



**GIFTED RESOURCES NEWSLETTER  
MAY 2009 No 2**

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**PO BOX 4176  
CROYDON HILLS  
VIC 3136**

## *Gifted Resources News*

### NO MAGIC WAND?!!!



I found Sprite, my cartoon character who brings the Feetspeak: 2E Shoes message to life, sitting on the floor in my office clutching Columbus Cheetah and sobbing. She was demanding that I give her the Magic Wand which would bring an instant solution to the dilemma of the education of twice exceptional students.

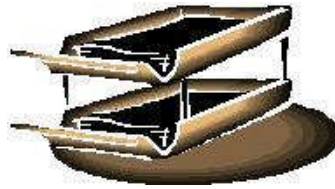
I told her I did not have any such wand and I doubted whether one existed and suggested that she go shoe shopping to cheer herself up.

At this suggestion she went absolutely ballistic and started throwing the De Bono Six Action Shoes Set which I used for visual aids for Feetspeak around the office.

"Have you forgotten so quickly now that you can get your grey sneakers on?" she asked "Remember when you could only get the size 10 pink slipper on your size 6 foot because of your injured ankle and we were going to find the ideal solution together? What will happen when you can get the blue formal shoes and the purple riding boots on again? Will you abandon me altogether?"

I dried her eyes and gave her some chocolate and promised that I would help her continue her quest to find programs and teaching strategies that would allow her extraordinary abilities to flourish and her learning difficulties and differences to be supported and that I would continue to talk to people about it.

We just need to find the best way to present Feetspeak and at the moment it seems that might be making the Feetspeak presentation into a DVD We will keep you posted with developments.



## WHAT'S IN THE IN TRAY?

These items have been received recently and can be found in the In Tray which is located on the Home page of Gifted Resources Website [www.giftedresources.org](http://www.giftedresources.org) The links in the newsletter are not live – please go to the In Tray to access them

If you would like information included in the newsletter and/or the In Tray please send to [contributions@giftedresources.org](mailto:contributions@giftedresources.org)

**BILLANOOK DIMENSIONS PARENT FORUMS 2009** [PDF FLYER](#)

**DA VINCI DECATHLON** [FLYER](#)

**FIRBANK GRAMMAR SCHOOL SHARE LEARNING CENTRE**  
Term 2 2009 Professional Learning [PDF BROCHURE](#)

**G.A.T.E.WAYS TERM 2 2009** [FLYER](#)

**G.A.T.E.WAYS OUT ON THE TOWN PROGRAM** [FLYER](#)

**HAWKER BROWNLOW EDUCATION Professional Development Days** [WEBSITE](#)

**THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX TERM 2** [FLYER 1](#) [FLYER 2](#) [FLYER 3](#) [FLYER 4](#)

**GIFTED SUPPORT NETWORK Guest speaker Shaun Hatley 2 June 2009** [PDF FLYER](#)

**PG Retreat 2-6 July 2009** [PDF FLYER](#) [WEBSITE](#)

**VAGTC Inc Conference August 2009** [PDF FLYER](#) [PDF BROCHURE](#) [WEBSITE](#)

**The Mathematics Education into the 21st Century Project Dresden 2009** [PDF FLYER](#)

**18<sup>th</sup> World Conference for Gifted and Talented Children**  
**Promoting the Dream**  
Vancouver Canada  
August 3 -7<sup>th</sup> 2009.  
<http://www.worldgifted2009.com/> [WEBSITE](#)



# Gifted Resources

ABN 36 138 819 595



## **GUEST SPEAKER - GLENN EWIN**

### **Visual thinking at its best!**

Friday 31 July 2009

7.00pm for 7.30pm start

Centre for the Exceptional Learner Luther College Plymouth Rd Croydon Vic 3136

Cost: \$20.00

**Glenn Ewin from *Lifetime Learning's* presents,**

### **Visual Thinking at it's best.**

Having read many books written by some wonderful people and worked with some extremely talented visual thinkers, Glenn feels that it is time to unleash the secrets of visual thinking. The understanding of this difference in how people think has now been given great credence over the last few years and done much to ease the lives of many so called "learning disabled" people.

Whether you think in pictures, words, feelings or a mixture of all these modalities, your learning style is still quite individual. We now know that the greater majority of teachers are auditory sequential learners and also the largest portion of our medical professionals. Understandably, if you are an auditory sequential learner, you will thrive on words, systems and processes.

