sorry to see David Shum step down from the ASSBI committee and wish him all the best on his move back to Hong Kong.

Cheers, Margaret Eagers, CEO

NEWS

CORPORATE PARTNERS

An update from our Corporate Partners, Shine Lawyers

Every day we grieve the loss of our loved one, yet they survived the crash

With the permission of her inspirational client, Shine Lawyers' Solicitor Laura Hadfield has written this eye-opening article discussing what life can look like for families when a loved one has suffered a life-altering event. Bundaberg woman Rhiannon was kind enough to give an insight into her tragic accident, and the tough journey she has been on ever since. With the help of Shine Lawyers she is making progress, but it's a path she never imagined her life would take. [Click here](#) to read Laura's story.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

If you would like to see someone give a workshop in your State or know of anyone coming to Australia either this year or in

2019 who would like to give a workshop or webinar for ASSBI members, please email Margaret and we will endeavour to organise a full/half day workshop or a one-hour webinar.

2018 Webinars - #assbiwebinars



Webinar by Elkhonon Goldberg, PhD
Saturday 4th August
1pm - 4pm AEST



It is with great pleasure that we announce a partnership with the Luria Neuroscience Institute in the USA. The first event of this partnership is a Webinar on Saturday

AUGUST 4th entitled:

Executive Functions and the Frontal Lobes. This 3-hour webinar will feature Elkhonon Goldberg, PhD, a clinical neuropsychologist and cognitive



neuroscientist. [Click here](#) to find out more and register for this webinar

2018 Workshops #assbiworkshops



Jessica Trevena-Peters, Jennie Ponsford and Adam McKay presented a full day training workshop late in 2017 entitled: *An evidence-based intervention for activities of daily living skill retraining*. If you missed this workshop the first time around and would like to access it please email Margaret. A manual has also been produced which stands alone and also compliments this workshop. It can be bought for \$155 (or at a discount when you purchase the workshop). To access the workshop [email Margaret](#) and to purchase the manual click here



Jennie Ponsford, Adam McKay and Dana Wong presented a full day workshop earlier this year entitled: *The nature and treatment of sleep disturbance and fatigue following brain injury*. If you missed out and would like to access this workshop [please email Margaret](#).

STUDENT CORNER

For full reports on student events go to the [Student News Page](#)

For any student enquiries email admin@assbi.com.au

ASSBI CONFERENCES

41st Conference - #assbi2018



The 41st Annual Brain Impairment Conference was held in Adelaide, South Australia on 3rd to 5th May 2018. The theme was *Connecting and Collaborating in Rehabilitation* and was convened by Elizabeth Williams. [Click here for the full Conference Report](#).

ASSBI's 42nd and NZRA's bi-annual conference

#assbi-nzra-2019



Nau mi, haere mai! Welcome! Ngā mihi nui kia koutou katoa. On behalf of the organising committee, you are warmly invited to Wellington, New Zealand, to participate in the first combined conference of ASSBI and NZRA. (ASSBI/NZRA Inaugural Trans-Tasman Conference). We will be bringing you four half-day workshops and addresses from international national speakers, including Prof Jon Evans and Prof Fiona Jones from the UK and Dr Hinemoa Elder (Ngāti Kuri, Te Rarawa, Te Aupōuri, Ngāpuhi) from Aotearoa/NZ, with Prof Robyn Tate, University of Sydney, to deliver the ASSBI Presidential Address. This conference centers on the World Health Organization's Rehabilitation 2030 strategy: "A Call for Action". We will be discussing raising awareness about rehabilitation, making rehabilitation accessible and affordable, meeting unmet needs, reducing health inequalities, and providing effective, responsive service. Our

programme will include renowned national and international speakers and platform, datablitz, poster and “how-to” presentations drawn from abstracts covering all facets of brain impairment and rehabilitation.

Wellington (Te Whanganui-a-Tara), the coolest little capital in the world and city of festivals, culture, food, wine and stunning bush & coastlines provides a wonderful location for this conference. The committee and I look forward to seeing you in Wellington on 2nd to 4th May 2019!



Prof Jon Evans’ half-day workshop is entitled: *Rehabilitation of memory and executive functions after brain injury* and his 1-hour

keynote is entitled: *Music, mindfulness and positive psychotherapy after brain injury*

[Go to the ASSBI website to keep up to date](#)

A/Prof William Levack
Convener

ASSBI MEMBERSHIPS

A lot of you would have received an email saying your membership is due for renewal on 30th June.

If you renew early your membership will still be valid until 30th June 2019 (or 2020)

Memberships ARE ANNIVERSARY which means that your membership lasts for a full 12 or 24 months from date of renewal

[CLICK HERE](#) to find out how to join or renew

BRAIN IMPAIRMENT

ASSBI’s multidisciplinary Journal

To login to the BI site of CUP, just **login** to the ASSBI website and [click on this link](#) to

get directed to the Brain Impairment page of the CUP website, if you require any help with this please email [Margaret Jennifer Fleming and Grahame Simpson](#) Co-Editors

ASSBI RESOURCES

All ASSBI resources are available to ASSBI and INS members with a 10% discount.

I would like to remind everyone that in addition to the manuals that ASSBI has for sale Members of ASSBI can download many free tests.

Non-members have access to some free downloads too – [click here](#) to see the full list of manuals **and** free to downloads on offer

Skye McDonald
Resources Manager

WORLD EVENTS

Events being held in Australia and around the world by other organisations can be found by clicking on the undernoted links

ASSBI EVENTS

[2018 WEBINAR](#)

[WORKSHOPS](#)

[2019 CONFERENCE](#)

[WORLD EVENTS](#)

OPPORTUNITY FOR INVOLVEMENT

Elizabeth Hill is a Speech Pathologist and PhD candidate at Curtin University, WA.

Elizabeth is looking for people to complete her survey, please see below for information on the survey then click on the link.

Survey link: <https://tinyurl.com/ybm9662v>

Survey title: The assessment and management of discourse-level deficits in paediatric brain injury: a survey of current practice in Australia, New Zealand, UK, USA, Canada, and the Asia Pacific.

Ethics approval/reference number: Curtin University Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) has approved this study (HREC number HRE2016-0349-07).

Study information and eligibility: This study aims to understand current assessment and treatment practices of Speech Pathologists who target discourse-level impairments in child/adolescent acquired brain injury (ABI). If you are a speech pathologist in Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, America, Canada, and the Asia Pacific region (e.g. Hong Kong, Singapore) who has worked with children or adolescents with an ABI, we would like to invite you to participate in an online survey. This project will investigate current assessment and intervention practices used to manage discourse-level impairments in this population.

Please direct queries to a member of the research team:

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