

Our Community **MATTERS**

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Resources, News, Innovations and Tips on:

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1. Community View: Finding our Voice



Rhonda Galbally
CEO

The Communities in Control Conference is over for another year, but it's left us a lot to be going on with. This year, everything clicked – the ideas from one speaker were taken up by the next, the principles of one theorist were illustrated by the example of other practitioners, we were all reminded that there really is a point to what we're doing and arguments in favour of the way we do it.

As Joan Kirner wrote to us later about the conference: "Congratulations on what I felt was a turning point community conference – more in-depth, more participation, deeper and newer thinking.

"We spoke of community empowerment, control of destiny, social class, working together for social inclusion based on valid outcome data – even cost benefit analysis; all highlighted by principles and practice spelt out by yourselves, Len Syme, David Eldridge, Mick Dodson, the Choir and many of the floor contributors. It was exciting!

"The people leaving the conference were confident that Ourcommunity.com.au would keep them connected to social inclusion, community and political information and action, shared accountability, and ownership."

It was all pretty wonderful, and I'd have to recommend that those of you who missed it download the speeches from www.ourcommunity.com.au/cic2009papers – or get the DVD and call the rest of the office in to watch it with you.

Even so, though, there's something about actually being there – about entering the forcefield of well over 100 community-minded people all oriented in the same direction. Which is something of a miracle in itself, actually.

The community sector is so wide and so infinitely various that I sometimes wonder that we can speak to each other at all. In our endeavours around the country, through the lifespan, across the multicultural rainbow, and around the multitudinous activities and avocations we adopt, what do we have in common?

And then someone like Mick Dodson talks to the Communities in Control Conference about a particular problem in a particular place, and brings into focus questions that concern all of us both as individuals and as those who work in and care about community.

Mick was telling us about the Northern Territory Intervention, where the State and Federal governments had gone in and imposed new systems on Indigenous communities. It wasn't working, he said, because they hadn't involved the communities they were working on.

"I'm absolutely convinced that if we rely for our social and economic development on Government, it's never going to happen because Government can't do it," Mick said in response to a question from the floor. "What Government has to do is provide the environment, the framework, for us to do it. Get out of the bloody road and give us some power to do it ourselves."

The lesson Mick drew is one that should charge us all up. For those who rely on Government funding, it's a wake-up call. For the sector as a whole, it's a proud claim. For the audience on the day, it was a call to action.

After the talk a listener stood up. "We shouldn't just let that go," she said. "people here represent a good representative sample of the entire sector – can't we, on behalf of the sector, speak out collectively for the power of communities in control – in particular, Indigenous communities?"

Yes, we should: and so we have, in the way that internet technology makes so effective. A draft statement from the Conference is online at www.ourcommunity.com.au/cic2009statement – please add your comments. When we've heard from those who want to have a say, we'll dispatch it to the relevant Ministers.

In the community sector we do have a voice, if we want to use it.

2. Highlights of Communities in Control 2009

For those of you who couldn't make it to this year's Communities in Control Conference, here's a quick snapshot of what you missed (in order of appearance). You can download the papers at www.ourcommunity.com.au/cic.



The Hon Jenny Macklin, MP

"As a nation, I think we really must resist what is, in my view, a false security of turning in on ourselves through a culture of protectionism or isolation. As communities, we've got to resist the urge to turn against and marginalise minorities who live with us.

As a society, we need to strengthen and support especially those individuals and families who are feeling powerless and out of control, for many of them are at breaking point.

I think it is especially important as times get tough that we maintain an open and inclusive approach, both as individuals but also as communities."



Professor Len Syme PhD

"Our only hope is to develop better strategies for preventing disease and promoting health and not simply waiting to fix problems after they occur.

"And to do that, we will have to work with the community as empowered partners.

"And to do THAT, we will have to fundamentally change our public health model: we will have to change the way we classify disease, we will have to train a new generation of experts, we will have to change the way we organise and finance public health education and research, and we will have to deal with our arrogance."



Catherine Deveny

"I'm looking at this room of people who work with communities. And I'll have a fair stab at it and say that you guys are probably the ones who are looking after everyone. And no-one's looking after you, not nearly as much as they should, or not nearly as much as they can.

"I wanted to let you guys know that it's really, really important to say no sometimes. You look at families and often it's the same people who end up doing everything – looking after Mum, hosting the Christmas dinner, organising the group present, organising the holidays – and probably it's you.

"You need to learn to say no."



Major David Eldridge

"We like to think of the whole process ... as a triangle. The head of the triangle is the report – the mind, the intellectual effort, the evidence, the arguments, the policy ideas. That's the head of our triangle.

"The heart is the feature film, *The Oasis*. It moved people's hearts, reaching the community, getting a large number of people to turn their attention to help move politicians' minds.

"The other one – I'm not quite sure whether to call it the mouth or the arms and the legs ... was about communication with the community, with the media and in government circles."



The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MLA

“The cost of rebuilding communities is beyond one level of government alone. The complexity of rebuilding communities is also beyond one level of government.

“These types of crises require the skills and networks that the community sector has. We have seen those skills and networks on display in Victoria. And certainly I suspect that they will also have been on display during the Queensland floods around the same time of year.”

“That is why I want to thank you all for the work that you do in communities right across Australia.”



Daryl Taylor

“We’ve found families under enormous pressure, neighbourhoods under enormous pressure, and particularly community organisations under enormous pressure. We had 47 community groups before the fires. I would think that’s probably down to about half as a consequence of death or people who are now outside the area. We lost one in 25 people on February 7.

“So the sort of support we need for community building is less about material welfare, it’s more about genuine support for community organisations, so that we can bring back things like our pony club, so that we can bring back things like community arts for kids after school, so that we can make sure our sporting clubs can put teams out on the court.

“Those kinds of things are vitally important at the moment.”



Professor Mick Dodson AM

“Governments are very, very, very reluctant to lose control.

“They want to retain decision-making power and control and in doing so, they fail, absolutely fail, to recognise the value and benefits of Indigenous community decision-making.

“If we are serious about changing socio-economic conditions in Aboriginal communities, wherever they may be, then we have to be serious about engaging with them, not as recipients but as genuine partners.

“And that means taking our aspirations into account and respecting our culture.”



Richard Watson

“Communities have shifted. They used to be about physical spaces, and they still are to some extent. It was the village, it was the street, it was the town, etc. That is still true but it is also now about somebody with a shared interest – the physical location is becoming less important.

“But I see a problem with this. I think when communities primarily exist online, the communities are quite narrow. They are quite superficial and they are actually ultimately unfulfilling. Most people haven’t twigged on to this yet, but I think we’re beginning to see it. People are beginning to realise that it’s not about how many friends you’ve got online, it’s the quality of those friends. It’s not about numbers, it’s about quality.”

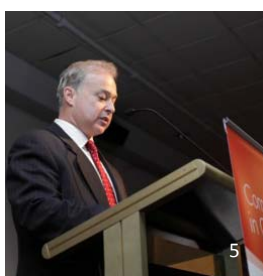


Jonathon Welch

“Look at what people can actually achieve in their lives if they’re given the opportunity and a safe place where they can express themselves and move forward positively. ...

