

GLOBAL RECORD ACCESS INFORMATION EXCHANGE: CHILDHOOD CARE RECORDS

15 APRIL 2021 | 0800 SMT | 1700 AEST

YOUR HOSTS

Gaynor Clarke
Aberdeen City Council



Joanne Evans
Monash University



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

David Fricker, CdOAL, BA(Comp), GAICD



- Director-General, National Archives of Australia
- President, International Council on Archives
- Vice-Chair, UNESCO Memory of the World International Advisory Committee

[National Archives of Australia 1961 - 2021](#)

TOPICS AND PRESENTERS

There will be four topics, interspersed with two sessions focusing on mindset and mental wellbeing. The four topics are 'Rights In Records', 'The Language That We Use', 'Support' and 'Systems – Institutional Reform'.

Rights In Records

Dominique Mitchell - Information Commissioner's Office



Dominique Mitchell
Lead Policy Officer



Presentation Topic: The Right of Access

<https://ico.org.uk/>

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/data-protection-advice-for-small-organisations/frequently-asked-questions/right-of-accesssubject-access-requests-and-other-rights/>

Frank Golding - CLAN - National Care Leaver Advocacy Body



Presentation Topic: Rights in records for older Care leavers

<https://frankgolding.com/personal-2/>

<http://frankgolding.com/research-writing/>

Emerita Professor Sue McKemmish - Monash University



Presentation Topic: Lifelong Rights in Childhood Recordkeeping for Children in Care and Care Leavers: Participation, Identity, Memory, Accountability

Mindset – Mental Wellbeing

Ami McQuarrie - Momentum ®



Presentation Topic: Introduction to Mental Fitness

Everyone knows that we should eat well, exercise regularly, and sleep more but not many of us know how to maintain a healthy mindset. During the session you will be introduced to:

- A key component in improving your wellbeing, performance and self-esteem.
- Four performance levers which cause people to be happy and successful.

Websites: <https://momentumqb.com> and <http://www.oyop.co.uk/>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/momentum-incorporated-ltd>

The Language That We Use

Liz Mitchell - Love Inc Project



Presentation Topic: Love letters to our children: How do we ensure love can be seen and felt in childhood care records?

<https://www.aberlour.org.uk/services/love-inc-project/>

Mim Smith – Aberdeen City Council



Presentation Topic: Write Right About Me (WRAM) Records Improvement Project

Support

Flora Henderson - Future Pathways



Presentation Topic: Future Pathways has worked with more than 1,700 people, providing support in a wide range of areas including help to access records, psychological support and counselling and many other areas.

<https://future-pathways.co.uk/>

Kirsten Wright - The University of Melbourne



Presentation Topic: The Find & Connect program was established by the Australian Government as a direct response to the records issues faced by Care Leavers, particularly issues of records access. This talk will highlight some tools and initiatives that have subsequently come out of the Find & Connect program, including Guidelines for Best Practice Access to Records and Records Access Documentation grants.

<https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/>
<https://www.findandconnectwrblog.info/author/kirstenw/>

Siobhan McGuinness – Open Place, Find & Connect Victoria



Presentation Topic: The Open Place support service and its Records, Find & Connect program advocates for best practice in the field of records access, and encourage Record Holder agencies to work from a position of compassion and pro-release in the provision of records and photos to those seeking information about their time in care, their childhoods and their families. Since 2012, Open Place has played an integral role in facilitating a Record Holder practice forum, made up of approximately 20 State and non-State Record Holding agencies in Victoria, to promote the sharing of practices and to develop guidelines for providing access to records and photos, with the overall aim of removing obstacles faced by those seeking information about their lives in care, and ensuring they are respected, understood and supported.

The Open Place and Find & Connect websites as below:

www.openplace.org.au

www.findandconnect.gov.au

Mindset – Mental Wellbeing

Patricia Elliot – Mindcircles



Presentation Topic: Taking care of your mental wellbeing.

