



# 110 Reasons to Celebrate!

October - November 2008

## Inside this issue

From the President	2
From the CEO	4
Brighton Master Plan update	7
Minda's graduation ceremony	8
Minda launches new website	9
'LifeSpan' study	11



One could have been excused of thinking that, on Saturday 26 July, they had taken a step off of Port Road, Adelaide, and stepped straight into the glitz and glamour of the Spanish carnival. With an atmosphere steeped in colour, an acrobatic display, set to pumping music, kicked the night off in spectacular fashion. Four hundred guests turned out in their finest to celebrate the 110th anniversary of Minda and enjoy a fabulous evening.

Vying for the 'biggest, fluffiest toys', guests wasted no time in participating in Minda's own sideshow alley, which consisted of old-time favourites such as the clowns, cannon balls and sitting ducks, before enjoying a short feature film about what Minda is and does, produced by media students of the Australian Science and Maths School. Continuing the celebration, acclaimed entertainment group, Ding!, put on a swinging performance of world class proportions.

Whilst the night celebrated 110 years of Minda providing services to South Australians with an intellectual disability, there was a serious side to the event - that of ensuring Minda has adequate resources to continue offering excellent services to its clients.

With birthdays come birthday lists, and Minda took the opportunity to formulate a list of equipment, which it desperately needs to purchase for clients. This included items such as lifting machines, a 10-seater Toyota Hiace vehicle, exercise and rehabilitation equipment and wheelchairs, to name a few.

Dr Tim Cooper, of Coopers Brewery, kick started the evening's generosity when he presented a cheque for \$9,900 to Minda President, Roy Arnold. This big-hearted donation is to help purchase a lifting machine for clients on campus.

The exciting line up of auction items included a cooking class with acclaimed South Australian chef, Simon Bryant; a limited edition, hand-signed Heath Ledger memorabilia item; and a gourmet lunch with Scott Hicks and Kerry Heysen-Hicks, on the set of Scott Hicks' new film. These great items and more had guests bidding and out-bidding one another in the name of a great cause, before finishing off the night kicking up their heels to acclaimed Adelaide band, Supernova.

*Continued page 3*



**Roy Arnold**  
President

**“Susan has been an outstanding leader and an inspiration to those around her.”**

## From the President

Spring started unexpectedly for Minda with the decision of Phil Martin to move on and take a new direction with his working life, and while we all understand that everyone has the right to make their own life choices it is quite a disappointment to lose his knowledge and experience. In 17 years at Minda, Phil has always demonstrated his devotion to the organisation and his commitment to the cause of the intellectually disabled. We wish him well in whatever course he takes in the future.

The Board took the decision to appoint Susan McInerney as Chief Executive, and Susan is tackling the job with great drive and enthusiasm, building a great team around her which will take Minda to further heights of excellence. During the seven and a half months in her role as General Manager, Operations, Susan has been an outstanding leader and an inspiration to those around her. The Board is confident in its management future in her hands.

I am also delighted with our new additions to the Board in Bronwyn Halliday and Tony Harrison, and we should be very proud that Minda can attract people of such calibre to give their valuable time freely to assist us in our work. There are some biographical details on Tony and Bronwyn in this publication. In addition, it was good to see the faith that Association Members have in the present Minda family members in Wes Ashman, Lyn Magee and Kym Hancock by re-electing them unopposed, together with Tony Harrison who filled a casual vacancy for a Minda Association non-family member. This will ensure that the Board, with its mix of capable family and external specialist members, remains stable to support - and challenge - new management.

Another pleasing aspect of this Spring has been the success of the consultation workshops held by Connor Holmes who have been very impressed by both the quantity and quality of the input from stakeholders. I have little doubt that out of it will emerge a consensus which will help make the blueprint for the next 50 years. However, let us all remember that it is the foundation of philosophy and principles that must guide us most – the bricks and mortar are merely the physical manifestations at that basic philosophy.

I was asked recently by someone outside Minda, “do you have a model of how Minda should look five years from now?”

I replied, “I would like to see Minda be a model to the world in the way it supports, challenges and helps clients to develop to their fullest, in the way it has made itself the employer of choice and the way it comports itself as a corporate citizen.”

