



# WAfamily pathways network

## WA Family Pathways Network eBulletin

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

MARCH 2017

## Greetings from the Chair

by Kate Jeffries

Hello from WAFPN! It's our busiest time here and we are happy to announce another excellent event taking place in April! WAFPN alongside Legal Aid WA and the Family Law Practitioners Association is delighted to present Dr Robert Simon, an international leader in the field of forensic psychology and single expert witness reports. Find more details and how to register for this event in the 'Dates for your diary' section of this eBulletin.

Our 2017 Annual Conference, 'Exploring solutions to complex problems: responding to alcohol and other drugs in the family law system' is taking shape and we are pleased to announce that joining Dr Nicole Lee and Police Commissioner Karl O'Callaghan will be Magistrates Mark Calverly of the Family Court of WA and Andree Horrigan of the Children's Court, discussing how to

manage drugs and alcohol as a cross-jurisdictional issue. Professor Daniel Fatovich of Royal Perth Hospital will also be offering his insights from a health perspective, and Michele Cohen of the Department for Child Protection and Family Support and Jill Rundle of WANADA will be joining us for a panel discussion, with the remaining panellists to be announced in the coming weeks.

Places are still available and I suggest you register soon to secure your spot! Registration details available on page 2 of this eBulletin.

I hope you find this eBulletin useful and informative and I'm looking forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming WAFPN events.





# 2017

**CONTACT INFORMATION**  
 Conference Secretarial  
[conference@corporatechallenge.com.au](mailto:conference@corporatechallenge.com.au)  
 +61 422 265 633

## WA FAMILY PATHWAYS NETWORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2017

**EXPLORING SOLUTIONS TO COMPLEX PROBLEMS:**  
 Responding to alcohol and other drugs in the family law system

Join the WA Family Pathways Network as we look at one of the most prevalent and topical issues in the family law system, alcohol and other drugs.

Hear from a range of experts from across sectors as we explore ways to manage the impact of this problem and create better outcomes for our community.

### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR NICOLE LEE**

Beyond the tip of the iceberg:  
 Understanding ice use and  
 its consequences

**POLICE COMMISSIONER  
 KARL O'CALLAGHAN**

**REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN!**  
**THURSDAY 25 MAY 2017**

**UNIVERSITY CLUB OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

**8.30AM - 4.30PM**

**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION \$100**

*CLOSES ON THE 27TH MARCH*

**STANDARD REGISTRATION \$120**

[CLICK HERE FOR  
 REGISTRATIONS](#)

[CLICK HERE  
 FOR WEBSITE](#)

25<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2017

UNIVERSITY CLUB OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Family Law  
 PATHWAYS  
 NETWORK

WESTERN  
 AUSTRALIA

## 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. Magistrates Mark Calverly of the Family Court of Western Australia and Andree Horrigan of the Children's Court will be co-presenting on managing drugs and alcohol across jurisdictions. Professor Daniel Fatovich will offer his perspective from the Royal Perth Hospital, and we are also happy to welcome Michele Cohen from the Department for Child Protection and Family Support as a panellist. We are looking forward to announcing the remaining speakers in the coming weeks.

**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**

**Early bird 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)

### Seminars: Dr Robert Simon

Legal Aid WA, FLPA and WAFPN are pleased to offer the following interactive workshop opportunities with Dr Robert Simon, international leader in the field of forensic psychology and single expert witness reports.

**Twilight Session** Key highlights from sessions 1 & 2 on 20th April

**18th April**

**5pm to 6:30pm**

**Saxons Training Facilities**

**Level 1, 140 St Georges Terrace, Perth**

**\$88.00 [Register here](#)**

### 1 Day Workshop

**Session 1 (9 am-12:30pm):** Family Court Reports and Subpoena  
The tools, tips and traps for Single Expert Witnesses, Therapists, Contact Supervisors, Independent Children's Lawyers and Lawyers representing parents and children and other professionals writing reports for the Family Court.

**Session 2 (1.30pm-4:30pm):** Family Violence: Identifying, assessing, reporting and safety planning in the context of parenting disputes, for single experts, counsellors and other professionals working with families and writing reports for the Family Court; Independent Children's Lawyers and Lawyers representing parents and children.

**20th April**

**Legal Aid WA**

**32 St Georges Terrace, Perth**

**Session 1 \$75.00 [Register here](#)**

**Session 2 \$75.00 [Register here](#)**

**Sessions 1 & 2 \$120.00 [Register here](#)**

Both sessions will be available by webinar for regional participants. For more information please contact [janeazzopardi@relationships.org.au](mailto:janeazzopardi@relationships.org.au)

### 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)

## Commentary regarding parenting coordination in cases of high conflict disputes

There is oftentimes no distinction in disputed divorce or child custody cases between “high conflict” and “abusive” relationships. This commentary addresses the important distinction between high conflict divorce cases and cases of intimate partner violence (IPV) and highlights the differences between the two terms. It further explores the role of parenting coordination efforts in high conflict cases and how those efforts are not always appropriate in cases of abuse. There is also further discussion regarding the importance of appropriate training for parent coordinators and, at minimum, what that training should entail.

