



THE MAGNOLIA NEWSLETTER

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE:

Welcome to our newsletter and to 2023! This newsletter is simply to keep our friends up to date with everything Magnolia. If there is anything that you read that interests you - or if you would like to get more involved please just let us know...

Andy and Katherine

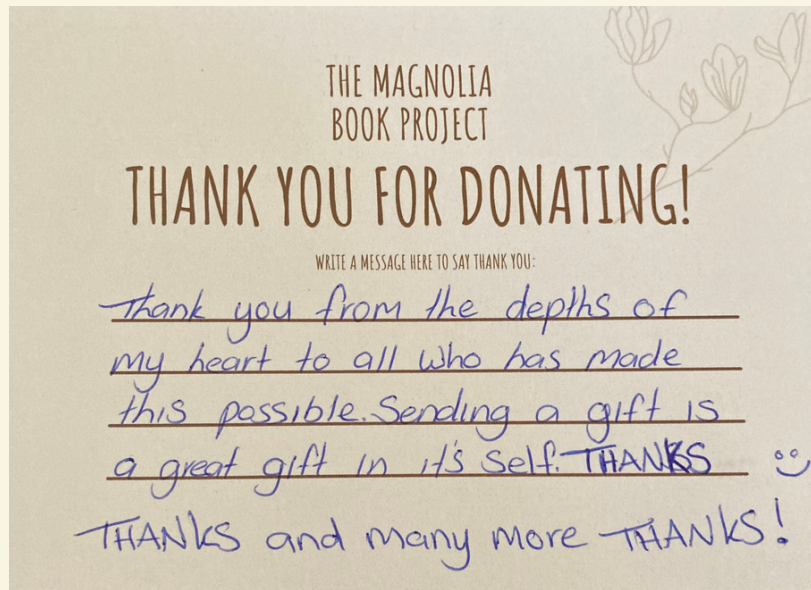
E: admin@magnoliaproject.com.au

WHAT WE HAVE BEEN UP TO...

Since our last newsletter, things at Magnolia have continued to develop.

Our book project is now established at Port Augusta prison and we have very much appreciated the support of the activities team and the education staff at the prison.

We have delivered some more books - they needed some that are suitable for older children - and were able to meet a couple of the men in prison who had sent a Magnolia book to a family member. Their gratitude and humility was moving, and we left the prison knowing that our project is making a difference.

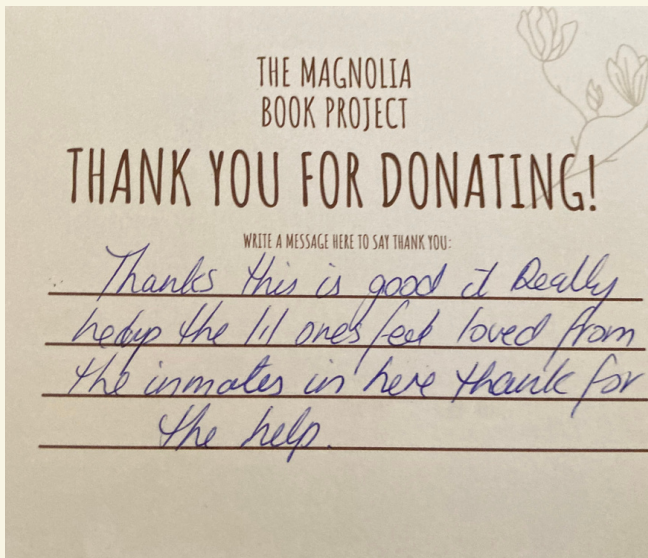


We also met some of the programs team at the prison to talk about Magnolia and trauma-informed criminal justice. Everyone was very enthusiastic about what we are doing!