In other words, a great place to live, a great place to learn and a great place to work.

Spring did not start too well, but now I feel the excitement of the journey we are on and am confident of its success. It's a great privilege to be a part of it.

Continued from cover

The event was hugely successful in both celebrating the contribution Minda has made to the disability sector and also in achieving the event's goal, with an astounding \$150,000 raised on the night.

All proceeds from the 110 Year Birthday Gala Dinner will be put towards the purchase of much needed equipment for Minda clients.

Minda would like to thank guests, volunteers, sponsors and staff, all of whom made this wonderful event possible. Special thanks must go to Gold Sponsors: ADC, Bank SA and Seeley International.

To view photographs from the night, please visit <http://photo.ronnieling.com/MINDA>.

#### A huge thank you to the following:

##### Gold Sponsors



##### Silver Sponsors

Corporate Conversation

CMI Toyota

Slippery Fish

EquipSuper

Minter Ellison Lawyers

##### Event Sponsor

Adtrans

##### Presenting Partner

Phil McMahon Real Estate

##### Media Partner

Channel 9 Adelaide

##### Beverage Sponsors

Coopers

Brini Estate Wines

Nepenthe

# Minda responds to unmet accommodation needs

Minda is pleased to announce it will open additional places for people on the Urgent Accommodation Waiting List with an intellectual disability over the next two years.

The expansion of Minda's community accommodation will facilitate the placement of 31 clients on the Urgent Accommodation List (UAWL). Significantly, this means that Minda will increase its accommodation capacity by 11 placements.

"Minda plans to utilise funding from the State Government and its own resources, to build and operate new accommodation. The organisation is thrilled at the opportunity to assist families and clients in urgent need," said Minda President, Roy Arnold.

Earlier this year, four community homes were opened by Mr Jay Weatherill (*former Minister for Families & Communities and Minister for Disability*). This saw 17 individuals successfully move into community accommodation, with 10 from the UAWL.

"There is a huge demand for additional accommodation. These services give people much needed independence and an opportunity to become part of a community of their choice," said Susan McInerney, CEO of Minda.

"We are dedicated to creating opportunities for people with intellectual disability to lead valued and fulfilling lives. The Board of Minda is proud of the opportunity to collaboratively work to meet the need for long-term accommodation for people in urgent need of services. They're all about positive change to meet the needs of future generations," Susan added.



One of the new community homes on Hillier Road, Reynella

## save THE DATE

### Opening of the South Australian Learning Centre

Thursday 6 November, at Minda's Brighton Campus

### Annual General Meeting

Sunday 9 November, at Minda's Brighton Campus

### Carols on the Lawn - BYO picnic

Friday 5 December, at Minda's Brighton Campus

For more information on upcoming events, please contact:

Marion Zafry on 8422 6286,  
email [marion.zafry@minda.asn.au](mailto:marion.zafry@minda.asn.au)  
or go to [www.mindainc.com.au](http://www.mindainc.com.au).



**Susan McInerney**  
CEO

***I welcome you to the Spring edition of Vocal Point. At the heart of our mission are our clients and I am pleased to be able to report some exciting developments in client opportunities since the last Vocal Point.***

## From the CEO

Our Learning and Development (L&D) department has very nearly completed the 10 week pilot project, 'Labs'n Life', run in conjunction with Families SA and 10 children under Ministerial Guardianship. The program was run jointly with Minda's Specialist Resource Service (SRS) and proved to be quite challenging but highly successful. Ranging in ages from 12 to 16 years, these 10 young people are all at risk of disengaging from education. The outcomes for our clients were evaluated to be positive, with improvements in client mobility and language noted. This was the first time L&D and SRS dealt with such a mixed group of clients/participants which required flexibility to suit the needs of the group. The children enjoyed the sessions and learnt the principles of respect and patience.

New legislation has recently been introduced in relation to how allegations or suspicions of abuse are to be reported within aged care facilities. Minda is responding to these requirements within its aged care setting and recognises the need to apply similar principles to all clients across all service delivery settings. A key initiative in our strategic planning is to further our organisational wide approach to client safety and empowerment to ensure that best practice is implemented in relation to preventing any form of abuse.

