



International Society for Psychological
and Social Approaches to Psychosis

AGM
Annual General Meeting

2022-2023

(For the period July 1st, 2022 – June 30th, 2023)

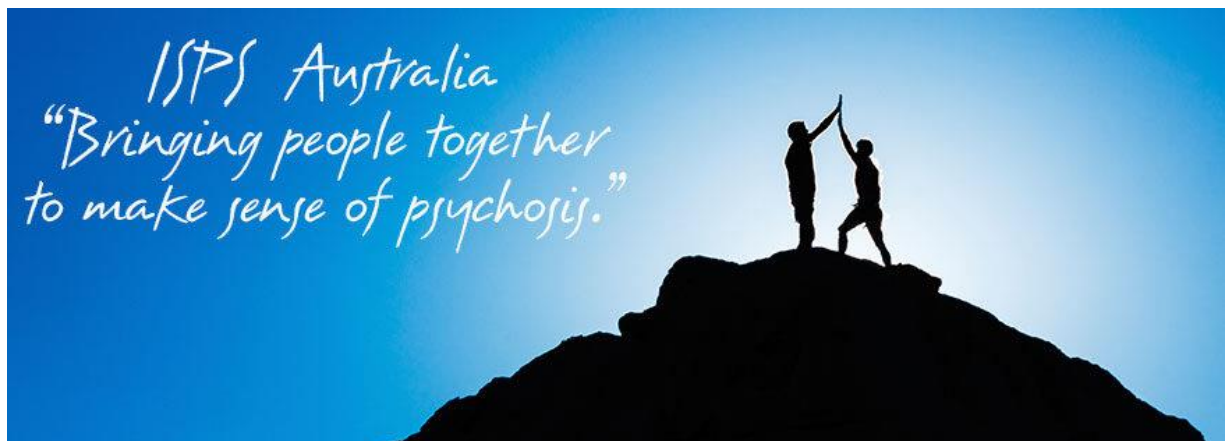


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OUR OBJECTIVES

Our principle objectives are to promote:

- Appropriate use of psychosocial approaches to psychosis which include but are not limited to peer lead recovery, psychotherapy and other psychological treatments;
- Research and dissemination of evidence relating to psychosocial programmes for those with psychosis;
- Advanced education, training and knowledge for mental health professionals in comprehensive approaches to the treatment and prevention of psychotic mental health and;
- Develop partnerships with other organisations and individuals working in the area of psychosis management and education

ABOUT US

ISPS Australia is part of a broader international organisation that has its origins in Europe in the 1950s. It was formed with the intention of promoting psychotherapy for psychosis and providing a forum for like-minded individuals to exchange ideas. Since then it has continued to grow and refine its objectives. Now ISPS has expanded to have branches in 19 countries, across 5 continents and involves many leaders in this field.

ISPS Australia was first incorporated as a public company limited by guarantee in October 2013 and is also recognised as a small charity registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission. We are a member-based association.

Since our branch has incorporated, we have been presenting training seminars, workshops, and conferences around Australia from a number of important leaders in the field of psychosis.

We have also supported local events and have provided a forum for debate and the exchange of information through our website and email discussion group whilst also working behind the scenes to develop and sustain the organisation by maintaining good governance.



STRUCTURE & MANAGEMENT

ISPS Australia is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). We are considered a small size charity and operate in accordance with the guidelines outlined in the ACNC Act and in our constitution. We are an unfunded member-based organisation and therefore do not have paid staff at this point in time. All activities are carried out voluntarily by the Board.

The ISPS Board is made up of people with a wide range of interests and experience, all of whom donate their time voluntarily. The board is geographically spread out across different states in Australia and so we meet for our monthly board meetings via Video Conferencing.

OUR PEOPLE

Voluntary Board of Directors 2022-2023		
Name	State	Board Director Roles
Amanda Habermann	Queensland	Chair
Tara Coppins	South Australia	Secretary
Simone Farelly	Victoria	Membership
Sue Belmore	Victoria	Treasurer
Amanda Aiyani	Western Australia	Communications

ISPS Australia Nominations for 2023-2024 Board Directors

Sue Belmore (Vic)

Sue Belmore has had a diverse career, working in different countries enjoying the challenge of working alongside different cultures. Drawing on her own 'lived' experience of mental health challenges she has over the past 16 years held several leadership roles within the mental health sector. She currently consults across a range of organisations co-producing peer led strategies that support unique peer work forces.



Sue has extensive experience in capability building and leadership development. After leaving the position of Voices Vic manager she led the establishment of a lived experience peer workforce and framework for a leading multi-discipline clinical setting.

Sue's expertise is informed by her own lived experience combined with a foundation of tertiary education that includes a master's in counselling and a Bachelor of Business in Finance. Sue draws on her peer work experiences to continue to improve the sector's understanding of peer work and has a passion for mental health services that focus on people and their strengths.

Tara Coppins (SA)

Tara is a Senior Clinical Psychologist with experience predominately within public mental health settings across Victoria and South Australia. Across her career she has worked within a variety of Hospital and Community positions. Through delivery of Individual and Group Therapy, Tara has worked with a range of individuals from those experiencing their First Episode of Psychosis to those who have experienced Psychosis for a number of years. She holds a strong sense of Hope and advocates for the value and benefits a broad range of evidence-based Psychological Interventions can offer.



Amanda Aiyana (WA)

My Name is Amanda Aiyana, I am a person of Lived Experience of trauma, emotional distress, diagnostic, labels and systemic trauma as well as experience, supporting my youngest son on his own journey of recovery, which ignited a passionate desire to advocate and educate from a lived experience perspective. My special interest areas drive me to offer alternative spiritual and neurodiverse framework's of understanding 'psychosis' and mental distress. I am a specialised Educator, lecturing as a lived experience sessional academic at Curtin University, Western Australia within the disciplines to undergraduate and post graduate levels.