#### **What is Visual thinking at its best?**

Everything that we do in life involves a strategy. To remember something or perform a task, we use the same sequence every time. Visual thinkers usually have poor or inappropriate strategies to think, remember, organise and even write. The major reason this occurs is because the whole world is set up on a system of left brain, auditory sequential reasoning.

**Visual Thinking at its best** is learning how right brain functioning can be explained in a manner that strengthens a persons strategies, adapting how they use their skills to strengths rather than weaknesses.

#### **How do we do this?**

This is an interactive workshop designed to explain just what it is that visual thinkers do in their heads. In this workshop we will explore the realities of visual thinking from a hands on approach to gain a better understanding of what it is that we need to change in order to strengthen the gift of visual thinking.

#### **Glenn Ewin**

Glenn is a practitioner of Neuro Linguistic Programming. NLP is a tool used to understand how people do things in the world. We model successful outcomes, breakdown inappropriate and weak strategies, and re form them into better suited ones. Glenn is a whole brained thinker with a preference for visual processing. Having worked with a number of Visual Spatial people he feels it is time for a better understanding of this difference to be explored, worked with and taken out of the realm of difficult.

TO BOOK OR FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT GIFTED RESOURCES BY 28 JULY 2009

Phone (03) 97242452 or (03)9876 1349

Email [jo@giftedresources.org](mailto:jo@giftedresources.org)

# PARENT SUPPORT GROUPS

## GIFTED SUPPORT NETWORK

(Formerly Bayside Young Active Minds - BYAMS)

Active network in Melbourne's south eastern region offering the following services to families with gifted children:

- \* "Mini Minds" - weekly activities for preschoolers
- \* "Primary Minds" - fortnightly activities for primary school aged children and their parents
- \* "Teens & Tweens" - activities for teenagers and their parents each term
- \* Information evenings with expert speakers covering issues relating to the gifted
- \* Daytime and evening social events for parents to share their experience of parenting the gifted child
- \* Comprehensive members' library
- \* Quarterly newsletter containing professional articles

For further information visit [www.giftedsupport.org](http://www.giftedsupport.org)

or phone Carolyn (9576 5137)

P.O. Box 2808 Cheltenham, 3192

Email address is [admin@giftedsupport.org](mailto:admin@giftedsupport.org)

**For the full program of Gifted Support Network activities see the excellent calendar of events at <http://www.giftedsupport.org>**

## TERM 2 GUEST SPEAKER

**"Helping the Gifted Survive and Prosper" presented by Shaun Hately on behalf of Gifted Support Network**

Discussion will focus on mentoring gifted children and tips on surviving growing up gifted.

Shaun is a qualified primary teacher who has extensive experience in mentoring gifted children and adolescents.

**Tuesday 2 June, 2009, 7.45 - 9.30pm**

Southern Community Church of Christ,

Corner Chesterville Rd & Pine St, Cheltenham (Mel ref 86 J1)

Cost: \$5 members, \$10 non-members bookings essential

RSVP [admin@giftedsupport.org](mailto:admin@giftedsupport.org) or phone Louise 9578 8068

## 'THE BIG BANG COFFEE CLUB'

A group for parents of gifted children in the Western region of Melbourne

We meet for coffee and a chat at:

Brown's Bakery

28 Pratt Street

Moonee Ponds

On the first Monday of each month at 9.30am

(Public and School holidays excluded)

Anyone interested is welcome to attend and if anyone has queries they may contact

Tina McCarthy [tina@tinamccarthydesign.com](mailto:tina@tinamccarthydesign.com)

or Sally-Ann Free

[sallyann.free@live.vu.edu.au](mailto:sallyann.free@live.vu.edu.au) Ph: 0425 779 829 **Note New email address for Sally Ann**

We are a small group and look forward to welcoming you.

