



Edition 8/2003

Welcome to the latest edition of ***Our Community Matters***, our regular free community update. It is yet another benefit of membership of www.ourcommunity.com.au - the premier destination for Australia's 700,000 community, education and non-profit groups. ourcommunity.com.au provides community groups with the latest funding, scholarship and fundraising news as well as practical advice and the opportunity to list for free online donations and free online volunteers through the [National Community Giving Centre](#).

We also provide discounted services and products, including the [banking services deal](#) with the National Australia Bank which provides transaction accounts specifically tailored for community groups.

A summary of our services is listed at the end of this newsletter. If you have trouble reading this newsletter or have any comments please let us know at brianw@ourcommunity.com.au.

In this Issue

Contents

1. [Welcome by Rhonda Galbally AO, CEO of ourcommunity.com.au](#)
2. [Our Community – Great Australian Leaders in Focus.](#)
3. [Time to start preparing for Christmas appeals.](#)
4. [Latest book lists the simple secrets to Community Groups' success.](#)
5. [New measures on deductions on fundraising events a bonus for DGR groups.](#)
6. [New moves to capture the Baby Boomer volunteer market.](#)
7. [Another chance for groups to win in the National Volunteer Awards](#)
8. [Would you take money from a tobacco company? Do you have a policy to decide on donations?](#)
9. [Community Briefs - bits and pieces from the community sector.](#)
10. [Fast Forward.](#)

1. Welcome by Rhonda Galbally AO, CEO of ourcommunity.com.au.

Welcome,

One of the things that we have fought pretty hard about over the past two years is to try and overcome the appalling situation that community organisations have had to overcome in relation to public liability insurance.

We ran the most comprehensive survey of community organisations in relation to public liability insurance – a survey that found that despite the continuing claims by the insurance industry, more than 96 per cent of the 1000 groups surveyed had not experienced any claim over the past five years.

The survey results provided the basis for a practical solution in Victoria and Tasmania where the Municipal Association of Victoria and Jardine Lloyd Thompson joined together to provide a scheme that would protect groups. The Community Group Insurance Scheme which is still the best scheme in the country at this stage.

Other states also came up with their own solutions and all Governments across Australia took fairly radical moves to institute legislative changes (at the urging of insurers) to make it more acceptable for the insurance industry to offer cover to community organisations.

Which is why it is so disturbing that despite all the legislative changes and the recent announcements by several insurers of huge profits over the past financial year, that the insurance industry seems to be the only group still dragging the chain on insurance.

This week we had the news that the Surf Lifesaving Association of Australia faced a rise in their premium of 150 per cent on last year – and were told by brokers that they should feel lucky to have even got insurance. The question for the insurance industry is why?

The State and Federal Governments have done their bit. The community organisations have done their bit by committing themselves to a greater regime of risk management and also cutting out many of the activities that they previously had held without incident. And yet the insurers have failed to come to the party in terms of lower premiums (although full credit should go to the MAV's Community Group insurance scheme which managed to hold premiums for the next 12 months at 2002-03 levels).

To a great extent, the problems with getting public liability insurance have diminished but the problem with substantial increases in premiums have, unfortunately, not gone away. Nor has the sense that Australian community groups are sick to death of insurers blaming everyone else for the continuing rise in premiums. Surely it is about time that the insurance industry joined everyone else in changing the way they go about their business.

If anyone else has had recent problems with either accessing public liability insurance or with large increases please email details to Patrick Moriarty at patrickm@ourcommunity.com.au.

People with Disability strive for international recognition.

After so many people have been involved in pushing for greater accessibility and integration for people with disabilities, I have been interested to follow the international discussion on the push for an international Human Rights Convention dealing with people with disabilities.

Disabled Peoples International has been doing much to prepare a UN-backed convention which encapsulates the rights of people with disabilities. It is an interesting discussion and one that recognises that the reality is that many people with disabilities still suffer many human rights abuses around the world.

