

**22nd annual TheMHS Conference in Cairns, Northern Queensland
21- 24 August 2012**



Online registration available via TheMHS website www.themhs.org

Keynote Speakers:

Roberto Mezzina, Trieste, Italy; Rufus May, UK; Mick Gooda, Australia

It's been 20 years since The Burdekin Report which recognised that the citizenship of those inside institutions needed to be recovered. For the 22nd TheMHS Conference we explore the changes that have occurred and whether this had led to citizenship being recovered. On asking this question we consider what does the future need in its design? What does the community need to feel and look like to support citizenship and not to exclude people from economic, social, political and cultural life? Can we reach a consensus on what Citizenship means to us across cultural lines/boundaries? What role does a civil society have in relation to citizenship? To recover is to cover something, to go over something again. But are we simply covering over the past or are we recovering citizenship? Mental illness has a long history in the evolution of collective notions of citizenship. Citizenship conveys status, and certain rights and responsibilities yet this can look different to each person. A diagnosis of mental illness can disrupt and challenge the notions of citizenship and results in change in people's status and rights and responsibilities. Does Citizenship feel and look the same to all groups within our society? There is a need to better understand what citizenship means in mental health care as currently outlined in mental health policies and recovery-oriented service delivery.

**Come to the Pre-conference Forums and Workshops on Tuesday 21st August
Consumer Forum; Carer/Family Forum; Indigenous Forum; Workshop 1: Mindfulness
Workshop 2: Recovery and Engaging Leadership – same principles, different language**

Contact: TheMHS Conference
PO Box 192 Balmain
NSW Australia 2041
Phone: +61 (02) 9810 8700
Fax: +61 (02) 9810 8733
Email: info@themhs.org

Website: www.themhs.org
Connect with Us!
Blog: <http://www.themhs.wordpress.com>
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