

# Australian SRV Association

[asrva42@gmail.com](mailto:asrva42@gmail.com)

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## Greetings

Hello all. For those of you who haven't heard, ASRVA made the sad but important decision in mid March to not go ahead with the Australian SRV Gathering (the first SRV national conference) scheduled for late March. We knew we had to act and did so, even before the announcements by the Australian Government. On this page, we share with you what we had ready for this exciting event. It would have been a wonderful Gathering and we pay tribute to the many who were to be involved. The names of the Guest Speakers are listed on page 2. We are deeply appreciative of the hours of conversation and thinking that they gave to preparing the presentations. We also appreciate those who were stepping into other voluntary roles. On page 3, we share an extract of the email that we sent to speakers and registrants, where we explain our considerations that led to the decision to not go ahead.

ASRVA will be considering our next steps and will keep you updated.

**Figure 1. What the SRV Gathering was bringing to our SRV efforts**



*ASRVA thanks the following people for their efforts in supporting 'The Gathering: SRV in Action' through being in voluntary speaker roles.*

**Guest speakers  
(in alphabetical order)**

Neil Barringham, Brisbane

Jayne Barrett, Adelaide

Lindie Brengman, Brisbane

Lisa Bridle, Brisbane

Rhiannon Brodie, Sydney

Fiona Campbell, Adelaide

Yvonne Donnan, Everton

Judith Ellis, Sydney

Ricky Esterquest, Townsville

Ewan Filmer, Rockhampton

Maureen Fordyce, Brisbane

Johanna Grace, Toowoomba

Prue Gorman, Adelaide

Graham Hambleton, Brisbane

Callan Henry, Adelaide

Bianca Gamble, Brisbane

Esperance Kalonji, Brisbane

Deborah Lugsden, Brisbane

Jan Kruger, Canberra

Richard Long, Perth

Sharon Lowe, Rockhampton

Greg Mackay, Maleny

Glenys Mann, Brisbane

Danielle Mason, Brisbane

Fiona McGill, Maleny

Sarah McMullin-Roach, Adelaide

Anita McStay, Adelaide

Teresa Micallef, Melbourne

Kane Morgan, Narrawallee

Rosey Olbrycht, Adelaide

Jane Sherwin, Maleny

Amie Storer, Brisbane

Cecile Sullivan, Sydney

Meg Sweeney, Vincentia

Fiona Telford-Sharp, Adelaide

Joyleen Thomas, Adelaide

Neha Vaidyanathan, Brisbane

Bridget Wicket, Tweed Heads

*ASRVA noticed that not all registrants had been to a workshop on SRV, and even fewer had done the SRV practicum called PASSING. We welcome all participants, but we also know that people will get the most out of conferences and other gatherings if they have been exposed to central SRV ideas. Once it is possible for local groups to host SRV workshops again, we encourage you to attend a workshop and to go on to do the PASSING. So many people feel like SRV ideas were crystallised for them by attending a PASSING. We also encourage more conversations about the people and their needs in order to have better lives and valued roles.*

*And remember, SRV helps us understand that a service model is not the same as a business model!*

'The Gathering: SRV in action' came about because of the research that we did with 21 people who use SRV. The report is at [http://www.asrva.org.au/uploads/1/2/6/7/126742284/srv\\_really\\_expands\\_my\\_radar-1.pdf](http://www.asrva.org.au/uploads/1/2/6/7/126742284/srv_really_expands_my_radar-1.pdf)

ASRVA continues to have a central focus on the question: 'How can SRV application and leadership development be strengthened at a national and local level?' Stay tuned for future ideas through being a member of the ASRVA FaceBook group and by being on our mail list.

# Australian SRV Association

Extract of email sent to registrants on Saturday, March 14, 2020



"Sadly, the SRV Gathering will not be proceeding on 27-28 March

The Australian SRV Association and Values in Action held an urgent meeting on Saturday 14th March to discuss the wisdom of going ahead with The SRV Gathering.

There has been much excitement around The Gathering, with 132 registrations (plus others who've had to pull out for various reasons), 40 great speakers who have collaborated with ASRVA to develop a really good program and 16 room hosts. ASRVA and ViAA deeply value what people have brought to this event, and we commit to building on the momentum.

We noticed though that we were fielding an increasing number of queries about whether The SRV Gathering was going ahead given the Covid19 pandemic. Participants and speakers were either withdrawing or seriously considering withdrawal. We noticed that some organisations have banned all travel by their staff. While we had originally hoped that our safeguards of providing hand sanitiser and encouraging individuals to act responsibly in their attendance, we are more mindful that a large number of participants would be in close proximity for two days and that the vast majority of us are connected to people who live with many vulnerabilities - not just health vulnerabilities but also those vulnerabilities that are increased if the people around them are ill.

External advice strongly says to limit social gatherings. We are also mindful that it is impossible to accurately project where the level of infections will be in two weeks time, but it seems accurate to say that there will be more people who will be ill. The rate of passing on the virus seems to be increasing daily. Furthermore, we wondered about the extent to which participants might be distracted with worry about their own wellbeing and the wellbeing of loved-ones at home.

With all those considerations, we are very sad to say that we have made the decision that The SRV Gathering will not go ahead on 27-28 March.

We will deliberate further about our next steps. We will keep you informed. ... "

**Two ideas to keep your application of SRV sharp by having lots of SRV based conversations that maintain your knowledge base.**

1. Let the local groups know if you'd like to be on their mail lists so you can be informed about workshops and other activities.
2. Update your SRV library:

The basic SRV text <https://cru.org.au/product/a-brief-introduction-to-social-role-valorization/>

A list of SRV articles and booklets: [http://www.sherwinconsulting.com.au/uploads/1/3/0/0/13003978/sherwin\\_srv\\_and\\_srv\\_related\\_resources\\_2020.pdf](http://www.sherwinconsulting.com.au/uploads/1/3/0/0/13003978/sherwin_srv_and_srv_related_resources_2020.pdf)

In these times when people with a devalued status are particularly vulnerable to death making: <https://cru.org.au/product/the-new-genocide-of-handicapped-and-afflicted-people/> and <https://cru.org.au/product/a-guideline-on-protecting-the-health-lives-of-patients-in-hosp/>

## SRV Local Groups

**NSW** Foundations Forum  
[foundationsforum@foundationsforum.info](mailto:foundationsforum@foundationsforum.info)

**Qld** Values in Action  
[viaainc@gmail.com](mailto:viaainc@gmail.com)

**SA** TEC  
[vsandlant@gmail.com](mailto:vsandlant@gmail.com)

**Tas** TasTec  
[tectasmania@gmail.com](mailto:tectasmania@gmail.com)