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*Welcome to
the December
edition of IDA
Magazine*

ASID held its successful conference in Coolangatta from November 14-16. It was an action packed conference with six keynotes and numerous presentations - all “shaking it up”. This edition of IDA illustrates some of the fun aspects of the conference through a photospread and vox pops ([see page 38](#)). One of the key cries from the conference was “nothing without us” (dropping the about us) and ASID is working on ways to be as inclusive as possible across all its events and social media. For more information from the keynotes you need to listen to the next podcast which features the keynotes talking about their papers. Go to <http://www.asid.asn.au/publications/podcasts>

November is also the time ASID has a board meeting and annual general meeting. The division reports ([see pages 20](#)) reflect the diversity of activity over the Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. The annual report is available on our website <http://www.asid.asn.au/about/annual-reports>

The theme for this quarter is justice and the criminal system. We have three articles all with directions to improve systems and supports. Kathy Ellem (keynote at ASID conference) shows through a case study what can go wrong and ways in which a relationship practice approach can turn around a person’s life. Sally Kedge, a New Zealand Communication Assistant, describes her role in the justice system and the type of communication supports that can help in the courts and with the police. Georgia Burn and Cathy Townsend talk about working with police to make their watch house more communication accessible. Cathy discusses her reactions to being in role plays with the police and the experience of being a communication assessor.

We have a new feature this month – [the Quiz!](#) You may not know all the answers- some can be found in this edition of IDA while others can be found on the ASID website. Do it over a cup of tea with your colleagues or friends and let me know if you like it.

Hope you have a good break over summer. The next edition will be in early April and the theme will be “Communication and its challenges”. Articles are very welcome.

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