The key component of our strategy is the development of a staff/volunteer training program to provide essential education in recognising and addressing the broader scope of abuse to ensure a preventative approach is adopted within all service delivery settings. Development of policy, training and operational frameworks has been entrusted to a taskforce consisting of clients, the Minda Association Advocacy Group, staff and management representatives and a focused response is well under way.

A highly successful Personal Development Programme was held by Outreach Services for nine young adults, all of whom live in the family home, with the aim of teaching skills on how to look after themselves and improve self esteem. This program was held in response to requests from young people and their families. Participants develop skills in hygiene, body care, diet, exercise and personal grooming. Skills in relation to developing friendships and relationships were also covered over the targeted program.

Tutti Arts continues to move from strength to strength with recent participation in the World Youth Day concert, singing to an audience of 4000 people at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre. This outcome resulted from a proposal to the World Youth Day coordinating committee.

Finally, Minda recently celebrated the achievements of 292 students who have successfully attained certificates in Disability Work or Training and Assessment. We understand this event to be one of the largest graduation for carers in the disability sector in South Australia. Of the 292 students graduating, 52 were from external service providers (see page 8).

We have some exciting times ahead and I look forward to updating you on these positive opportunities.

*Susan McInerney*



## A show of generosity!

Minda was a hive of activity and great excitement from the 5th - 13th September, when clients were provided the opportunity to attend the Royal Adelaide Show, with the Royal Agricultural & Horticultural Society of SA this year again kindly donating complimentary passes to the Royal Adelaide Show.

The opportunity to join thousands of South Australians as they negotiated the Yellow Brick Road, visited the animal exhibits and explored the showbag pavilion is something that clients look forward to with much anticipation each year.

With many requests submitted to the Society for tickets to the Royal Adelaide Show, Minda is very grateful to have received the complimentary passes, the value of the contribution totalling \$3,500.

Minda sincerely thanks the Royal Agricultural & Horticultural Society of SA, on behalf of clients and staff, for the kind donation.



*Clients enjoying a day out at the Royal Adelaide Show*

# Minda welcomes new members on Board

At its meeting on 25 July 2008, the Board considered a recommendation by the Nominations Committee to fill the casual vacancy of ordinary Board member (Association/non-family).

"I am delighted to say that, as a result, Mr Tony Harrison was invited to fill the casual vacancy," said Minda President, Roy Arnold.

Tony is the Acting Deputy Commissioner of Police and has agreed to join the Board and the Strategy and Planning Committee. Tony's vast experience in corporate projects and customer/client protection, combined with his management qualifications and current legal studies, will provide an excellent additional set of skills to our Board.

In another addition to the Board, Dr Bronwyn Halliday, former Executive Director, Planning SA, has been appointed as an Expert Director of Minda. Mr Arnold said Dr Halliday has a lifetime of experience in strategic and organisational reviews, change management and governance; and an intimate knowledge of the challenges and opportunities facing the sector.

"I am delighted to announce that Dr Bronwyn Halliday was invited, and has accepted, an appointment as a Director of Minda.

"Dr Halliday will chair the Board's Governance Committee and is eminently qualified to do so," Mr Arnold said.

Dr Halliday brings to the position a wealth of experience and knowledge, with the focus on her doctorate being on corporate governance. Formerly National Director of Continuous Improvement with Ernst & Young, Dr Halliday has also been a senior executive in the South Australian Government.

Recently as Director of the State Library of South Australia, she managed the State Library redevelopment, which won numerous architectural and related awards and as Executive Director of Planning SA, she managed the government's land use planning agency.

Minda extends a warm welcome to both new Board members.

# On the Board

Minda is governed by a Board consisting of ten members (all of whom are volunteers). Minda's CEO Susan McInerney reports directly to the Board. The Board's objective is to provide independent governance and ensure peak operations such as finances, acquisitions, residential standards and corporate identity are performing to the highest level and meeting the needs of our clients.

