

# Forensic Mental Health Professional Development Program

Improving knowledge. Improving practice.



Workshops | February – July 2024



Forensicare



Centre for Forensic  
Behavioural Science

## Workshop 1

### Understanding, assessing, and treating adult firesetting

This workshop will provide attendees with the latest knowledge on adult deliberate firesetting including common characteristics of and theoretical explanations for firesetting, current evidence-based approaches for assessment and treatment of firesetting including current best practice for risk assessment. The workshop will also provide attendees with the practical knowledge to be able to successfully deliver either the FIPP (for prisons) or the FIP-MO (for forensic mental health settings) specialist firesetting treatment programmes.

*Please note: To be able to deliver the FIPP or FIP-MO, involvement of a registered practitioner (e.g., psychologist) is required.*

The fee includes a copy of either the FIP-MO or FIPP manual along with all training materials. Delegates select their manual preference in advance and these will then be sent to individuals after the event.

**Please note:**

***The workshop runs over two sessions: 6.30–9.30pm AEST on 31 Jan and 1 Feb 2024. You must attend both sessions.***

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**Date:** 31 January **and** 1 February 2024

**Time:** 6.30pm – 9.30pm (UTC+11)

**Place:** This is an online event. Access details will be provided by the event organiser

**Cost:** \$500 (+GST)

**Book:** [www.trybooking.com/CMVBG](http://www.trybooking.com/CMVBG)

## Workshop 2

### The Good Lives Model of Rehabilitation

During this two-day in-person workshop, participants will be introduced to the underlying theory and practice guidelines of the Good Lives Model of offender rehabilitation (GLM). The limitations of formulating cases primarily in terms of dynamic risk factors will be discussed along with the advantages of adopting a strengths-oriented approach. The fundamentals of GLM assessment and case formulation will be presented. Participants will then be guided through the process of conducting a GLM-guided assessment by working through a number of clinical examples. In the second day, the primary focus is on using the GLM to construct good lives intervention plans, drawing from cases vignettes and cases that participants have brought along from their own practice.

**Facilitator: Professor Tony Ward PhD, DipClinPsyc, FRSNZ**

Tony Ward is currently professor in clinical psychology at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. He has taught clinical and forensic psychology at several universities and was a past director of the Kia Marama Treatment Unit for men who have sexually abused children. Professor Ward has authored more than 470 academic publications and is on the editorial boards of several leading forensic psychology journals. His current research projects include: (a) explanation and inquiry in clinical research and practice; (b) normative issues in forensic psychology; and (c) change processes in the psychopathology and forensic/correctional domains. He has run workshops and given talks on the GLM all over the world including Ireland, Belgium, England, Japan, Canada, Germany, Hong Kong, Australia, Wales, Singapore, Scotland, and the USA.

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**Date:** 22–23 February 2024

**Time:** 9.00am – 5.00pm

**Place:** Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science  
Level 1, 582 Heidelberg Road, Alphington Vic 3078

**Cost:** \$750 (+GST)

**Book:** [www.trybooking.com/CNVTM](http://www.trybooking.com/CNVTM)

## Workshop 3

### Formulation of complex and potentially harmful behaviour

One of the most challenging aspects of working in forensic contexts is responding to behaviours that have the potential to cause significant harm (e.g., violence, threats, harmful sexual behaviour, stalking). To work effectively with such clients, professionals need to be able to formulate the client's behaviour; i.e. understand and explain the behaviour and harm potential, and use knowledge this to guide risk management and intervention. Formulation of problem behaviour is particularly important in cases where there are multiple interacting comorbidities and co-occurring biopsychosocial challenges; in client groups with whom it can be difficult to establish a rapport; and in cases where there is a high risk of inconsistent management across agencies and over time.

The aim of this workshop is to teach a method of formulating problematic and potentially harmful client behaviour that goes beyond the application of structured risk assessment guides. The workshop will involve both didactic learning and case study-based practice. Participants will finish the workshop with a framework for formulation that they can use to understand and communicate about concerning client behaviour, and to shape risk reduction and intervention efforts. This workshop is intended for health and human services professionals who are keen build their ability to work with clients who present with problematic and potentially harmful behaviour towards others.

Participants in this workshop may be invited to participate in research evaluating the effects of formulation training.

#### **Facilitator: Professor Troy McEwan**

Troy McEwan Professor Troy McEwan is a Professor at the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science, and a Senior Psychologist with Forensicare's Problem Behaviour Program.

