

**Barnardos & Women's Reconciliation Network Partnership Project
Mittagong RSL, 17 August 2004**

"To know the past and to make a difference"

Objective: For Barnardos Family Support Workers to begin to understand the importance of Respect, Protocols, Identity and Core Values and to challenge their current way of thinking relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clientele.

Experiential Aim: To have participants experience difference and become conscious of the historical influence of policies which impact on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples: past, present and future.

Workshop Programme

10:00 Opening (*Barnardos*)

Welcome to Country: Aunty Valerie Mulcahy, Elder, Wingecarribee, Local Reconciliation Group and Board Member of the NSW Reconciliation Council

10:30 Context /Introductions: Sally Fitzpatrick, Women's Reconciliation Network, Deputy-Chairperson NSW Reconciliation Council & ANTaR NSW
Illustrating Expectations, Individual Introductions, Today's Programme

11.00 Understanding Shared History: Rasme Prior, Miriam, Women's Reconciliation Network, Cross-cultural Awareness Trainer
Video Defining Moments of History – An untold story (14mins)
Poster Conversations (5 groups), Brief Reflection

11.45 Morning tea

12.00 Cultural Awareness: Rasme Prior
"What it means to be white."

1.00 Lunch

2.00 Trauma Healing Workshop: Carol Vale, Gumbaingirr – Dunghutti, Women's Reconciliation Network, Expressive Therapies practitioner
"Lifting the Blanket" workshop and conversation

3.00 Sharing Stories Workshop
Case Studies: Challenges and Learnings

3.45 Plenary
Reflections, Learnings, Next Steps

4.00 Close (*Barnardos*)

We would like to acknowledge and thank Aunty Valerie Mulcahy for her contribution to this day and the hard work of all those within the WRN and Barnardos who made this day possible.
If time permits the WRN video, Around the Kitchen Table, can be shown (26 mins).

Open our hearts to the experiences of others, accept our traditional wisdoms,
acknowledge the past, heal ourselves and teach others.

Facilitators' Biographies

Rasme Prior

Rasme is a Miriam woman from Erub and Mer Islands in the Torres Strait. She has been involved in Indigenous affairs for over 20 years. During this time she worked for the Aboriginal Development Commission (ADC) and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) as well as undertaking volunteer work for numerous Indigenous community organisations in Queensland, South Australia and New South Wales. She also spent 10 years working in primary school education in Queensland and South Australia.

Rasme is an accredited cross-cultural awareness trainer and has provided training to organisations such as the Sydney Institute of General Practitioners Education and Training, the General Practitioners Education Australia, the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, International Language Schools, New South Wales TAFE and various Government Departments.

Rasme is currently a member of the Women's Reconciliation Network NSW.

Carol Vale

Carol is a Gumbaingirr – Dunghutti woman from Armidale, in northern NSW. She has a background in social and community development working with Indigenous communities throughout NSW, and has worked in Aboriginal affairs within all tiers of government for over 23 years.

Presently, Carol has been undertaking consultancy work with Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, an example of her projects include facilitating community education workshops on family violence and well-being.

She is currently enrolled in the Master of Indigenous Studies (Well-being) Program at Southern Cross University, Lismore. Her study is concerned with understanding the traumatic impacts of the multiple intergenerational experiences of colonization, resulting in physical, psychological and cultural ill-health amongst Indigenous individuals, families and communities.

Carol has four children and one grandson and is a founding member of the Women's Reconciliation Network.

Sally Fitzpatrick

Sally is currently Project Co-ordinator and Researcher of the Educative Kit Project for the Women's Reconciliation Network (WRN). She was the producer of the video *Around the Kitchen Table* and has worked in production and editing for film and video since the 1980's. Beginning in 1988, she has researched Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal race relations for organisations such as the NSW Board of Studies, the Central Sydney Area Health Service and other private individuals. In the lead up to the Sydney Olympics she worked in the production of several architectural projects. More recently she has been training as a facilitator. Sally is the current Chairperson of the Women's Reconciliation Network, Vice-President of Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation, NSW (ANTaR NSW) and Deputy Chairperson of the New South Wales Reconciliation Council (NSWRC). Sally is currently studying her Master of Public Health at the University of NSW specialising in Aboriginal health. Sally has a five year old daughter, Jessie.

Elaine Telford

Elaine has a background in teaching with a Teachers' Certificate from New Zealand. For many years she worked in the field of community development, living in various countries including the Australian communities of Oombulgurri in The Kimberley, WA, and three years in Murrin Bridge, Central Western NSW, during which time the *Murrin Bridge Readers* were developed and published in 1984.

From 1994-2000, she was part of the Australians for Reconciliation co-ordination team responsible for the reconciliation process in the state of NSW. In 2002, as part of the Glencoe Consulting team, she worked on the Community Action Plan for Bourke, NSW.

Earlier this year, 2004, Elaine spent time in East Timor as part of the Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA) facilitation team, working with REDE Feto, the women's umbrella organisation, in assisting to plan and train women in preparation for their National Congress 2004.

Elaine is a founding member of the Women's Reconciliation Network