Since the last edition of Vocal Point, the two year terms of Mrs Lyn Magee, Mr Wes Ashman and Mr Kym Hancock expired and Mr Tony Harrison's appointment to fill a casual vacancy has also expired. As there were no other nominations for the positions of either non-family Ordinary Board Member or family Ordinary Board Member, Mr Ashman, Mrs Magee and Mr Hancock were declared as duly elected to the positions of family member, respectively, Equally, Mr Tony Harrison has been declared as duly elected to the position of non-family member.

In each edition of Vocal Point we profile two Board Members, in this edition we are profiling Lyn Magee and Kym Hancock. A brief introduction to Minda's newest non-family ordinary Board Members appears on page 5.

Kym Hancock



As the parents of Henry, who is living on Brighton campus, Kym and Helen Hancock's association with Minda extends over 27 years. Kym joined the Board in 1998 as an Association elected family member.

With a long history in the business world, Kym's career is in international trade, working for Safcol Australia, where he holds the position of General Manager, Sales and Marketing. With a balanced skill mix – being primarily a parent with a comprehensive understanding and knowledge of the needs of Minda's clients, coupled with the commercial business, problem solving and management skills acquired throughout his career, Kym is a highly valuable member of the Board.

When commenting on his association with Minda, Kym said, "I am passionate about Minda and see my involvement as being ongoing, with a commitment to working towards ensuring Minda's longevity, thus securing the future for our clients." As well as his Board position, Kym is a member of the Strategy and Planning sub-committee, Master Plan Steering Committee and the Remuneration Committee.

Outside of work and Minda, Kym's interests extend to his local church, travel, gardening and of course, spending time with his family, which includes two grandchildren (soon to be three!).

Lyn Magee



A Life Member of the Association and elected Minda Association family member, Lyn Magee has served on Minda's Board now for 14 years. "When I retired I was looking for peace and quiet and so entered the Minda family!!" Lyn said.

As the mother of Timothy, a long time resident on the Brighton campus, Lyn brings to the Board insights from the perspective of a parent of someone with intellectual disability, and, as a retired business woman, also offers various commercial skills of a former senior executive and business owner.

A tireless worker dedicated to the community, Lyn also sits on two sub-committees of the Board - Strategy and Planning as well as on the Master Plan Steering Committee. Lyn is also Chairman of the Minda Fundraising Committee as well as Chairman of Minda's Volunteers Church Service.

In recognition of her wonderful commitment to services to the community, Lyn was the worthy recipient of the Holdfast Bay Citizen of the Year Ward on Australia Day this year.

Away from her involvement with the community, Lyn's main interest is family, but she also enjoys reading and theatre in her down time. With much of her time taken up with her extensive community work, Lyn's husband, George, has become quite handy in the kitchen!



# Brighton Master Plan Update

Minda is pleased to advise that it has reached the much anticipated first consultation stage of the Brighton Master Plan.

As previously stated, the aim of the Master Plan is to develop a 'blueprint' that presents a coordinated, comprehensive and clear path forward for the management, operation and development of the Brighton Campus so that Minda is able to meet the future needs of its clients in a flexible and responsive manner.

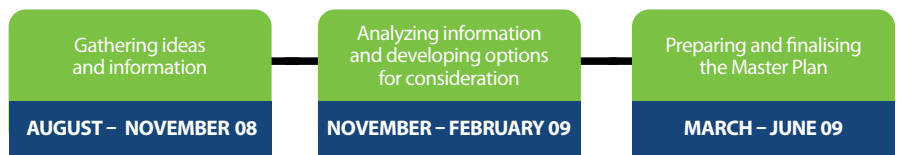
It is vital that the Minda community is actively involved in developing the Master Plan. The following provides information about how the Master Plan will be developed and importantly, how you can be involved in the process.

The preparation of the Blueprint will not be rushed. The Board is determined to be a responsible steward of the Brighton site in supporting current and future clients, and this requires everyone to contribute their thoughts and ideas.



## How will the Master Plan be developed?

The Plan is being prepared in three stages:



## The principles guiding the development of the Master Plan are as follows

- Client lifestyle is the first priority
- The village-like environment of Minda must be preserved
- Minda will remain owners of all land on Brighton Campus with none of it being sold
- All stakeholders are to be consulted in an open and transparent manner.