She also convenes the Doctorate of Psychology(Clinical and Forensic) training program and the Graduate Diploma of Forensic Psychology at Swinburne University of Technology.

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*Date:* 13 March 2024

*Time:* 9.00am – 5.00pm

*Place:* Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science  
Level 1, 582 Heidelberg Road, Alphington Vic 3078

*Cost:* \$375 (+GST)

*Book:* [www.trybooking.com/CNVUS](http://www.trybooking.com/CNVUS)

## Workshop 4

### Working with people with high levels of psychopathy

People with psychopathic personality traits are amongst the most challenging and concerning cases for professionals to work with. This one day training will give participants an overview of the latest research and best practice recommendations for working with people with significant psychopathic traits. It will cover the nature and definition of psychopathy; the aetiology and development of psychopathy; comorbidity, differential diagnosis and overlaps with other conditions; the association with offending and violence; and its life course. But the main focus will be on relevant practice skills and knowledge such as interview skills, assessment issues, treatment approaches, and risk assessment and management. Videos and case studies will be used to enhance the practical application of the training.

This is not training in using a particular instrument to assess psychopathy and no such prior training is required to attend. The day will be suitable for a wide range of professionals who work with or want to develop their skills in relation to people with psychopathic traits, including those who work in forensic or general mental health services, correctional services, law enforcement, child and family protective services, legal settings or other support/intervention services particularly for people who offend.

#### **Facilitator: Professor Rajan Darjee**

Dr Rajan Darjee is Deputy Specialty Director for Forensic Mental Health Services, Tasmanian Health Service; Adjunct Associate Professor, Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science, Swinburne University of Technology; Clinical Director (Psychiatry), Forensic Behavioural Assessment and Consultation Services.

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*Date:* 12 April 2024

*Time:* 9.00am – 5.00pm

*Place:* Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science  
Level 1, 582 Heidelberg Road, Alphington Vic 3078

*Cost:* \$375 (+GST)

*Book:* [www.trybooking.com/CNVUT](http://www.trybooking.com/CNVUT)

## Workshop 5

### Racial and ethnic disparities in risk assessment: An introduction

In recent years there has been an explosion of interest in the performance of risk assessment instruments across racial and ethnic groups. Internationally and in Australia, forensic services are increasingly recognising the need to assess the extent to which their use of risk assessments are contributing to, or reducing disparities along racial and ethnic lines. This seminar aims to address this need by covering the basics of assessing risk assessment performance, approaches to measuring disparities in risk assessment instruments and the state of the art in terms of adjusting risk assessment performance to reduce disparities and/or create more equitable performance. Along the way we will explicate notions of disparity, fairness, and equity and discuss what, if any, issues exist in attempting to reconcile these concepts with risk assessment. The seminar is entirely self-contained and will not require any prior understanding of statistics or risk assessment.

#### Facilitator: Dr Benjamin Spivak

Dr Benjamin Spivak is a Senior Lecturer in the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science, Swinburne University of Technology. He currently leads the Culture, Psychology and Law research stream and co-leads the Psychology and Legal Processes research stream. Dr Spivak has published over 40 peer reviewed articles and has co-developed risk assessment tools for Victoria Police for use with family violence. Dr Spivak's work focuses on applying novel methodology to evaluate and improve criminal justice policy. He has conducted research collaborations at all stages of the criminal justice system including corrections, courts and police.

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*Date:* 12 April 2024

*Time:* 12.00 noon – 2.00pm AEST

*Place:* This is an online event. Access details will be provided by the event organiser

*Cost:* \$50 (+GST)

*Book:* [www.trybooking.com/CNVVH](http://www.trybooking.com/CNVVH)

## Workshop 6

### Working with people who have a history of violence.

This workshop aims to introduce methods for understanding violent behaviour and identifying the personal characteristics of people who act violently and the situations that might trigger and maintain violence. Approaches to formulating violent behaviour and determining treatment needs will be discussed. The workshop will then move to a discussion of intervention approaches, with an emphasis on psychological treatment and the practices and setting conditions that seem to facilitate change. The challenges and benefits in providing treatment and establishing and maintaining a therapeutic alliance will be considered.

#### Facilitator: Professor Michael Daffern

Professor of Clinical Forensic Psychology and Director of the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science, Michael is a Consultant Principal Psychologist with the Victorian Institute of Forensic Mental Health (Forensicare). Michael began his career as a psychologist in the NSW Department of Corrective Services in 1992. He has worked in general and forensic mental health services since this time. He divides his time between research, teaching and clinical practice. His research focuses on understanding and intervening with people who have a history of violence or who are considered at risk of violence.

