Program Day 1  Thursday 28 July 2011

8.30am–9.10am
COFFEE & REGISTRATION

9.10am–9.35am
WELCOME - Peter Quin, Convenor, Rural Social Workers Action Practice Group
TRADITIONAL WELCOME -

9.35am–10.25am
KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Alana Johnson - Social Worker and Family Therapist and Farmer – Benalla.
BA, BSW, AASW, VAFT (Clinical), MAICD, FARLF.

Alana Johnson is the Victorian Rural Women of the Year for 2010 and the Australian Rural Women’s Award runner up for 2010. She is a fifth generation farmer, a rural consultant and a pioneer of the rural women’s movement in Australia. Alana is a registered clinical Family Therapist and Social Worker, a graduate of the Australian Rural Leadership Program, a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and is currently a sessional lecturer and PhD candidate at Monash University. Alana is recognized nationally and internationally for her work on Change Management and her Leadership Training for Rural Women and is listed in the Whos Who of Victoria and Whos Who of Australian Women.

10.30am–11.00am
MORNING TEA

11.00am–11.45am
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1 CAROL PURTELL Perinatal Mental Health: Challenges for the Rural and Remote Community

2 GEORGINA GUBBINS Georgina Gubbins is Managing Director of a red meat producing business based in Heywood, South West Victoria

3 CATHY DUNCAN THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT’S RURAL PREVENTATIVE HEALTH INITIATIVE Community Capacity Building: a complementary approach to preventative health policy implementation in rural and remote communities

4 JIM POULTER UNDERSTANDING INDIGENOUS CULTURAL DIFFERENCES - Handy Hints for Helping Professionals in Engaging Aboriginal Clients
11.50–12.35pm  CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1 KIM LAFFOLEY  Sharing the Journey
Achieving Better Outcomes for Families Living in Rural and Remote Queensland Communities

2 To be confirmed

3 DAYLE FOREMAN  The Importance for ‘accountable’ cross-cultural international Social Work Practice.

4 HELEN BREEN  Wellbeing Seminars for rural women living with cancer in Shoalhaven: a trans-disciplinary approach within a Support Group framework to enhance overall wellbeing.

12.35pm–1.35pm  LUNCH

1.35pm–2.25pm  KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Trevor Carr - CEO Victorian Healthcare Association

Trevor Carr is the Chief Executive of the Victorian Healthcare Association (VHA), an industry body representing the Victorian public hospital and community health sector. Trevor has hands on experience within a rural healthcare context through a previous role as Chief Executive of a rural agency delivering a broad mix of acute, primary and residential care services.

In this role, Trevor is responsible for overseeing the VHA contribution to health policy debate. As part of this policy overview the VHA is forming population health policy which underpins decisions about how health resources are allocated based on the social determinants of health including social isolation, poverty, ethnicity and cultural factors. This equitable distribution of resources is important for small rural communities that are influenced more by social health determinants to help them thrive.

2.30pm–3.15pm  CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1 DI BOULTON & JULIA BROWNIE  Help at Hand – An intensive in home parent support program

2 KATHRYN TURNER  Rarely Seen, Barely Heard

3 KERRY BRYDON & JOHN KAMASUA  Papua New Guinea: challenges from rural practice

4 MARGARET MORRELL  Methods to maximise the potential of supervision by telephone to promote rural practitioners’ resilience, reflective practice and professional growth

3.15pm–3.45pm  AFTERNOON TEA
3.45pm–4.30pm  **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

1 **PAUL KING & MELISSA WEAVER**  Growing Child Protection partnerships of care in Alice; ‘slow down and eat the flowers’!

2 **BRONWYN HYDE & GILLIAN LEONARD**  Bringing Carers Together – telephone support group for carers of people with chronic mental illness

3 **GAYLE FORD**  How families are affected by bullying in schools: A case study of rural experience

4 **ANDREW LOWTH & LESLEY HEWITT**  Resilient Healthy Rural and Remote Communities – Exploring who’s in and who’s out?  (Note: this session will run for 1 hour 3.45pm-4.45pm)

4.45pm  
**RSWAPG Annual General Meeting** – Everyone Welcome

5.30 – 6.30pm  **Pre Dinner Get Together**

Dr Peter Munn, CEO Centacare Whyalla SA to formally launch ‘Innovative human services practice: Australia’s changing landscape’  Professor Margaret Alston, OAM, Head of Department, Department of Social Work, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, Monash University

6.30pm  **CONFERENCE DINNER**

Guest Dinner Speaker: **Terry Kelly**, Social Worker, Benalla

Terry Kelly comes from a rural background and is a former Co-Convenor of the Rural Social Workers' Action Group (RSWAG) and has helped plan and co-ordinate many previous Rural Conferences and also delivered several conference papers. In 1990 he was a founding member of the Goulburn Murray Social Workers' Group. He graduated as a Social Worker in 1983 and has worked in Intellectual Disability Services, Acquired Brain Injury, Aged Care, Rehabilitation, Renal Dialysis, Family Therapy, Grief Counselling, Service Planning and Development and for 10 years as the sole Social Worker at Benalla Hospital and Community Health Service. He now works with the North West Aged Care Assessment Service based at the Royal Melbourne Hospital, Royal Park Campus.

His career has encompassed a roughly equal mix of rural and metropolitan practice and he has worked in public and private health services: Kingsbury Training Centre, Bundoora 1984-87; Office of Intellectual Disability Services, Benalla 1988-9; Benalla Hospital and Community Health Service 1991-2001; Victorian Rehabilitation Centre, Glen Waverley 2001-2006; Peter James Centre, Burwood East 2006-2009;  North West ACAS Melbourne Health 2009- present. For many years he has been an active Workplace Delegate of the Health Services Union.

