



Goose Gazette

August, 2013

Newsletter of the Australian Regional Office of Parent-Child Mother Goose now located at
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We have arrived!

"I am writing to provide you with an update about the Parent-Child Mother Goose Program (P-CMG) which Knox City Council has been the auspice for the Australian Regional Training Office since 2008. From July 1 2013, the advisory committee (Parent-Child Mother Goose (Melbourne) Incorporated) will become a Committee of Management for the Australian Regional Training Office, and the Training Office will be co-located with Playgroups Victoria at their office in Brunswick." These words formalised a process that has been a work in progress for over a year.



After beginning training in 2006 completely overseen by Canada, trust in Knox City Council grew until we were recognised as a Regional Training Office, the first outside of Canada, in 2009. The support from an established entity like a local government authority was welcome as we began. Janene Swalwell worked tirelessly to convince Knox City Council of the value of having the training arm of such a successful research-based program as part of their services. Joan Quagliana went to Canada to train as the first Teacher Trainer Workshop Facilitator (TTWF) for Australia, making the training available to more of the sector. Other milestones, such as setting up an advisory committee, gaining two more TTWFs in Jacquie Simpson and Jenny Tuck and setting up an association gave Mother Goose in Australia the ability to identify its own goals and strengthen its presence.

In late 2011 the committee was approached with an opportunity to collocate with Playgroups Victoria in Brunswick. There were so many opportunities to share with a like-minded agency that the committee took a view to investigate the possibility for collocation further. It was clear that the fit of P-CMG within local government, which worked in the beginning, was no longer as good a fit for either party. With the blessing of both Knox City Council and P-CMG in Canada, we signed agreements to become a Committee of Management for P-CMG in Australia. As noted above, the last of those agreements were reached as of 30 June of this year.

In its early days, we have a desk, a phone and email at 346 Albert Street, Brunswick which will be staffed on Wednesdays, where Playgroups Victoria is housed. At present we are doing exciting things like designing a local logo, setting up our website and updating members and contacts. We also need to produce some income, and so are also now following up on training requests under the new regime.

Overheard: The thesis: I did research on the P-CMG teacher for my masters, and I asked many families for their experience of me as a teacher. My most treasured response was from my goddaughter, Ridgley, who was 8 months old when she and her mother came to my very first group in 2004. While I asked her mother for her input, Ridgley reached out and took my hand. She stretched it out straight and began to move her pointer finger in a spiral. It was the action to "round and round the garden"! Six years later the memory was still strong.

While I am speaking about Ridgley, I recall how much she liked "a smooth road". I watched her learn the rhyme at 8 months so well that I could see her excited little face ready to drop down the "hole" between her mother's legs. Eyes bright, looking expectantly, she reminded me to wait for an instant to draw down that anticipation. (contributed by Joan Quagliana)

Overheard: "See the Moon" has become one of our settling songs (although slightly more jaunty!) and my husband went looking for the whole song so there was a bit of variety in the lyrics. (Our parents live a long way away). I don't remember the third verse very well for some reason (hmmm, what could that reason be?!) and my gentle lullaby in the car is often interrupted with his giggles when I say "Something something that rhymes with 'me'". Hopefully they'll stick in my head soon.

I like changing oak for gum, as we do at MG, but have struggled to find a more popular Aussie bird that fits like lark. Galah almost goes but that makes the rest of the verse a lie, really..." Anne
(Contributed by Julie Longden)

A Smooth and Bumpy Road

Some of you may recall my article in our newsletter a year or so ago about my very young grandson loving the rhyme "A Smooth Road". To him it was a wonderful lullaby, as I sang it slowly, gently and quietly when he was tiny. Mind you he soon loved it as a bounce rhyme as well, especially as he attends Mother Goose.

Just before his second birthday I was pushing him in his pram over cobblestones in inner Melbourne and he was singing. I suddenly realized that he was singing "A bumpy road, a bumpy road, a bumpy road" and on and on he went. It was a magical moment for me as a passionate Mother Gooser.

He continues to sing it in the pram and when walking on rough ground and now also sings it in the car when the road is bumpy, especially on unmade roads in the country! Jenny Tuck

Treasurer's Ramblings

To celebrate the co-location of our regional office at Playgoup Victoria the P-CMGP Inc Committee of management are pleased to send this newsletter to all the contacts we have. No doubt there are many other interested people that we do not have the email addresses for. If you are aware of such people please ask them to email us at pcmgp.enquiries@gmail.com

Our newsletters are usually sent to P-CMGP Inc members only. However as this newsletter has so much new and exciting information we want to reach everybody. However please note that future newsletters will be a privilege for members only.