## Why is the Master Plan needed?

The 2005 Strategic Plan identified the need to meet increasing demands for

- Appropriate standards and facilities for clients and staff
- Lifestyle services, residential services, support, training and administration services
- Community integration options for clients
- Operating commercially viable services.

## Have your say by

- Completing a response sheet via the internet [www.mindainc.com.au](http://www.mindainc.com.au), and/or
- Phoning through your ideas to a dedicated pre-recorded phone line 8422 6580, and/or

- Sending an email to [masterplan@minda.asn.au](mailto:masterplan@minda.asn.au), and/or
- Writing a letter to "Master Plan", Minda Inc., PO Box 5, Brighton SA 5048.

There will be opportunities at each of the stages for members of the Minda community, as well as other key groups to have their say.

The information gathered from this initial consultation will be summarised and used by the consultants to prepare options for development of various elements of Minda's site at Brighton.

The third stage will involve the consultants preparing the draft blueprint for consideration by all Minda stakeholders. Feedback on the documented Master Plan will be gathered with an interest in the future of Minda during mid-2009.

**For more information on the Master Plan, contact Nicole on 8422 6513.**



## Minda celebrates largest graduation of disability carers

Minda hosted its largest ever graduation ceremony for carers in the disability sector on Wednesday 25 June at Minda's Brighton Campus.

The graduation celebrated the achievements of 292 students who have completed Certificate III in Disability Work, Certificate IV in Disability Work and Certificate IV in Training & Assessment at Minda during 2007 and 2008.

Minda's patron, the Governor of South Australia, His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce, made the keynote address, and graduates were awarded their certificates by Minda's Ambassador, Katrina Webb OAM, Minda's President Roy Arnold, and Minda's CEO Susan McInerney and former General Manager, Phil Martin.

Established as a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) in 1998, Minda has a longstanding

commitment to fostering high quality training, and building capacity, capability and sustainability in the sector.

In recent times, the community services sector has experienced a serious shortage of workers, but Minda has helped to alleviate the pressures of the skills-shortage through training and development of employees across the industry.

In fact, of the 292 students graduating, 52 of these were from external service providers Anglicare, Bedford Industries, SA Wire, Orana and Baptist Community Services. In the future, Minda looks set to accommodate many more students from external service providers.

Michelle Taylor was awarded the Student of the Year and we extend our congratulations to her and to all the students who graduated on the day!



*Student of the Year, Michelle Taylor*

The magnitude of this graduation is testament to Minda's commitment to teaching and developing potential for both internal and external stakeholders and this focus is set to rapidly expand with the opening of the South Australian Learning Centre, within our refurbished Rogerson Building.

The South Australian Learning Centre will be officially opened on 6 November 2008.

# GHD gets behind Minda



GHD 'Young Professionals' visiting Supported Employees at Minda's Aquatic Centre

This year, celebrating its 80th birthday, the Adelaide branch of international professional services company, GHD, held a cocktail evening on Thursday 28 August. Very much a community-minded organisation, staff at GHD saw a link with Minda, which is celebrating its 110th anniversary, and chose to donate \$10 to Minda for every person who attended GHD's cocktail evening.

On the night, Minda was presented with a cheque for \$2,500, which will go towards purchasing items on Minda's birthday wish list.

Minda is grateful for this generous donation and also for the ongoing support from GHD and in particular, that of its 'Young Professionals'. The Young Professional Program is made up of a group of young GHD employees who actively get 'hands on' in community-based work. The Young Professionals will be helping as volunteer crew at both our 110 Year Birthday Barbeque and the Minda Carols Night.

GHD was established in 1928 and today, is ranked one of the world's top 30 engineering and architecture companies. The company actually worked on the award-winning laundry at Minda's Brighton Campus.

Thank you again to GHD and the Young Professionals for supporting Minda.

## Something to crow about



Cheryl (left) and Jimmy (centre) accepting Crows tickets from Antimo Spagnuola.

On Sunday 31 August, 100 excited clients descended upon AAMI Stadium to watch the Adelaide Crows take on the Western Bulldogs.

The clients, many of whom are die-hard Crows fans, cheered and jeered with 38,000 other visitors as the Crows brought home the goods with a winning margin of nine points.

