



LAP facts

Friends and Children Together

Founded in 1994

SEPTEMBER 2018

Patron: Christopher McCabe M.A., Dip. T., F.A.C.E.

ANGELS OF LAP



Dear friends,

I'm delighted to share this term's edition of LAP Facts with you. It is hard to believe we are most of the way through Term 3 already! Each term it is a great joy to me to share what we are working to do in the Association and to collate the wonderful stories of LAP in action at our member schools.

In this edition, please find a summary of the findings from our recent LAP survey, information about our upcoming dyslexia workshop for co-ordinators and mentors, and inspiring stories about LAP, at Kangaroo Island Community Education and at Samaritan College, Whyalla SA.

I hope you also enjoy my little poem dedicated to our wonderful coordinators who make LAP possible in schools. If you have LAP in your school, I am in need of your LAP stories for our next Edition. You could say something about your program, tell a story about LAP that has occurred in your school, share a profile for a terrific mentor you'd like to honour. It doesn't matter how big or small your program, or how big or small your story, we'll be delighted to hear from you! Please send your stories directly to me at kettleli@trinity.sa.edu.au .

Expressions of Interest

Are you someone who might have a bit more time on your hands than you did last year? Do you love LAP? Might you be willing to attend about five meetings per year, with the option of phone link up if travel is a problem? If this is you, read on!

The LAP Association Executive Committee remains a very small group in 2018. We would very much welcome expressions of interest from our members if you would be interested to become a part of our friendly, co-operative committee who are passionate about LAP. Please contact any member of the committee in the first instance and we would be delighted to discuss this with you.



Every great endeavour needs
Its leader strong and true
A heart and soul and mind that feeds
The work there is to do

In LAP this work is given
To coordinators bright
Men and women driven to
Support and guide and light

The fires of good relationships
A love of learning great
Connections, fun and friendships
And confidence create

Behind the scenes the work is tough
With piles of administration
Negotiating times is rough
A dance of accommodation

Cups of tea and lots of forms
Ideas and resources
Making matches, building norms
Attending training courses

Getting to know the mentors
Notifying absentees
Recruiting extra mentors
All done with expertise

Making space for students
For safety, growth and fun
Doing this with prudence
The work is never done

So here's to all of you
With your haloes shining bright
LAP's angels now on view
Stand proud under the light!

Lisa Kettler

AROUND THE SCHOOLS

Trinity College North

Recently, one of our Early Years LAP students won 1st Prize in the “Junior Handicrafts” Exhibit at the Gawler Show. Charlie and his LAP Mentor, Grandy Jan, worked on the winning Exhibit, a cross section of an Ant Hill, during their weekly LAP Mentoring sessions.

Jan comes in for 50 minutes each week, and meets with Charlie to work on a variety of learning activities. Together, they satisfy their curiosity on many different topics and have a lot of fun while they are learning.

The LAP Program provides a space to be creative and curious and projects like Charlie’s and Jan’s are a unique way of building on a variety of skills, such as researching, reading and problem solving.

Josie Burns
Trinity College North LAP Coordinator



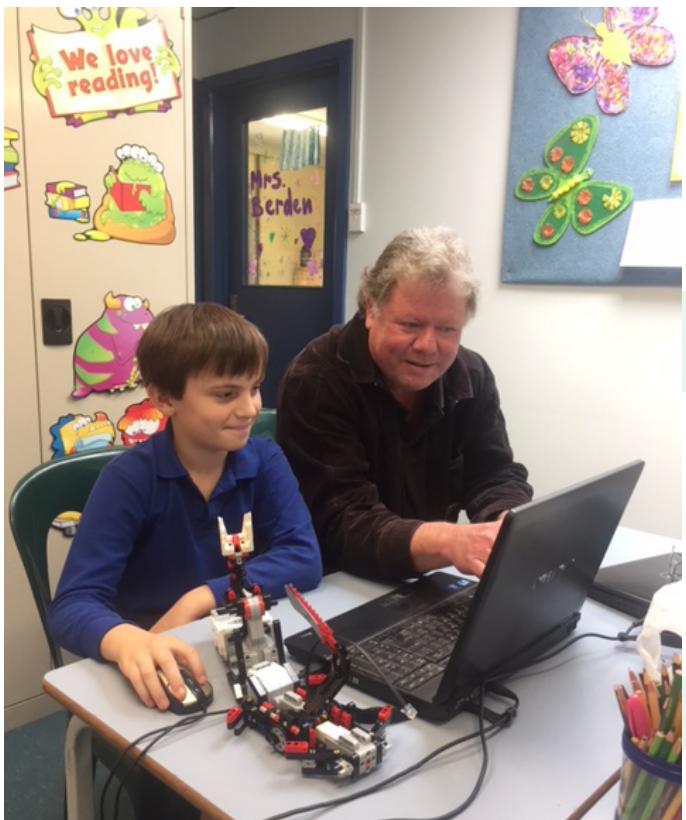
Kangaroo Island Community Education

Kangaroo Island Community Education has three campuses over the Island, The Learning assistance Program is only at the Kingscote Campus which is the largest of the campuses with 400+ students from years R – 12.

