



One day conference *SURVIVING 'CARE'*

TOWARDS A MEANINGFUL PROCESS OF HEALING IN NSW

3RD OCTOBER 2008

PADDINGTON RSL,
226 OXFORD STREET, SYDNEY

Presented by the Bellingen Institute and supported by Southern Cross University, Centre for Peace and Social Justice, Care Leavers Australia Network, Historical Abuse Network & Paddington RSL Club

This one-day conference seeks to bring together a number of individuals, groups and organisations concerned with establishing a meaningful process of healing for survivors of care. Building on the 2004 Senate Inquiry report, *Forgotten Australians*, the conference is aimed at facilitating discussion on how the New South Wales state government can respond effectively to the abuse, neglect and cruelty experienced by thousands of children in orphanages, children's homes and out-of-care homes over the past few decades.

To date, no process of official inquiry or full acknowledgment of the harm experienced by children in NSW has occurred. No comprehensive system of redress has been introduced to enable care survivors to move on with their lives. In effect, this lack of effective response has contributed to the prolonged sense of abuse experienced by care survivors. In drawing on insights from various 'truth and reconciliation' processes around the world, and the response of governments in Ireland, New Zealand, and Canada, as well as in Australian states like Tasmania and Queensland, the conference seeks to form the foundation upon which a meaningful process of healing can emerge in NSW.

Programme



A network for people who grew up
in Australia's orphanages,
Children's Homes
& in foster care



www.clan.org.au

<u>Cost</u>	
Non-concession	\$75.00
CLAN members	\$25.00
Concession	\$25.00

Tickets can be purchased on the day or in advance by Cheque/Money order to Bellingen Institute Inc, PO Box 104, Bellingen NSW 2454

ABN 14 615 879 499
Enquiries: Jo Jones
jjones47@une.edu.au

9.00 – 9.30
9.30—9.45
9.45 – 10.00

Registration, meet and greet
Jason Clare Federal member for Blaxland
Dr Richard Hil Director - Bellingen Institute and senior lecturer Southern Cross University, School of Social Sciences

THE NEED FOR HEALING

10.00 – 10.30
10.30 – 11.00
11.00 – 11.20
11.20 - 12.00

Dr Joanna Penglase care survivor, Coordinator of Care Leavers Australia Network, (CLAN), author of *Orphans of the Living: Growing up in 'care' in 20th Century Australia*
The case for redress and healing in NSW
Ryszard Szablicki author - *Orphanage Boy*
Looking Back, Looking Forward: Experiencing the need for healing and redress
Questions and discussion
Morning tea

SURVIVING 'CARE': TOWARDS A MEANINGFUL PROCESS OF HEALING IN NSW

12.00 – 12.30
12.30 – 1.00
1.00 – 2.00

Phillip Mendes Senior lecturer Monash University, Department of Social Work
The Forgotten Australians report and its implications for NSW care survivors
Questions and discussion
Lunch

TOWARDS A PROCESS OF HEALING

2.00 – 2.30
2.30 – 3.00
3.00 – 3.30
3.30 – 4.00
4.00 – 4.30

Angela Sdrinis legal advocate for care survivors
Legal advocacy and redress for care survivors in NSW
Questions and discussion
Leonie Sheedy care survivor and co-founder of Care Leavers Australia Network (CLAN)
The question of access to official records
Questions and discussion
Afternoon tea

RESOLUTION

3.45 – 4.15
4.15 – 5.00
5.30

Mark Reiser and Karyn Walsh, Historical Abuse Network Qld
Why should the NSW government respond meaningfully to care survivors in NSW?
Leonie Sheedy & Joanna Penglase CLAN
Towards a resolution to be presented to the NSW government
End