“In the last week of November this year, from 23 to 29 November, I am creating Social Inclusion Week, in conjunction with government, not-for-profit organisations, Apex, Rotary, Lions Clubs, the corporate sector and Our Community.

“I think this is a very, very important opportunity for us all to really explain to the public at large what social inclusion means, and to emphasise the detriment to our society and our community that is created by social exclusion.”





1. The Wunsyaluv Dancers perform the welcome to country
2. Stella and Dan from C31 prepare their community TV special
3. Pam Webster and Joan Hughes welcome the launch of the new Disability and Carers' Alliance
4. Our Community's office dog, Joanie, makes an appearance
5. Andrew Blode announces the winners of the Smorgon Foundation's Victorian Children Communities' Awards
6. Pratt Foundation Chair Heloise Waislitz introduces the 2009 Communities in Control Pratt Fellow Prof. Len Syme PhD
7. The Spectrum Multicultural Choir performs during networking drinks
8. Victorian Community Ambassador and Great Debate adjudicator makes her presence felt
9. Laughter yoga with Merv Neal gets the blood flowing during the break
10. Comedian and author Wendy Harmer hosts the 2009 Westpac Community Idol competition
11. Australia Post's Allan Robinson launches the poster and book giveaway
12. Intelligent questioning was a notable feature of this year's conference
13. The Great Debators: Brett de Hoedt, Clare Martin, Joan Hughes & Lesley Hall
14. Westpac's Peter Hanlon congratulates the 2009 Westpac Community Idol finalists
15. Community Idol finalists and winners – Victoria Garner from Cerebral Palsy Support Network, Patricia Langdon & Jonathan Hallett from the WA AIDS Council, Melanie Tate & Natalie King from Edmund Rice Camps – are pictured with Westpac's Head of Community Markets, Vanessa Nolan-Woods
16. Co-convenors Rhonda Galbally (Our Community) & Fr Joe Caddy (Centacare Catholic Family Services)
17. Jonathon Welch leads the Choir of Hope and Inspiration to conclude the 2009 conference

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3. Celebrating the best the community sector has to offer

In a very exciting first-ever dead heat for the Community Idol competition, this year's Communities in Control conference delegates were equally moved by the work of the WA AIDS Council (WAAC) and Edmund Rice Camps SA.

WAAC executive director Trish Langdon and board member Jonathan Hallett took the audience through the council's 24-year journey from supporting people in illness and death and campaigning for law reforms, to supporting people to live healthy lives and manage their illness.

Mr Hallett said it was not until the mid-1990s that news filtered through that HIV treatments were working.

"HIV positive people who had been on their death beds were now able to think about living with a sense of hope and optimism," Mr Hallett said.

Amongst its other services, WAAC runs a youth drop-in centre, which Mr Hallett said was established when the Council realised the young people attending safe-sex education groups had often been kicked out of home or were self-harming or contemplating suicide.

WAAC has also employed Aboriginal staff to provide culturally-sensitive services to the Indigenous community, and works with medical students to ensure their understanding of HIV/AIDS is up to date.

The second Community Idol winner, Edmund Rice Camps South Australia, provides children in need with a break from their everyday lives.

Eight years ago, five camps catered for 100 children. This year, 23 camps will cater for 400 children.

Executive officer Melanie Tate said the organisation relied largely on grants, fundraising and donations, but with the addition of a unique funding source.

"The training that we do with our volunteers we offer as a fee-based service to the public," Ms Tate said. We actually train a lot of people in child-safe environments, which in South Australia is mandatory for anyone working with children or young people."

Ms Tate said that once participants reached 16 and were too old to attend camps, they were invited to continue their involvement as volunteers.

"We send them a letter basically saying that they're no longer eligible to receive services as a young person but they are welcome to become involved as a volunteer," Ms Tate said.

"We do have quite a large number of people that do that."

Edmund Rice Camps and the WA AIDS Council both received \$3000 in cash from Westpac, and a package of Our Community books, newsletters and training vouchers totalling an additional \$3000.

Introducing Community Idol at the conference, Westpac retail and business banking group executive Peter Hanlon said the company's involvement with Our Community had enabled it to work out how its expertise could be used to provide more support for the community sector.

"Westpac Community Idol is also (about) seeing how we can become involved in providing support and in fact recognition for those organisations who really do provide fantastic support at the grassroots, right around the country," he said.

The third finalist, the Cerebral Palsy Support Network, told delegates how they managed to pull off their annual fundraiser, Melbourne's Longest Cake.



The key to securing celebrity support, they said, was simply asking for it, without apology.

In the event's first year the CPSN raised \$58,000 from sponsorship and cake sales.

The money raised each year is deposited into a trust fund, and members can apply for grants of up to \$500 per person. They are encouraged to apply for something that will enhance their quality of life, and that is not funded elsewhere.

CPSN now has almost 400 members, 300 of whom have cerebral palsy. It has grown from a handful of parents meeting in the founder's lounge room in 1993, to an organisation with an office and support groups meeting regularly across suburban Melbourne.



For more information about Community Idol, visit www.ourcommunity.com.au/idol

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4. Talking Finances ... by Westpac Head of Community Markets, Vanessa Nolan-Woods

With budgets under pressure both at home and in businesses worldwide, it's not surprising that donations to community organisations have declined 4.2% over the last fiscal year¹.

For community groups, this means a reassessment of your financial situation is essential to ensure that you can still operate efficiently without having to cut, or reduce, activity.

One key dimension of remaining financially viable throughout this difficult period is ensuring that you actively manage your cash flow.

To help build cash flow confidence in your organisation here are some quick tips from [Westpac's Smart Cash Flow Moves booklet](#) to keep in mind;

1. Make cash flow your top priority

If one piece of advice stands above all others to position your organisation strongly to weather the current economic climate it's this: be cash flow obsessed. Cash is the very life-blood of any organisation, whether it's a for-profit organisation or not. It is, in fact, the single most important factor in determining whether your organisation succeeds or fails. Make sure you act early to focus on plans for cash flow by developing a budget that records the amount of money that flows in and out of your organisation so you can forecast the availability of cash for given timeframes.

2. Understand your costs and control them

Before cutting costs, first and foremost, it's important to understand them. Once you understand your costs, you can then choose whether your strategy will be to fight to hold your income, or whether you need to wind back the scale of your activity to manage them.

3. Consider banking in one place and negotiating

If you have your banking with a number of financial institutions you're probably underestimating what a full financial relationship is worth to your bank and what they can offer you in return for it. Talk to your bank and ask what they can offer you. Having the conversation will cost you nothing and you may find that there are ways to save on fees.

4. Work smarter, not harder

In times of economic change, it's key that you approach your organisation's challenges with a clear head. There are so many time-saving technologies and products now available to community groups, and it's a great time to start looking at your business software, systems and processes to ensure you're making the most of what's available.