The program has 6 volunteers at present and 19 students. One of these very special volunteers John, who volunteers 2 full days and works with 12 students from year 2 to year 7 building robotics. John started in 2015 using his own equipment with 1 student. As John was able to work with more students the school purchased a Lego Megamind Robotic Kit so John could expand on the students' knowledge. John starts coding a game and gradually gets them into coding and building a robot. The robots can do various challenges like solving a Rubik's cube.

John has bought a new respect for the program from both the students and teachers. With more teachers seeing the value of the program and students happy to be a LAP student.

Jasmin Florance
LAP/Volunteer Coordinator



AROUND THE SCHOOLS cont

Samaritan College

This year marks my 20th year in LAP either in a volunteering role or that of LAP Coordinator. It has been the most enjoyable time of my working career, having the pleasure to work with many wonderful and extremely dedicated volunteers along the way as well as the incredible staff and students.

I would like to acknowledge another volunteer who has shared the last 20 years with me as a volunteer as well, and that is Ron Wallis.

Ron started at Our Lady Help of Christians College back in 1998 when his first grandchild started school, Ron has returned every year since. He volunteers his time to work with 3 children a week as well as volunteering his time in the Library. We cherish the time he gives and appreciate his loyalty to the LAP Program and to our school community.

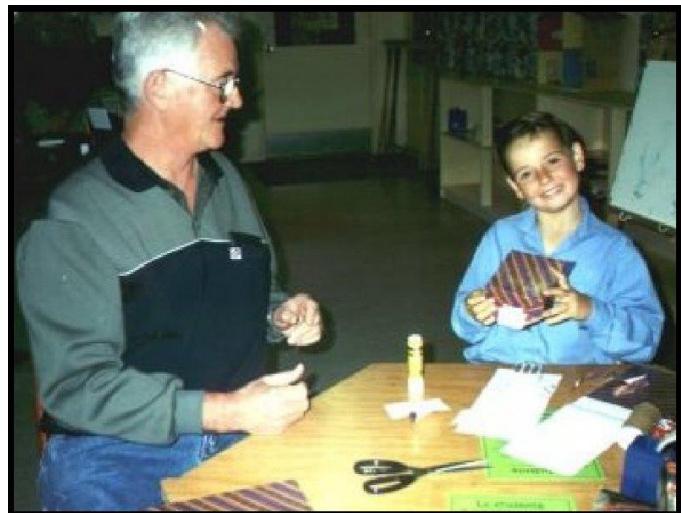
Thank you also to our other volunteers who have returned again or who have made their journeys for the first time with their students throughout this year. You have all helped to make a difference in the life of a child.

Cheryl Myers, Adele Edwards, Heather Snowden, Cecilia Quinn, Angela Pidun, Courtney Schmitt, Jima Dew, Mary Borthwick and Paul Campbell.

*Heather Guest LAP Coordinator
Samaritan College
OLHCC and STC
Whyalla SA*



Heather



Ron Wallis when he first started back in 1998 with a young Brodie and below with Louie in 2018.



Below left: Heather Guest with Ashton in 1998, and with Hannah in 2018 (below right)



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING WITH YOUR ASSOCIATION



LAP Survey

Thanks again to everyone who participated in our Member Survey. Below is a recap of some of the findings from the survey.

About LAP

- A slight majority of survey respondents (57%) indicated that the name LAP adequately explains the program.*
- 100% of respondents agreed that the students involved benefit from LAP.

About LAP Services

- 81% of respondents indicated that they would like to see more training workshops for mentors/volunteers and 73% indicated that they would like to see more training workshops for coordinators.
- 33% of respondents indicated that they cannot access LAP member benefits. This is mostly due to distance and time constraints.
- 71% of respondents indicated that they felt LAP membership was value for money.

As an Association committee, we are looking at how to address feedback we have received to ensure that members can access resources and support they require.

Dyslexia Workshop

By the time this newsletter reaches you, the LAP Dyslexia workshop, hosted by St Martin's School on September 14th will be upon us! I hope you are able to make it along to this workshop and learn some great tips and skills for supporting students who struggle with reading. Thanks to Catherine Hill for organising this opportunity.

Membership

Don't forget, it is never too late to join the Association. If you missed or can't find your Membership Application form, please contact Chairperson Vanessa Kirkham by email: vanessa@lap.org.au

Your Committee has grown

Welcome Nerida Hince, LAP Coordinator from Our Lady of Grace School in Western Australia to the Committee. Nerida will feature in our getting to know your committee section of the newsletter in a future issue! We are delighted Nerida has joined the committee and also delighted that technology makes it possible for us to conduct virtual meetings and make committee membership more accessible to our interstate, rural and potentially even our international members.



SAVE THE DATE!!

