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The Reality Cafe  
Waited upon by barista Andrew Hollo

“What practices of today  
will seem antiquated and obsolete  
in 20 or 30 years time?”



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	<b>Bob Davis</b> The Doctor	<b>Marsha Sheridan</b> The Manager
<b>Louise Mountford</b> The Practitioner		
<b>Heather Forsyth</b> The Expert	<b>Our panel</b>	<b>Lance Jones</b> The Lawyer
<b>Karen Nankervis</b> The Academic		<b>Rod Carracher</b> The Watchdog
<b>Wendy Lawson</b> The Ambassador		<b>Patsie Frawley</b> The Protector
	<b>Jeanette Coombes</b> The Practice Coach	

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**Karen Nankervis**

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In 30 years time the practice of accepting wild variability in the quality of disability services will be non-existent and people will be aghast that we even accepted this as normal.

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In 30 years time young people leaving schools will not be facing a lifetime in a “single service”. They will have meaningful lives, not built on rhetoric but meaningful to that person.

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In 30 years time the use of the term “accessing the community” or “community access” will constitute a hanging offence.

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Lance Jones

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## The Law - 2008

**People with an Intellectual Disability are in many ways deemed to be not of "Full Legal Capacity" make certain decisions.**

The South Australian *Recreational Services (Limitation of Liability) Act 2003* specifically states that minors and people with an intellectual disability **do not** have full legal capacity to consent under the terms of the act.

Therefore, they cannot consent to take part in many recreational activities by law

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## The Law - 2038

People with an Intellectual Disability are allowed to make decisions about their involvement in Recreational Activities

Based solely on

The extent of their actual ability to do so,

**Just like the rest of us**

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## Advocacy - 2008

When advocating for people with an Intellectual Disability in appeals against a decision of the Guardianship Board

### **"Robust Advocacy"**

Is seen as a bad thing as by questioning a Doctor's decision to detain or inject someone, a Lawyer can be seen to be "ruining the therapeutic relationship", which is "not in the interests of the person who is unwell".

Guardianship Board of South Australia - 2007 / 2008 Annual Report

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## Advocacy - 2038

### **"Robust Advocacy" in Guardianship Board Appeals**

Has finally convinced the Guardianship Board of South Australia that People with an Intellectual Disability are not actually

**Unwell!**

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## Rights - 2008

Forget the "First Black US President"



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## Rights - 2038

Australia has its first "Intellectually Disabled" President!



Now that really is "Hope" and "Progress"

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# Louise Mountford

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## Looking back at 2008

Living in a house  
vs  
living in my home.

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## My house?



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## My supporters?



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Marsha Sheridan

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Today, in 2038, we wonder why,  
in 2008,  
they had  
long waiting lists  
for inflexible service types  
that inadequately met  
the aspirations and needs  
of individuals with disabilities.

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we moved from

- A lack of population-based planning;
- A Government controlled Disability Support Register;
- Rigid Resource allocation based on pre-determined service models prescribed by government and service providers;
- Short-term thinking in relation to capital development; and
- Crisis Response

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to

Automatic entitlement to a ***National Disability Insurance Scheme*** that enables:

- from 'gate keeping' to service capacity;
- a power shift to the person with a disability;
- independence and empowerment;
- support on an entitlement basis;
- prevention, early intervention and optimal support for development; and
- market based wages

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Bob Davis

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Advances in genetics

Situation in 2038

*Recognition of a large number of as yet unknown genetic causes of ID (1/2 total X Linked)*

*Increased pick up with antenatal screening of causes of ID blood tests mothers better scanning technology*

*Better understanding of genetic contribution to health and behaviour in adulthood*

*Better links to families and wider range of support groups nationally & internationally*