¹ Access Economics (November 2008) [The impact of the global financial crisis on social services in Australia](#)

Historically, the not-for-profit sector hasn't received as much attention as 'for-profit' businesses in terms of fundamentals such as payment systems like merchant services, payroll or other transactional systems.

Westpac, however, has recognised the gap in technologies available specifically for community groups and is currently in the process of developing a secure online payments tool, which will allow your members to pay membership fees via a secure link on your organisation's website.

The system aims to eliminate unnecessary administration and paperwork by centralising membership collections. Members provide their personal and credit card details (just like paying telephone bills online), allowing Westpac to collect your membership dues and send you an update at the end of the nominated period detailing who paid what, when.

This is just one way Westpac is responding to the needs of the community sector to make banking easier. We're working hard to have this tool available to you in the next three months. If you're interested in finding out more about the Memberships Online Tool or finding out what Westpac can do to improve your organisation's cash flow – don't hesitate to send us an email to communitymarkets@westpac.com.au.

Vanessa Nolan-Woods
Head of Community Markets
Westpac Retail and Business Bank

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5. Scared of the media? Hate Facebook? It's time to face your demons

Many community groups could do with some work in tweaking their media relations strategy.

No community organisation can afford to ignore the media. Positive media coverage can open doors to new members, new supporters, fundraising opportunities and support for your cause.

To help community groups get to grips with what the media want and how you can give it to them – while serving your own cause – Our Community and Hootville Communications have come together to offer a new training session.

The three-hour **Media Secrets for Community Groups** seminar is one of a number of new training opportunities being offered by Our Community.

In this session, which is being offered in Brisbane on September 3 and Melbourne on September 8, you will learn:

- What the media want
- How to discover, refine and package your own story ideas
- How to find new media opportunities
- How to pitch story ideas to harried journalists
- How to identify your audience
- What catalysts and contexts will get you coverage
- How to write media releases (and why this is a waste of time)
- Which daily habits will lead to greater coverage
- How to make your events more media friendly
- How to create media coverage out of thin air

The session will be held as part of a double-header, with Our Community and Hootville staging the **Weaving your Web – Online Essentials** seminar in the afternoon. You can attend one of the sessions, or both.

Weaving your Web will help you learn how to improve your Web 1.0 presence, embrace Web 2.0 possibilities and use your newfound online savvy to win friends and raise money for your community group.

In particular, this session will cover:

- Web 1.0 fundamentals – creating a job description for your website, clear sitemaps, cunning design, clear navigation, better search engine results, utilising Google analytics and Google webmaster tools, gaining more visitors
- How to create the right culture to be good online communicators
- Writing for online vs print
- E-newsletters – why they matter, how to start, what’s possible
- Web 2.0 basics: How and why you should use YouTube, Animoto, Facebook, Survey Monkey, MySpace and Twitter
- Which sites and services will make you better online communicators

Our Community training is Australia’s most practical and best value training for community groups. Half-day seminars cost just \$95.

Other upcoming opportunities include:

- **Certificate IV in Business (Governance) 2009** – accredited four-day training for community board/committee members and supporters
- **Community Fundraising Seminar 2009** – seminar for community groups
- **How to be recognised as an effective chair 2009** – seminar for community group board/committee chairs
- **How to be recognised as an effective secretary 2009** – seminar for community group board/committee secretaries & public officers
- **Planning for your Organisation’s Future** – seminar for community groups wanting to develop a workable strategic plan to lead the organisation’s future
- **Risk Management – Insuring Your Future** – a half day seminar offering community groups practical ways to come to terms with risk management
- **Secrets of Successful Boards 2009** – full-day seminar for prospective & current board/committee of management members, and those who support them
- **Winning Grants Seminar 2009** – seminar for community groups



For more information visit www.ourcommunity.com.au/training

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6. Demand for community services jumps

Demand for community services leapt by almost 20% between 2006-07 and 2007-08, according to the latest survey from the Australian Council of Social Services (ACOSS).

The 2009 Australian Community Sector Survey drew on responses from more than 550 not-for-profit and community sector agencies from around Australia.

The survey concentrated on groups’ activities during the 2007-08 financial year, and showed they were under more pressure to help more people than ever before.

Overall, agencies who responded to the survey provided services to more than 3.1 million people in 2007-08, an increase of 19% on the 2.63 million who had received a service from the same agencies in 2006-07.

Of the 3.1 million people who received support, about 40% were provided with “information, advice or referral” services – including telephone support services.

Just as marked was the increase in the number of people respondent agencies turned away – up 17% to 278,000 in 2007-08.

This meant more than 8% of people trying to access a service were turned away – a figure which grew to 33% for people trying to access a child welfare service and 25% for those trying to access either housing or youth services.

The most-needed support services were in the areas of:

- Long-term housing;
- Crisis and supported housing;
- Health services – including mental health and drug/alcohol services.

And, as would be expected, the difficulties people had in accessing these services most affected those who could least afford it. Low income groups, disadvantaged groups (including Indigenous populations) and the jobless were, on average, more likely to try and access these services.

Resources stretched tighter

In an indication that resources are more stretched than ever, the survey found that more organisations are more tightly targeting their services. Eighty-four percent of respondents agreed that their group was targeting services more tightly than in the past.

Eighty-five percent of respondents disagreed with the statement that “Government funding covers the true cost of delivering contracted services”. Only eight percent felt funding was adequate.

And respondents were evenly split on whether their funding adequately covered the costs of partnerships and collaborations stipulated in contracts with Government – 40.3% agreed and 40.5% disagreed that costs were covered.

Most worryingly, these results were indicative of the situation prior to the global financial crisis.

ACOSS surmises that the situation may well have deteriorated further, with serious consequences for service delivery.

“With organisations already reporting stretched resources and increasingly unmet demand for services, increased unemployment alone is likely to see organisations’ capacity to meet this demand significantly compromised,” the report says.

The full Australian Community Sector Survey can be downloaded here: <http://tinyurl.com/nhtoct>.

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7. The making of change

As we’ve said before, there’s a good deal of activity in the area of not-for-profit law reform.

The Government has some seven inquiries in train, including some heavy hitters, and hundreds of detailed submissions on the need for change are up at the Productivity Commission site and the Senate Inquiry site.

There is again pressure for change to some of the more irritating aspects of not-for-profit regulation in this country.

The push is not just coming from within Government.

Changemakers Australia (CmA), a national organisation headed by Jill Reichstein and Sarah Stegley which aims to support the growth of social change philanthropy in Australia, has set up the [Charity Law Reform Project](#) to bring about change in Australian tax laws so that not-for-profit (NFP) organisations that engage in advocacy for public policy reform can still qualify as charities, access a range of taxation concessions, and access philanthropic funding.

As we all know, current law – and current Tax Office practice – restricts social change philanthropy.

“It is critical that the work of NFP organisations that provide direct relief for those in need is complemented by activities that address the underlying causes of social ills such as poverty, inequality, abuse of human rights, and environmental degradation,” CmA says.

The project has developed a set of recommendations on the kind of tax reform that’s needed. Like almost every other agency that’s looked at the issue, CmA calls for the definition of charity to be written into the law rather than left to a chain of judge-made precedents stretching back to 1604.

“The definition of ‘charity’ needs to be modernised,” CmA says. “The definition of a charitable purpose should clearly include the advancement of that purpose. The definition of ‘advancement’ should in turn include prevention and promotion, as well as policy development and advocacy – including that aimed at changing a law or public policy.”

These ideas have been put forward in the past – most recently through the Charities Definition Inquiry in 2001 – but have got nowhere.

That’s why community groups should be applauding CmA’s project to keep the momentum going from our side.

“The next stage in the project is to engage with other stakeholders interested in this area of reform with a view to forming an alliance,” CmA says. “The project will research charitable law reform that has taken place in the USA, the UK, Canada and NZ over the past decade. A position paper outlining the proposed strategy for reform will be prepared in consultation with stakeholders and will then be the focus of a Forum.”

You can sign up as a member [here](#).

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8. Nurturing social enterprise

Support for social enterprises is gaining momentum in Australia.

Churchill fellow Joanne McNeill recently published the findings of her study of how the public sector can support social enterprise activity, and the Australian Centre for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Studies (CPNS) and Social Traders are currently creating a log of social enterprises in Australia, ahead of a more in-depth study to be conducted later in the year.

Social enterprises are businesses that operate to generate social/environmental as well as financial gains. They can be for-profit, not-for-profit or limited-profit organisations.

Our Community is one example.

The CPNS and Social Traders initiative website – www.socialeconomy.net.au – suggests the majority of social enterprises in Australia are not-for-profit. Their website says the growing interest in the sector “reflects a growing need for creative responses to complex social and environmental problems, as well as new pressures on not-for-profit organisations to diversify their income sources.”

“Australia has a strong history of social enterprise in the form of cooperatives, friendly societies and non-profit business ventures such as opportunity shops,” the website says.

“It is also home to a wide variety of new forms of social enterprise that operate within a range of different industries and fulfil their social objectives through many different creatively conceived forms.”

The initiative, Finding Australia’s Social Enterprise Sector, is trying to identify as many social enterprises as possible. If you can suggest any that should be considered or included, you can provide details at <http://www.socialeconomy.net.au/tellus/>.

Joanne McNeill, who is also the Community Capacity Building Officer for Social Enterprise at Parramatta City Council, has recommended that the philanthropic and public sectors trial new, innovative approaches to increasing access to capital for social enterprises.

She has recommended that the Federal Government fund research into the potential to replicate overseas approaches here in Australia.

While social enterprises are sometimes viewed as a fourth sector, or as types of third-sector organisations, Ms McNeill has recommended they be viewed as a hybrid model with the potential for “truly cross-sectoral collaboration and innovation”, working at the intersection of the commercial, social and public sectors.

Ms McNeill reports that social enterprise has been recognised as a useful model for place-based approaches to town-centre regeneration programs.

She spent time with more than 40 organisations as she conducted her study, the majority of which were in the United Kingdom, others in the United States and Canada.

Social Ventures Australia and Social Traders are hosting the second Social Enterprise World Forum in Melbourne from October 6-8, on behalf of the International Social Enterprise Consortium.

It will address social enterprises and social inclusion, particularly including the creation of employment opportunities for people disadvantaged in the labour market.

Current or potential practitioners are encouraged to attend, along with supporters and investors. To register, go to www.sewf09.com.

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9. Wrapping up a year of giving

On the giving front, the final figures for the year are now coming in, and the good news is that things aren't as bad as we'd feared.

The bad news is that that's all the good news there is.

Australian fundraisers, of course, have been hit by a double whammy – the recession has cut down considerably the amount of loose money floating around, and much of what was available has been poured into bushfire relief (\$370 million, at last count).

Mark Russell [reports](#) in the *Melbourne Age* that most charities have suffered a donation drop of about 5 to 10 per cent, “leaving them collectively \$500 million short on their cash income for 2008-09”.

“Charity research group Givewell said 57% of charities it surveyed had experienced a decline in income from fundraising appeals since July 1 last year, with an average 12% drop in donations,” the report said.

Vision Australia is expecting a 17% drop in income for 2008-09, the Starlight Foundation is down \$2 million, corporate donations to the Salvation Army are down 22%, the number of very large donors to the Red Cross is down 66%, donations to the University of Melbourne are down 40%, and over at World Vision child sponsorship is down about \$3.5 million.

“Certainly the bushfire appeal took a lot of money out of the economy. That was money that may otherwise have come our way,” [World Vision spokesman] Mr Dawson said. “We're seeing a much tighter environment with corporates and wealthier individuals, who often give money at the end of the tax year out of their bonuses or profits from their investments ... we're not seeing that money come through.”

On the other hand, individual giving to the Salvos is holding steady, Mission Australia reports that they're “finding Australians remain as generous as ever,” and St. Vincent de Paul says donations are holding up. Giving to the University of Melbourne is sharply down, but it went up 24% last year, leaving the University not all that much down on the historical trend. Monash and the University of Sydney admit that life has got tougher, but still expect to have a respectable year.

The best news comes from Our Community's www.GiveNow.com.au giving portal.

The number of people donating online this year is up around 75% over 07/08. Part of that is obviously due to the rush of funds into bushfire appeals, but if we make an attempt to correct for that there's still a rise of 45%.

The average amount people give hasn't dropped at all, so the total amount given through GiveNow.com.au is also up 75% (or 40% without the bushfires). GiveNow.com.au collected \$2.851 million this financial year in 26,000 individual donations, compared with \$1.629 million in 2007/08. Setting aside the December and January of 2004-05 (when donations poured in to support victims of the Asian tsunami), June 2009 produced the highest monthly donation total ever, and has seen the biggest ever number of donors give money through GiveNow.com.au.

International indices are, as always, mixed. In the UK philanthropists are giving as much, or more, during the recession, according to a recent survey by Coutts. Nearly 90% of the bank's clients are planning to maintain or increase donation levels this year.

Mark Evans, head of philanthropy and family business at Coutts, says: "There has been an upsurge in the level of philanthropy over the last 10 years, and it's great to see that the recession has not stopped everyone giving. The charity sector is now responding to the diversity of interests and enthusiasm among new donors, exploring ways of involving them and drawing on their skills."

Of Coutts' clients, 42% said they were motivated by a desire to "give back" to the community, with only 16% of clients saying tax benefits were their main reason for donating – which is good, because many fewer rich people this year are making profits that need to be offset by charitable deductions.

On the UK's 2009 *Sunday Times* Rich List, the top 100 philanthropists have donated £216million (A\$444 million) more to charity than last year, an 8% rise.

In the USA, too, new totals for charitable giving in 2008 suggest that many dire predictions were exaggerated. Charitable giving dropped about 2% from a year earlier, or 5.7% in inflation-adjusted dollars in 2008, according to the annual Giving USA study released Wednesday.

As a measure of gross domestic product, giving is still historically strong: The roughly \$308 billion in charitable gifts was 2.2% of GDP, down only slightly from 2.3% in 2007. Mind you, it was the first decline since 1987.

It's always possible that the recession's full impact on philanthropy has yet to be felt – but we shouldn't start to panic just yet.

Professor Miles McGregor-Lowndes of the Australian Centre for Philanthropy and Non-Profit Studies at QUT puts it this way:

"My view is that people shouldn't drop their bundle," he told the *Australian Financial Review*.

"Fundraising is a long-term game, and those who have been building close relationships with their supporters and donors will still receive philanthropic donations and funding."

If it moves more of us in the direction of greater professionalism in our fundraising, the recession will not have been wasted.

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10. Fundraisers beware: "Chugger Rage" on the rise

In a national newsletter emailed to members and subscribers recently, the Victorian-based Centre for Civil Society (www.civilsociety.org.au) launched a scathing attack on face-to-face fundraising.

The Centre urged readers to email in the names of groups using external fundraising agencies (known in some circles as "chuggers" – charity muggers) so it could compile a list for publication on its website:

"We think this practice of hiring back-packers and students to pretend to be volunteers stinks," the email said.

“We'd like to put pressure on the charities to stamp it out. Email us with the charities you come across that are in this ‘let's-pretend-we-have-volunteers’ game. We'll compile a list on our website.”

While the indignation of the Centre for Civil Society certainly appears real, the concerns they express are probably not.

As a 2008 *Raising Funds* article (www.ourcommunity.com.au/facetoface) revealed, the Fundraising Institute of Australia (FIA) has a very clear, very stringent set of guidelines regulating face-to-face fundraising.

The FIA, along with numerous Australian organisations (including a number of those cited in the Centre's email) and external fundraising agencies, signed this Standard of Face-to-Face Fundraising Practice in 2006 (<http://tinyurl.com/pl6r2r>).

The Standard states that if a member of the public asks a fundraiser who they work for, the fundraiser must reveal if they are a volunteer or in fact employed by an agency.

Anyone who believes a group has breached the rules is advised to immediately contact the FIA.

A big reason behind the Standard's development has been Australian organisations' growing use of external fundraising agencies; due in part to the increased difficulty such groups are having in recruiting volunteers to collect on their behalf.

The standards were also designed to address the public's perceptions of inappropriate practices relating to face-to-face fundraising.

People cross street to avoid face-to-face fundraisers

A British survey by website Leap Anywhere has found that people are willing to go to great lengths to shun face-to-face fundraisers.

More than 65% of 2000 respondents said they would cross the road to avoid a face-to-face fundraiser, while more than 25% admitted to lying by telling a charity worker they had already given money to their colleague.

Nearly 50% of respondents admitted to telling a street collector that they had no change to avoid giving.

On a more serious note, the survey found more than 30% of respondents were giving less time and money to charity than 12 months ago; a finding Leap Anywhere linked to the global downturn.

Victorian fundraisers warned of fines

Meanwhile, Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV), which oversees fundraising in Victoria, has reminded fundraisers that they face fines of up to \$1418 if they don't adhere to the law.

A recent “reminder” from CAV director Claire Noone confirmed the organisation would “use infringement notices as part of its compliance and enforcement activities in the fundraising industry”.

CAV has listed 13 breaches of the law which could result in fines. Three of them relate directly to fundraisers that use street collectors, paid face-to-face fundraisers or phone canvassers.

The laws state that:

- While participating in a fundraising appeal, all collectors must wear clearly visible identification badges.
- Prior to seeking donations, paid canvassers communicating using devices such as telephones must disclose that they are being paid, by whom and on behalf of whom.
- Prior to offering to sell anything, paid canvassers who communicate directly using devices such as telephones must disclose that they are being paid, by whom and on behalf of whom.

Breaching any of the above measures could see an organisation fined \$284.

Consumer Affairs Victoria also lists 10 other actions covering a variety of fundraising activities – including proper record keeping, disclosure, accounting and auditing. Breaches in these areas could result in fines of between \$284 and \$1418.

“We encourage all fundraisers to review their practices to ensure they comply with the law,” Dr Noone said.

“We encourage all fundraisers to review their practices to ensure they comply with the (Victorian Fundraising) Act and the (Fundraising Appeals) regulations to avoid any penalties.”

A list of the actions subject to infringement notices is available here: <http://tinyurl.com/ljgydx>.

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11. Productivity Commission Inquiry receives more than 150 submissions

More than 150 organisations have made submissions to the Productivity Commission’s investigation of the Contribution of the Not for Profit Sector to Australian society.

The Federal Government has asked the Commission to focus on improving the measurement of the sector’s contributions, and removing obstacles to maximising its contributions.

Organisations that have made submissions range from community groups such as Friends of Libraries Australia and the Cat Haven, to larger organisations such as Lions Clubs International Australia and The Smith Family, to sector groups such as The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia and the Australian Dental Association.

One of the submissions was from Our Community CEO Rhonda Galbally.

Dr Galbally told the Commission that government funding and grantmaking to community groups should be conditional on the grantee reaching desired levels of community participation and diversity.

The submission emphasised the importance of participation in maintaining people’s health and wellbeing. It said studies across a number of countries had shown “that people who are isolated or disconnected from others are at increased risk of dying prematurely.”

Dr Galbally’s submission said well-run groups provided people with social roles and meaningful occupations, developing their capacity and resilience individually and as a community.

“These advantages are not accounted for by current project-focused modes of outcome evaluation,” the submission said.

Dr Galbally noted that the various models of not-for-profit groups needed to be separately assessed for their contribution to health and wellbeing. She distinguished between service-delivery organisations (where clients/audiences pass through a system without greatly influencing it), membership-focused groups (such as churches or choirs, which are participative and goal-focused) and participative groups (such as neighbourhood houses, where members are seen as one of a group, not as individuals receiving benefits).

Recommendations made by Our Community include that:

- funding-related assessments register not only outputs and deliverables but also wider social health and wellbeing impacts;
- the operation of not-for-profit organisations be enhanced by reformed legislation on tax, registration, fundraising and governance; and
- that larger organisations should respect, value and support small groups in delivering programs within a locally-designed and locally relevant framework.

[Click here](#) to read submissions in detail or to find out more about the project.

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12. Marketing Guru: Going Green – reducing the environmental impact of your mail

Our Community and Australia Post have just launched a free book that will help you reduce the environmental impact of your mail.

The book, *Going Green*, can be accessed online at www.ourcommunity.com.au/green, or you can order a free hard copy via the same link. In order to reduce our own environmental impact, we're only printing as many copies as are required.

The booklet breaks the mail lifecycle down into six stages, providing detailed information and lots of tips. You can read it cover to cover, or just refer to those sections relevant to your project.



Below we've printed details from some of the book's checklists to give you an idea of what you should be able to do once you've read it:

Managing Your Mailing List

- Delegate mailing list management to a responsible employee
- Cross-check lists to avoid duplication
- Ensure rented lists have been screened against the Australian Direct Marketing Association's Do Not Mail list

Mail Design

- Employ a designer you are confident will give due consideration to the environment
- Advise your designer that minimising environmental impact is important to you
- Work to convey all your information in one document – avoid enclosing other items

Paper Purchase and Use

- Ensure your paper supplier is offering competitive prices for recycled paper
- Understand what the different paper certifications mean
- Understand the differences between varieties of chlorine content

Printing

- Have several computers network to one printer
- Ensure your printer's default setting is duplex
- If you're outsourcing, instruct your printer to use vegetable-based inks for the job

The Marketing Guru is an initiative of the Marketing, Media and Post Centre, the online resource for community organisations provided by Our Community and Australia Post. Send your questions to guru@ourcommunity.com.au.

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13. COMMUNITY CLASSIFIEDS – Notices, Offers, Awards, Giveaways & Tips

TO GIVE AWAY: Disposable Needles

A Brisbane organisation has 10 boxes of Novofine disposable needles to give away.

The boxes contain 8/30g/100x/0.3x8 mm/short inner needle caps/CE-0088/Lot 07B04S/Expiry01-2012.

The needles are usually used for dispensing diabetes medication.

If your group has a use for the needles please contact Bernadette via email to murriministry@bne.catholic.net.au or phone (07) 3245 5302.

WANTED: Community Experts / Civic Journalists

Victorian community newspaper chain Leader Community Newspapers is embarking on an innovative partnership that it hopes will identify key local issues and expand news coverage.

The organisation is hoping to enlist the help of the bank of expertise in each community that resides with retired professionals who have so much experience and knowledge to offer. Leader is calling for those people to express an interest in becoming part of a team that will work with reporters to identify and explore topics that are either neglected or underreported within your community.

The volunteers can be retired nurses, police officers, former councillors, social workers, lawyers, or sports administrators. There are no qualifications other than your professional and life experience.

The successful volunteers will form a small team that will work closely with Leader reporters to look at issues of advocacy, investigation and human interest. Leader does not intend this to be an onerous commitment: after an initial team meeting, contact will be maintained electronically.

The volunteer team will provide reporters with guidance, support and contacts that will provide the basis for the stories.

Leader believes this team approach to civic journalism will increase and reinforce their papers' role within their community, as well as generating valuable new information.

Leader welcomes applications from individuals already attached to community groups. Email your details to Nick Richardson: richardsonng@leadernewspapers.com.au .

WANTED: Emerging Leaders

Organisers of the ACCELERATE: Indigenous Australian Creative Leadership Program are calling for nominations from outstanding Indigenous candidates across the creative industries "to undertake a life-changing and career-accelerating opportunity in the UK and Australia.

Accelerate is described as a "unique international cross-culture program designed to boost and further the careers of Indigenous Australians and encourage the development of new relationships between the UK and Australia creative industries.

Three nominees will be selected for the program, receiving a package valued at around \$20,000, including an all expenses paid trip to the UK, an individually designed five week professional development program, leadership training and a professional placement within a cultural organisation upon return to Australia.

Organisers are seeking nominations from individuals, as well as recommendations. Nominations close on Friday, July 17. For more information visit www.accelerate.org.au.

WANTED: Emerging Leaders II

Applications are being sought for the 2010 Emerging Pacific Leaders' Dialogue (EPLD).

The second EPLD, which is described as "an important regional leadership development initiative" will take place from March 11 to 23.

Organiser plan to bring together 120 “high calibre, mid-career participants”, selected through an open application and selection process from more than 20 Pacific regions and from business, government, trade unions and the community sector.

The opening plenary sessions of the EPLD will be held in Samoa and the closing plenary in Tonga – each taking place over two days. The middle week will be devoted to 10 study tour programs, each visiting a separate Pacific region location and focusing on leadership and community development initiatives.

Applications close on Friday, July 17. For more information, visit www.epld2.com.

WANTED: Bushfire stories

In the wake of Victoria’s devastating February bushfires, the Rural Women’s Network will aim to tell the stories of those women living and working in fire-affected areas through the next edition of its national newsletter.

The Network would like to hear from women in areas hit by the fires or involved in bushfire recovery activities.

The Network’s newsletter will focus on what women are doing to help rebuild the lives of those directly affected by the 2009 bushfires.

Newsletter editors are after inspiring, empowering and informative articles that tell the story of beyond the bushfires from a woman’s perspective.

Submissions can be made by email or post and should include the sender’s address and phone number. Stories and letters must be written in the first person and should be a maximum of 500 words long – although 250-300 words is preferable for articles, and 100 words for letters.

Submissions of photographs and other artwork are also welcome. Photographs should be a minimum 350dpi and in jpg format, with photos and artwork accompanied by captions or short descriptions of the idea behind the photograph or artwork.

The deadline for submissions is July 15, and should be sent to: **Mail:** Rural Women’s Network, GPO Box 2392, Melbourne 3001. **Email:** ruralwomen@dpcd.vic.gov.au Phone (03) 9208 3650.

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14. Our Community Hero: Cathie Waller

Our Community Hero this month is Cathie Waller, Catering Director of Mary Valley Show Society (MVSS) in Imbil, Queensland.

Cathie has been nominated by fellow volunteers Kaili Parker-Price and Roger Hogg.

Kaili writes:

“Cathie Waller is a volunteer in the old sense of the word – she has been cooking burgers and ordering stock for the Mary Valley Show for more years than most of us knows – at least over 30.

“Cathie was one of the drivers behind expanding the show's catering arm to tender for other events as a major fundraiser for the agricultural show. This means catering for events such as vintage car rallies, tourist visits and the local endurance horse riding weekends.



“She manages to achieve all this while still cooking home baking for the local school tuckshop and helping to care for her grandchildren.

“At 69, Cathie is not one to let a failing knee stop her from being the last one standing after a big day in the canteen!

“This is one volunteer who could teach us all a thing or two about commitment.”

Roger Hogg adds:

“I can say without hesitation that I have never experienced anybody who has put more time and effort in to supporting the show society than Cathie.

“The MVSS financial position is extremely sound and that is largely due to the efforts of the catering side in raising funds via catering for the numerous events held throughout the year.

“If I were asked to present a picture depicting the essence of the MVSS it would not be a picture of a rodeo, an equestrian event, a woodchop or a ball, it would be a big picture of Cathie Waller in prime position in the show hall and kitchen.

“Recent health regulations require catering staff to become accredited by attending courses. I thought that might have brought about her retirement, but it did not deter her at all, she went off, did the course and passed.

“What can you say? Little but express admiration and respect, for service beyond the call of duty for any volunteer worker!

“If we were to place a dollar value on the time Cathie has put in over the years we would be staggered by the figure!”

Mary will receive a Community Heroes certificate, a selection of Our Community books and a 12-month subscription to a range of Our Community newsletters. If you would like to read about past Community Heroes, or find out how to nominate a Community Hero, visit www.ourcommunity.com.au/heroes

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15. Community Briefs

Community assets get “surprise” boost

Local councils around Australia have received an unexpected \$245million funding boost from the Federal Government.

