

## **Brief History**

Hilary Lee founded the Society for the Arts in Dementia Care in Australia in 2006, having brought the society from Vancouver, Canada, where it was first introduced by Dr Dalia Gottlieb-Tanaka. Hilary had attended one of the Society conferences in 2005, presenting on a project from Perth, and was inspired by the positive multidisciplinary approach to creative expression in dementia care. She believed that the society would be of strong interest and value to Australian health care practitioners and creative artists. She established a founding board and was Chair of the Society until 2010 when she resigned to enable others to have the opportunity to hold this role. Maree Pedaste then was elected to as chair until 2013, when Hilary was re-elected to the chairperson's role.

The Australian chapter has been running educational workshops, symposia and conferences since 2006, for both National and International audiences.

## **Executive Board - Australia**

### **Hilary Lee MSc, OTR: Founder and Chairperson**

Hilary works with Dementia Care Australia as the President of *Spark of Life*, a psycho-emotional philosophy to dementia. She has a global focus on education, research and innovation. Hilary has undertaken many projects in dementia care. These include easing the transition to residential care, the early identification and prevention of depression, and a multidisciplinary approach to palliative care. She has published numerous articles and has developed the Creative Expression Abilities Assessment tool (CEAA) in collaboration with Dr Dalia Gottlieb-Tanaka and Professor Peter Graf at the University of British Columbia. In 2011 Hilary co-edited a new book called Creative Approaches in Dementia Care by Macmillan Publishing. Hilary has played a key role in co-ordinating all Australian society conferences and symposia.

### **Jo Marshall MBA Advanced, Dip Professional Coaching Treasurer, Symposium Co-Ordinator**

Jo has a background in management and education. She is passionate about facilitating a work place or a "school place" that is challenging and satisfying - a place where people can make meaningful contribution and also grow and develop - considering that we spend a large proportion of our lives in these spaces. Jo has an MBA Advanced (UWA 2000) and completed the Diploma of Professional Coaching with Coach School in 2004. Jo has worked at Edith Cowan University and The University of Western Australia, and now works at Central Institute of Technology in Management and Business. Jo recently completed a Masterclass in Instructional Intelligence (Advanced Facilitation) Her current challenge is in redeveloping sessions from classroom delivery to "simulated workplaces" to help engage students and make the learning process even more interesting and practical. As part of this process, Jo has facilitated Diploma level class groups in planning and managing conferences for real world clients including CECD. Her students have provided valuable support of a professional standard to the society as event managers since 2011.

**Trisha Kotai-Ewers PhD****Board Member**

Trisha Kotai-Ewers first encountered dementia when her grandfather lived with the family for 7 years until his death. When her mother went into residential care, Trisha was fascinated by the words of the other residents. Encouraged by psychoanalytic psychotherapist, Judy Griffiths, she worked for eight years as a Writer in Residence with people with dementia in both residential and day care settings. The work was supported by a seeding grant from Alzheimer's Australia. Trisha has given papers on her work at national and international conferences. In 2007 Alzheimer's WA published her book *Listen to the Talk of Us: People with dementia speak out.*

Trisha has always loved words. She taught languages in Western Australian schools for over 20 years, was president of the Fellowship of Australian Writers (WA) for 17 of the past 25 years and has a PhD in social and cultural history. Trisha has founded the Centre for the Creative Imagination in Perth.

**Maree Pedaste BAppSc(OT).****Board Member**

Maree graduated as an occupational therapist in 2005. She has worked in mental health, aged care facilities, and public hospitals and is currently working in a private hospital. Her interest in Aged Care and especially people with dementia started when working with Hilary Lee on the Cherished Memories, Childhood Dreams Tapestry Project as an OT student. She presented at Better Practice Aged Conference in Perth on the projects competed under Hilary's supervision "Spiritual Garden" and Tapestry Project. She was treasurer then Convener of the Aged Care Interest Group in WA 2006. In 2007 through her involvement in the Tapestry project she has lectured Japanese students in Brisbane. In 2007 she became involved in the Society for the Arts in Dementia Care (Australia). As secretary to the society, she helped organise The Fourth International Conference for the Society in partnership with Aged and Community Services in Adelaide 2009 and annual Symposia since then. She played a special role in looking after and performing with the Kesen Boke Ichiza Japanese Theatre Group at the conference. She travelled to Japan 2010 to learn more about the Theatre group being able to perform with them again whilst there. Maree held the role of Chairperson of the Society from 2010 to 2013.

**Norma Hatchett, Creative Arts Facilitator****Board Member**

Norma Hatchet graduated from WA School of Nursing in 1978. She married and had a family and her 2nd child Nathan required long term caring after a childhood illness that caused a stroke. She started a search for meaningful activities that would stimulate and encourage the use of both hands and both sides of the brain that led to her setting up a business called Hooked on Hessian. Her son had own studio where he helped Norma in preparation for workshops until he was an adult. Sadly Nathan passed away a few years ago, but left a special legacy to others with the development of Hooked on Hessian as a powerful creative medium for eliciting the potential in people with disabilities. Norma has a personal understanding of dementia from years of providing care and support for her mother who had dementia, and now also for her father who has dementia. Norma runs an After School Arts program and works in

the community. She is a member of the Hills Symphony Orchestra and has run music activities in her local primary school. She is a member of the Kalamunda Councils Disability Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee and Kalamunda Zig Zag Arts Festival Committee. She is passionate about the arts and arts inclusion and believes a combination of colour, texture, music and creativity makes a difference in peoples' lives irrespective of age.

**Jeni Winslow B. AppSc (O.T.), Dip. O.T., Master Practitioner in *Spark of Life*.  
Board Member**

Jeni is an occupational therapist with over 20 years of experience working with people with dementia in residential aged care facilities. Jeni has a strong background in the creative arts and is a founding board member of The Society for the Arts in Dementia Care (Australia) Inc. Her work has included introducing and evaluating creative expressive arts programs for people with dementia. Jeni has a gift of connecting with people of all levels of dementia and bringing out their potential and creativity. She has presented at international and local conferences on the results of the *Spark of Life* program, including a film project scripted and acted by members of a *Spark of Life* Club. Recently Jeni created a 'life memories' mural within a nursing home *Spark of Life* club. Jeni was a volunteer trialling the Creative Expressive Abilities Assessment Tool during its development with Dalia and Hilary as part of the international research and development of the tool.

**Kate Campbell- Pope, OTR, Visual Artist  
Board Member**

Kate Campbell-Pope has been a practicing occupational therapist working mainly in the area of residential aged care since 1988. She has a strong professional and personal interest in quality dementia care, inclusive of the arts.

Kate is also a visual artist with a career encompassing gallery/exhibition works, community arts, teaching and mentoring, and public art. Her work is represented in collections including the Art Gallery of Western Australia, City of Tamworth, King Edward Memorial Hospital, and various private collections. She is well known within the fibre textile community across Australia, and has conducted numerous workshops in WA and interstate.

Kate is increasingly interested in Arts/Health projects, having initiated several intergenerational arts programs in aged care facilities over the years. She has presented at two CECD Symposiums, in 2007 and 2013. She currently works with DADAA (Disability in the Arts, Disadvantage in the Arts) in Perth, and continues to practice as an occupational therapist within aged care.

**Dorothee Gevers, OTR**  
**Board Member**

Dorothy was raised by German parents in South Africa. She studied Occupational Therapy in Pretoria. She started work in Mental Health, and then spent 8 years in Paediatrics and before immigrating to Australia in 2006 worked as the Senior OT in general hospital. In Australia she worked in Adult Mental Health and in Community Aged care before accepting the fulltime and current position in residential aged care. Her current interest is to promote the documentation of life stories to improve person centred care.

Dorothy has experienced that the support from the Society for the Arts in Dementia Care over the last 5 years has been a beacon of hope, shining the light on what is possible, while working in residential aged care as an Occupational Therapist. She is one of the most recently elected Board members, joining in 2013 and is a strong advocate for enriching the quality of life for seniors with dementia.