The opportunity to attend the match was made possible by the generous donation of 100 tickets by Cornes Toyota Hawthorn dealer, Mr Antimo Spagnuola.

This has been the fifth year that Mr Spagnuola has donated the tickets. The value of this sponsorship is just over \$3,000 - a mighty effort!

On behalf of clients and carers who had the opportunity to attend this thrilling match, Minda would like to express its sincere thanks to Mr Spagnuola and Cornes Toyota Hawthorn for enabling so many clients to attend the footy.

## Minda launches new website!



Minda has launched its new look website! Located at [www.mindainc.com.au](http://www.mindainc.com.au), the website offers information on the organisation as well as topics of interest for stakeholders, including details on 'what's new', events and sponsorship.

The website is set to further promote the excellent programs and services the organisation offers to support South Australians with intellectual disability.

"Our new website is designed to provide both quick access to general information on Minda's operations and an improved communication platform between Minda and the community," said Minda President, Mr Roy Arnold.

Some pages are still under construction and we thank you for your patience.

We welcome your feedback or suggestions on the new website, so should you have any comments, please contact us on 8422 6200.



Volunteer, Des Rowe, pictured with Charlie

# Valuable, Venerable, Vital: 'V' is for Volunteering

Hundreds of people in Adelaide are actively supporting the Minda community by volunteering their time and skills to help others.

Minda has over 340 volunteers who currently help with activities and services in various departments. These many and diverse roles are based within the programs of Day Options, Strategic Marketing, Aged Care and High Support, Community Services, Trak Furniture and the Aquatic Centre.

"We have a lot of people, of varying ages, who volunteer with Minda in a range of community activities," explained Bev Coghlan, Volunteer Coordinator at Minda. "In fact, each year, our volunteers donate a combined total in the vicinity of 7,000 hours. To put a dollar value on this donated time, this work equates to around \$150,000 per annum", said Bev.

Minda's areas of need require volunteers of varying experience and capabilities.

They are employed in roles such as driving client buses, supporting clients on holidays, cooking, personal grooming, health and fitness, outings, gardening, socialising, fund-raising initiatives and Day Options activities.

"Volunteers join for many various reasons, but many do so to create learning opportunities through the development and improvement of new skills, but more importantly, for the opportunity to make a real difference in the community," added Minda's other Volunteer Coordinator, Rick Selway.

"Minda recognises that volunteers are instrumental in the provision of its community services and demonstrates its commitment to valuing volunteers by holding annual recognition events and by providing resources to manage volunteers to best practice standards," continued Rick.

Volunteering can be undertaken even if you work. You can help out once a year at a community event or do something after hours or on the weekend. Some of our roles also accommodate for corporate volunteering.

To learn more about volunteering at Minda, visit the Minda website at [www.mindainc.com.au](http://www.mindainc.com.au) or contact the Volunteer Coordinators on **8422 6244**.

**Minda is always looking for more volunteers in all areas.**

**Currently, there are vacancies for volunteers at Retirement Lifestyle Services in group activities.**

**If you are free at any of these times, why not give volunteering at Minda a go?**

## GROUP ACTIVITIES

Day	Session	Time	Activity
Tuesday	morning	9.30am – 11.30am	Developing painting skills
Thursday	morning	9.30am – 11.30am	Card making/bingo
Friday	morning	10am – 11.30am	Piano playing
Friday	afternoon	12.15pm – 3.15pm	Bingo

## INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

Day	Session	Time	Activity
Tuesday	morning	9.30am – 11.30am	Craft, puzzles, walks
Thursday	morning	9.30am – 11.30am	Craft, puzzles, walks
Saturday	morning	9.30am – 11.30am	Craft, reading, wheelchair walks

# 'LifeSpan' to shed light on mental illness in the intellectually disabled

Over the past four years, Minda has been involved in one of the largest, most comprehensive studies yet to investigate the mental health in adults with intellectual disability.

Known as the 'LifeSpan Study', the research has been undertaken by Monash University's Centre for Developmental Psychiatry and Psychology, in conjunction with Minda and the Intellectual Disability Services Council (now Disability SA) and the Department of Education and Children's Services (DECS) and shall provide vital information on the mental health status of adults with an intellectual disability.

