



LiDs Newsletter - Spring 2018

Dear Ben,

The disability landscape is continually changing as the NDIS rolls out across the country and refines its mode of operation. The Living with Disability Research Centre continues to contribute high quality and rigorous research to inform training of the disability workforce and the delivery of programs to support the social inclusion of people with cognitive disabilities.

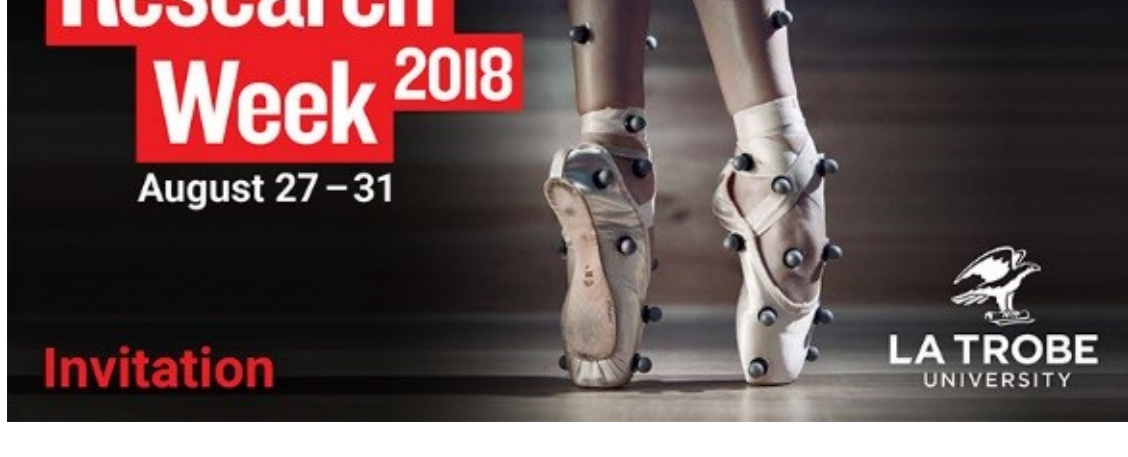
In this newsletter, you will find details of a new free online training program for support workers "Enabling Risk" developed by LiDs with funding from the NSW Department of Family and Community Services.

There is also an invitation to two events that will feature LiDs researchers during La Trobe University Research Week and links to newly published research papers.

Finally, it's great to be able to give you advanced notification of the new postgraduate courses in Disability Practice to be offered by a cross-disciplinary group of La Trobe disability experts starting in 2019. See this link for [the basic outline](#) or [contact us](#). More detailed information will be available online very soon and in our next newsletter.

Professor Chris Bigby
Director - Living with Disability Research Centre

La Trobe Research Week 2018



LiDs researchers will be displaying and discussing five posters on current projects at the 2018 Research Showcase at 5:15 pm on Tuesday 28 August.

This event will feature Chris Bigby as part of a panel discussing the impact of our longitudinal study of support in group homes with senior staff from some of our industry partners. You will also have a chance to hear Associate Professor Claire Wright talk about her collaboration on the television drama adaptation her award winning book *The Forgotten Rebels of Eureka*.

In a lunchtime session on Social Inclusion, at 1:00 pm on Friday 31 August, PhD student Sophia Tipping will talk about the various projects and partnerships LiDs is involved in about voting for people with cognitive disabilities. Click through for more information on these and other events.

MORE INFO >

Enabling Risk - free online training

About this resource.

Enabling Risk: Putting Positives First is an online learning resource developed specifically for disability support workers.

"The way I am looking at it now is to basically not put cotton wool around the clients. If they wish to do something that I feel is risky, it's not my choice. It's not my choice to support their risk."

"I realised we have to evaluate and see what they can do before just assume they can't."

What is risk?

Module Downloads

Module Resources

Figures

Free to access and online now, a new resource from LiDs, funded by the New South Wales Department of Family & Community Services. The risk enablement training resource is made specifically for disability support workers. The five-module course uses videos, scenarios and activity workbooks to make risk a positive thing.

"I've definitely changed my mind on risk. I always thought risk was a bit of a negative topic, but now it's definitely turned into a positive..."

Enabling people to take risks is an integral part of disability support work. It is also important that practice leaders, frontline managers and senior managers are aware of the essentials of enabling risk as outlined in this resource as they play a significant role in creating the right environment for support workers to put risk enablement into practice.

View the training >

LiDs Conference recap



In July several LiDs researchers presented their work at conferences in the warmer climes of Europe. At the [2018 Mid-year meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society \(INS\)](#) in Prague, Czech Republic Professor Douglas presented on the importance of relationships in an invited, sponsored symposium. As President of the Australasian Society for the Study of Brain Impairment (ASSBI), Jacinta also signed an agreement for international collaboration with the INS (top right image in the photo).