**BIG BANG COFFEE CLUB**  
**Mini/Primary Minds group**

**Sunday 21 June 2-5 pm**

**Scienceworks, 2 Booker St, Spotswood**

Hands on science - plus the blockbuster Star Wars Exhibition:

<http://museumvictoria.com.au/Scienceworks/>

(no wet weather plan: indoor venue)

For details contact

Melissa Conley Tyler

[m.conleytyler@gmail.com](mailto:m.conleytyler@gmail.com)

mobile 0409 765 787

**MAROONDAH GIFTED CHILDREN'S PARENTS' ASSOC. INC.**

Morning Coffee at MacDonald's, Maroondah Hwy. Croydon Vic. at 10.30 am on the first Wednesday of the month

**NOTE NEW POSTAL ADDRESS**

Postal address:

c/- 13 Heathwood St

Ringwood East Vic 3135

Contact Jennifer Grant

Phone 9779 4218

[ijgrant@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ijgrant@optusnet.com.au)

[ijgrant@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ijgrant@optusnet.com.au)

Louise Howe Phone 9801 2912

[louise\\_h@tpg.com.au](mailto:louise_h@tpg.com.au)

**ACTIVE MINDS WARRNAMBOOL (was S.W.A.M.)**

For details about events for gifted children and their families in the Western District of Victoria contact :

PO Box 584

Warrnambool Vic 3280

Email: [activeminds.au@gmail.com](mailto:activeminds.au@gmail.com)

Website [www.activeminds.org.au](http://www.activeminds.org.au)

Contact Carolyn Jennings 5562 0915 or 0439 369 394 [orgadvan@bigpond.net.au](mailto:orgadvan@bigpond.net.au)

**Bass Coast/South Gippsland shire, Phillip island, Wonthaggi area**

Megan Leigh would like to connect with other parents of gifted children in the Bass Coast/South Gippsland shire.

Phillip Island, Wonthaggi area who would be interested in getting together for a network

Contact Megan Leigh

PO Box 906

Cowes, 3922

Phone (03) 5672 3336

Mobile 0411 460 759

email [indigo2crystal@yahoo.com.au](mailto:indigo2crystal@yahoo.com.au)

**Casterton and district area**

Catriona Hill would like to connect with other parents of gifted children in the Casterton and District area

Contact : Catriona Hill

Phone (03)55812529

Mobile 0419008734

Email: [antrim@netspace.net.au](mailto:antrim@netspace.net.au)

Web: <http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/tallpoppysyndrome/>

## **GIFTED RESOURCE AND INFORMATION GROUP - CASEY/CARDINIA**

For families with gifted children in Casey/Cardinia  
Meets at Maranatha Christian School Rix Rd, Officer.

Contact

Victoria Poulos

Phone 0420 286 307

Email [victoriapoulos@gmail.com](mailto:victoriapoulos@gmail.com)

**FIREFLASH** – program for gifted children.

May 11<sup>th</sup> 6pm- 7.30pm Group project work

June 15<sup>th</sup> 6pm – 7.30pm Project showcase night

Registration fees are \$25 per family per year. This primarily covers the cost of the hall, and other bits and pieces.

Please bring a plate of supper to share each week because the kids LOVE supper time!

Address: 40 Intrepid St, Berwick (off Enterprise Ave, opp Berwick station –home of The Winepress Church)

For details contact

Contact

Victoria Poulos

Phone 0420 286 307

Email [victoriapoulos@gmail.com](mailto:victoriapoulos@gmail.com)

## **G.A.T.E.WAYS YEAR 7 - 10 July 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>**



Enrolments open on May 4<sup>th</sup> for G.A.T.E.WAYS fourth annual secondary program. Programs are city-based and use the city as a resource. Programs offered are as follows:

- Dive Into 3D Animation at the Alfred Brash SoundHouse (Arts Centre)
- Writers, Prepare For A Scare! (scary writing)
- Adorn Me! (fashion design)
- The Designer City (graphic design; architecture)
- Who Are You ? (genealogy; tracing a family tree)
- Daliesque at the National Gallery of Victoria ( art program based on the blockbuster Dali Exhibition)
- The Green Gene at the Gene Technology Access Centre
- Raising the Curtain (the world of theatre)
- Flying High at Essendon Airport
- Beyond Reason at the Alfred Brash SoundHouse (music composition and computers)
- Pompeii Unearthed ( archaeology/history based on the Pompeii exhibition)
- All Creatures Great and Small at Melbourne University Vet School
- It's Magic! ( history and performance of magic in Melbourne)
- The Science Behind Dinosaur Art

The programs run from 9 – 4.30 each day and the cost for most programs is \$105.00

For program and enrolment details see [www.gateways.edu.au](http://www.gateways.edu.au)



## NEWS FROM WISE ONES

WiseOnes in school support is now available in the Northern suburbs. Eltham PS and Streeton PS have commenced classes in term 1 and we are now ready to serve the needs of other nearby schools. Please contact Angela Katsos on 9848 6271 or email [alphabg@bigpond.com](mailto:alphabg@bigpond.com) to arrange a visit. Angela is the Education Manager who can help you. Angela has taught with WiseOnes for several years at Doncaster Gardens PS and has had one of her own children in the program all the time. Last year she took on the role of Area Development Officer and has now "graduated" to Education Manager. She is happy to support your children's needs.

