

## News from South Australia

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Hello from South Australia.

The well-known crux of the popular saying that the “best plans of men often go astray” applies well to *World Education Forum SA Section*. In November last year the committee made plans about venue, time and focus of the proposed meetings early in term in 2006. The committee was aware of the events such as Festival of Arts, Womadelaide and the race meeting and planned the meetings immediately after they were ended.

However, that was not to be and our workshops are now early in Term 2.

The first will be *Learner wellbeing: Making a difference* presented by members of the WELLBEING project team including Gaynor Quinn (Primary Years), Inara Gehling (Middle and Senior Years) and Victoria Buchanan (Early Years).

They will be discussing research, presenting project findings, working teachers through activities to increase awareness of Wellbeing and as the special focus the significant difference educators can make in the lives of learners in their care.

Steve Keirl, a well remembered participant in the International Conference in Tasmania in 1998-9, will present a hands-on workshop on Design and Technology on a Saturday in late May. The topic is Design and Technology at play with creativity, thinking and values. It will include the following outline:

Design and Technology (D&T) education is a critical part of any quality education and continues to gain recognition as both a focus for curriculum integration and a facilitator of multiple learning styles. Expanding on the successful WEF workshop in August 2005, this presentation will explore a wide range of technologies and show the many ways teachers can develop creativity, thinking and values through D&T. The session may involve some fun, some poetry and some washing-up of brushes.

The committee is also working towards a National conference on Wellbeing in 2007 with a multi-disciplinary approach including health, social, physical and intellectual and hopefully working under the auspices of UNESCO.