"There can be no question that people with disabilities are subject to the international human rights system, and that we are entitled to full enjoyment of all the rights set forth in each of the currently existing core human rights instruments. Yet we recognise that human rights abuses remain a daily reality for disabled people around the world. This is true mainly because of the gap between the values expressed by the human rights system, and the reality of disability. In order for this gap to be effectively bridged, a specific international human rights Convention for disabled people must be elaborated," DPI says.

"Furthermore, the Convention must be based in, and draw from, existing human rights norms and standards and address in concrete terms the economic, social, political and cultural circumstances that may adversely impact the human rights condition of disabled people."

I encourage individuals and groups representing people with disabilities to follow the discussions either through their own peak groups or through DPI at www.dpi.org.

Sport encouraging Community Leaders

One of the things that I have been involved with in recent times has been the rebirth of the AFL Foundation which has been re-established to create greater links with elite footballers and the community.

Along with people like the Pratt Foundation's Heloise Waislitz, footballer Peter Bell, David Gyngell, the deputy CEO of the Nine Network, 3AW's Neil Mitchell, Justice Jack Winneke, Ron Barassi, Police Commissioner Christine Nixon and Frank McGuire, the Foundation recently had the pleasure of judging a new award, the AFL community leadership award.

This award is for the AFL player who has made the greatest achievement in leadership and excellence in making a voluntary commitment to the community. The inaugural winner was David Wirrpunda, a player with the West Coast Eagles who, since the age of 16, has been heavily involved in mentoring teenagers and won the award

for his work with both indigenous youth and also young people who have been struggling with issues such as drugs, alcohol, low self esteem and peer pressure.

While I am no expert about what happens on the football field, there is no doubt David has had a massive impact on the lives on many young people. His contribution – and indeed that of all the other nominees – is not a token effort but a deep commitment to, and genuine immersion in, community. David is currently in the process of establishing his own Foundation to continue his work which is a move that will hopefully be replicated by other sportspeople.

The AFL have to be commended for restoring the Foundation and also for promoting a Community Leadership Award which recognises the efforts of the players in the community. Hopefully young people who are inspired by the player's skills will be equally inspired by their efforts off-field and try and replicate them as well.

RHONDA GALBALLY AO

Chief Executive Officer

[Back to Top](#)

2. Our Community Leaders – Great Australian Leaders in Focus.

As a new initiative for Our Community Matters, every month we will feature the thoughts of some of our best known and most effective Australian community leaders.

This monthly segment, ***Our Community Leaders – Great Australian Leaders in Focus*** is part of a wider project we are doing with the Federal Department of Family and Community Services to increase the level of awareness of community leadership as well as the opportunities available. We thank FACS for their great support.

Each month's interview is designed to excite and stimulate discussion on the important elements of leadership as well as providing some personal insights that can serve as lessons or guides for other younger and emerging leaders.

Leadership – like any other skill for a community leader – is about constant improvement and a constant search for new and better ways to be able to guide your community organisation or to be able to get a message across to a wider audience.

We are very grateful for the many Australian community leaders who have agreed to take part in this series and we hope it enlivens discussion, debate and directions on what is the true meaning of community leadership. The first community leader to take part is **Peter Garrett**, the President of the Australian Conservation Foundation and a renowned environmental and community activist.

Our Community: Who do you consider to be the great leaders of our time? And Why?

Peter Garrett: Nelson Mandela, he had the strength of will to endure a long period of hardship, the change of heart to see his opponents as human and the intelligence to see that offering light at the end of the tunnel is always preferable to blocking the way or trying to blow up obstacles.

Our Community: What are the three attributes you would consider to be essential to a leader? Why?

Peter Garrett:

- Humanity – to never lose sight of those you lead.
- Faith/ confidence – to believe as though all things are possible and act on that belief.
- Farsightedness – not to get bogged down by petty issues of micro-politics. i.e. seeing the big picture.

Our Community: What are the three greatest barriers to new leaders emerging in Australia?

Peter Garrett:

- The knocking or 'tall poppy' syndrome.
- The Failure of current leaders to mentor and encourage young leaders.
- Fear of failure

Our Community: What advice would you give to a potential leader to take them to the next stage?