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*Date:* 21 May 2024

*Time:* 9.00am – 5.00pm

*Place:* Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science  
Level 1, 582 Heidelberg Road, Alphington Vic 3078

*Cost:* \$375 (+GST)

*Book:* [www.trybooking.com/CNVUV](http://www.trybooking.com/CNVUV)

## Workshop 7

### **Instilling trauma-informed care when working with justice-involved individuals**

This training provides an overview of trauma-informed care and considers opportunities for instilling trauma-informed care and practice within services working with justice-involved clients. At the completion of this training, participants should have an understanding of the ethos, principles, and research underlying trauma-informed care, and practical approaches to enlivening trauma-informed care in their workplace. As part of the workshop, participants will be invited to undertake personal reflection about their approaches towards clients, colleagues, and self-care.

This full-day training is suitable for clinicians working with justice-involved clients, whether in community, inpatient, or custodial settings. This training is also suitable for those who manage or supervise clinicians in such client-facing roles.

**Facilitator: Dr Bonnie Albrecht**

Dr Bonnie Albrecht is a Senior Psychologist with the Problem Behaviour Program, Forensicare, and a Clinical Associate with Swinburne's Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science. Bonnie has been actively involved in trauma-informed care initiatives at Thomas Embling Hospital and the Problem Behaviour Program.

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*Date:* 24 May 2024

*Time:* 9.00am – 5.00pm

*Place:* Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science  
Level 1, 582 Heidelberg Road, Alphington Vic 3078

*Cost:* \$375 (+GST)

*Book:* [www.trybooking.com/CNVVA](http://www.trybooking.com/CNVVA)

## Workshop 8

### **Assessing and managing people who commit online child abuse material offences including administering the Child Pornography Offence Risk Tool (CPORT)**

**Facilitator: Professor Rajan Darjee**

Dr Rajan Darjee is Deputy Specialty Director for Forensic Mental Health Services, Tasmanian Health Service; Adjunct Associate Professor, Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science, Swinburne University of Technology; Clinical Director (Psychiatry), Forensic Behavioural Assessment and Consultation Services.

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*Date:* 21 June 2024

*Time:* 9.00am – 5.00pm

*Place:* Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science  
Level 1, 582 Heidelberg Road, Alphington Vic 3078

*Cost:* \$375 (+GST)

*Book:* [www.trybooking.com/CNVVC](http://www.trybooking.com/CNVVC)



## Workshop 9

### **Understanding and responding to anger and difficult behaviour**

This half-day workshop is suitable for anyone who comes into contact with angry and aggressive people who can be challenging to deal with. It covers anger and aggression, what is difficult behaviour and ways of managing it, as well as ways of managing yourself in the face of anger and difficult behaviour.

It is appropriate for reception staff, customer service staff, council staff, health workers, support workers and mental health clinicians

**Presenter: David Willshire**

David Willshire is a Principal Consultant Psychologist at Forensicare. He has worked as a clinical and forensic psychologist in a variety of settings for more than 30 years.

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*Date:* 24 July 2024

*Time:* 9.00am – 1.00pm

*Place:* Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science  
Level 1, 582 Heidelberg Road, Alphington Vic 3078

*Cost:* \$175 (+GST)

*Book:* [www.trybooking.com/CNVVE](http://www.trybooking.com/CNVVE)



### Registration forms

Please register and pay online at:  
[www.forensicare.vic.gov.au/training](http://www.forensicare.vic.gov.au/training)

### Cancellation policy

We reserve the right to cancel workshops, in which case all fees will be refunded.

If participants withdraw up to 72 hours prior to the commencement of the workshop, then 50% of the fee will be refunded.

There will be no refunds for cancellations within 72 hours of the workshop.

Bookings are non-transferable to future workshops, but bookings for a particular workshop can be transferred to other persons.

### FMHPDP Workshop location

Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science  
Level 1, 582 Heidelberg Road  
Alphington VIC 3078

### Tailored training

We provide tailored training for organisations and agencies. To discuss any specific training needs and requests, please contact:

Mitali Gupta (03) 9947 2500

e: [FMHPDP@swin.edu.au](mailto:FMHPDP@swin.edu.au)  
[FMHPDP@forensicare.vic.gov.au](mailto:FMHPDP@forensicare.vic.gov.au)

