



# WAfamily pathways network

## WA Family Pathways Network eBulletin

KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH WITH NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES IN WA FAMILY LAW

FEBRUARY 2017

## Greetings from the Chair

by Kate Jeffries

Hello from WAFPN! I'm pleased to be introducing the first eBulletin for 2017. In this issue you'll find information about the speakers for our upcoming conference, a recap on an event that we ran up in Geraldton, and all the usual exciting news, events and publications that are relevant to our work in the WA family law sector.

Registration for our annual conference is now open and I suggest you get in early to get the super cheap early bird price of \$100 per registration! Early bird registration closes on March 12, and following that, full registration will be available for \$120 per registration.

At this year's conference we are broaching the ever-present issue of how to manage alcohol and other drug issues in our field of work. We are pleased to have Dr Nicole Lee,

expert in the field of methamphetamine research as our keynote speaker, and Police Commissioner Karl O'Callaghan officially opening the conference for 2017. You can read more about these speakers on page 2.

The conference subcommittee is in the final stages of programming the conference, and we hope to have the full agenda and list of speakers to you very shortly.

WAFPN will also have a brand new website, which will be launched at the 2017 annual conference. We hope that this website will be a useful resource for you in your work in the sector. If you have any suggestions for the WAFPN website, please contact Jane Azzopardi [jane.azzopardi@relationshipswa.org.au](mailto:jane.azzopardi@relationshipswa.org.au)



# WAFPN Annual Conference 2017

Exploring solutions to complex problems: responding to alcohol and other drugs in the family law system

WA Family Pathways Network is pleased to announce the date and theme for our 2017 annual conference. WAFPN invites you to join us to discuss one of the biggest issues facing our sector today: alcohol and other drugs.

Identified as a “complex problem” in the Family Court, how do we manage this increasingly prevalent issue within our own services? How do we work to keep families and children safe in the context of alcohol and drug use? What options exist beyond toxicology for the Family Court and other service providers in managing these issues? These are some of the questions we aim to discuss at this year’s annual conference.

The conference will once again be held at the beautiful UWA University Club in Crawley. Early bird registration is now open at \$100, and full registration \$120. Early bird registration closes on March 12. You can register now via [this link](#).

## Keynote Speakers

WAFPN is pleased to announce our keynote speakers for the conference, Dr Nicole Lee and Police Commissioner Karl O’Callaghan.

### Dr Nicole Lee

Nicole Lee is one of Australia’s leading experts in methamphetamine policy and practice responses. She is Associate Professor at the National Drug Research Institute and Director at 360Edge, a specialist consultancy for

the alcohol and other drug sector.

She has worked as a clinician, academic, educator and service manager, so brings a unique



360 view to the understanding of methamphetamine. She has co-authored most of the methamphetamine practice guides and has produced 100 books, chapters and journal articles. She has advised the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization, state and federal politicians, national drug taskforces, and government, private and not-for-profit services. Nicole is regularly featured in the media and has appeared on Today, Weekend Sunrise, SBS Insight and in numerous news and current affairs TV, radio and print media, including the upcoming documentary ‘Ice Wars’.

### Dr Karl O’Callaghan

Dr O’Callaghan’s policing career has encompassed Police Communications, Port Hedland Police Station, Accident Inquiry Section, Perth, Manjimup Traffic and General Duties, Community Education, and the Police Academy.

In 1996 he was promoted to Superintendent and in 2001 he was appointed to the position of Assistant Commissioner, Strategic &

Corporate Development (formerly Policy, Planning & Evaluation).

Dr O’Callaghan’s qualifications include a PhD, Bachelor of Education (1st Class Honours) and Bachelor of Arts (Education) from Curtin University of Technology. He is also an



Adjunct Associate Professor at the Sellenger Centre for Police Research, Edith Cowan University. In 1997 Dr O’Callaghan was awarded a Churchill Fellowship and completed an international study of the development of ethics and professional standards education in police services.

In 2017 he was awarded the Australia Day WA Community Citizen of the Year Award for his work with Bright Blue (the Police Commissioner’s Charity for Sick Kids).

## WA Family Pathways Network Conference 2017

**‘Exploring solutions to complex problems: responding to alcohol and other drugs in the family law system’**

25 May 2017

8.30am-4.30pm

UWA Club, University of Western Australia

Early bird registration \$100

Register now via [this link](#)

# Recap: Royal Commission into Family Violence Workshop Geraldton

On January 19, WAFPN was delighted to have the opportunity to take the Royal Commission into Family Violence workshop on the road to Geraldton.

You might remember that back in November of 2016 WAFPN partnered with the Magistrates Court to host two expert speakers from Victoria to discuss the recommendations from the Royal Commission into Family Violence. Deputy Chief Magistrate Broughton and Barrister Rachel Ellyard co-presented their workshop, 'The Victorian Royal Commission into Family Violence: What Courts are expected to deliver to families experiencing family violence as part of an integrated family violence response' to a room of 50 attendees, comprised of WAFPN members and Magistrates Court staff.

In January, Ms Broughton, accompanied by Camilla MacDonell from Victoria's Department of Premier and Cabinet, Ms Antoinette Braybrook, CEO of the Victorian Family Violence Prevention Legal Service and Michelle Stevens, Senior Project Officer Family Violence Programs and Initiatives Unit, Magistrates Court of Victoria travelled to Geraldton to present the

workshop to a group of 50 lawyers and service providers at the Geraldton Lotteries House.

The discussion was a lively one and both presenters and attendees felt the three hour seminar slip by very quickly, as they exchanged their insights from their own work, from big-city Melbourne to Geraldton as a regional centre with its own community advantages and obstacles to ending family violence.

The attendees very much appreciated the opportunity to attend an event with such excellent speakers in their own town, without having to travel, an example of what will hopefully be a strong partnership between WAFPN and the regions to ensure that they have access to quality training in the family law sector.

The style of presentation delivered by Ms Broughton and her colleagues was not a lecture, but very much a back-and-forth conversation, the relaxed and collaborative nature of which was very much appreciated by the Geraldton attendees.

If you missed the workshop, either in Geraldton or in Perth, you can view a video of the Perth workshop featuring Ms Broughton with Rachel Ellyard [here](#).



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## Upcoming training and networking opportunities

If you are running a training event and would like it included in our next eBulletin please contact

[WA.FamilyPathwayNetwork@relationships.org.au](mailto:WA.FamilyPathwayNetwork@relationships.org.au)

### 'Exploring solutions to complex problems: responding to alcohol and other drugs in the family law system' WAFPN Annual Conference 2017

WAFPN is excited to announce that our 2017 annual conference will be held on **May 25 at University Club of Western Australia**.

The theme for the conference will be 'Exploring solutions to complex problems: responding to alcohol and other drugs in the family law system'.

We are pleased to announce our keynote speakers, Dr Nicole Lee, one of Australia's leading experts in methamphetamine policy and practice responses, and Police Commissioner Dr Karl O'Callaghan

**Early bird registration for the conference is now open. You can register via [this link](#).**

25 May 2017  
8.30am-4.30pm  
University Club of Western Australia, Crawley  
Earlybird registration \$100  
Full registration \$120

If you have any queries regarding the 2016 conference, please contact Jane Azzopardi  
[jane.azzopardi@relationships.org.au](mailto:jane.azzopardi@relationships.org.au)

## Symposium: Child Sexual Abuse Prevention

You are invited to join the Chief Justice of Western Australia, the Hon Wayne Martin, AC together with a panel of five experts to attend the following symposium, *Child Sexual Abuse Prevention: An idea whose time has come*.

The speakers at this symposium will present different entry points to the cycle of child sexual abuse (CSA).

Participants will be invited to ask questions and discuss the presentations under the direction of the Chief Justice of W.A.

Speakers include Holly-Ann Martin (Founder and Managing Director of Safe4Kids), Yvette Strawbridge (Director of Perth Mediation and Counselling Services WA), Janice Paige (M. Psych [Counselling]), Christabel Chamarette (M. Psych) and Dave Gee (MBE).

31 March 2017  
9.30am-4.00pm  
Jull Common Room  
St. Catherine's College, UWA  
2 Park Road, Crawley  
Registration \$110.00

To register visit  
<https://www.trybooking.com/255941>

For more details contact  
[jonakes@globaldial.com](mailto:jonakes@globaldial.com)

## Dignity 2017

Women's Council for Domestic and Family Violence Services (WA) invites you to Dignity 2017. For only the second time, the Dignity International Conference will be held outside of Canada, when Perth hosts the event from 22-24 May, 2017 at the Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, Western Australia.

This conference will be a significant milestone for the Women's Council as they celebrate 40 years (1977-2017) of bringing 'dignity' back into the lives of women and children who have survived family and domestic violence.

International speakers, and performers from Canada, Aotearoa (NZ), Sweden, and Australia will be invited to make this an occasion to remember by sharing the many and diverse ways women and children resist violence.

22-24 May 2017  
9.30am-4.00pm  
Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle  
Registration from \$57.00

To register visit or for more information visit  
<http://www.dignityconference.com/>

## WALK IN THEIR SHOES TOURS

WAFPN's popular family court tours fill up fast! This is a fantastic opportunity to experience the pathways families take when attending the Family Court of WA.

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TO ATTEND  
[jane.azzopardi@relationships.org.au](mailto:jane.azzopardi@relationships.org.au)

## The latest contributions to evidence based practice in family law

If you are undertaking research in the field of family law that you think may be of interest to WAFPN members please contact us to have it included in our eBulletin

[WA.FamilyPathwayNetwork@relationshipswa.org.au](mailto:WA.FamilyPathwayNetwork@relationshipswa.org.au)

## Sharing personal information in the child protection context: Impediments in the Australian legal framework

Professionals in the child protection context are frequently required to make decisions on whether to share sensitive personal information about children, their families, and others with colleagues and across institutional and jurisdictional boundaries. Sharing information across agencies and organisations is essential to allow joined-up service provision and to effectively protect and support children and their families. A legal framework that supports this decision making is a necessary, although not sufficient, condition for effective information sharing. This article examines the complex legal framework that governs information sharing across the Australian states and territories. It identifies a number of structural and regulatory elements that unnecessarily limit information sharing or have a tendency to create a culture that is risk averse, rather than proactive, in sharing information. The article suggests structural and regulatory reforms that would improve the legal framework for sharing information, while at the same time giving due recognition to the

human rights that come into tension in this policy context: the right to privacy and the rights of the child.

[Read abstract or purchase article.](#)

Adams, C., & Lee-Jones, K. (2017). *Sharing personal information in the child protection context: Impediments in the Australian legal framework.* *Child & Family Social Work.*

## A Survey of Beliefs and Priorities About Access to Justice of Family Law: The Search for A Multidisciplinary Perspective

Within the last decade, the term “access to justice” has grown in popularity among legal commentators, scholars, family justice reformers, government policy makers, and the media. But with all of this new attention, there remains no common understanding or definition of access to justice and its potential implications for children and families in domestic relation courts. The purpose of this cross-sectional online survey was to explore the meaning of access to justice according to legal, mental health, and dispute resolution professionals in various countries. The sample included 442 respondents (e.g., judges, lawyers, custody evaluators, mediators, family court services, court administrators, parent educators, etc.) from seven countries.

[Access the full article](#)

Salem, P., & Saini, M. (2017). *A Survey of Beliefs and Priorities About Access to Justice of Family Law: The Search for A Multidisciplinary Perspective.* *Family Court Review, 55(1), 120-138.*

## Not Without my Children: The Need for the Modification of International Child Abduction Laws

The only existing international law that addresses international child abductions is the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. Countries are only bound to the Hague Convention's provisions if they are signatories to the treaty. However, even then, treaty enforcement relies heavily on the cooperation of the international community. This cooperation is limited by the diverse political systems and religious beliefs of the countries across the globe. Further, there are many loopholes within this treaty that can allow a parent, guardian, or other family member to avoid prosecution for the crime of internationally abducting a child. This article looks within the US context at how Congress could address these gaps.

[Access the full article](#)

Pahrand, M. (2017). *Not Without my Children: The Need for the Modification of International Child Abduction Laws.* *Family Court Review, 55(1), 139-151.*

## NOTICE BOARD

## What's happening around town

If you or your organisation has something to announce, pin it on the board! Submit an article for the notice board by emailing:

[WA.FamilyPathwayNetwork@relationships.wa.org.au](mailto:WA.FamilyPathwayNetwork@relationships.wa.org.au)

## AIFS Resource Sheet: Family violence prevention programs in Indigenous communities

This report was produced by AIFS staff for the Closing the Gap Clearinghouse. The Clearinghouse was a Council of Australian Governments' initiative jointly funded by all Australian Governments. The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare in collaboration with the Australian Institute of Family Studies was funded from 2009 to 2014 to deliver the Clearinghouse.

Family violence is a serious and widespread issue in Australia, and is a key priority area for government. This resource sheet investigates the effectiveness of current mainstream, international, and Indigenous prevention programs and identifies the principles behind successful programs.

Background information is also provided on the extent and nature of the problem in Australia, including impact and risk factors. The resource sheet examines what works, what doesn't, and what further research is needed.

Access the full resource sheet [here](#).

## AIFS Webinar: Measuring outcomes in programs for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander families and communities

Featuring Sharon Barnes and Kylie Brosnan, this webinar will discuss ways to measure the outcomes of programs for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander families and communities.

Drawing on past evaluations, practice wisdom and lessons learnt in the field, this webinar will encourage professionals who are thinking about evaluating the outcomes of a program for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander families or communities to consider evidence in a different light.

AIFS have also published a practitioner resource on this topic: [Evaluating the outcomes of programs for Indigenous families and communities](#).

15 March 2017  
10.30am-11.30am WST

Find more information or register for the webinar [here](#).

## Follow WAFPN on Twitter!

If you want to keep up to date with info and articles we find interesting, follow WAFPN on Twitter:

[@FamilyPathwayWA](https://twitter.com/FamilyPathwayWA)

## UNSUBSCRIBE?

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## FEEDBACK

If you have any suggestions on how we could improve this bulletin please email them to [jane.azzopardi@relationships.wa.org.au](mailto:jane.azzopardi@relationships.wa.org.au)



## Our Aim

Improve collaboration and coordination between organisations operating in the Family Law system

To assist separating families obtain appropriate services