Peter Garrett: Life is very short; be willing to serve.

Our Community: Nature/nurture – are leaders born or bred?

Peter Garrett: Some people are born with the necessary gift, and some work hard to build on the few gifts they have.

Our Community: What do you consider to be the three top leadership issues facing the nation?

Peter Garrett:

- Truth and accountability in political and corporate life.
- Endeavoring to craft good ideas and positive goals for the long haul.
- Trusting those who follow.

Our Community: What insights have you gained personally on your leadership journey?

Peter Garrett: Each day is different and you must be willing to learn (again) how to best do your job as a leader.

IN next month's edition of Our Community Matters we will have the thoughts of former Australian of the Year and renowned scientist and community leader, Sir Gustav Nossal. Sir Gus delivered a fantastic speech on community leadership at the 2003 Communities in Control conference.

[Back to Top](#)

3. Time to start preparing for the Christmas appeals.

It seems as though the mid-year appeal season has only just finished but groups wanting to take advantage of the increased emphasis on giving come Christmas time will already be starting to think about setting up their Christmas appeal.

The trick is not to leave it till the last minute but to establish it early and ensure that you have enough time to coordinate all the direct mail, publicity, marketing and communications around the appeal.

One of the reasons that people tend to give more around Christmas time is that there are more requests to give so it is important that your organisation is able to tap into the giving spirit and also has a compelling message that sets your appeal apart from the pack.

Next month we will announce details of a major new push for the Christmas giving campaign through the **[National Community Giving Centre](#)** so we are encouraging all those groups that don't have an online donations service to sign up for the free service through Our Community.

Even if you do have your own online donations capacity, you can sign up with **www.ourcommunity.com.au** and hopefully pick up donors who are directed by the campaign straight to the site.

Next month we will feature some tips to assist groups that have an online donations facility and how they can better utilise it and direct more of the people most likely to donate to your organisation straight to your page. The most important tip is to let people know they can donate online. Ensure there is a visible link off your Internet home page, ensure all your emails carry a link directly to your online donation facility and that all your marketing information carries the link.

If you would like to list your appeal with the National Community Giving Centre (more than 280 appeals have been listed so far), download the information pack from http://www.ourcommunity.com.au/giving/how_to_list_appeal.jsp or contact Amy Johannsohn on amyj@ourcommunity.com.au or call (03) 9320 6806.

We also welcome some of the recent appeals that have been listed through the National Community Giving Centre, which is supported by the National Australia Bank. They include (To donate or to visit any of the appeal pages just click on the links below):

- **[Australian Red Cross NSW Breakfast Club Appeal](#)**
- **[Queensland Renal Association Inc Renal Patient and Carer Getaway Appeal](#)**
- **[Oxfam Community Aid Abroad Ethiopia in Crisis Appeal](#)**
- **[Ronald Mc Donald House Westmead Renovate our House Appeal](#)**
- **[Australian Drug Foundation Appeal](#)**

- [ARAFMI Queensland Carer Support Appeal](#)
- [Cottage by the Sea Appeal](#)
- [Gateway Community Group Helping People in Desperate Need Appeal](#)
- [Queensland Meals on Wheels Service equipment Appeal](#)
- [Queensland AIDS Council HIV Living Fund Appeal](#)
- [Zoe's Place Construction Appeal](#)
- [Karuna Hospice Appeal](#)
- [Epilepsy Association of SA's Epilepsy - Could you help in an emergency?](#)
- [Very Special Kids Piggy Bank Appeal](#)
- [UNHCR "No one can help refugees as much as we can.....except you" Appeal](#)
- [Brisbane Helping Hand Inc For those in need Appeal](#)
- [Queensland AIDS Council Red Ribbon Appeal](#)
- [Daw House Hospice Foundation Inc Appeal](#)
- [Australian Red Cross NSW Glen Mervyn Young Women's Health Program](#)
- [Murdoch Community Services Sports and Recreation Appeal](#)
- [Foundation Boroondara Community Appeal](#)
- [Nutrition Australia - National Nutrition Week](#)
- [Victorian Animal Aid Trust's Animal Aid - Wags to Whiskers Appeal](#)
- [Blind/Vision Impaired Persons Network Purchasing a Bus for safe, comfortable transport Appeal](#)
- [Wimmera Base Hospital Foundation Appeal](#)
- [South Kingsville Health Services Co-operative Ltd Health Cause Appeal](#)
- [Enough is Enough Peacemaker Appeal](#)
- [Children's Welfare Association of Victoria 90th Birthday Capital Appeal](#)
- [Benevolent Society's Help provide support for transracial adoptees and their families Appeal](#)
- [RSL Girl in a Million Quest - Entrant Kristie Goulding Appeal](#)
- [Carries Place Women's and Children Centre Appeal](#)
- [Logan and Albert North Disability Services Inc \(Lands Inc\) Building Appeal](#)
- [Melbourne Fringe Donor program](#)
- [Habitat for Humanity Australia Hope Builders Appeal](#)
- [Interchange Western Region Association Inc.Children's Camp Appeal](#)
- [Diabetes Australia QLD Pre Diabetes - ACT NOW! Appeal](#)
- [Youth Enterprise Trust - The Appeal](#)
- [Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture Inc.Forum of Australian Services for Survivors of Torture and Trauma Appeal](#)
- [Melbourne Theatre Company 50th Anniversary Tax Appeal](#)
- [Mercy Works Incorporated Donor Drive](#)

[Back to Top](#)

4. Latest book lists the simple secrets of successful community groups.

COMMUNITY and non-profit groups looking for basic advice on how they can become more efficient and effective now have a new book to help them with the official launch of one of the new Our Community publications.

Finding the simple secrets of successful community groups is a collection of over 400 tips contained in 50 columns detailing how non-profit groups, particularly, small and medium community organisations and schools can become more efficient and effective.

The book is the latest guide for the community sector developed by ourcommunity.com.au and adds to previous books and the monthly publications **Easy Grants** and **Raising Funds**.

Finding the simple secrets of successful community groups is an edited series of columns written by ourcommunity.com.au CEO, Dr Rhonda Galbally, over the past two years. The weekly columns are distributed to dozens of newspapers around the country to provide local community groups with basic information on ways to improve their organisation.

The columns contained in ***Finding the simple secrets of successful community groups*** cover subjects such as finding new fundraising methods, marketing your group, finding and looking after volunteers, risk management, planning and developing strategies for community groups, improving non-profit Boards and advocating for change. Other topics such as preparing a media release, selling a winning message (and spreading it), adding value to special events, maintaining a strong corporate knowledge and staying cool in a crisis are also covered.

"The columns in this book aren't designed to be the last word on any subject but to provide a starting point and enough innovation and inspiration for community or school leaders to say 'Why don't we have a go at that. We can do that'," author Dr Galbally said.

"Every group – whether a sporting club, church, school community, local environmental group, self help group or welfare agency – can improve what they are doing. Often the first step is just knowing where to start and these columns and tips will hopefully get the discussions going and encourage groups to have a go at something new."

"In speaking to various community workshops and seminars around the country, people often ask for tips or secrets to help their group. The truth is that the secret often is just doing the simple things and getting the basics right. That can make the biggest difference."

Finding the simple secrets of successful community groups costs \$36 and can be ordered by downloading the form at www.ourcommunity.com.au/files/columns_book.pdf, emailing service@ourcommunity.com.au or calling (03) 9320 6800.

(Below is a recent column sent to local newspapers. It is not in the book but gives some idea of the types of ideas and advice contained in *Finding the simple secrets of successful community groups*.)

If the old adage is time is money, what dollar value does your organisation put on your volunteers and the work they do?

It is an interesting question because if volunteers were paid for all of the time and work they devoted to our local communities, the bill would run into the billions of dollars. In fact if volunteers decided to take a day off tomorrow and stop doing what they do for even one day, communities around the country would be thrown into absolute chaos.