In Addition to my lived experience educating and assessing work at Curtin I consult independently, in the public and private mental health sector through my business Merkabah Consulting. I am privileged to be the newest board member of ISPS Au. It is my endeavor to add value to the already rich wealth of knowledge and wisdom of my fellow board members, as we continue to expand the education of alternative 'treatments' (being with) 'psychosis'.

I am a life learner who adores humanity in all its diversity. I am a mother of 4 amazing children whom I parent from a conscious/attachment model. As a home educator, I'm creative, with a focus in creating positive change and better experiences for people in emotional distress.

Amanda Habermann (nee Waegeli) (QLD)

Living in rural Queensland, I am a self-employed Lived Experience Supervisor, Trainer, and Consultant, with a special interest in the Lived Experience (Peer) Workforce across Australia. A published author, public speaker, and strong advocate, I support psychological and social approaches to psychosis, because of my own lived experiences. I support the Hearing Voices Approach and Peer Supported Open Dialogue, trained in both approaches, I yearn for them to be readily available to all who wish to use them. The current longest ISPS AU Board Director, I have been involved since 2016, and my passion and commitment to the values and objectives of ISPS Australia have not changed. Holding this space with my colleagues is a real honour, one I do not hold lightly, as without spaces like this, it can be easy to lose hope for the future where a different more humane response to a persons distress becomes the norm in our society.



CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

ISPS was founded in 1956 by pioneering Swiss psychiatrists Christian Müller and Gaetano Benedetti, who were dissatisfied with the prevalent treatment of psychosis. A human rights movement, ISPS recognized the harm done within the asylums of the time and sought to bring together practitioners worldwide at international symposia to exchange ideas for humane and inclusive alternatives.

During these early years, the ISPS acronym stood for the International Symposium for the Psychotherapy of Schizophrenia; however, in March 2012, ISPS members voted to remove the word Schizophrenia from the name of the organization. There are now ISPS chapters in 19 countries across five continents, organizing locally and benefitting from the worldwide network to harness ideas for transformation and change, ISPS Australia is one of those chapters.

ISPS Australia was first incorporated in 2013, and we pay our respects to our founding directors, Lyn Mahboub, Vanessa Beavan, Philip Benjamin, Melissa Connell, and Richard Lakeman. We also recognise all the Directors who over the last ten years have given their time and energy to support ISPS Australia. Now ten years on, we are still a small group of volunteer Board Directors doing what we can to keep ISPS Australia going. As Board Directors we volunteer on top of our day jobs, family responsibilities and managing our own health and wellbeing because we are passionate about the cause.

I would like to especially thank our current Board Directors, my colleagues in this space, Simone Farrelly, Tara Coppins, Sue Belmore, and Amanda Aiyana. Inspiring leaders and individuals together we have worked well together, sharing the load, and building a workable and respectful culture for our company. Simone Farrelly will be stepping down at this AGM and we wish her all the very best for the future. Her dedication as membership secretary has been valuable and greatly appreciated. We offer a standing invitation to our Member's to submit an expression of interest to join the ISPS Au Board.

Our hope is not that different to Christian Muller and Gaetano's and that is to connect more Australians who have a passion or interest in the importance of psychological and social approaches to psychosis, so we can ensure that those who experience psychosis or extreme states get the support and understanding they need to make sense of their experience and move through it effectively. I would like to thank our members, who support us with their financial membership, some of which have loyally been members for ten years.

This last year, we held several online journal club events, and in February 2023 we had Dr Eric Morris provide us with Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) training. We had twenty participants who all valued the opportunity to be trained by Eric and left feeling more familiar with the ACT model, as a general approach to promoting well-being and quality of life for people with psychosis. Understanding how ACT can be a pragmatic treatment in fostering recovery from psychosis, using individual and group interventions, and how the problems of psychosis can be conceptualised using the ACT model.

Behind the scenes we have been, exploring partnership opportunities, staying connected with ISPS International, working on updating our website and creating a regular newsletter, so stay tuned for more information. Thank you all, for your interest and continued membership and support of ISPS Australia.

Warm regards,

Amanda Habermann

TREASURER'S REPORT

This Report Covers the Period 1st July 2022 – 30th June 2023

Opening Balance July 2022 \$7266.55

Expenses for Period

(\$5230.47)

Income for the Period

\$7955.18

Closing Balance June 2023 \$9991.26

Note: Majority of expenses relate to fees paid to parent ISPS organisation and payment for speaker event. Majority of income came from memberships and event income received for the period.

Cash Flow Forecast July 2023 /Dec 2023

Outgoings	Estimate
Website Upgrade	\$2569

Revenue	\$ Estimate
Memberships	\$3150

Sue Belmore, Treasurer.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Become a member/ Renew your membership

ISPS Australia receives no funding other than memberships. In order to continue to provide the events and resources we offer; we need membership support! Memberships are yearly and run from January 1st to December 31st.

Go to www.ispsaustralia.com and select “membership” and “sign up”

Join online events

You don't have to be a member to join our online events, but you do get a discount on your ticket purchases. We would love you to support us by joining and sharing our events with your networks.

Donate

Please contact admin@isps.org.au for more information on how you can support us through donating. As we are a registered charity, donations are tax deductible.

Become a corporate partner

We have opportunities for other organisations to become involved in ISPS Australia through co-sponsoring events, donating money, or pro-bono work.

Please email admin@isps.org.au for more information.

CONTACT US

Email: admin@isps.org.au

Website: www.ispsaustralia.com