### Pat Slattery

Dip.Teach. B.Ed, B.Theol, COGE, MACEL, MHIQS

### WiseOnes for Education of the Gifted

Email: [patwise@tpg.com.au](mailto:patwise@tpg.com.au)

Tel: 03 9794 8258

## DVD of the Drs Brock and Fernette Eide 2E Education Webinar

If you are interested in purchasing the DVDs which are now available for purchase since Karina's Health Fund webinar you can access that information as noted below.

<http://www.karinasfund.blogspot.com/>

Karina's Health Fund

Source: [www.karinasfund.blog...](http://www.karinasfund.blog...)

Over three days, Drs. Brock and Fernette Eide held an international webinar for parents, teachers, and other professionals who are some of the leading voices in Gifted / 2E Education today.

The above link will provide more details about purchasing each day from the three day webinar.

Kind regards,

Sally L owner & admin

Gifted - OGTOC at: <http://giftedonlineconferences.ning.com>

## Elizabeth Mika Identity development in 2e adults' survey

Elizabeth Mika is looking for participants in a study on identity development in twice-exceptional adults -- gifted with learning challenges (learning disabilities and/or emotional and other disorders). See this for more info: It is suggested that those who are age 23 or older, with or without college would be the general parameters to participate

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/dabrowskidiscussiongroup/message/3362>

Elizabeth says

I'm looking for participants in a study on identity development in twice-exceptional adults -- gifted with learning challenges (learning disabilities and/or emotional and other disorders).

The twice-exceptional diagnosis does not have to be formal -- in fact, it most likely won't be, since the term is relatively new and was not in use when today's adults were children. There has to be evidence of giftedness, however; the second exceptionality can only be "in the eyes of the beholder" -- i.e., the learning problem/disorder does not have to be formally identified, but there has to be enough evidence to suspect it.

Participation in the study would involve filling out a relatively brief questionnaire (brief, if you want it to be so, or elaborate, if you prefer) and you can do it anonymously. Certain identifying data would be required, however, such as sex, age, family status, etc., but no names are necessary. You can use an alias if you want.

If you are interested in participating, please contact me at [elamika@Yahoo.com](mailto:elamika@Yahoo.com) and I will send you the form. If you are concerned about remaining anonymous, you may use a made-up name/e-mail account for our communication. If not, any information identifying you personally will remain confidential. Please use "Identity development in 2e adults" as a subject of your e-mail.

Thank you,  
Elizabeth.

## VAGTC presents:

### 2009 CONFERENCE - DIFFERENTIATION FOR GIFTED STUDENTS

The **Victorian Association for Gifted and Talented Children** is proud to bring **Carol Ann Tomlinson** to Melbourne for their forthcoming **2009 Conference**. Carol is an outstanding teacher whose practical approach to differentiation is powerful and inspiring.

Prof. Tomlinson's career as an educator includes 21 years as a public school teacher, including 12 years as a program administrator of special services for struggling and advanced learners. Currently, Prof. Tomlinson is a Professor of Educational Leadership at the University of Virginia, where she was named Outstanding Professor in 2004. She is also Co-Director of the university's Institutes on Academic Diversity.

Special interests throughout Prof. Tomlinson's career have included curriculum and instruction for struggling learners and advanced learners, effective instruction in heterogeneous settings and encouraging creative and critical thinking in the classroom. She works throughout the U.S. and abroad with teachers whose goal is to develop more responsive heterogeneous classrooms.

**Date:** Wednesday, 12 and Thursday 13 August 2009  
**Time:** 8.45am start Wednesday (Registration opens at 7.30am)  
**Location:** CQ Function Centre, 113 Queen Street (cnr. Little Collins St)  
**Cost:** VAGTC/AAEGT Members \$450.00 - Non Members \$495.00  
All prices include GST.  
Early bird discounts of 11% are available for all registrations received by Thursday, 30 April.