Also in Prague, a few days later at the [15th Neuropsychological Rehabilitation Special Interest Group meeting of the World Federation for NeuroRehabilitation](#). Two posters were presented by LiDs researchers in a rapid-fire 'datablitz'. Dr Lucy Knox showed a project with Jacinta Douglas on decision-making participation after acquired brain injury and Dr Suzane Vassallo also with Jacinta Douglas, on a training intervention designed to reposition the visual scan path to emotional facial expressions following traumatic brain injury.

Professor Jacinta Douglas experienced every speakers' nightmare, a computer failure mid presentation! The Twittersphere confirmed, however, that she handled it like the pro she is! #noslides!

Meanwhile, in Athens, Greece, Professor Christine Bigby and Dr Emma Bould presented at the [5th European conference of the International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities \(IASSID\) conference](#).

Professor Bigby chaired a symposium on 'Understanding Encounter as a means of social inclusion' which included papers from her own work with Dr Ilan Wiesel, and Dutch researchers Dr Gustaaf Bos, and Dr Femmianne Bredewold.

She also presented a paper on the research behind the development of the La Trobe Support for Decision Making Framework, developed by Douglas & Bigby - look out for the upcoming paper in Disability and Rehabilitation.

Dr Emma Bould shared the results of the project on using Dogs to facilitate social encounters for people with intellectual disabilities which was a collaboration with Christine Bigby, Pauleen Bennett and Tiffani Howell – look out too for the upcoming paper in the Journal of Intellectual Disability Research

Allen Martin Research Scholarship 2018



Allen Martin Research Scholarship 2018: Acquired Brain Injury Recovery

The Living with Disability Research Centre's Research Partner, [The Summer Foundation](#) is pleased to announce the 2018 Allen Martin Research Scholarship sponsored by The Rotary Club of Kew and Robinson Gill Lawyers.

This scholarship is open to clinicians, health professionals, researchers and students who wish to conduct a new research project in the field of recovery following acquired brain injury. This year two scholarships will be offered at an award of \$5,000 each to be utilised over a period of one year.

The winner of the 2016 scholarship recently submitted their findings. Suzana Hercegovic (pictured above) investigated experiences of volunteering following acquired brain injury, using four case studies to illuminate the topic.

Details:

The 2018 Allen Martin applications open: **Wednesday 1 August 2018**

Applications close: **Monday 15 October 2018**

The winner will be announced at the Allen Martin Memorial Lecture on **Wednesday 14 November 2018**

To find out more about eligibility criteria and to apply, click on the button below. Or email louise.dixon@summerfoundation.org.au

Allen Martin Scholarship >

New Research

New scoping review of potential strategies to help people with intellectual disabilities **get and keep jobs**. Building the evidence base to inform strategies, which are badly are needed. [Read article](#)



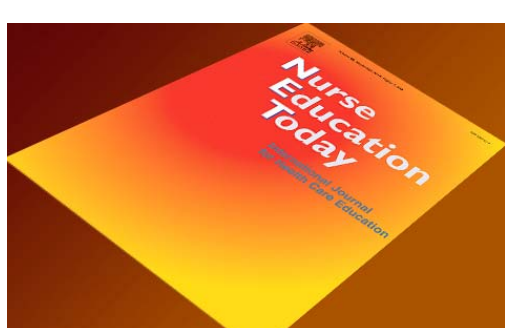
“We could have, you know, a revolution”. David Henderson & Chris Bigby of LiDs explore the **history of self-advocacy** organisation Reinforce. How consciousness-raising helped the emergence of the first self-advocacy organization in Victoria. [Read Article](#)



New paper comparing **costs and outcomes of supported living** and group homes in Australia. Quality of Life differed little, but supported living was cheaper. We reveal which factors were associated with better Quality of Life. [Read Article](#)



Inequitable access to healthcare by people with Intellectual disabilities can be improved through nurse education. How is it taught now? With colleagues, Professor Teresa Iacono exposes the current mix. A key deficit is clinical contact with people with disabilities. [Read Article](#)



Paperwork can put group home aims into action, but some paperwork can hinder staff supporting residents. Where does your group home fall? LiDs PhD student Claire Quilliam explores the issue. [Read Article](#)



Group Home staff purposefully managed **paperwork** depending on whether it aligned with their resident focused approach. LiDs researchers ask how to get frontline perspectives into paperwork design? [Read Article](#)



New research on **Health Services partnering with consumers** - many organisations do it, but few do it well, minority groups often left out. Authors include Jane Farmer, Richard Huysmans and Chris Bigby. [Read Article](#)



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