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## Australian Primary School Principals gather in Sydney to 'create the future together'

Over 800 primary school principals from all parts of Australia gathered today in Sydney for the annual Australian Primary Principals Association (APPA) National Conference.

The Conference, *Creating the Future Together*, is the largest ever convened at the iconic Wentworth Hotel. Norm Hart, APPA President, said delegates from Government, Catholic and Independent schools from all states and territories will hear from eminent international human rights lawyer, Geoffrey Robertson QC, as well as national and international education experts and speakers.

“This conference is a unique opportunity for principals to involve themselves in a collegial, professional and future-oriented learning experience. It will certainly address the desire of primary school leaders to meet the challenges of education in Australia today and into the future.”

Featured speakers include:

**John Maclean**, established and founded the John Maclean Foundation which inspires, motivates and enables physically challenged kids to chase their dreams. John is the author of *Full Circle: One Life, Many Lessons*.

**Frank Crawford**, a past Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland who, with some 40 years of experience working in education and with a focus on personal mentoring, enables schools to embark on high level renewal and embedding of quality change practice.

**Ian Jukes**, with a focus on engaging students through and with technology, the founder and Executive Director of the InfoSavvy Group sees a compelling need to restructure educational institutions.

**Sue Langtry**, founder and CEO of Emotional Intelligence Worldwide synthesizes science into simple, practical tools. Sue will be featured in the ABC TV Series “Redesign my Brain”.

**The Hon Anna Bligh**, the former Queensland premier led her state in the toughest of times. A passionate advocate for education, Anna Bligh sees leadership as key to change.

**Darryl Lovegrove**, spent his early years in Malawi and Switzerland, and by 27 had starred in musical blockbusters such as *Les Miserables* and *Jesus Christ Super Star*. His story is one of passion, risk and surprise.

APPA President Norm Hart said:

“Principals are looking forward to the interactive Q&A panel hosted by **Emma Alberici** exploring social, emotional and instructional aspects of school education in Australia. The Friday interview session, too, will give primary school leaders the opportunity to hear and question the federal government’s current policy thinking in a number of areas.”

The Australian Primary Principals Association represents 7,200 Government, Catholic and Independent principals across Australia.

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