


ASPIA

Providing support to partners of adults with Asperger's Syndrome since 2003

ASPIA Newsletter – July 2017

 Our web developer and resident educator Nola Norris led our June meeting, answering questions, facilitating discussion and continuing her amazing educational and supportive role in our group. Her hand-out, provided earlier in the year when *she spoke on "Making sense of Asperger Syndrome"* is available from her website at <http://www.nelt.com.au/resources>

Our next **ASPIA Partner Support Group** meeting for 2017 will be held this coming **Saturday 1st July**. Please gather from 1.30pm for a 2.00pm start.

For this meeting we welcome one of our favourite and most supportive clinical psychologists **Jeroen Decates**.

Jeroen will focus on the differences in expectations of the counselling process between people on the spectrum and their partners. Why some forms of therapy may or may not work, and what approaches are likely to be more successful.

"Jeroen Decates is a Clinical Psychologist who offers a "Neurodiversity Friendly Practice". He has degrees in Psychology and Social Sciences from the University of Nijmegen in the Netherlands, practicing Psychology in the Netherlands from 1976 and moving to Australia in 1982. In 2014 Jeroen retired from Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Health Service's Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service where he had worked mostly in the position of Senior Clinical Psychologist for over 28 years.

Jeroen now runs his own practice "the WaterShed" in Hornsby, and recently started to offer sessions in ZedThree Specialist Centre in Canberra.

Jeroen has developed his own model of conceptualising the AS condition. This pragmatic model has been developed over many years' learning from working with his clients and their partners/families. Jeroen uses many anecdotes to highlight his work with ASD people and their families."

Jeroen's Hornsby practice is at: Suite 2/284 Peats Ferry Road, Hornsby NSW 2077, and his Canberra practice is at: 173 Strickland Crescent, Deakin ACT 2600. Phone: (02) 8911 1164, Fax: (02) 9476 4905

ASPIA meeting location: Club Burwood at 97 Burwood Road, Burwood (Sydney) (corner George Street)

Who can attend: Partners and family members seeking support from the non-Asperger perspective.

Cost: \$10 for non-members, \$5 for members (membership is \$55 per year and includes several benefits including borrowing books from the library and being part of a private facebook group.)

Parking: The cheapest and closest parking is directly behind the Club in **John Street**. Wilson car park - \$4.

Lunch Club: Bistro area from 12 noon for those who'd like to chat over lunch before the meeting.

Dinner: Staying back afterwards for a drink or dinner has also become popular over the last 12 months.

Reminder - May was membership renewal month

To make renewal simple, I am happy to receive direct deposits into ASPIA's account

Yearly Membership Fee: \$55.00

ASPIA's bank details: ASPIA Inc, BSB 062 340, Account Number 1018 1011. Please include your surname.

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ASPIA Meeting Dates for remainder of 2017

- July 1
- August 5
- September 2
- October 7
- November 4
- December 2

Other places where you can stay in touch with ASPIA:

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Aspia-Inc-Asperger-Syndrome-Partner-Information-Australia-Inc-293809577377381/>

Meetup: <https://www.meetup.com/Sydney-Partners-of-Adults-with-Aspergers-Syndrome-ASPIA/>

Yahoo: We have an online discussion forum (\$25 subscription) – see our website www.aspia.org.au

Email: info@aspia.org.au

Website: please visit our website for information and articles, recommended professionals, and a range of other information and useful contacts and links – www.aspia.org.au

We've received a request to participate in a survey in relation to diagnosis of ASD. Please follow this link:

<http://www.autismcrc.com.au/developing-national-guideline-autism-spectrum-disorder-diagnosis-australia-viewpoint-study>

Thought

Remember if you feel the need for some validation at any time, we have dozens of Newsletter Thoughts in previous newsletters preserved on our website – www.aspia.org.au/newsletters.html

My best wishes to all, Carol Grigg OAM, Dip Counselling, Member ACA, www.carolgriggcounselling.com.au