# Advances in Health

Situation in 2038

**Access to a Mental Health Services:**  
Geared for People with ID

**Epilepsy:** Better drugs, portable diagnostic equipment with computerised interpretation

**Autism:** Better understanding what causes autism, able to identify with ID

**Psychiatric Diagnosis:** Professionals Trained in Diagnostic Systems with Good reliability and Validity

**Primary Health Care System Modelled** around Chronic Health Care

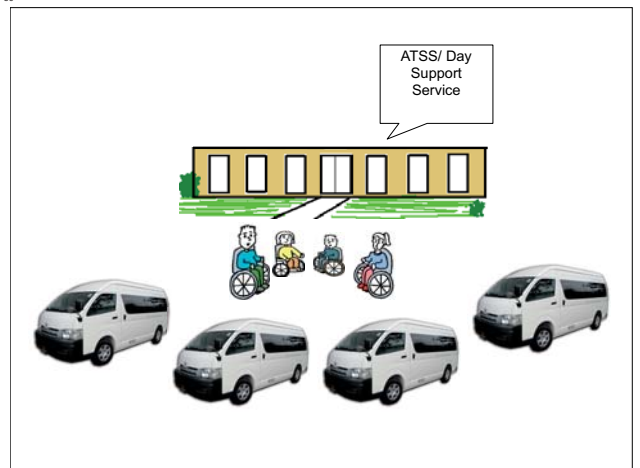
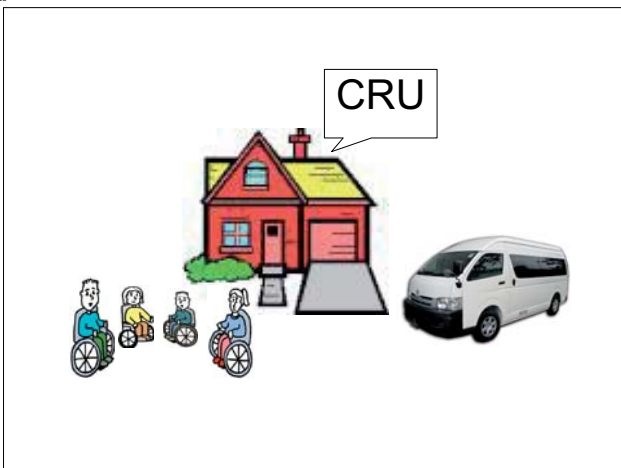
# Some other advances

Case Notes & Records

Future Advances in Health Systems

Medication

# Heather Forsyth



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## Jeanette Coombes

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### 2008 as we knew it...

Remember when:

- Staff were administering chemical restraint for behaviour modification, purely because agencies did not have the resources to provide staff with the coaching that enabled them to see past the behaviour and meet the persons needs first!
- People lived in homes with others they did not know nor chose to live with!

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### 2008 as we knew it...

Remember when:

- The people we supported ate from weekly menu plans that were decided by the group of people they lived with, regardless of preference on the day.
- The staff did the daily notes on how the person's day was without any discussion with the person!
- Agencies employed and matched staff to individuals being supported, rather than the person and/or their advocate making that decision?

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### 2008 as we knew it...

Remember when:

- People's daily involvements were called and considered opportunities and activities rather than living a day that's functional the same as everyone else.

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## Rod Carracher

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### In 30 years time we will look back and consider:

- The use of restrictive interventions, ie.
  - ▶ Seclusion
  - ▶ Physical restraint
  - ▶ Mechanical restraint, and
  - ▶ Chemical restraint

will be extremely outdated methods of supporting people who present with behaviours of concern.

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**In 30 years time we will look back and consider:**

- The fact that support is provided to people with intellectual disability and autism in community residential units and day programs to be an ill-informed model of support for these individuals.

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**In 30 years time we will look back and consider:**

- The management and leadership models of today, where the working day is consumed by meetings and writing and responding to emails to be an ineffective way to organise support for people with a disability.
- The support provided by managers and leaders to disability support professionals to be inefficient for the continued development of staff.

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**Patsie Frawley**

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**1. Tokenistic consultation with people with an intellectual disability**

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**2. Assuming that people with an intellectual disability are incompetent**

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**3. That advocacy is a service**

- Advocacy is about change – it is firmly based in people's experiences and their individual and collective actions to influence change

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## 4. Restrictive interventions

- The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities will have changed our view about restrictive interventions

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Wendy Lawson

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## Current practices of today

- Only 'service users' own verbal language is thought of as 'valuable'
- So, if you can't talk or if speech is difficult, you are not valued.
- Other means of communication (not verbal or mechanical) are not taken seriously or are not maintained.
- Only verbal communication is seen as being 'proper' communication.

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## With regard to the autism spectrum

- It will be common practice that AS individuals have access to IT and that this would be normal and available.
- IT will be a part of everyone's everyday life and not only will the 'office' or library be the only place where there is access to a computer, digital camera etc.

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## With regard to the autism spectrum

- Speech will be seen as 'old fashioned'
  - ➔ Communication will be 'in'
- Every individual has the right to speak for themselves, even if it has to be by machine if they are not verbal.

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## With regard to the autism spectrum

- AS individuals will be consulted about where they want to live, who with and what work or projects they want to be involved with.
- It will be common to involve AS individuals in all matters that concern them

## With regard to the autism spectrum

- AS individuals will not longer be told... but will have a say in what happens to them – they will be listened to. Hearing is not only a quality of verbal communication.
- I hope these amendments to how AS individuals are treated do not take 30 years to be implemented.