

INCLUSIVE SOCIAL FUNCTIONS

Welcome Reception

Wednesday 21 July 2004

Parliament House

Spring Street, Melbourne

6.00pm – 7.30pm

Dress: Smart Casual

This event is included in Registration Fee.

Art Exhibition

Wednesday 21 to Friday 23 July 2004

Private Dining Room, Carlton Crest Hotel

An interesting exhibition of children's art will be one of the features of the 2004 O.M.E.P. Congress. It will be officially opened by Steve Vizard, AM, President of the Council of Trustees of the National Gallery of Victoria, on the first day of the Congress.

The work has been collected over the past year and a half from kindergartens, schools, and child care centres all over Australia.

It represents all stages of work, from the very early experimental scribbles to the more realistic and sophisticated. The ages of the children whose work is to be exhibited range from 2 years to 8 years.

An illustrated catalogue will be available to purchase, containing reproductions of the work, with explanatory notes.

OPTIONAL SOCIAL FUNCTIONS

Congress Dinner

Thursday 22 July 2004

Melbourne Aquarium

Cost: \$95 per person

7.00pm – Midnight

Dress: Smart

The Congress Dinner will be the formal social event of the Congress and will be held at the breathtaking Melbourne Aquarium on the banks of the Yarra River. Enjoy drinks amongst the colourful sea life and marine displays. Then move on to the beautiful Coral Atoll for your three course dining experience with floor to ceiling tanks teaming with tropical fish, live coral and sea stars as an engaging backdrop..

The cost of the Congress dinner is \$95.00 and includes drinks, canapés, three course dinner, transport to and from the Carlton Crest and entry into the Aquarium.

Bookings are essential for all social events. Please complete the appropriate section of the Registration Form. More information regarding social events can be founds at

www.omepaustralia.com.au

International Night

Friday 23 July 2004

The Carlton Crest Hotel

Cost: \$15 per person

7.30pm – 9.30pm

The 5 OMEP World Regions will be represented at the International Night of Culture. Come and enjoy a night of music, song and dance and a little magic provided by members of our Australian Multi Cultural Community.

Bookings are essential for all social events. Please complete the appropriate section of the Registration Form. More information regarding social events can be found at www.omepaaustralia.com.au

Literary Lunch

Friday 23 July 2004

Cost: \$45 per person

Carlton Crest Hotel

Literacy is more than reading a book

Australia has some of the world's most popular children's authors and book illustrators who have inspired and led children into a lifetime's love of books and reading. A special literary luncheon will feature a leading Australian contributor to children's literature. Attendance is limited to 200, so book early and include this cost with your registration fee.

Saturday 24 July 2004

Home Hosting Dinner

The OMEP Australia Committee would like to invite international delegates to share in a home meal with some Victorians on the evening of Saturday, July 24, 2004

We hope that in this way our overseas visitors will have the opportunity to talk with and share experiences with a range of people involved in children's services.

Places are limited so please book early.

Home Stay Program

There may be opportunities for some delegates to stay in a private home in one of the States or Territories, to have an Australian life-style experience for a few days either pre or post the World Congress. If this option was available, please indicate on the registration form if you would be interested in participating.

EDUCATIONAL TOURS

To complement the Congress program, a series of half and full day tours have been arranged prior to and following the Congress to enable you to experience some innovative children's programs and services first hand. Programs and services have been selected with community, diversity, inclusion and the celebration of indigenous culture in mind.

Bookings are essential and places are limited. You are required to nominate your choice and forward payment with your registration details.

The cost of each tour is \$30.00 per person for half-day tours (includes coach transportation and admission and refreshments) and for full-day tours \$50.00 per person (includes coach transportation, admission, lunch and refreshments).

All tours will depart promptly from the Congress Venue, at the time nominated for each tour and return to this point.

Please note: For some tours a minimum number of participants must be achieved. If a tour you have booked has to be cancelled, you will be notified in advance and offered an alternative or a refund. The same will apply if tours are over subscribed.