Membership is only \$30 annually. All membership money is used to develop resources and to provide services and support to members.

Membership is not compulsory but is a great way to keep in touch and to learn of new resources etc. With more members our wonderful program can grow from strength to strength. Please see the attached membership form in this newsletter.

Jenny Tuck, Treasurer P-CMGP (Melb) Inc.

Annual Gathering Day – Friday 11th October, 2013.

Put this date in your diary now!

A wonderful day of sharing rhymes, stories, songs and anecdotes and an opportunity to discuss the joys and any issues you may have in running our brilliant P-CMG Program.

Venue: Knox Council Offices, Burwood Hwy, Wantirna.

The Date for your diary: Friday October 11th, 2013.

Times: Most likely to be 9.30am to 4pm.

A Treasured Comment from a Mum

A mum who had not attended our M.G. group regularly at first started to come very regularly and then said casually as she was leaving one day that she really valued the program and was not going to miss any weeks as her 2 year old Hearing Impaired son sang all the rhymes and songs at home despite not singing them during our sessions. (He was however joining in all the circle songs and doing actions etc.) This mum was thrilled with how much the rhymes and songs and stories were aiding his language development.

Kirsten McFadzean & Jenny Tuck

New Mother Goose Program at Gowanbrae

Taralye is a large centre for Hearing Impaired children, birth to 6 years, in Blackburn, and last year opened an office in Gowanbrae, a relatively new suburb just north of Essendon airport. Blackburn has been running both Babies and Toddler group programs since 2006. In 4th Term last year Marilyn Dann ran a successful pilot P-CMG Program at Gowanbrae. Then early this year Taralye in partnership with Uncle Bobs Child Development Centre began a Babies program (birth to 3 years) at Gowanbrae. The goal is to have 40% or more Hearing Impaired children as well as those with special needs and some with typical development. Our referrals come from Uncle Bobs and Taralye staff as well as M&CH Nurses and some self referrals. After a slow start we now have a lovely core group of families with some space for more.

Kirsten McFadzean & Jenny Tuck

The story so far: We have an office in Brunswick, admin support one day per week. We are looking to employ a co-ordinator, resume resource sales and seek out training opportunities. Step one is reconnection. If you know of anyone who is not getting our information who should, get them to email us their contact details at mothergoose@playgroup.org.au.

There was a little Guinea-pig
Who, being little, was not big
He always walked upon his feet,
And never fasted when he'd eat;



When from a place he ran away,
He never at that place did stay;
And while he ran, as I am told;
he ne'er stood still for young or old.

from The Nursery Rhyme Book, Andrew Lang

Wanted: Volunteers

Two projects are starting:

- An Australian P-CMG DVD
- An Australian Music CD

Jacqueline Hunt in Bendigo has agreed to look into the DVD production, and Julie Longden in Boorondara is investigating the CD situation. If you can help, contact Jacquie on j.hunt@stlukes.org.au or Julie on juliealongden@hotmail.com. If you can volunteer some time to get things going at Brunswick, let us know at mothergoose@playgroup.org.au



The Logo story: Michelle Booth put the kangaroo with the goose, but Shani Dowling, a year 12 student in the arts made kanga and roo connect. We felt it was timely to have a new logo to go with a new premises and organisation!

The Sunflower *A Tale from Ancient Greece*

Clytie was a sea nymph who wore beautiful green gowns woven of seaweed. Her long, golden hair floated about her at the bottom of the sea. One day a mermaid sang her a song about a golden light above the water. Clytie wanted to see it!

She swam to the surface and climbed onto the shore. She saw the golden light described in the song. . . It was the sun! She stood happily gazing at it all day. When she at last turned to the water, she saw her reflection. Her golden hair had become yellow petals; her green gown had become leaves. Her tiny feet had become roots. She had become a sunflower, a small image of the sun she loved.

To this day, the sunflowers turn on their stems all through the day so that they can gaze upon the sun as it travels the sky. <http://www.storyarts.org/library/nutshell/stories/sunflower.html>

The Handover Party (Goodbye to Knox)



Back row: Ann Burke, Marliyn Dann, Angela Flattery, Jenny Tuck
Seated: Angela Morcos, Joan Quagliana (new logo) Sally Moore

I had done the last P-CMG training auspiced by Knox City Council. It left a big hole, to realise that it was real, that despite all the excitement of finding a new home and all the new potential, we were leaving Knox, which had been our very supportive home in one way or another, for ten years. It was worthy of celebrating all the milestones along the way. So on a Friday on the last day of school holidays, those of us who were able gathered to honour the connection that had been forged.