**LAP Association
Annual General Meeting
November 15th at 6:30pm
at the Arkaba Hotel, Fullarton**

All members of the LAP Association and friends of LAP are very warmly invited to our AGM for 2018. After a short formal meeting, there will be an opportunity to hear some words of wisdom from our wonderful guest speaker, Erica Womersley and an opportunity to share light refreshments, tea and coffee. We very much look forward to seeing you there. Please RSVP for catering purposes to info@lap.org.au Please see more about Erica's talk and about Erica herself below.

Mentoring .. WIIFBOU

(What's in it for both of us?)

Motivation or "what's in it for me" is an essential consideration for both mentors and mentees. What are the relationship qualities, processes, and language that can support young mentees to help shape the outcomes of a mentoring experience?

About our Speaker

Erica Womersley has a background in education, with experience working with young and older children, parents and community and in developing teachers and school leaders. As Manager of the SA Institute for Educational Leadership DECD, Erica led a range of professional development for leaders including mentoring of early career teachers and an Industry Mentor program for Education Directors. In retirement Erica has extended her experience in community mentoring through involvement in environmental projects.

Get to know your Executive Committee

Training Co-ordinator Sharon Freeth

How did you first get involved in LAP?

I first got involved in LAP as a volunteer when my youngest daughter started school in 1993.

How long have you been involved with LAP?

I have been involved in LAP for 25 years. I was a volunteer in LAP for about 12 years and then became the Coordinator of the LAP program at the same school, St Francis Xavier. I am still the Coordinator there now.

What have you liked most about your involvement with LAP?

I have liked being a part of LAP, seeing the children have fun and improve in their confidence and their wellbeing. I really liked volunteering, as I built a very good relationship with the student I worked with. It was only last year that I had contact with him again as he was able to help me out with upgrading my bathroom, as he is now a fully qualified plumber. I felt very proud and it was great catching up with him and hearing what he had been doing since leaving school.

What is your best/proudest LAP moment?

A very proud moment in my involvement in LAP was when our school became an Accredited LAP program. It was a lot of work to become accredited, and well worth doing as it showed that our school was running the program in its true way. Other proud moments have been seeing the students and volunteers gain so much together, learning and having fun.

What is your biggest hope for LAP for the future?

The biggest hope I have is that the LAP Association gains more members and new energy so the program can continue for many more years to come. I believe the LAP program offers so much and every child would benefit from being a part of the program.

ARKABA HOTEL

The Executive Committee would like to acknowledge the support of the Arkaba Hotel, who are generously allowing us to use their Boardroom for our meetings during 2018.

The Arkaba Hotel has four state of the art Function Rooms that cater from 6 - 600 people. We specialise in conferences, product launches, weddings, cocktail parties and private functions and have free undercover parking.

We also have 62 spacious and luxurious rooms if you require accommodation.

Please contact our Functions Manager on 8338 1100 or visit www.arkabahotel.com.au for further information.

LAP ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2018

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Resources available from the LAP Association Inc

Tax invoice ABN 75 411 200 857 – All prices include 10% gst

Quantity	Item	Member Prices	Amount
_____	Building Bridges With LAP – Coordinator's Handbook	\$12.00	_____
_____	The LAP Companion – Volunteer's Guide	\$4.00 each	_____
_____	The LAP Companion – Volunteer's Guide Pack of 10	\$30.00	_____
_____	Set of two LAP Posters <i>Hungry for Challenge, Thirsty for Learning</i>	\$5.00	_____
_____	LAP Volunteer's Care Badges	\$3.00	_____
_____	LAP is Cool Stickers (2)	\$1.00	_____
_____	LAP Logo Stickers (sheet of 20)	\$2.00	_____
_____	Smidge Stickers (sheet of 10)	\$2.00	_____
_____	LAP Association Satchel	\$6.00	_____
_____	LAP Song and Smidge Story CD	\$3.00	_____
_____	Smidge Bag Tags	\$3.50	_____
_____	Smidge Greeting Cards – Pack of 2 <i>Thank You, Let's Catch Up</i>	\$3.00	_____
_____	Big Smidge	\$40.00	_____
_____	Puppy Smidge	\$20.00	_____
_____	2GB Wrist Band	\$8.00 (1)	_____
_____		\$70.00 (10)	_____
		SUB TOTAL	\$_____
		Membership Fee	\$_____

(if applicable)

Postage and Handling within Australia

2-3 items (e.g. stickers/badges/books/magnets)	\$5.00	_____
3-4 items (e.g. books/bags/posters/CD)	\$8.00	_____
2-4 items (e.g. books/Smidges/bags)	\$10.00	_____
(For Interstate please add \$2.00 to each of the above)	+ \$2.00	_____
	TOTAL	\$_____

Please forward orders to,

The LAP Association Inc. PO Box 174 Hahndorf SA 5245

CONTACT DETAILS

Name _____

Name of School & Address _____

Email _____

PAYMENT DETAILS Cheque/Money Order enclosed for \$ _____