

Oct 2019

VANISH

NEWS BULLETIN

Victorian Adoption Network for
Information and Self Help

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Dear Members, Friends and Colleagues,

I hope all is well with you and you are enjoying the longer and slightly warmer days.

This News Bulletin is all about invitations – there are a few events coming up we wanted to let you know about, especially the anniversary event on Friday being organised by ARMS Vic and the day trip to Geelong to see the *Without Consent* exhibition on the 30th November. I apologise about the short notice for the anniversary event, I hope those who would have liked to come are able to. Please see more details about these events in the following pages.

Over the past few months we have been engaged in working out our new arrangements with Department of Justice and Community Safety. This has been mainly related to the administrative aspects of the funding agreement and have not had any impact on the services we deliver.

It is not long now until we are into November which involves the National Adoption Awareness Week which gets a fair bit of coverage in the media usually. This means that for some of us it is time to take extra care of ourselves especially if we find the stories upsetting. Please remember that we are here to provide support should you need it.

Warm regards,

Charlotte Smith, Manager

INVITATIONS

25th October	Anniversary of the Unveiling of Taken not Given and Victorian Apology for Past Adoption Practices
28th October	Korean Intercountry Adoptee Workshop
10th November	Screening of the Ugly Model Documentary
11th/12th November	VANISH Counsellor Training
30th November	Upcoming trip to the Without Consent Exhibition at National Wool Museum, Geelong

**Would you like to contribute to the upcoming edition of
VOICE?**

**If you are interested in being featured, please send original
pieces of any of the following to info@vanish.org.au**

- POEMS
- LETTERS
- WRITTEN WORK
- NEWS ITEMS
- BOOK/PLAY/FILM REVIEWS

Events

Unveiling of the *Without Consent* exhibition

Friday 8th November 2019

The National Wool Museum, 26 Moorabool Street, Geelong

VANISH has just received news of the opening of the *Without Consent* exhibition to be held at the National Wool Museum, 26 Moorabool St, Geelong on the 8th November 2019. It will be from 10:30 to 11:30am.

More information and bookings can be found on the Museum website: <https://www.geelongaustralia.com.au/nwm/calendaritem/8d714f57847dfc3.aspx>.

Given the notice is so short, VANISH will be organising a day trip to Geelong for the 30th November. For more information see page 5.

KOREAN INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTEE WORKSHOP

A free, fun and informative event!



**MONDAY
28 OCTOBER 2019
6-9PM**

**MULTICULTURAL HUB
506 ELIZABETH ST
MELBOURNE**

Information will be shared about
Korean adoption tracing and reunion
services, issues related to birth family
searching, living and working in
Korea, F4 visas

Find out more and register via:
Eventbrite:
<https://koreanintercountryadoptee-workshopmelbourne.eventbrite.com.au>

Events

INVITATION: Anniversary Event Friday 25th October



Please join us to acknowledge the first anniversary of the unveiling of Taken Not Given, and the seventh anniversary of the Victorian Apology for Past Adoption Practices on Friday 25th October at St Andrew's Place, Melbourne - next to the Treasury Building - at 5.30pm.

This memorial to separation by adoption has affected many people in different ways, and we are humbled to hear how positively those who have visited it during the past year have responded to it.

This will be followed by drinks and light refreshments from 6.15 – 7.30pm at the Imperial Hotel, 2-8 Bourke Street (in the Treasury Room).

RSVP by Wednesday 23rd Oct:

ARMS arms@armsvic.org.au or phone 0409 442 701

VANISH: info@vanish.org.au or phone 03 9328 8611

Events

Last chance to register!!!



Working with Loss and Trauma Related to Past and Forced Adoption Practices

Presented by Dr Sue Green

November 11 & 12 2019

The National Wool Museum, 26 Moorabool St, Geelong



Separation from a child or from family through adoption has lifelong consequences which have frequently been ignored or dismissed by professionals in the past.

"Thank you from myself and future and present clients"

"Incredibly enlightening. Learned so much, feel so much better informed"

Day One is designed for *anyone* who is interested in learning more about the lifelong effects of that past and forced adoptions has had on peoples lives

Day Two is specifically designed for qualified counsellors, psychologists, psychiatrists and social workers.

Please note that Day One is a prerequisite for Day Two.

Investment: Day One Only - \$190 Days One and Two - \$380 including GST and manual.

To register, please complete our online form at <http://bit.ly/vanishtrainingNovember2019>

Intercountry Adoption Family Support Services presents

The Ugly Model

A documentary by Doris Yeung

Lifeworks Intercountry Adoption Family Support Service is presenting an exclusive screening of *The Ugly Model*, a documentary by Doris Yeung that follows Korean American adoptee and fitness model, Kevin Tae-jin Kreider, as he navigates life experiences impacted by issues of Asian masculinity, stereotypes and belonging. Publically Kevin personifies "success" in terms of his extensive modelling and popular social media profile and vlog, however underneath lies a loneliness and insecurity as a Korean adoptee growing up as an Asian male in a white family in America.

You are invited to attend an edited screening of the documentary, followed by a Q&A panel discussion featuring adult adoptees and an adoptive parent to discuss racism and identity in intercountry adoption. Suitable for ages 13 and over.

- Date:** Sunday 10th November 2019
Time: 2:30pm – 4:30pm (screening followed by panel discussion)
Location: Treasury Theatre, Lower Plaza
1 MacArthur Street, East Melbourne
Cost: \$10
Enquiries: icasupport@lifeworks.com.au
Bookings: <https://tickets.acmi.net.au/single/SelectSeating.aspx?p=39883>



Events

Day trip down to Geelong!

Saturday 30th November 2019

(Express your interest by 1st November)

The Without Consent Exhibition with guest speakers at the National Wool Museum, Geelong



VANISH invites you on a bus trip to Geelong to attend the Without Consent Exhibition at the National Wool Museum in Geelong.

This is a free event. Lunch will be provided.

The bus will pick up passengers at one or two central locations in Melbourne at approximately 10am on Saturday 30th November and return to the same locations by 5pm on the same day.

This day trip is being organised in collaboration with ARMS Vic. ARMS and VANISH members will travel together.

Places are limited. Please register your interest before the 1st November via either:

email: info@vanish.org.au or phone: 03 9328 8611

Without Consent: "Australia's past adoption practices" exhibition examines, through the contributions of people affected by Australia's forced adoptions policies and practices, what happens when social expectations, morality and authority collide.

Rest in Peace

VALE William Hammersley-Ellis

We are very sorry to advise you of the passing of William-Ellis Hammersley, adoptee and activist who fought tirelessly for the rights of adopted people and was a funding member of Adoptee Rights Australia. William passed away on the 3rd September 2019, he was 67 years old. We offer our sincerest sympathy to Kay and Thomas and all his adoptee friends who mourn him. Rest in peace.



Husband, Father, Friend, Activist.

We will not forget you.