Janene Swalwell was in Queensland, but her contribution was noted. It was especially touching to see most of the Leadership team from Family and Children's Services at Knox, who had followed the growth of the program.

Too bad we couldn't Skype the regional members. All the INC office bearers were there --Jacquie, Jenny and Sally. Marilyn and I represented the local Committee members.

Also there were Knox people who had a direct role in Mother Goose--the two Angelas who oversaw the training arm, Rachael who provided admin support, Ann Burke who oversaw the Mother Goose babies' group and Sue-Ann Cleeve who was my conduit to all things Mother Goose once Janene retired.

The handover was mostly of electronic documents, as the resources had been moved to a safe location until room is found for them at Albert Street. We took the opportunity to display the proposed new logo; it proceeds from the Canadian logo, introduces the kanga and joey, and finally connects mother and baby kangas.

It snowed food and rained drink--a good time was had by all. Thanks to Knox for the elegant send-off. By Joan Quagliana

Write it down, snap a photo!!

With the new structure, many of us are doing voluntarily jobs that were formerly part of the admin service. I have taken on the newsletter for now. While committee members have made valuable contributions, we look forward to contributions from far afield in future.

So get permission, then write it down, take a photo and send it in (email address on front page). It's a form of storytelling, you know, so get your families to show how the program works. Joan

P-CMG at the 150th Birthday of the Eye and Ear Hospital



On Sunday the 7th April, 2013, the Eye and Ear Hospital in East Melbourne, celebrated their 150th anniversary by holding a street party and tours of the hospital.

Taralye, a Victoria wide Centre for hearing impaired children from birth to six years was invited to participate. The CEO of Taralye suggested a presentation of our Parent-Child Mother Goose Program would be wonderful on the stage.

Six families were able to come and share their joyful singing and rhyming with their children on the stage in front of an audience. After giving an introduction about the program we sang Twinkle Twinkle Little Star and then taught the Motor Car verse encouraging audience participation. We did Row Row Row Your Boat and taught a number of verses and then had a mum teach Up Up In the Air. We were able to interview one family on the stage regarding their daughters' wonderful development of her listening skills and her subsequent development of language following receiving a cochlear implant at the hospital last year. It was an enlightening and emotional discussion and of course an opportunity for her parents to thank the Eye and Ear Hospital. (It has been a joy to watch this little girl participate and anticipate her favourite rhymes and songs during M.G. sessions since she received her implant.)

A three year old who wears hearing aids and who commenced in Mother Goose as a baby stole the show when she sang "Doh A Deer" into the microphone. From the stage it was fun to watch children in the audience join in doing the actions to our rhymes. It was wonderful to showcase our Mother Goose program this way whilst helping to celebrate the Eye & Ear Hospital's 150th Anniversary.

Our Program

So there we are half way through the morning session and the babies and children are all waiting for their favourite rhyme - "the cows are in the meadow, lying down and sleeping". This is one rhyme that has been known to have been done up to 6 times in a row due to the response and the delight of the children. However this particular morning, little baby Kate - 9 months old - is lying down waiting for me to call "thunder and lightning" BUT she beats me to it.....before I can say anything - I hear this perfect "babble noise" right on cue and I look up and there she is sitting grinning at me and yelling out "thunder" lightning" in her own voice - in her babble. She was right on cue.... We were all amazed. As the weeks have progressed - she has steadily found her voice and has become increasingly more vocal. One can only wonder what she will be like - when she has words...a promising lawyer???? Little Sean - our 12 month baby with Down's - who is so responsive to the music - will tap or bang on the floor for the thunder and the lightning with the best of us. He is definitely not going to miss out. Yes the wonder of Mother Goose - can be seen in the faces of all the children as they delight in each other which spills over to the Mums - who are drawn in to respond too. Magic does happen in Mother Goose. Kind regards, Julie Longden

Cuddle ... Communicate ... Connect:

Training Update

Yes, we are able to book P-CMG training sessions through the Committee of Management. For anyone who is interested, please contact us via email (mothergoose@playgroup.org.au). The office is only staffed one day per week (as it has been for the last year) so email is probably the best way to begin contact.

