

# Children AUSTRALIA

VOLUME 41 — Number 4  
December 2016



**A FOCUS ON REGIONAL AND RURAL CONTEXTS**

**Guest Editor:  
Dr Susan Gair**

Editors:  
DR JENNIFER LEHMANN  
DR RACHAEL SANDERS

**CAMBRIDGE  
UNIVERSITY PRESS**



*Children Australia* is a quarterly journal which aims to provide an opportunity for service providers, academics and others concerned with children, young people and families to report on their work, to raise issues and to share their views.

OzChild has had a long association with the production of the journal. OzChild is an incorporated agency working under the name of Children Australia Inc. [www.ozchild.org.au](http://www.ozchild.org.au)

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS and ENQUIRIES

For subscription information and general enquiries, or to advise change of contact details, please contact: [journals@cambridge.org](mailto:journals@cambridge.org)

#### GUIDELINES FOR AUTHORS

Guidelines for authors wishing to submit material to be considered for publication in *Children Australia* can be found on the inside of the back cover.

Manuscripts, book reviews and editorial communications can be submitted through ScholarOne: <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/cha>

The views expressed in *Children Australia* are those of the authors, and are therefore not necessarily endorsed by the Editor or members of the editorial board.

#### SUBSCRIPTION RATES 2016

This journal is published 4 times per year. The institutional rates (excluding VAT) are:

	Print and online	Electronic Only
Australia	317 AUD	300 AUD
N America	235 USD	221 USD
UK and ROW	151 GBP	143 GBP

EU subscribers (outside the UK) who are not registered for VAT should add VAT at their country's rate. VAT registered subscribers should provide their VAT registration number. Prices include delivery by air when appropriate. Japanese prices for institutions are available from Kinokuniya Company Ltd, P.O. Box 55, Chitose, Tokyo 156, Japan.

Orders and subscription enquiries should be addressed to:

Cambridge University Press, Journals Fulfillment Department, UPH, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8BS, UK.

Orders from N America should be addressed to: Cambridge University Press, 32 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10013, USA

*Children Australia* and all other Cambridge Journals can be found at <http://journals.cambridge.org/>

#### EDITORS

Dr Jennifer Lehmann  
La Trobe University  
Dr Rachael Sanders  
c/- Dr Jennifer Lehmann  
La Trobe University

#### EDITORIAL CONSULTANTS

Frank Ainsworth  
James Cook University, Australia  
Angela Abela  
University of Malta, Malta  
Muriel Bamblett  
Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Association (VACCA), Australia  
Freda Briggs  
University of South Australia, Australia  
Helen Buckley  
Trinity College Dublin, Ireland  
Liana le Roux  
University of Pretoria, South Africa  
Elizabeth Fernandez  
University of New South Wales, Australia  
Neerja Sharma  
University of Delhi, India  
Margarita Frederico  
La Trobe University, Australia  
Chris Goddard  
Monash University, Australia  
Anna Gupta  
Royal Holloway University of London, UK  
Ann Hanning  
Freelance Consultant in Indigenous Affairs, Australia  
Vicki O'Halloran  
Somerville Community Services Inc., Australia  
Antoinette Lombard,  
University of Pretoria, South Africa  
Wynne Sandra Korr  
University of Illinois, USA  
Susan Gair  
James Cook University, Australia  
Jonathon Sargeant  
Australian Catholic University, Australia  
Chris-Maree Sultmann  
Encompass Family & Community, Australia  
Nicola Taylor  
University of Otago Auckland Centre, New Zealand  
David Vicary  
Children's Protection Society, Australia

The support of La Trobe University is gratefully acknowledged

The financial support of OzChild: Children Australia Inc is gratefully acknowledged



© Published by Cambridge University Press. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, in any form or by any means, electronic, photocopying, or otherwise, without permission in writing from Cambridge University Press.

Permission to copy (for users in the USA) is available from Copyright Clearance Center, <http://www.copyright.com>, email: [info@copyright.com](mailto:info@copyright.com)

# Children AUSTRALIA



VOLUME 41 – Number 4  
December 2016

## Contents

### EDITORIAL

245

Susan Gair, Jennifer Lehmann and Rachael Sanders

### TRIBUTE

247

Tribute to Emeritus Professor Freda Briggs: Child Protection Champion  
Lesley-anne Ey and Chris Goddard

### ARTICLES

Early Parenting Education to Strengthen Aboriginal Parents in a Remote Area: The Development and Piloting of a Group Programme 249

Rebekah Grace, Jennifer Bowes, Judith McKay-Tempest, Jodi Burnstein and Sue Tregeagle

Talking Matters Bendigo: Engaging Parents Early to Prevent Long-Term Speech, Language and Communication Needs in Preschool-Aged Children 258

Bernice Mathisen, Susan Bennett, Christine Lockett, Katherine Beazley, Juanita Howlett, Melinda Charlesworth, Helen Lees and Jaynee Read

Supporting Isolated Workers in their Work with Families in Rural and Remote Australia: Exploring Peer Group Supervision 265

Amanda Nickson, Susan Gair and Debra Miles

Rural Childhood in New Zealand: A Unique Site of Children's Agency and Social Participation 275

Mary Ann Powell, Anne B. Smith and Nicola Taylor

### COMMENTARY

Growing Up in Rural Assam, India: The Experiences of Young Women 285

Dipjyoti Konwar, Vinita Bhargava and Bhanumathi Sharma

Published by Cambridge University Press  
journals.cambridge.org

ISSN 1035 – 0772

Copyright in all articles rests with authors. However, a limited set of permanent copyright permission licences has been granted by authors to the publisher to allow publication in this journal. Rights in the reproduction and distribution of the published articles as visual facsimiles of this published edition by either mechanical or digital means is controlled by the publisher and any distributions by CAL for copying of an author's work therefore are due to the publisher. All other rights in the words contained in this edition are controlled by the authors. Authors are therefore free to adapt and/or republish the words making up their own articles either online or in print, including academic repositories.

# Children AUSTRALIA



VOLUME 41 – Number 4  
2016

## PRACTICE-BASED COMMENTARIES

Empowered with *Wings*: Professional Development for Supporting Children's Social and Emotional Wellbeing in South-West Queensland  
Jennifer Cartmel, Kerry Smith and Debbie Miller

292

How to Work with Complex Families in Regional Tasmania: Putting Theory into Practice  
Priscilla E. Best and Ebony J. Lambie

297

## PRACTICE INNOVATIONS

Introducing MABL: A New Social Innovations Programme at the University of Melbourne  
Sarah Wise

305

## BOOK REVIEW

308

*Children Australia* is a refereed journal with the majority of papers being peer reviewed to assess their suitability for publication. Peer-reviewed papers are expected to meet contemporary academic standards. However, at the discretion of the editor, papers which have not been reviewed are published from time to time. Such papers may include short commentaries on practice issues that are essentially based on observation and experience; reports on program approaches, initiatives or projects that are both short and unreferenced; historical overviews; or short papers that respond to a peer-reviewed article published in an earlier edition which adds to informed debate or provides an alternative perspective. It is anticipated that no more than one such paper would be included in each issue.

In order to clarify which articles have been reviewed and which have not, we now include a symbol at the end of each article as follows: ■ = peer-reviewed article; □ = non-reviewed article