Basically no sporting or arts event could go ahead, our schools, hospitals, elderly citizens homes and health services would have to drop many of their activities and the community would literally be brought to a standstill.

And maybe that is how we should look at the volunteers in our community. Have a look at your own town on any particular day and look at what activities would be affected if volunteers stopped volunteering.

Calculating the financial value of volunteers is not just an academic issue. It is also important to know when putting together grants submissions or applications that detail how much your organisation is going to contribute to a project.

Most organisations say zero or leave it blank. This is a mistake. While some organisations will not contribute money or cash, they contribute something far more valuable – the volunteers who can actually make the project happen.

No amount of cash can compensate for a group of committed, enthusiastic volunteers who put their minds – and bodies – into getting a job done. It is important in any grant submission to calculate how many volunteers will be involved (Board, project leaders, individuals), how many hours they are expected to devote to it (days, weeks, months) and then multiply that figure by the standard cost of an hour's worth of volunteer labour.

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics this figure was calculated at \$15.90 per volunteer hour in 1999-2000 and Volunteering Australia still use this figure today. So a community organisation that has four volunteers working on a project two days a week for four weeks (4 volunteers x 8 days x 8 hours x \$15.90 = an in-kind contribution of \$4070.

Not only does the value of the project increase but you can now refer to it more as a partnership where your organisation and the funding body are both contributing something to the project. Some groups will cost professional volunteers or pro bono support (legal, marketing, public relations) at closer to the market rate so that if a public relations company was offering two hours a week for four weeks, the value might be closer to \$1600 than \$127. Or in the case of a group such as Technical Aid to the Disabled they cost the work of their engineer volunteers at \$60 an hour – a conservative figure but still closer to the real value of outsourcing such expertise.

It is not about inflating the value of your organisation or its contribution but about putting a realistic figure on your contribution and value to the local community. The reality is that the value can not be expressed solely in dollar terms but in this day and age it can be a good start.

[Back to Top](#)

5. New measures on deductions for fundraising events a bonus for Australian DGR groups.

Good news for charities holding special fundraising events with the announcement recently by the Prime Minister of changes that will increase the ability of groups with Deductible Gift Recipient status (DGR) to expand their revenue.

From 1 July 2004 individuals will, in certain circumstances, be able to receive a tax deduction for the net amount of a donation made to a deductible gift recipient, which has an associated minor benefit. The deduction will be available for cash donations above \$250, where the value of the benefit received by the donor is no more than 10 per cent of the donation or \$100, whichever is less.

Currently, if a deductible gift recipient holds a fundraising dinner, none of the cost of attending the dinner is deductible even if some of the payment is intended as a donation. Under this measure people will receive a tax deduction for the donation component of any payments to a deductible gift recipient.

For example, if a fundraising dinner cost \$1000, but the market value of the dinner was \$100 participants will be entitled to a \$900 tax deduction.

This measure will not apply to fundraising events held by political parties, which are not deductible gift recipients.

The measures were based on the work of the Prime Minister's Community Business Partnership (PMCBP) which was established in 1999 to foster partnerships between business, government and the community. Since 1999 the Partnership has taken a leading role in making Australia's taxation system friendlier to companies and individuals who want to give, helping deductible gift recipients attract donations.

The move is great news for the almost 19,000 groups that currently enjoy DGR status but it also provides yet another reason why it is so important that the incredibly restrictive guidelines defining a DGR charity be eased so that many more of the 700,000 community organisations in Australia can also benefit.

Let's hope the changes to the charity legislation in which they are widening the categories to allow more groups to become charities (currently about 40,000) will see a similar easing in the DGR requirements to allow more groups to share in this benefit.

[Back to Top](#)

6. New moves to capture the Baby Boomer volunteer market.

A better picture of the motivations of volunteers will soon be available following the decision by the WA Government to fund a new research project.

WA Volunteering Minister Sheila McHale has provided CLAN (Community Link and Network) WA with a \$107,000 Lotterywest cheque to research the motivations of the state's 428,600 volunteers. It is hoped the research will ultimately help volunteer groups better recruit and retain volunteers and lift participation rates by better understanding why people volunteer.

The project builds on initial research undertaken during the 2001 International Year of Volunteering in which a questionnaire, the Volunteer Motivation Inventory was developed and tested with a small group.

The research identified eight factors impacting on a person's decision to volunteer including opportunities for personal growth, social interaction, career development, recognition and pleasure in giving to others.

In the project's second phase, the research team, headed by Dr Judy Esmond, will use the questionnaire with about 300 community service volunteers.

One of the targets for greater volunteer participation was the massive number of Baby Boomers, with the WA Government estimating there are that there are 526,000 Baby Boomers, the age demographic born between 1946 and 1963 in WA.

Dr Esmond, who is presently running seminars on how to tap into the possible Baby Boomer volunteer market, last year released the report *From Boomnet to Boomnot* – a report which found only six per cent of volunteer groups had thought about how they could actively target the State's 526,000 baby boomers in recruitment strategies.

An earlier report released by Dr Esmond identified seven key strategies to attract and retain Baby Boomer volunteers:

- understand the aspirations and characteristics of Baby Boomers;
- run an organised, professional organisation;
- provide an open and supportive environment where volunteers are valued;
- provide meaningful, interesting and challenging volunteering opportunities;
- meet the personal needs of volunteers;
- provide education opportunities that develop volunteers' skills; and
- time constraints mean volunteering opportunities need to be short-term, time specific and flexible.

Baby Boomers currently make up about 200,600 of the estimated 428,600 volunteers in Western Australia but the Minister said she was hopeful of developing a model of action to ensure organisations can attract and retain this group.

[Back to Top](#)

7. Another chance for groups to win in the National Volunteer Awards.

More than 180 groups have been short-listed for the National Volunteer Awards and now - with the support of members, supporters, donors, clients, friends and families - all have a chance to win in the People's Choice Awards.

In revamping their Volunteer Awards system this year, the National Australia Bank added a number of new categories as well as adding a People's Choice Award where the short-listed group with the most votes in each category would win \$2500 for their organisation.

The National and the groups that have been short-listed are now calling on all supporters to get behind them and register their support online for their favourite volunteer community organisation.

The 180 short-listed groups are featured on the <http://www.national.com.au> site (see direct links below) and are listed via their categories. People can click on the category which then displays the groups and with a couple of clicks of their mouse, can register their vote. You are only able to vote for one group in any one category.

There will be nine (9) People's Choice Award winners. Only one group will be rewarded per category. The groups which receive the most votes in each category will receive \$2,500 to be used for the organisation's activities. All People's Choice Award winners (2 representatives per group) will also be invited to attend the National Volunteer Awards Presentation Ceremony on International Volunteers Day, 5 December 2003 in Sydney, NSW.

Voting closes Friday October 10, 2003.

As well as those People's Choice winners, the National Volunteer Awards will also see 63 State and Territory winners who will each receive \$7000 while the nine national category winners will each receive \$3000.

To vote for your favourite groups in the National Volunteer Awards click on the category links below.

- [Art and Culture](#)
- [Children and Families](#)
- [Community Service and Development](#)
- [Education, Training and Youth Development](#)
- [Emergency and Safety](#)
- [Environment, Conservation, Heritage and Animal Welfare](#)
- [Health and Wellbeing](#)
- [Rural and Regional Development](#)
- [Sport and Recreation](#)

[Back to Top](#)

8. Would you take money from a tobacco company? Do you have a policy to decide?

In one of the recent monthly editions of the [Raising Funds](#) newsletter we provided an article on the ethics of fundraising and touched on some of the issues that community groups needed to confront BEFORE they actually started down the track of raising money.

The reason is simple. If you have any problems with taking money from various organisations that are totally at odds with your organisation – and more importantly – its mission then it is better to be aware of them before someone asks for money. And certainly BEFORE someone accepts money.

What you don't want to be happening is to have the debate either internally or at Board level after the media has pointed out the inconsistencies of, say, a cancer support group being funded by Phillip Morris.