**Registration** for the 2009 Conference is now open. Further details, and registration forms, are available from the VAGTC at PO Box 132, Caulfield South, Vic, 3162 - or via email at [conference@vagtc.asn.au](mailto:conference@vagtc.asn.au).

### ALISON BROWN RIDING THE WAVES PARENTS FORUM

Living with bright and capable young children can be an absolute delight, as they quickly develop and become increasingly aware of the world around them. This awareness and rapid development, however, often brings with it a heightened intensity in social, emotional and physical issues. Encountering frustrations and perfectionism in a 2 year old, an intense sense of fairness and social justice in a 4 year old, and an insatiable thirst for knowledge in a 6 year old can leave parents wondering how best to meet the needs of bright little children who seem to be "marching to the beat of a different drum".

"Riding the Waves" is a **monthly forum** for parents of emotionally intense and gifted children. With a range of topics and techniques presented each month, this forum provides an opportunity to meet and discuss issues with parents sharing similar experiences. Come along to the topics that interest you or whichever months you are free. As well as general discussion, these monthly meetings will cover topics as follows:

- ❖ Obsessive behaviours (June 2009)
- ❖ Extra curricular activities (July 2009)
- ❖ Modifying school and homework task

**DATE:** 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month  
**TIME:** 7.30 – 8.30pm  
**VENUE:** Melbourne University – Hawthorn Campus (Auburn Road - **Mel Ref: 59E2**)  
**COST:** \$35.00 per session

Private Suite 24 Robinson Street Malvern Vic 3144

Phone: (03) 9824 6617 Mobile: 0408 177982 Email: [alisonbrown@PsychologyAndChildren.com.au](mailto:alisonbrown@PsychologyAndChildren.com.au)



## QAGTC Challenge 2009

Challenge 2009 is a Conference for the Gifted aimed at providing invaluable opportunities for gifted youngsters to experience the excitement of extending their learning in novel and engaging workshops where they will be encouraged to explore their potential.

To register you will need to choose your workshop topics for one or both days.

For a single day registration select just one workshop.

For a two day registration you can choose either a two day topic or a Tuesday and a Wednesday topic.

Fill in the registration form and post it with a signed Parental Consent form and your payment.

Registration closing date is Friday 12 June.

Places are reserved on a first come first served basis

The URL for this year is <http://www.qagtc.org.au/cc2009/index.html>

or briefly [www.qagtc.org.au/cc2009](http://www.qagtc.org.au/cc2009)

Please direct your queries to the Convenor, Judith Hewton, [cc@qagtc.org.au](mailto:cc@qagtc.org.au)

Regards, Ian  
Ian Burgess  
28 Richmond St  
CHELMER QLD 4068  
07 3379 1318  
0432 122 235

## SOME INTERESTING WEBSITES

Critical Agendas PD program for Victoria

<http://www.criticalagendas.com.au/conferences.php?state=VIC>

Hoagiesgifted Raising Robert

[http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/raising\\_robert.pdf](http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/raising_robert.pdf)

Gifted Haven

<http://giftedhaven.net/>

Mapmaker – Desktop mapping

<http://www.mapmaker.com/>

Cherry Creek School District Twice exceptional

<http://www.ccsd.k12.co.us/SpecialEducation/TwiceExceptional/>

PG Retreat 2009

<http://pgretreat.com/images/Flyer2009.pdf>

Confratute

<http://www.gifted.uconn.edu/confratute/>



## **SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION**

You may be receiving this newsletter because someone has forwarded their copy to you. If you would like to receive your own copy please subscribe from our newsletter website at <http://www.giftedresources.org/web/newsletter.html>

If you have been given a printout copy and would like to subscribe to the newsletter but are not able to receive email attachments you can read this newsletter online at <http://www.giftedresources.org/web/newsletter.html>  
You may also access back issues of the newsletter (from January 2005), or change your subscription options, from this address.

If you have news of events, conferences, lectures, workshops, children's programmes, etc. that you would like included in our newsletter please email [contributions@giftedresources.org](mailto:contributions@giftedresources.org)

## **DISCLAIMER**

Gifted Resources aims to provide information about events, services, products and websites which could be of interest. Inclusion in Gifted Resources Website, Information Pack or Newsletter does not necessarily imply any endorsement or guarantee of quality or suitability to meet your specific needs.

Kind regards, Jo Freitag

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Newsletter e-mail [contributions@giftedresources.org](mailto:contributions@giftedresources.org)