Terry is listed in "Who's Who In Victoria" because he is President of Australian Skeptics, Victorian Branch, a voluntary organisation which promotes curiosity, reason, evidence based thinking and scientific literacy. Prominent, active members include not only Scientists but also Comedians, Gamblers, Teachers and Magicians. He is an advocate of evidence based practice in Social Work and presented a paper at a previous Rural Conference entitled "Science And Superstition In Social Work". He does not believe in miracles but he does believe in humanity's capacity for justice, equitable social change and progress.

**2011 Martin P. Butler Rural Social Work Scholarship presentation**

Tess La Fontaine - 2009 Inaugural Martin P. Butler Rural Social Work Scholarship recipient
Program Day 2  Friday 29 July 2011

8.30am–9.00am
COFFEE & REGISTRATION

9.00am–9.10am
WELCOME – Peter Quin, Convenor, RSWAPG

9.10am–10.00am
KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Patrick Lawrence - Manager of Community Kitchens Programme, Victorian Asylum Seeker Resource Centre – Melbourne

Patrick was born into a professional musical family and began his career as a classical pianist and vocal coach. A series of circumstances led to a multi-dimensional and imaginative career in welfare, first and ongoing at the First Step Program, a not-for-profit addiction medicine clinic (specialising in heroin dependence), then as the Foodbank Coordinator of the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre. Food security is a human rights issue, and as such is so simple to understand. However, it is extraordinarily difficult to ensure food security for people who not only fall straight through the federal safety net, but who are considered by many in Australian society to be somehow unworthy. Asylum seekers face a multiplicity of disempowering forces that require a compassionate, determined and community-wide support system. Patrick works everyday to coordinate the efforts of compassionate groups and individuals, to advocate for systemic change, and to enhance the capacity of people to expand their circle of care.

10.05am–10.50am  CONCURRENT SESSIONS
1 LESLEY HEWITT Succeeding at tertiary study – the experience of social work students from rural, regional and remote areas

2 MARIA GRONER Travellers Aid Australia Emergency Relief Travel Online – A New Service Delivery Model to Address Transport Disadvantage

3 MARIA O’KEEFE Provincial Cities - Urban, Regional and Remote service delivery

4 MARTIN BUTLER Framework for Creative Rural/Remote Practice

10.50am–11.20am  MORNING TEA

11.20am–12.05pm  CONCURRENT SESSIONS
1 MARY CLAPHAM & MARY KINGSLEY Feeling Safe – Being Safe
A Protective Behaviours Program for Primary School Students

2 HELEN HICKSON Exploring social workers’ experiences of working with bushfire affected families

3 PAMELA YORKE Clinical Supervision: Why and How can we provide it in rural and regional Australia?

4 DR PETER MUNN Keys to developing a resilient medium sized NGO across a vast area of South Australia
12.10pm–12.55pm CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1 GAYLE HALL The Road Travelled Together: Students and staff experiences of rural, regional and remote social work

2 ROBYN MASON & JOHN KAMASUA Australia and Papua New Guinea: Similarities and differences for rural social workers

3 TREvor BARKER Creating Collaboration across sectors to enhance sustainable emergency relief programs

4 LESLEY CHENOWETH Managing tensions in professional statutory practice: Living and working in rural and remote communities

12.55pm–1.45pm LUNCH

1.45pm–2.35pm KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Matthew Ebden – Lecturer, School of Health and Social Development, Faculty of Health, Medicine, Nursing and Behavioural Sciences, Deakin University

Matthew Ebden coordinates the Bachelor of Health Sciences at Deakin University's Warrnambool campus and in 2010 won the Deakin University Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Outstanding Contribution to ‘Rural and Regional Engagement’ and Faculty of Health, Medicine, Nursing and Behavioural Sciences Dean’s Award for ‘Outstanding Contributions’ in recognition of his success in developing partnerships with regional and rural organisations to promote social inclusion, mental health, environmental sustainability and educational opportunities. Matthew will share his experiences of community engagement and challenge health and community services to collaborate across regional and rural sectors for improved community access and health, social connections and equity, and social and environmental sustainability.

2.40pm–3.25pm CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1 ANDY UMBERs Evolve - narrative, bush and community approaches to rebuilding personal agency after hard times: a program response to the adolescents experiencing effects of the 2009 Victorian Bushfires

2 HELEN BAKER & LEA-ANNE DOLAN Community work with a ‘Forgotten Australian’: a story of resilience and moving towards recovery

3 NATASHA LONG & KATHY JORDAN Student social work field supervision: learning opportunities offered by group supervision and peer learning.

4 GREGORY RIDDETT & KYLIE MACKENZIE Mental Health or Emotional Health? Where the emotions go, the mind and body follow.

3.30pm–4.15pm
GRACE BROWN, RAELEENE GREGORY & ROBYN MASON
Towards Two Decades of Resilience: Reviewing the Victorian Rural Conferences, 1993-2011

4.15pm – 4.30pm CONFERENCE CLOSE
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10th Biennial National Rural Remote Social Work Conference
‘Resilient, Healthy, Rural and Remote Communities’

28 and 29 July 2011
Mercure Ballarat Hotel & Convention Centre

The following organisations are acknowledged for their sponsorship and support of the 10th Biennial RSWAPG Conference;