Pre – Congress

Wednesday 21 July 2004

Tour A: **Early Childhood Services**
Time: Full day - 9.00 am – 4.00 pm
Cost: \$50.00

Visit a selection of early childhood centres offering flexible, community driven approaches to program delivery including long day care, preschool/kindergarten, occasional care, after-care and maternal and child health services. You will hear about how playing and the telling and sharing of children's stories forms the basis of programs at one centre, providing flexible orientation for new children and incorporating families in the running of the service at another and how a mix of programs for families and children are integrated within the one structure.

Enjoy a hearty lunch at the historic Fairfield Boathouse situated on the banks of the Yarra River overlooking native bush and water birds.

Wednesday 21 July 2004

Tour B: **Community Playgrounds - Indigenous Culture and Art**
Time: Full day - 9.30 am – 3.30 pm
Cost: \$50.00

Visit a range of municipal playgrounds built around individual community inspiration and spirit, including a playground with the needs of families with children with disability as its focus.

Enjoy the delights of the Mia Mia Aboriginal Gallery and Café where visitors will be given the opportunity to discover the meaning, expression and passion of past and present aboriginal artists and experience an insight into indigenous culture. Here you will also have the opportunity to relax and enjoy a meal in the beautiful setting of the Westerfolds Park Manor overlooking the picturesque Yarra River Parklands.

Wednesday 21 July 2004

Tour C: **All About Books**
Time: Full day - 9.30 am – 4.00 pm
Cost: \$50.00

Visit the Lady Gowrie Resource Centre, a specialist bookshop and library established to meet the professional development needs of children's services personnel. Hear how the resource centre operates and browse through new releases both nationally and internationally.

Then take in the sites of outer metropolitan and the rural countryside as you travel to the Dromkeen Children's Literature College. Here you will be able to view original artwork from children's picture book's, wander in the gracious gardens and see bronze sculptures of story book characters, and visit the Bookshop which specializes in children's literature and the visual arts. You will also be provided with a refreshing lunch to enjoy in this enchanting setting.

Wednesday 21 July 2004

Tour D: **Bilingual & Bicultural Early Childhood Programs**
Time: Full day - 9.00 am – 4.00 pm
Cost: \$50.00

You will see innovative and quality developmental bilingual child care programs, learn about an Australian perspective on bilingual early childhood education and understand the philosophy of the importance of a bilingual perspective in the early years.

Lunch will be provided at the Multicultural Resource Centre where you will be able to view a range of resources for use in early childhood settings and hear about the work of the Resource centre in championing the rights of our diverse communities.

Wednesday 21 July 2004

Tour E: **Outdoor Environments – places for learning**
Time: Full day - 9.30 am – 4.00 pm
Cost: \$50.00

Spend the day in the wonderful environment of the Royal Botanic Gardens hearing how this historical venue has developed a number of diverse programs offering enjoyment and learning opportunities for families and children.

During the morning you will explore the themed garden areas, engage 'hands on' in the specially designed 'Early Childhood Program' where you will stimulate the senses of colour, texture, smell, shape and pattern through a sensory approach to learning and understanding.

Lunch will be provided in one of the kiosk areas within the gardens where you can enjoy the delights of others passing through or just bask in the atmosphere.

An afternoon walk will offer an insight into the Australian heritage through a trail highlighting the skills and resourcefulness of the indigenous peoples.

Wednesday 21 July 2004

Tour F: **Early Learning Centres**
Time: Half day - 9.00 am – 1.30 pm
Cost: \$30.00

Many early learning centres have been established in schools throughout Melbourne. You will have the opportunity to visit some of these recently established centres and hear about their philosophy and programs and how the centres operate as part of a larger school environment. You will also see and hear how the Reggio Emilia philosophy of early childhood learning has been made meaningful within the Australian context and how community and tertiary institutions are contributing to the programs.