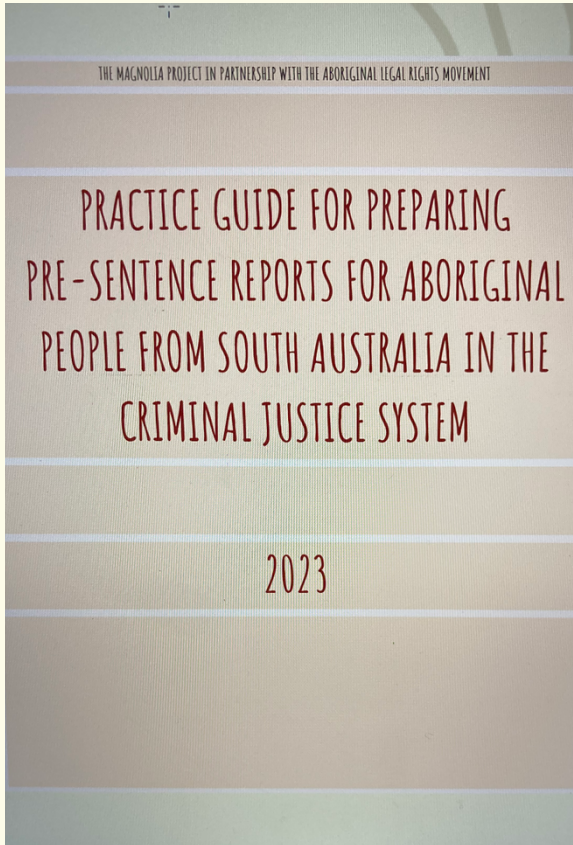
The Adelaide Womens Prison are also now involved. We were lucky to have been given a full tour of the new facility and the activities team at the prison have take some books to distribute to some of the mothers there.



The Mothers Matter program also looks set to continue this year, which is good news for those in the prison who are interested in learning more about parenting.



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OUR PRACTICE GUIDE PROJECT

The Magnolia Project is committed to supporting the development of trauma-informed and compassionate criminal justice practice in any way that we can. An important part of this is strengthening the cultural safety of the criminal justice system.

Over the last few months we have been working with the Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement (SA) to develop resources to support mental health professionals who appear as expert witnesses in pre-sentencing matters.

Together we have developed a new practice guide that provides mental health professionals with key information about the different ways in which the social and emotional wellbeing of First Nations defendants is relevant to legal decision-making.

Our Guide is currently out for stakeholder feedback, but we hope to be able to finalise this and publish it on our website in a few months time. Watch this space and please get in touch if you want to find out more!

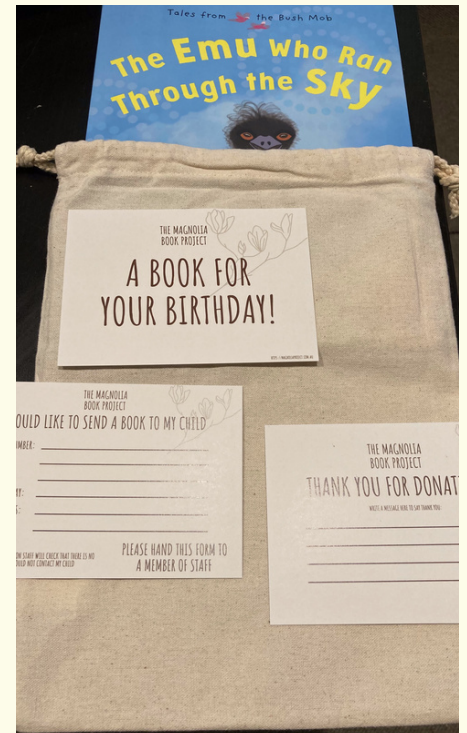
SOME NEXT STEPS

We are continuing our academic work on trauma-informed practice.

Katherine has a book contract to present her research findings about trauma-informed sentencing in the Adelaide courts, and has recently written a paper explaining why raising the age of minimum criminal responsibility is important from a trauma-informed perspective.

Andy's work with Catia and youth justice continues to lay a foundation for the development of trauma-informed practice with young justice involved people. We have written articles on co-production (with Katherine, Luke and Jo), on trauma-informed leadership (with Luke and Mellanie), and on measuring the outcomes of a trauma-informed youth justice service (with Luke, Lyn, and Katherine H.). We have others in the pipeline on topics such as the importance of legislation, on how understanding the profile of young children in the justice system is important to raising the age, and on the evidence base to support the implementation of trauma-informed youth justice.

Please get in touch if you would like to find out more...



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FUNDRAISING

Our GoFundMe page remains open. Thank you to everyone who has donated - it makes such a difference!

Many thanks to Tina's book club. This group make a donation to a local charity each Christmas - and this year they sent us some money to buy more books for the children of people in prison.

Please share details of our website and encourage friends, colleagues and family to become a friend of Magnolia. It is easy to sign up - just go to

<https://magnoliaproject.com.au/get-involved/>



WHAT ELSE?

Congratulations to Zoe for completing her Criminology Honours. Her thesis was all about the Magnolia Book project and we are all grateful for her interest, support, and expertise. Zoe is now in Queensland where she has a job in community corrections! We hope to stay in touch.

OUR FRIENDS

Thank you so much to the following groups who support our work:

