
SCOSA, the Spastic Centres of South Australia Inc plays an important role in South Australia's history.

The Woodville campus was first established in 1950, through funds raised from the public. The idea of the centre was inspired by Dr Earl Carlson, a Cerebral Palsy sufferer himself. Dr Carlson wanted a facility to be established in South Australia to provide better lives for people with disabilities.

To help raise further funds to support the growing organisation, The Spastic Centres of South Australia became actively involved in the Miss South Australia and Miss Australia Quest. Established in 1954, this quest not only helped raise funds to support the services, but also increased community awareness of the organisation.

The Woodville site over its 50 year history, has been home to a number of services with the aim of supporting people with disabilities. It was once a school that provided education to disabled people; it offered speech pathology, physio and occupational therapy services to help people develop their physical capabilities; medical services and splint making facilities were also located at the campus along with accommodation and even palliative care and nursing home services.

However, in 1995 the responsibility for the education of children with disabilities was transferred to the Education Department. During this same period, institutional accommodation began to devolve to community settings and so CARA (Community Accommodation and Respite Agency Inc), was established. CARA is now an independent organisation and shares our history.

The Spastic Centres of South Australia still exists today and continues to provide day services to disabled people throughout South Australia. We help develop both their living and social skills so they can become a valued member of their local community and enjoy activities and social interaction with others.

Series 1: Eva E. Dennis Papers


SRG 521/1/2 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, Spastic Women’s Auxiliary (1854-1965).


SRG 521/1/5 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, Medical Director’s Reports to Board, Woodville Spastic Centre (1956-1964).


SRG 521/1/7 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, comprising papers re Woodville Spastic Centre management (1960-1964).

SRG 521/1/8 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, comprising papers and ephemera re fundraising (1949-1947).

SRG 521/1/9 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, comprising papers relating to appeals for Western Districts Ambulance and Crippled Children’s Association (1949).

SRG 521/1/10 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, comprising papers re Spastic Children’s Parent’s Group, Crippled Children’s Association.

SRG 521/1/11 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, comprising papers relating to parents of children with special needs (1949, 1961-1970) and leaflets relating to events at Woodville Spastic Home (1951-1965).

SRG 521/1/12 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, papers re Miss Woodville Competition and Semaphore Carnival (1951-1952).


SRG 521/1/14 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, comprising papers re the formation of the Spastic children’s Parent’s Group and Crippled Children’s Association (1945-1951).

SRG 521/1/15 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, comprising papers re Western District Spastic Appeal Committee


SRG 521/1/20-21 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, comprising a scrapbook of newspaper cutting re Miss Australia Quest and other fundraising events (1947-1956).

SRG 521/1/23 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, comprising a notebook of bus routes and families (1951).


SRG 521/1/25 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, comprising autobiographical notes on the life of Eva E. Dennis.

SRG 521/1/26 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, comprising reminiscences of Eva E. Dennis re the founding of Spastic Children’s Parents’ Group, Crippled Children’s Association and the South Australian Spastic Paralysis welfare Association (1981).


SRG 521/1/28 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, papers re fundraising for Miss Australia Quest, Operation Desperation and Women’s Auxiliary of Woodville Spastic Centre (1961-1963).


SRG 521/1/31 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, minutes re South Australian Spastic Welfare Association management committee, including correspondence and legal opinions (1959-1960).

SRG 521/1/32 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, cash book re Ugly Man and Queen competition, Western District (1949) including papers re Port Adelaide Special Appeal (1953).


SRG 521/1/34 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, Women’s Auxiliary minutes (1960-1966).

SRG 521/1/35 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, papers re Western Districts and Kilburn ambulance routes, including names of children (1950-1951).


SRG 521/1/37 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, papers re Western Districts ambulance routes, including names of children (1950-).

SRG 521/1/39 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, Bade Day poster.


SRG 521/1/44 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, papers re Crippled Children’s Association, Spastic Children’s Parents’ group and South Australia Spastic Paralysis Welfare Association (SASPWA), including fundraising events and reviews (1945-1986).

SRG 521/1/45 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, papers re Women’s Auxiliary, Mothers’ Club, Social Club, Appeals Committee (1952-1986).


SRG 521/1/49-50 : SCOSA, Eva E. Dennis Papers, Crippled Children’s Association and Spastic Children’s Parents’ Group, papers, reports and correspondence (1945-1951).


Series 2 : South Australia Spastic Paralysis Welfare Association (SASPWA) Board, minutes.


Series 3 : South Australia Spastic Paralysis Welfare Association (SASPWA) Home Management and Executive Sub-Committees.


SRG 521/4/7 : Spastic Centres of South Australia, papers re client services and early intervention (ca. 1980-1990). 17 cm.

Series 5 : South Australia Spastic Paralysis Welfare Association (SASPWA) Medical and Educational Sub-Committee minutes.

SRG 521/5/1-4 : Spastic Centres of South Australia, (SASPWA) Medical and Educational Sub-Committee minutes. 4 volumes (1968-1986).