Wednesday 21 July 2004

Tour G: **Royal Children's Hospital**
Time: Half day - 9.30 am – 1.30 pm
Cost: \$30.00

The Royal Children's Hospital is a specialist children's hospital of world renown delivering a range of innovative programs for sick and recuperating children. On this visit you will see the "school in hospital" program, "play therapy" programs for young children, the TV studio and other innovative programs that enhance the health and wellbeing of children while in hospital.

Wednesday 21 & Monday 26 July 2004

Tour H: **Early Childhood Programs at the Museum**
Time: Half day – 1.00 pm – 4.00 pm
Cost: \$30.00

Visit the Children's Museum in the new Melbourne Museum Centre. You will hear from an early childhood teacher how the museum operates as an extension program for preschool aged children and view some of the activities offered.

You will also have the opportunity for free entry to the main museum and pause for light refreshments in the vicinity of this exciting new 21st. Century facility.

Post – Congress

Monday 26 July 2004

Tour I

Koori Open Door Education
Half day Tour 9.30 to 1.00
Cost \$30

One of 4 schools in Victoria providing an indigenous education program that focuses on the specific needs of the Koori community. A kindergarten program is also integrated into the school program. The visit will include a tour of the school and discussion about the programs offered together with a glimpse of the art work which forms an integral part of the education program and the links to other programs promoting health and wellbeing in the community.

Monday 26 July 2004

Tour J

Maternal and Child Health -Community Wellbeing
Half day Tour 9.30 to 1.00
Cost \$30

Hear about a new and exciting program that caters for mothers and young children in one of the outer metropolitan suburbs. This Pram Walkers Group meets weekly and walks along the local river track stopping for coffee and generally exchanging experiences and ideas. This session will include morning tea with some of the mothers who will be able to tell you of the benefits of the group. Following this the group will move off to another municipality to learn how a Community Health Centre has developed a program of Vietnamese Health Workers to better meet the needs of the particular community.

PRE AND POST CONGRESS TOURS

Link Tours Pty Ltd has been appointed to manage the tours program for the XXIV World Congress of OMEP. They are a Melbourne based company who have been established for more than 20 years. They will be operating a tour desk for the duration of the conference. Tours are not included in the registration fee and are to be paid for separately. Booking and payment for the tours are to be made directly with:

Link Tours Pty Ltd
294 Montague Street
South Melbourne VIC 3205
Australia
Phone: +61 3 9699-8422
Fax: +61 3 9690-2902
Email: info@linktours.com.au
[http:// www.linktours.com.au](http://www.linktours.com.au)

Tropical North Queensland & Central Australia – Pre Congress Tour

Dates: Friday 16 July to Tuesday 20 July

**Cost: \$924 pp (twin or double share)
\$1111 pp (single supplement)**

Friday July 16th

Arrive Cairns Airport and transfer to accommodation at Paradise on the Beach Resort, Palm Cove. This beach side resort is set idyllically with a golden sand and palm fringed beach at your doorstep.

Saturday July 17th

Tour of Great Barrier Reef. Meet in reception around 7.45am (time will be confirmed) for the coach connection to the jetty where you'll board the boat. Travel to the outer reef and snorkel and swim amongst the fish and coral. Late afternoon arrival at Paradise on the Beach Resort.

Sunday July 18th

Take a morning flight to Alice Springs in Central Australia and check in to The Diplomat Hotel. Depart for an afternoon tour of Standley Chasm and Simpsons Gap, clefts in the imposing MacDonnell Ranges to the west. The tour concludes at Anzac Hill where panoramic views of Alice Springs are afforded.

Monday July 19th

An early rise for the transfer by road to Uluru (Ayers Rock). Located some 450 kilometres from Alice Springs, the world's greatest monolith rises 348 metres above the desert floor. Arrive early afternoon at campsite and after lunch visit The Olgas, a cluster of massive rounded rocks. Take a walk through the 'Valley of the Winds' before the spectacular sunset viewing of Uluru. Dinner around the campfire and camping accommodation under the stars conclude the day's program.