A training venue is going to be an issue for us, as we have lost the free venue at Knox and VPA does not have enough space to offer training for our requisite 20 participants. Consider becoming a host if:

- You have a venue for training
- You have some interested participants
- You might know of a reliable local caterer
- You want to contribute to the ongoing viability of the Australian P-CMGP

Consider becoming a host to work with us to continue the great work of the P-CMGP here in Australia now that we have taken on more of the responsibility for its success



Support the Parent-Child Mother Goose Program®

By becoming a Member and/or making a donation

- Our membership year is January 1st – December 31st
- A strong membership demonstrates that our innovative work has community support
- As an informed member, you can become a voice for the program
- Your questions and comments can help us develop our resources, our programs and our outreach.

Teacher Membership for 2014

\$30.00

- For those currently running or intending to run a P-CMGP® and have completed training.

Associate Membership for 2014

\$20.00

- For interested persons and/or program volunteers.

Memberships allow you to:

- Receive 3 Canadian newsletters each year, including early notice of new publications
- Receive results of research and professional studies of the program
- Attend the AGM and elect P-CMG (Melbourne) Inc. Committee Members
- Receive invitations to events and trainings
- Receive our Australian newsletter
- Receive collections of songs, stories and rhymes etc annually.

In addition, Teacher Members can:

- Use the registered trademarked name and logo
- Participate in research of the P-CMGP®
- Receive notification of special events
- Send us regular reports to help us advocate for the program and plan for new resources and training
- Receive electronic copies of the brochure to assist with program promotion and outreach.
- Post their P-CMGP® on our website which will be developed in 2014
- Request mentor visits to their program.
- Attend the AGM and elect P-CMG (Melbourne) Inc. Committee Meetings

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NOTE: Only trained and accredited teachers are able to nominate for the Parent-Child Mother Goose Inc. Committee positions.

The Parent-Child Mother Goose Program® is a non-profit organisation. Donations are vital to our ability to deliver and develop the program and make it accessible for all Australians regardless of ability to pay. You will receive a tax-deductible receipt for your donations.

Name:	
Postal address:	
Suburb:	
Postcode:	
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Teacher Membership:	\$30.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
Location of your training & approximate date:	
Associate Membership:	\$20.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
Donation:	\$
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED OR DIRECT DEBITED:	\$

PARENT CHILD MOTHER GOOSE PROGRAM (MELBOURNE) INC. ABN 41 496 150 541

Payments can be made by cash or cheque.

Please tick if you require an invoice

Please make all cheques payable to **P-CMGP (Melbourne) Inc.**

EFT: St George Bank Knox, Parent Child Mother Goose Inc.

BSB 113 879 429738462 Please ensure that you include your name in the "reference" section of your online transaction to ensure your membership is processed and your form is forwarded as below.

Please forward payment to: Attention: The Parent Child Mother Goose Program®
 Phone: (03) 03 9388 1599 EXT 145 Fax: (03) 9380 6733 Email: mothergoose@playgroup.org.au

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A STORYTELLING FEAST: WORKSHOPS WITH MORGAN SCHATZ BLACKROSE



Morgan's stories, rhymes and songs can be used effectively in P-CMG programs. Her affordable resource books are easily downloadable from her website.

Early Childhood Educators are invited to attend workshops presented by international storyteller, Morgan Schatz Blackrose. Morgan is an advocate of improving social, health and literacy outcomes in communities through the integration of oral literature into programmes and services offered in libraries, early childhood centres and health promotion organisations.

She has worked as a professional storyteller and trainer for the past twenty-six years, collaborating with health professionals and educators on storytelling programmes addressing delays in children's speech and language development, falls prevention for older people, family literacy, tolerance, environmental education, child protection and healthy eating. Workshops include resource books, demonstrated materials, identifiable outcomes and online follow-up support.

What: Two separate storytelling workshops for educators

1. Feast-Simple to learn world folktales and rhymes about food with accompanying craft and food preparation activities that promote healthy eating, community values, and learning about nature and the environment.

2. Stories for Everyone-Designing exciting and inclusive programmes for preschool storytimes, school holiday activities and family-centred programmes and events.

When:

1. Wednesday 11th September 9.30am - 12.30pm
2. Wednesday 11th September 1pm - 4 pm

Where: Resource and Learning Centre (RALC)
CBD Level 1 104 A' Beckett St Melbourne close to the corner of Elizabeth St. Ph. (03) 96589044

Who: Morgan Schatz Blackrose
ABN 44930818208
PO Box 60 Port Macquarie NSW 2444

Cost: \$140 per person per workshop. Pay by cheque, cash on the day or bank transfer - bank details supplied with tax invoice.

Outcomes: Participants will be familiarised with language arts as an effective scaffold for educational outcomes, developing self esteem and health promotion through learning new rhymes, songs and stories and how to present them.

BOOKINGS: story@schatzblackrose.com
www.schatzblackrose.com