The funding, announced in late June, has been allocated towards community infrastructure and sector reform. The announcement coincided with a meeting in Canberra between the Prime Minister, key Federal Government ministers and mayors and shire presidents from around Australia.

Australian Local Government Association president Geoff Lake welcomed the announcement, saying it showed how serious the Federal Government was about forging a real partnership with local councils.

“In the past six months, more than \$1 billion has been allocated by the Rudd Government to councils to fund community infrastructure at the local level. This is the most significant advancement in local government funding in almost a decade,” he said.

“We know that local government across the country faces a growing infrastructure funding deficit of more than \$14.5 billion and that somewhere between 10 to 30% of councils are facing bankruptcy unless there is urgent reform to local government funding.

“This extra money announced today is another step in the right direction to begin to turn this financing crisis around.”

Our Community newsletters

Our Community newsletters are delivered in PDF format – this allows us to provide an attractive document at a reasonable file size.

However, we'd like to remind Our Community members that our newsletters are also available in an alternative format if readability is an issue. This is part of our commitment to accessibility.

While the makers of the PDF format software have made significant inroads into ensuring that PDF files are accessible to people who are vision impaired, some still struggle with the format.

If you are a vision impaired subscriber to *Our Community Matters*, *EasyGrants*, *Raising Funds*, *Board Builder* or any other Our Community publication and need it to be sent in a format other than PDF, please let us know. Email to service@ourcommunity.com.au

Tax Office hears the Word

A loss in the long-running Word Investments case last December has seen the Australian Tax Office forced to alter future rulings on the definition of charity, the eligibility of organisations to be charities, and their ability to claim tax-exempt status.

As *Our Community Matters* has previously reported, six years of court proceedings between the ATO and Word Investments culminated last December in the High Court rejecting the Tax Office's appeal against a Federal Court verdict in favour of Word Investments.

A more detailed rundown on the Word Investments case is available from a Moores Legal's briefing here: <http://tinyurl.com/o6j3l7>. But briefly, the case centred on the ATO's assertion that Word's work was too entrepreneurial and therefore the organisation should not be eligible for charitable status. This was despite money raised by Word directly funding an associated organisation's charitable work.

In the wake of the decision, the ATO has confirmed it will amend existing rulings to reflect the High Court's judgement in the Word case.

The rulings are related to the definition of a charity, as well as the eligibility of an organisation to be a charity "even if it does not directly carry out charitable activities, but gives its profits to institutions that do".

An ATO statement on the changes said that, in the future, decisions on whether an organisation which "conducts an investment, trading or other commercial activity for profit" can be classed as a charitable institution would be based on what it does, and whether it fit the general definition of charitable work.

It's important to note, though, that the ATO's rulings may still be subject to change, depending on the outcome of a number of ongoing Federal Government reviews of the sector and taxation-related issues.

The full ATO statement on the Word Investments case can be read here: <http://tinyurl.com/rxodnl>.

AFL extends vilification definition

Footballers from all codes are often in the public gaze for all the wrong reasons, so it's heartening to see the AFL taking another step in the right direction in governing player behaviour.

The AFL has expanded the definition of what it classes as "prohibited conduct" under its player rules which cover vilification of another player or official.

The definition now not only encompasses racial and religious vilification – as it has done for almost 15 years – but also prohibits vilification on the basis of a special disability (which includes a disease or illness) or sexual orientation, preference or identity.

The AFL's original racial and religious vilification rules came into effect in 1995 after former Essendon champion Michael Long spoke out against on-field racism.

AFL Chief Operating Officer Adrian Anderson said the time had come to further expand the anti-vilification rules.

"The game has acted strongly for more than a decade to work against racism and our rules have stated that no form of abuse or vilification is acceptable. However, we have not specifically laid down the areas of disability or sexual preference in our rules, and this has now been addressed," he said.

"On the field, our players deserve and expect the right to compete as hard as they possibly can, in their work environment, free from any form of abuse or harassment."

Free fuel for 4900 volunteers

BP Australia's Vouchers for Volunteers program has seen almost 4900 people from right across Australia receive free fuel vouchers totalling \$250,000.

BP received around 15,000 applications for fuel vouchers in just two weeks during April and May, with about a third of applications successful.

BP Australia corporate social responsibility manager Dr Mark Glazebrook said the program aimed to "reduce the burden that lending a hand places on members of the community".

"We received around 15,000 applications from across the country, demonstrating how our community is willing to dig into their own pocket in their efforts to help others," he said.

"The recipients we announced today are spread across a diverse cross-section of Australia and are performing invaluable roles in our community. It was a really humbling experience to read the many stories we received from volunteers, and it painted a picture throughout both small and large communities of a country whose backbone is supported in many ways by the generosity of others."

A full list of successful applicants can be found here: www.talkstoppedlongago.com.au.

Admin Bandit wins community sector software award

Admin Bandit – a software product aimed at helping volunteer treasurers working in community groups – was named Australia's top community sector software product at the Australian Information Industry Association ICT industry awards.

Admin Bandit took out the e-Inclusions and e-Community category at the awards.

The package was designed by Canberra-based entrepreneur and mother of two Nerida Gill after she became treasurer of her local preschool.

It was originally created for volunteer treasurers in ACT preschools, but has since grown to become an online program suitable across the Australian volunteer sector.

"Designing a financial software product that can be used by people with minimal financial knowledge has meant that Admin Bandit is now used by sporting groups, school parent associations, scout and guide groups and groups of all shapes and sizes," Ms Gill said.

“This award win will help us in our efforts to become the number one supplier of accounting software to every grassroots community organisation in Australia.”

More information about Admin Bandit – including a free demo of the program – can be found here: www.adminbandit.com.au.

Volunteering: Telling Tales

Jobs website SEEK may boost the numbers of community volunteers in Australia with a new webpage: Volunteering Unplugged.

Attached to SEEK’s volunteering jobs board, www.volunteer.com.au, the new page provides a forum for volunteers to tell their stories about engaging with the community.

Corporate volunteer Brett, for example, tells of working with Blaze Aid to rebuild fences destroyed by the Victorian bushfires. Anyone inspired by his story can either click on the link to Blaze Aid’s website, or search for volunteer opportunities with SEEK Volunteer.

Volunteers can upload photo, video or audio files to illustrate their stories, and must provide assurance that none of the information they are providing is confidential or in breach of copyright.

SEEK says the site is for people to “explore, read, learn, share and – most of all – get inspired.”

SEEK has a long-standing partnership with Volunteering Australia and the Boston Consulting Group, with whom it runs www.volunteer.com.au.

To read or add to the stories on Volunteering Unplugged, go to www.volunteer.com.au/unplugged.

Getting women on boards

Women’s presence – or lack of it – on Australian boards continues to be an issue which raises more questions than answers.

Why are women not being selected for board appointments?