[Read abstract or purchase article.](#)

Shaw, M. (2017). Commentary regarding parenting coordination in cases of high conflict disputes. *Journal of Child Custody*.

## Book review: Lawyers and mediators: the brave new world of services for separating families

This book, as the main title clearly

signals, is about lawyers and mediators but, as the words of the subtitle hint, it is about much more than that. Mavis Maclean and John Eekelaar pack into a relatively thin volume an impressive mix of law, policies, empirical data, comparative experience and personal insights, linked together by the deceptively simple opening statement that they all tell us ‘about the way the legal system responds when individuals face problems in their family relationships which are serious enough to involve separation’.

[Read abstract or purchase article.](#)

Mair, J. (2017). *Lawyers and mediators: the brave new world of services for separating families*.

## Assessing the value of family safety networks in child protective services: Early findings from Minnesota

The considerable number of families served continues to place systemic challenges on the child welfare system. Jurisdictions are turning to new strategies to increase family engagement in services and to leverage taxed or limited resources. Signs of Safety® is a strengths-based and safety-focused approach to child protection work that is grounded in partnership and collaboration. This exploratory pilot study with a referred participant sample used interviews with 26 parents and 32 safety network members to explore respondents' perceptions and use of a safety plan and safety network, core components of the Signs of Safety framework. Findings from this pilot investigation include insights about how safety plans and safety networks are established, how they function, and opportunities for enhancing their use with families with the goal of providing supports that increase the likelihood of

continued safety for children after case closure.

[Read abstract or purchase article.](#)

Nelson-Dusek, S., Idzelis Rothe, M., Roberts, Y. H., & Pecora, P. J. (2017). *Assessing the value of family safety networks in child protective services: Early findings from Minnesota*. *Child & Family Social Work*.

## To return, or not to return, that is the question: a UK-New Zealand comparison of approaches to ‘internal abduction’ cases

In New Zealand law, whether a proposed relocation is external or internal, the court applies the same criteria of what is in the welfare and best interests of the particular child, taking into account principles set out in s 5 of the Care of Children Act 2004 and, in accordance with s 6, the views of the child. The New Zealand Supreme Court in *Kacem v Bashir* [2010] NZSC 112 approved this approach.

After many years in which the courts in England and Wales treated external relocation (movement of the child to outside of the UK) differently to internal relocation (relocation of a child to another part of the UK), the English Court of Appeal in *Re C (Internal Relocation)* [2015] EWCA Civ 1305 brought England into line with the New Zealand Courts so that relocation cases are now determined according to the same principles, whether the move is international or internal.

[Read abstract or purchase article.](#)

Henaghan, M., & Buck, L. (2017). *To return, or not to return, that is the question: a UK–New Zealand comparison of approaches to ‘internal abduction’ cases*. *Journal of Social Welfare and Family Law*, 1-4.

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

## AIFS research project: Call for participants

The Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS) is currently recruiting children aged 10-17 and their families for its Children and Young People in Separated Families Research Project.

The project will help children and young people to tell their stories about what services helped them when their parents separated.

Please ask your clients if they would be interested in participating in the research. The project will help government to better understand children and young people's experiences while their parents use the family law system, and how we can improve that experience in the future.

An information card for you to give to clients is available at <https://aifs.gov.au/takepart>. For more information, please call Dr Rachel Carson on 1800 720 142 or email [childrenandfamilylaw@aifs.gov.au](mailto:childrenandfamilylaw@aifs.gov.au)

## DHS Free Financial Information Service

The Department of Human Services (DHS) FREE Financial Information Service (FIS) is conducting its latest seminar series from late March to late May 2017. All of these seminars are run at night from 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm and can be booked by anyone.

In the local area DHS is running the following seminars at THE RISE in Maylands

- Tuesday 2nd May : Understanding Retirement Income Streams
- Tuesday 9 May : Understanding Superannuation

Seminars are also being run in Joondalup, Cannington, Rockingham and Kwinana. For more information visit the DHS webpage

<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/enablers/upcoming-fis-seminars-western-australia>

To book a seminar please call the seminar booking line 136357 or email [fis.seminar.bookings@humanservices.gov.au](mailto:fis.seminar.bookings@humanservices.gov.au)

## 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?

If you would like to stop receiving the WAFPN monthly eBulletin please send an email with the subject "unsubscribe" to [WA.FamilyPathwayNetwork@relationships.org.au](mailto:WA.FamilyPathwayNetwork@relationships.org.au)

## FEEDBACK

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



## Our Aim

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

To assist separating families obtain appropriate services