For Minda, the opportunity to participate in this important study offered the chance to build upon research which had previously been conducted into aging and disability, from which the Developmental Behaviour Checklist was developed.

"The LifeSpan study shall provide Minda with more empirical evidence about people with

an intellectual disability as they age, as well as a better understanding of mental health issues - including what gives rise to them - in those with an intellectual disability," said Susan McInerney, CEO of Minda.

Despite the project's initiation at Monash University, Victoria, it was felt that South Australia has the best historical database of intellectual disability in Australia and Minda, having undertaken studies in the area previously, already had a body of knowledge to build upon. Consequently this significant study was based here in South Australia.

Several hundred Minda clients have been involved in the three-year study, which assessed participants, physical and mental wellbeing through the Developmental Behavioural Checklist.

Researchers contend that mental illness is two- to three-times more prevalent in people with an intellectual disability than in the general community. Problems related to mental illness often cause distress to the individual and their carers; exacerbate their disability; add to the costs of caring by government and private agencies; and can significantly impact on the educational and occupational process.

However, mental illness in those with intellectual disability often goes undetected and therefore untreated, with one of the greatest obstacles being that tools used to assess and assist in diagnosis of mental illness in the general community are unsuitable for use with individuals with an intellectual disability.

## Due for completion in 2009, the expected project outcomes include

- Increased understanding of the mental health issues of people with an intellectual disability across the lifespan
- Improved assessment, diagnosis and treatment of mental illness for adults with intellectual disability
- Increased understanding of the prevalence, nature and development of mental illness, including protective and risk factors
- Increased knowledge to assist in policy development, resource allocation and service-planning for adults with intellectual disability and mental illness
- Improved resources and increased access to training for carers/staff working with adults with an intellectual disability and mental illness.

Upon completion of the study, Minda hopes to be better equipped to identify and provide subsequent support to clients who are experiencing mental health problems.

The LifeSpan Study has been funded by the Australian Research Council Linkage Grant and Apex Foundation for Research into Intellectual Disability.

For more information on the LifeSpan Project, please contact Karen Peterson on **8422 6338**.



Professor Tonge with Minda President, Roy Arnold



Minda is issuing a call out to all those history buffs!

# History in the making

Minda is hoping to establish the 'Minda History Group' with the aim of developing a collection of written and photographic historical material pertaining to Minda.

There is a rich history here and the group's charter is to document this heritage, and preserve a record of it for future reference.

The Minda History Group is set to be a dynamic programme, which is able to offer members the use of an ever-increasing collection of source material, much accumulated skill and a selection of interesting activities.

Functions of the group will include the collecting of information relating to the history of Minda, which will predominantly occur through interviews with longstanding Association members, staff, clients and

families to identify historic occasions, activities and practices. This will include the collection of views from family members who live with a person with an intellectual disability; key milestones in the development of Minda and the South Australian disability services; the rights of clients over time; the change in family involvement with clients; and the general history of Minda.

Through special events, articles and meetings, the committee will work hard to preserve some of the most memorable occasions, places, artefacts and collections that have happened right here at Minda.

People of all ages and from all walks of life are welcome to join the Minda History Group. If you are interested in participating, please forward your expression of interest to [marketing@minda.asn.au](mailto:marketing@minda.asn.au) or contact **Edward Scanlon** on **8422 6200**.



**Vocal Point is the official newsletter of Minda Incorporated**

King George Avenue  
Brighton, SA 5048  
PO Box 5, Brighton, SA 5048

**Phone:** 8422 6200

**Fax:** 8422 6330

**[www.mindainc.com.au](http://www.mindainc.com.au)**

#### **Board of Minda Association**

**Mr Roy Arnold**

President/Chairman

**Mr Wes Ashman**

Vice President/Deputy Chairman

Mr Roy Bradburn

Mr Tony Harrison

Mr Kym Hancock

Dr Bronwyn Halliday

Mr Tony Innes

Mr Peter Kreig

Mrs Lyn Magee

#### **Chief Executive Officer**

Ms Susan McInerney

#### **Patron**

His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce -  
AC CSC RANR Governor of South Australia

We Can Do It