Series 6 : Spastic Centres of South Australia (SCOSA), papers and research.

SRG 521/6/1 : SCOSA, papers re Senate Committee enquiry re Accommodation for people with disabilities (1989).


SRG 521/6/3 : SCOSA, papers re meeting to discuss future funding levels for nursing homes for the disabled (1989).


SRG 521/6/6 : SCOSA, papers re plans for residence (1989).

SRG 521/6/7 : SCOSA, papers re Housing Trust negotiations.


**Series 7 : Spastic Centres of South Australia (SCOSA), papers re Medical Directors.**

SRG 521/7/1 : SCOSA, Medical Directors reports re medical committee (1975-1976).

SRG 521/7/2 : SCOSA, Medical Directors correspondence re Australian Cerebral Palsy Association and audio aids (1966).

SRG 521/7/3 : SCOSA, Medical Directors Board reports (1981-1982).

SRG 521/7/4 : SCOSA, Medical Directors correspondence with Department of Labour and National Service (1969-1972).

SRG 521/7/5 : SCOSA, Medical Directors, correspondence relating to Spastic Centres (1965-1973).

SRG 521/7/6 : SCOSA, Medical Directors, papers re inventories of equipment at Woodville (1971-1973).

SRG 521/7/7 : SCOSA, Medical Directors, papers re policy review (1980-1981).

SRG 521/7/8 : SCOSA, Medical Directors, papers re speech pathology (1963-1976).

SRG 521/7/9 : SCOSA, Medical Directors, papers relating to occupational therapy (1963-1978).

SRG 521/7/10 : SCOSA, Medical Directors, Board reports (1977-1981).

SRG 521/7/11 : SCOSA, Medical Directors, papers re Crippled Children’s Association and Spastic Centres joint management committee (1973-1975).


SRG 521/7/14 : SCOSA, Medical Directors, correspondence re Flinders Medical School (1980s).

SRG 521/7/15 : SCOSA, Medical Directors, general papers (1963-1967).

SRG 521/7/16 : SCOSA, Medical Directors, papers re Dr G. Pollock visit (1965).
SRG 521/7/17 : SCOSA, Medical Directors, papers re information fact sheets (1976-1977).

SRG 521/7/18 : SCOSA, Medical Directors, papers re staff and client lists (1959-1961).


SRG 521/7/20 : SCOSA, Medical Directors, papers re Medical Committee, including submissions and correspondence (1972-1975).


SRG 521/7/22 : SCOSA, Medical Directors, papers re Medical Committee (1977).


SRG 521/7/24 : SCOSA, Management Board, reports and minutes of meetings (1987-). 17 cm.

SRG 521/7/25 : SCOSA, Executive group, minutes of meetings (ca. 1990s). 2 cm.

**Series 8 : Spastic Centres of South Australia, school’s commission submissions.**


**Series 9 : Spastic Centres of South Australia, fundraising and public relations.**

SRG 521/9/1 : SCOSA, fundraising and public relations, papers re building appeal (1975).

SRG 521/9/2 : SCOSA, fundraising and public relations, papers re Aynsley Rowe walk from Adelaide to Darwin (1975).

SRG 521/9/3 : SCOSA, fundraising and public relations, papers re Tammie Alchin ‘This is Your Life’ program (1980).


SRG 521/9/5 : SCOSA, fundraising and public relations, papers and correspondence (1950s).

SRG 521/9/6 : SCOSA, fundraising and public relations, papers re marketing (1982).

SRG 521/9/7 : SCOSA, fundraising and public relations, papers re open days and other functions at Woodville Home (1978-1982).
SRG 521/9/8 : SCOSA, fundraising and public relations, papers re Easter fair (1987).


SRG 521/9/11 : SCOSA, fundraising and public relations, papers re service awards for Spastic Centres.

SRG 521/9/12 : SCOSA, fundraising and public relations, papers re fundraising workshop for Australian Cerebral Palsy Association (1975).


SRG 521/9/17: SCOSA, fundraising and public relations, papers re Rostrum club (1987).


**Series 10 : SCOSA, properties and management – accommodation.**


SRG 521/10/3: SCOSA, properties and management – accommodation, papers re property fire safety Woodville Road (1972-1989).


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SRG 521/10/6: SCOSA, properties and management – accommodation, papers re Gundy Terrace, Christies Beach (1983).

SRG 521/10/7: SCOSA, properties and management – accommodation, papers re Dew Street, Thebarton (1986-1987).


SRG 521/10/12: SCOSA, properties and management – accommodation, papers re Fulham Road, Port Augusta (1989-1990).


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**Series 11 : SCOSA, staff matters and policy.**

SRG 521/11/1 : SCOSA, staff matters and policy, papers re staff council (1981-1986).


SRG 521/11/3-4 : SCOSA, staff matters and policy, papers re junior unit staff meetings (1984-1985, 1983).

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SRG 521/11/12 : SCOSA, staff matters and policy, papers re staff in-service training (1989).


**Series 12: SCOSA, policy planning and development.**

SRG 521/12/1 : SCOSA, policy planning and development, papers re educational philosophy and development (1976-1988).

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SRG 521/12/5 : SCOSA, policy planning and development, papers re handicaps program and review (1958).

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SRG 521/12/7 : SCOSA, policy planning and development, report on client recording system requirement (1983).


SRG 521/12/9 : SCOSA, policy planning and development, papers re decentralization and implementation team (1990).

SRG 521/12/10 : SCOSA, policy planning and development, papers re staff conference (1983).

SRG 521/12/11 : SCOSA, policy planning and development, papers re draft mission and goals statement 1986.

SRG 521/12/12 : SCOSA, policy planning and development, papers re staff history and services (1981-1983).
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Series 13: SCOSA, accommodation, respite, outings and parent liaison.

SRG 521/13/1 : SCOSA, accommodation, respite, outings and parent liaison, papers re eastern region working party (1988-1989).

SRG 521/13/2 : SCOSA, accommodation, respite, outings and parent liaison, papers re northern region working party (1986-1989).


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SRG 521/14/6 : SCOSA, bound ledgers, statements and indexes, paper s e finance
sub-committee (1988). 2 cm.

**Series 15: SCOSA, ‘Gullywinds’**.


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**Series 16: SCOSA, ‘Seawinds’**.


SRG 521/16/2 : SCOSA, ‘Seawinds’, correspondence and reports re Seawinds/ SEIC
amalgamation (1986-).


SRG 521/16/4 : SCOSA, ‘Seawinds’, papers re buildings and constructions (1986-
1988).


SRG 521/16/9 : SCOSA, ‘Seawinds’, papers re student work experience materials

SRG 521/16/10 : SCOSA, ‘Seawinds’, papers re respite care in southern areas

SRG 521/16/12 : SCOSA, ‘Seawinds’, papers re budgets (1984-1987) OUTSIZE 1


**Series 17: SCOSA, scrapbooks of Evelyn Powell, teacher at Spastic Centres (1959-1985).**

SRG 521/17/1-4 : SCOSA, scrapbooks of Evelyn Powell, 4 volumes (1960-1985).

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SRG 521/18/2 : SCOSA, papers of Evelyn Powell, re teaching, Aldinga camp outline (1982).


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SRG 521/18/11: SCOSA, papers of Evelyn Powell, re teaching, group C excursions (1973).


SRG 521/18/14: SCOSA, papers of Evelyn Powell, re teaching, group C program (1972-1973).


Series 19: SCOSA, photographs re educational a recreational activities.

SRG 521/19/1: SCOSA, photographs re educational a recreational activities, correspondence and papers (1984-1990).

SRG 521/19/2: SCOSA, photographs re educational a recreational activities, papers re early intervention matters (1984-1990).

Series 20: SCOSA, women’s auxiliary papers by SCOSA parent, Mrs. Audrey Freeburg.


Series 21: SCOSA, photographs re Woodville Spastic Centre staff and clients.

SRG 521/21 : SCOSA, photographs re Woodville Spastic Centre staff, clients, buildings and events (1950s-1980s). PART OUTSIZE 1 AND PART OUTSIZE 3

Series 22: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities.

SRG 521/22/1: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re intermediate unit (1983).


SRG 521/22/3: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re staff (ca. 1985).
SRG 521/22/4: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re sports day and concert (1979). OUTSIZE 1

SRG 521/22/5: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re number 2 unit (1982).

SRG 521/22/6: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re number 1 unit (1978-1989).


SRG 521/22/8: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re sports day (1980).

SRG 521/22/9: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re senior group (1985).

SRG 521/22/10: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re activities (ca. 1990).

SRG 521/22/11: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re 'toys and playing with your child' (ca. 1980).

SRG 521/22/12: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re sports day (1985).

SRG 521/22/13: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re celebrations (1986).

SRG 521/22/14: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re bad taste party (1981).

SRG 521/22/15: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re trip to Victoria (ca. 1986).

SRG 521/22/16: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re kindergarten staff (ca. 1985).

SRG 521/22/17: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re staff (ca. 1985).

SRG 521/22/18: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re transport staff and regional centres (ca. 1985).

SRG 521/22/19: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re staff hostel homes (ca. 1985).


SRG 521/22/21: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re pantomime (1980).

SRG 521/22/23: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re ski trip (1980).

SRG 521/22/24: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re disco (ca. 1980).

SRG 521/22/25: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re sports day (1984).

SRG 521/22/26: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re number 2 unit (1981).

SRG 521/22/27: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re activities (ca. 1980).

SRG 521/22/28: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re number 2 unit (1981).

SRG 521/22/29: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re excursion (ca. 1980).

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SRG 521/22/31: SCOSA, photographs re educational and recreational activities, re excursion (ca. 1980).


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**Series 23: SCOSA, published materials.**