Her self-educational, self-help books: 7 Attributes for Success (Inner Success and Happiness); The Weight of Emptiness: Comfort and Hope for the loss of a loved one, her experience of the loss of her son to suicide; Resilience and Courage: The Key to Endurance; Changing Seasons of Life: Your Creative Journal abstract short stories and poetry including poems by Danielle McGregor.

Patricia Elliot LL.B, M.Phil (Psyc), PGCHE

Mob: + 44 (0) 7930 658 361

[MindCircles](#) - [MindCircles Podcast](#) - [MindCircles Wellbeing Group](#)

[My books](#) - [Twitter](#) - [LinkedIn](#) - [Amazon](#) - [Facebook](#) - [YouTube](#) - [Instagram](#)

Systems – Institutional Reform

Dr Hugh Hagan - National Records of Scotland



Presentation Topic: The Public Records (Scotland) Act and records created by third party providers.

Tom Shaw, Chair of the Historical Abuse Systemic Review, (2007), concluded that Scotland’s laws on records did not do enough to ensure that records relating to children’s residential services were preserved and that people had access to them. Poor records management practices meant that records were missing, were erroneously destroyed or weren’t generated in the first place.

Scottish Ministers acted to address this failing by passing the Public Records (Scotland) Act 2011, introduced in 2013. The Act seeks to help public authorities improve record keeping generally, but it specifically seeks to address records created by third party providers, such as private and third sector care providers. It does this by providing a definition of public records. Section 3 of the Act says,

In this Act, “public records”, in relation to an authority, means—

- (a) records created by or on behalf of the authority in carrying out its functions,*
- (b) records created by or on behalf of a contractor in carrying out the authority’s functions,*
- (c) records created by any other person that have come into the possession of the authority or a contractor in carrying out the authority’s functions.*

The Act does not, however, list third party providers under the Schedule of bodies that must comply with its requirements. The Keeper of the Records of Scotland (the Keeper), who must implement and regulate the Act, has no statutory authority to direct third party providers. How then do we ensure this clause will succeed in its aim?

The session will explore how the Keeper’s assessment team worked with Scottish public sector records and information specialists to co-produce an agreed approach to this challenge and to jointly develop guidance. It will consider how stakeholders, five years after the Act was introduced, seized the opportunity to further highlight this important part of the Act under revised statutory guidance. This clearly demonstrated the central nature of this issue to colleagues and the success of the Act, but also the extent to which they have taken ownership of the Act and will direct its future. It will also consider challenges and outstanding issues and will ask whether, for example, eight years after the introduction of the Act, it remains appropriate for the Keeper not to engage directly third party providers?

Gillian Mapstone – National Records of Scotland



Presentation Topic: Childhood Care Records

<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/>

Dr Gregor Clunie - Who Cares? Scotland



Presentation Topic: Change the record: from words to actions in improving records access experiences in Scotland.

‘Journeys to Identity: why care records matter’, Scottish Journal of Residential Child Care 2020 19(2). Available at:

https://www.celcis.org/files/7715/9163/3155/2020_Vol_19_No_2_WCS_Journeys_to_Identity_Why_Care_Records_Matter.pdf

Our Lives, Our Stories, Our Records. WCS Campaign Report, March 2019. Available at:

<https://www.whocarescotland.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/WCS-Report-Care-Records-Access-Campaign-August-2019.pdf>

Apologies

Dr Caroline Anderson - Aberdeen City Council



Presentation Topic: Records as tools, 'present-at-hand' and 'ready-at-hand'

Anderson, C.E. (2018). Making records ready: Responding to the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry (Doctoral dissertation, Robert Gordon University). Retrieved from <https://rgu-repository.worktribe.com/OutputFile/346517>

Anderson, CE. (2019). Care Experienced Information Rights and Organisational Practice. Scottish Journal of Residential Child Care, 18(3). Retrieved from https://www.celcis.org/files/8915/7288/0133/Care_Experienced_Information_Rights_and_Organisational_Practice.pdf