We are thrilled to be presenting Jeanette Purkis, an autistic advocate, public speaker, public servant and author of three books including the recently released book, ‘Guide to Good Mental Health on the Autism Spectrum’. Many of you may remember Jeanette from the AV Careers Event last June where she spoke of her career pathways journey to finding her niche in the workplace. Jeanette has graciously accepted our invitation to speak during her hectic schedule and she will be talking about Mental Health & Social Inclusion. Watch for more details to be published on our website, Facebook and member/group emails, to ensure you book early to secure your place.

**BRAINSTORM PRODUCTIONS**

**FRIDAY 27TH MAY**

Last year in February, for our joint Aspergers Victoria & Hans Aspergers birthday celebration, Brainstorm Productions visited with a lively interactive performance for our primary school age youngsters. This year at the end of May they will be back to present the 'Being Brave' production again to our Prep – Yr6 primary school children. More details will be published on our website, Facebook and member/group emails, to ensure you book early to secure your place.

**PROFESSOR TONY ATTWOOD**

**THURSDAY 28TH JULY**

Due to the success of the 2015 event, Aspergers Victoria is excited to be hosting Professor Tony Attwood again in July 2016. We strongly recommend interested attendees book early to avoid disappointment as these events usually sell out quickly. Keep an eye out for more details posted on our website, Facebook and member/group emails. Please forward any suggestions regarding topics you would like to be discussed to events@aspergersvic.org.au.
ASPERGERS VICTORIA
NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2016 Edition

Our high quality quarterly newsletter is provided to hundreds of members and professionals who deal with Asperger Syndrome.

It is a crucial source of information about Aspergers Victoria activities and Asperger Syndrome issues, sourced from around the world.

We encourage submissions of original content and any relevant, informative items of interest for publication in our newsletters. Please email your suggestions for our consideration to: communications@aspergersvic.org.au

Until next time members, enjoy your Autumn and we look forward to keeping you informed in our Winter edition.

The AV Team

Aspergers Victoria

ABN 47 066 180 983
ASSOC. A0043862N
PHONE (03) 9845 2766
ADDRESS The Nerve Centre
54 Railway Rd Blackburn VIC
EMAIL admin@aspergersvic.org.au
WEBSITE www.aspergersvic.org.au

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AV celebrates 25 years

AV celebrates 25 years providing support and information to the Aspergers community

On Saturday 20th February, Aspergers Victoria celebrated 25 years. The celebration also marked the 110th birthday anniversary of Dr Hans Asperger, the Austrian professor after whom Asperger syndrome is named.

The celebration, held at Phoenix Park Community Centre in Malvern East, was a huge success and it was wonderful to see so many people coming together to celebrate our organisation. It was a sunny day, with the children enjoying the adventure playground along with the entertainment provided by Snow Princess (Chloe from Magic Moments Princess Entertainment) and Batman (Anthony from the Young Adults and Adults groups).

Our AV president, Tamsin, opened the festivities by welcoming everyone to the event and briefly summarising the support and information that AV now provides, which has grown from its humble beginnings as a small support group started by parents in 1991. Richard Eisenmajer, our patron and well-known clinical psychologist with the ASD Clinic then engaged the audience with a speech about how knowledge of Aspergers has evolved since the 1980s to current day, including the more recent focus on girls with Aspergers and changes in diagnosis terminology. During this presentation our performers, Snow Princess and Batman, entertained the children with storytelling, games and songs. Following the presentations, the guests mingled whilst enjoying the afternoon tea. The event was commemorated by the cutting of the birthday cakes by the two founding parents, Jenny and Margaret, and the current and recent presidents, Tamsin and Lyndel.

We would like to thank all those who helped make the 25th birthday celebration such a special event. Thank you to Richard Eisenmajer, Chloe from Magic Moments Princess Entertainment, and Anthony for presenting to the guests. An enormous thank you to the Events team volunteers who helped in so many ways including Kate, Anthony, Max, Callan and Nik. Thank you to Michael and Brian, our professional volunteer photographers, for taking photographs throughout the event. Many thanks to Red Poppy Bakery, Hughesdale, for the cakes and to Costume Bazaar, Bentleigh, for the Batman costume. Thank you to all the Board members who helped out in many ways. A very special thank you goes to Deb, our Events Coordinator, for all her time and effort planning and organising to ensure that the event was such an enjoyable celebration.

We would like to make a special mention of the two entertainers that donated their time to entertain the children during the event. Chloe runs her own business, Magic Moments Princess Entertainment (www.magicmomentsprincessentertainment.weebly.com), where she entertains at children’s parties and events as favourite fairytale characters. Chloe encourages people to accept themselves and to be who they are. Anthony is an actor and singer, participating in a theatre group in Croydon. He has been associated with AV for ten years and has attended the Young Adults and Adults groups, making friends along the way. Anthony encourages AV to keep up the good work.
Post Paid Membership Application or Renewal

PLEASE USE THIS FORM IF YOU WISH TO APPLY / RENEW VIA POST WITH CHEQUE PAYMENT.
OTHERWISE PROCESS ONLINE AT WWW.ASPERGERSVIC.ORG.AU/MEMBERSHIP

APPLICATION & PROFILE DETAILS

Applicant’s Name
Postal address
Suburb ___________________________ State ___________________________ Postcode ___________________________
Phone ___________________________
Email ___________________________

AS Person: Gender (please tick) ☐ Male ☐ Female Birth Year ___________________________

MEMBERSHIP SELECTION (Please tick)

☐ New membership (includes NEW Member Kit) $50.00
☐ Membership renewal $35.00
☐ Education membership $75.00
☐ Professional membership $95.00
☐ Donation (please specify amount) $_____

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TOTAL AMOUNT $__________
(cheque* enclosed for this amount)

*Post Paid Memberships / Renewals are to be made by cheque ONLY. Made payable to: “Aspergers Victoria Inc” and enclosed with this form to: Aspergers Victoria, 54 Railway Rd, Blackburn VIC 3130. Do not send cash. If you require a receipt please join or renew online.

Applicant’s Signature ___________________________ Date ___________________________

IMPORTANT THINGS TO NOTE:

• You can join or renew ONLINE using PayPal and save postage at www.aspergersvic.org.au/membership
• Please allow 4 weeks for delivery of New Member Kit and membership card.
• Donations are tax deductible. If you require a receipt please donate online: www.aspergersvic.org.au/donate

HELPING AND SHARING... WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME INVOLVED?

Our organisation is only as effective as our volunteers. Please consider offering your time to volunteer with Aspergers Victoria. Details can be found at: http://www.aspergersvic.org.au/vacancies/ or tick below:

☐ I am interested in volunteering. Please contact me to discuss on ___________________________ (mobile number)