How can women, if they choose to develop their leadership aspirations through directorships, prepare themselves and gain entry into these positions?

How can the inequity be overturned?

The Australian Centre for Leadership for Women (CLW) is searching for answers to some of these questions by urging people to complete its Women Getting into Boards survey.

CLW founder Diann Rodgers-Healey hopes the survey will shed light on the obstacles dissuading women from becoming involved in public and private organisations’ boards, as well as exploring the resources needed to enable women to succeed in gaining board positions.

The survey is open until August 12, and can be filled out by following this link: <http://tinyurl.com/lcs5kg>.

Community Calendar: What's on in the community sector

Our Community's online [Community Calendar](#) features all of the nationally significant events focussed around a major community or advocacy/awareness issues in Australia. Some events taking place in July are:

- **International Day of Cooperatives:** July 4
- **World Population Day:** July 11
- **Diabetes Week:** July 12-18
- **Fragile X Awareness Day:** July 22
- **Stress Down Day:** July 24
- **National Stepfamily Awareness Day:** July 26
- **Schools Tree Day:** July 31



More events, plus the full listing for each event, can be found at www.ourcommunity.com.au/calendar.

FEATURED EVENT

NAIDOC Week July 5-12

NAIDOC Week events across Australia celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

NAIDOC is celebrated not only in Indigenous communities, but by Australians from all walks of life. The week is a great opportunity to participate in a range of activities and to support your local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

The theme for NAIDOC Week in 2009 is Honouring Our Elders, Nurturing Our Youth. For more information go to: www.naidoc.org.au/

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16. Good Moves – community jobs & board/committee vacancies



Good Moves :: Jobs Bulletin

www.ourcommunity.com.au

JOB VACANCY LISTINGS (Paid Positions)

Australian Capital Territory

Job Title	Organisation	
Adoption Assistant Kennels	RSPCA (ACT) Inc	Details

New South Wales

Job Title	Organisation	
Senior Research and Evaluation Officer	The Benevolent Society	Details
Community Support Workers / Coordinators	Coastlink	Details
Street charity fundraisers	2EVOLVE	Details
Research and Policy Manager	Inspire Foundation	Details

Northern Territory

Job Title	Organisation	
Counsellors	Anglicare NT	Details
Director	Wadeye Palngun Wurnangat Association	Details

Queensland

Job Title	Organisation	
Program Coordinator	Christian Brothers Oceania Province	<u>Details</u>
Library Assistant (Young People Liaison Officer)	Logan City Council	<u>Details</u>
Disability Support Worker	Life Stream Foundation	<u>Details</u>
Housing Support Worker	Churches of Christ Care	<u>Details</u>
Queensland Firebirds Head Coach	Netball Queensland	<u>Details</u>
Disability Employment Consultant (Disability Employment Network)	Open Minds	<u>Details</u>
Manager	MultiLink Community Services Inc.	<u>Details</u>

Victoria

Job Title	Organisation	
Family Support Worker	City of Port Phillip	<u>Details</u>
Senior Project Officer	The Parenting Research Centre (PRC)	<u>Details</u>
Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner (FDRP)	Final5	<u>Details</u>
Coordinator - Level 1	Scope (Vic) Ltd	<u>Details</u>
Business Manager	Scope (Vic) Ltd	<u>Details</u>
Program Worker	Mental Illness Fellowship Victoria	<u>Details</u>
Volunteer Resource Officer with Volunteers of Banyule	Volunteers of Banyule	<u>Details</u>
Early Childhood Intervention Workers	Noah's Ark	<u>Details</u>
Intensive Youth Worker - Support For Young People That Really Counts (SFYPTRC)	Anchor Inc	<u>Details</u>
Senior Program Worker - Support for Young People That Really Counts (SFYPTRC)	Anchor Inc	<u>Details</u>
Senior Program Worker - Opening Doors	Anchor Inc	<u>Details</u>
Generalist Case Worker	Molly's House Inc'	<u>Details</u>
Project Coordinator (Social Sport for All)	City of Darebin	<u>Details</u>
Fund Raising and Development Manager	GordonCare for Children	<u>Details</u>
Community Development Officer	YMCA Victoria	<u>Details</u>
Volunteers	St Mark's Community Centre	<u>Details</u>
Program Manager	Kids Under Cover	<u>Details</u>

BOARD/COMMITTEE VACANCY LISTINGS (Volunteer Positions)

The following is a list of the most recent Board/Committee vacancies listed at Our Community. To view other board or Committee vacancies [please click here](#) (This matching service is free)

New South Wales

Job Title	Organisation	
Treasurer, Secretary	Macleay Valley Hope Farm Inc.	Details
Secretary	Chronic Pain Australia	Details
Treasurer	CURRENCY HOUSE INCORPORATED	Details

Queensland

Job Title	Organisation	
Treasurer	Women's Creative Centre Inc	Details

South Australia

Job Title	Organisation	
Secretary, General Board Member	Edmund Rice Camps SA Inc	Details

Victoria

Job Title	Organisation	
General Board Member	Virtual Enterprise Australia	Details
General Board Member	Women's Health West	Details
Treasurer, Secretary, General Board Member	playUP Contemporary Youth Arts	Details
General Board Member	Kew Community Festival	Details
General Board Member	Peninsula Support Services	Details
Sub-committee non-Director role	AQA Victoria	Details
Community Advisory Committee Member.	Alfred Health	Details
Publicity Officer	Australian Plants Society Yarra Yarra Inc	Details
Secretary	Melbourne Stencil Festival	Details

Western Australia

Job Title	Organisation	
General Board Member	Millennium Kids Inc.	Details
General Board Member	Joondalup Youth Support Services	Details

17. Fast Forward

If you found this newsletter helpful, please feel free to send it on to your friends and fellow community groups in your area. People can sign up to receive their own copy at www.ourcommunity.com.au/signup.

If you would like to reproduce anything in this newsletter in your own newsletters or websites, you are free to do so. Please just add a small credit line, "courtesy of www.ourcommunity.com.au" and a direct link to the www.ourcommunity.com.au site if on a webpage.

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please email service@ourcommunity.com.au and put "Unsubscribe-OCM" in the subject line.

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18. About Our Community

Our Community is a world-leading social enterprise that provides advice and tools for Australia's 700,000 community groups and schools, and practical linkages between the community sector and the general public, business and government. Our major offerings include:

1. www.ourcommunity.com.au – Australia's most useful website and publishing house, encompassing the nation's largest and most diverse membership base and 12 Knowledge Centres – accelerating the impact of Australia's 700,000 community organisations
2. GiveNow.com.au – Helping individuals and businesses give in every way
3. [Australian Institute for Community Practice and Governance](#) – practical and accessible certificated training delivered locally through our training Institute
4. [Institute for Best Practice in Grants Management](#) – the unique suite of grants management services for government
5. [Australian Institute for Corporate Responsibility](#) – cutting edge corporate responsibility resources for large, medium and small business and community organisations

Read more about us at www.ourcommunity.com.au/aboutus.

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