Tuesday July 20th

Another early rise for sunrise climb of Ayers Rock followed by tour of the base caves. The 1.6 kilometre climb is not for the unfit and is quite strenuous. As it follows an important religious track, the traditional owners prefer that visitors take other discovery

walks. Late morning transfer to airport for flight to Melbourne where you'll arrive early evening. Transfer to your accommodation.

Includes: Tour of Great Barrier Reef, four nights accommodation (motel and camping), tour of Ayers Rock, The Olgas and Stanley Chasm, all breakfasts, lunches (not day 4) and dinner (day 3), transfers and gst.

The above package assumes delegates would fly into Cairns before the first day. We would arrange accommodation at Palm Cove, on the northern beaches 20 minutes from Cairns. The cost does not include air-fares from Cairns to Alice Springs or Ayers Rock to Melbourne.

Tour of Werribee Mansion & Open Range Zoo

Sunday 25 July 2004

9.00am – 4.30pm

Cost: AUD\$110

The Werribee mansion, constructed between 1874-1877 is the largest private residence in Victoria. Restored to the splendour of the 1870's and 80's, the collection of furniture and fine art reflects the period of the Chirnsides' residence. The mansion sits amidst ten hectares of formal gardens; one of the largest and most spectacular parterre gardens in Australia

Roaming free in the adjacent Werribee Open Range Zoo are 37 species of African and Australian animals, some of which are endangered. A guided tour over the plains into the river valley will provide opportunities to view at close range some 400 animals from Africa, Australia and Asia.

Includes: Deluxe coach transport, entry to and guided tour of the Open Range Zoo, entry to Werribee Mansion, transporter tour of garden, 2 course lunch, guide, gst.

Great Ocean Road

Sunday 25 July 2004

8.00am to 9.00pm

Cost: AUD\$99

Travel through the surfing township of Torquay before connecting with the Great Ocean Road. At Anglesea see the kangaroos that frequent the golf course before continuing onto the popular holiday township of Lorne. Along this stretch, the dual mix of the ocean and the Otway Ranges is breathtaking. Wind our way along the rugged coast before heading inland through lush rolling hills, rugged rainforest and secluded fern gullies of the Otway National Park.

The 12 Apostles, London Bridge and The Arch are all spectacular remnants of a wave ravaged coastline. At Loch Ard Gorge take a walk down to the beach.

Includes: Deluxe coach transport, 2 course lunch at the Blackwood Gully Tea Rooms, visit to the Port Campbell National Park, guide, gst.

Sydney – Post Congress Tour

Dates: Monday 20 July to Wednesday 22 July

**Cost: \$ 968 pp, (twin or double share).
\$1309 pp, (single supplement).**

Monday July 26th

Take morning flight from Melbourne to Sydney. Transfer to accommodation prior to the luncheon cruise on Sydney Harbour where you'll be introduced to its intriguing history, character and points of interest. Following the cruise you'll travel by coach through the historic Rocks area, the exclusive inner suburbs of Paddington and Double Bay, noted for their quaintly preserved terrace houses, famous Bondi Beach and the red light district of Kings Cross.

Tuesday July 27st

A full days tour that takes in the stunning coastal scenery south of Sydney, native Australian bush, wild dolphins at play and the spectacular Fitzroy Falls. Cruise the pristine waters of Jervis Bay for the opportunity to observe playful pods of wild dolphins.

Wednesday July 28th

Another full day tour to the west of Sydney that encompasses the unsurpassed wilderness, beauty and remote bushland of the Blue Mountains plus panoramic views of rugged cliffs and deep forested valleys. There's also a visit included to the Featherdale Wildlife Park plus private time to walk through pristine bushland, lush ferns and temperate forests.

Includes: Three nights accommodation, breakfasts, city sights and harbour cruise with lunch, dolphin cruise with lunch, Blue Mountains tour with lunch, entry to Featherdale Wildlife Park, deluxe coach transport, transfers to and from the airport, gst

The cost does not include air-fares from Melbourne to Sydney.

To book these tours please download the [Pre and Post Tours Form](#) and fax or post it to Link Tours. (please see attachment)