



## Murrindindi Children's Network presents the 2022 Early Childhood Conference

# Lighthouse in a Storm



We'll shine a light on the importance of reintroducing play for children in rocky times, being mindful that many children have had limited social experience in play settings.



We'll encourage movement as a means of expression, be prepared and strong as the anxieties come crashing against us and allow healing as they flow away.



We'll reflect on past learnings and difficulties that were at times a flickering light of uncertainty, and now grow stronger as we navigate the way forward for all in our care.



We'll participate in mindful stress relief, while enjoying the beauty of a calm day. The Lighthouse will feel stronger, happier and refreshed, with some fun expressive selfcare.

### Featuring:

Kathy Walker (OAM)

Early Childhood Expert and Author

Dr Sally Denning

Psychotherapist, dance therapist, play therapist and counsellor

Daniella Kavoukas

Services Manager, education expert,  
Community Child Care Inc

African Drumming

They're baaaack!!

### Information:

**When:** Thursday 5 May 2022

**Where:** Holmesglen

Moores Road, Eildon

**What time:** 8.30 am - 4.00 pm

**Cost:** \$120 per person

**Register Here**



For more information, call Sue Porter or Liz Klein on 5772 0333 or via email at [sporter@murrindindi.vic.gov.au](mailto:sporter@murrindindi.vic.gov.au) or [lklein@murrindindi.vic.gov.au](mailto:lklein@murrindindi.vic.gov.au)

# Presenters



## **Kathy Walker OAM**

Kathy is a highly sought-after keynote speaker, facilitator and coach.

She is one of Australia's leading early childhood experts with an independent voice for young children and early childhood educators.

Kathy's outstanding contribution to education was recognised in 2015 when she was awarded an Order of Australia. Kathy has also been the recipient of many fellowships and awards throughout her academic and consultancy work.

Kathy is a recognised author with Penguin Publishing and the Australian Council of Educational Research. She is also one of the country's leading curriculum, teaching and learning experts in play-based learning. Kathy is the designer of the first Australian play-based learning approach, Walker Learning, which is being implemented in schools and early childhood communities across the world.

She is also the author of seven books for parents and educators and has written and presented extensively internationally.

## **Dr Sally Denning**



Dr Sally Denning is a clinically registered psychotherapist, dance therapist, play therapist and counsellor and has a private practice, 'Castlemaine Play Therapy', in regional Victoria, [castlemaineplaytherapy.com.au](http://castlemaineplaytherapy.com.au), where she works with children and adults using somatic based counselling, play therapy, dance therapy, sand play, yoga therapy and trauma informed approaches.

Dr Denning also works part-time as a therapist at a large national organisation that supports children who have experienced complex and developmental trauma. She has been working in this role for the last 11 years.

Sally delights in using creative therapies to support children and young people to work through their worries and achieve their best.

She has a background that crosses education, the arts and the therapeutic sector and holds a Bachelor's Degree majoring in Psychology, a Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate in Dance Therapy, a Graduate Certificate in Leadership in Education, a Graduate Certificate in Developmental Trauma, a Masters in Education and a PhD (Education and Dance Therapy).



## **Daniella Kavoukas**

Daniela's role at Community Child Care as Services Manager is to lead the Service Delivery, Advocacy and Membership teams.

Day one in her first director role, Daniela discovered her service was on the brink of closure. Through determination and strong leadership, she steered her community-owned co-op from struggle to success.

Daniela is a talented educator, winning the Inspirational Educator Award in 2013 and the National Teaching Award in 2014.

She is also a board member of the Children's Services Coordinators Association. Daniela is passionate about providing a voice for service directors and educators on the issues that matter to them.



## **African drums**

Our favourite drummers are back to explore how rhythm can be used to facilitate the practice of mindfulness.

Drumming is an excellent activity for relieving stress and focusing the mind.



*Lighthouse in a Storm*

A dramatic landscape photograph featuring a lighthouse on a rocky shore under a stormy sky with a bright lightning bolt striking the clouds. The lighthouse is white with a black top section. To its right, a house with a red roof is partially visible. The sky is a mix of dark blues, oranges, and yellows from the storm.

# *Lighthouse in a Storm*

# Program

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8.30 - 9.00 am	Registration/Covid safe check-in
9.00 - 9.15 am	Cr Sandice McAulay Murrindindi Shire Council
9.15 - 10.45 am	Kathy Walker OAM
10.45 - 11.15 am	Morning Tea
11.15am - 12.30 pm	Dr Sally Denning
12.30 - 1.30 pm	Lunch
1.30 - 2.45 pm	African Drummers
	Short break (no more than 5 minutes)
2.45 – 3.45 pm	Daniela Kavoukas Early Childhood Consultant, Community Child Care
3.45 - 4.00 pm	Closing



A dramatic landscape photograph featuring a lighthouse on the right side, illuminated against a dark, stormy sky with a bright lightning bolt striking the sea on the left. The text 'Lighthouse in a Storm' is written in a white, cursive font across the middle of the image.

*Lighthouse in a Storm*

# Registration

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Each person will need to register and pay individually.  
Only use this form if you cannot register online.  
Registrations close Friday 22 April 2022.

Name:

Organisation:

Contact Phone:

Email:

Dietary requirements/ accessibility needs:

Emergency Contact:

Amount paid \$120.00 (GST inclusive) Receipt Number:

Murrindindi Shire Council ABN: 83600647004  
This is a Tax Invoice when payment is made.  
Amount Paid: \$120.00 (GST inclusive)  
Payments by credit card will attract an  
additional merchant fee.