This issue has again been raised by a recent survey which showed that one third of charities would refuse a gift from a tobacco company and many others would find it difficult to accept money from gaming or alcohol companies.

At the same time the [Givewell Research Centre](#) survey of 200 charities found that more than half of groups had no formal or informal policy to deal with the screening of donations and sponsorships.

The survey found that only 25 per cent of groups had some formal policy on donations and sponsorships, a further 18 per cent had some form of informal screening but 57 per cent had no screening policy at all.

The [Givewell](#) survey also found that 20 per cent of the groups said they would exclude companies whose activities were seen to compromise their charity's cause. One in six of those who did not have a formal or informal policy said that one was either under consideration or that they recognised the need for a policy in the future.

[Back to Top](#)

9. Community Briefs.

1400 Volunteer organisations to share \$3m in grants

The Federal Government has announced that 1400 groups have been successful in winning funding through the FACS Volunteer Small Equipment Grants program.

Although all the names of the groups have not been officially announced until after all the successful and unsuccessful groups have been informed, many of the winning groups are smaller organisations with budgets under \$10,000.

The 1400 groups will share in funding of \$3 million with the money going to help them support their vital work.

According to the outgoing Minister for Family and Community Services, Senator Amanda Vanstone, the grants of up to \$5,000 will be used to purchase equipment ranging from UHF handheld radios for the Murray Bridge St John's Ambulance Service in South Australia to a desktop computer for the Hurstville Meals on Wheels in Sydney.

Other examples include urns, microwaves, folding chairs and tables, toasters, mini-fridges, pumps, shade sails, wheelbarrows, post hole diggers, trolleys and air-conditioning units.

This year, the Volunteer Small Equipment Grants have had a particular focus on organisations that provide family support and strengthen local communities – whether it's the local Neighbourhood Watch, country fire and rescue teams or services to help families with disabled children.

The latest round of funding brings the total of direct financial support for volunteers since 2001 to \$15.4 million shared between 6500 community groups, according to Senator Vanstone.

The small equipment grants remain one of the most accessible programs for smaller and medium groups and is one that we ran first in our **Easy Grants** newsletter and have pushed to members, particularly those groups that had not previously applied for grants funding. We will bring you the full lists of successful groups when they are released.

So far more than 6500 community organisations have shared in over \$15m in direct funding since 2001, according to FACS.

Queensland Volunteers Day Cricket Match

The GABBA has had its turn hosting AFL champions, the Brisbane Lions after their record-breaking third-straight premiership and soon it will be the venue for another group of Queensland champions – the state's volunteers.

In a great initiative by Volunteering Queensland and the Brisbane City Council, an annual Volunteers Day Cricket match is being held in Brisbane at the Gabba on Friday, October 31st.

The day is a chance to say "Thank-You" to the thousands of volunteers who give tirelessly of their time in hundreds of organisations and community groups such as schools and sporting clubs.

Volunteers and their families will be given free admission to the day/night ING cup match between the Queensland Bulls and the Victorian Bushrangers. Brisbane City Council will offer support by providing free bus transport to and from the match.

Channel Nine are also giving all registered volunteer organisations the chance to win \$500 for their organisation if they enter the National Nine News Volunteers Cricket Day Banner Competition.

Free tickets to this event are available for volunteers via the organisation they volunteer for through Volunteering Queensland. For more information check the website at <http://www.volqld.org.au/volunteercricketday2003.html> or contact Volunteering Queensland on (07) 3002 7600.

Support Anti-Poverty Week 2003

Anti-Poverty Week is an Australia-wide initiative that began several years ago and continues to grow. In 2003, Anti-Poverty Week begins on Monday 13 October and finishes on Friday 17 October which has been designated by the United Nations as International Anti-Poverty Day.

The main aims of Anti-Poverty Week are to:

- strengthen public understanding of the causes and consequences of poverty and hardship around the world and in Australia;
- encourage research, discussion and action to address these problems, including action by individuals, communities, organisations and governments.

Everyone who is interested in reducing poverty and hardship in Australia and around the world is very welcome to become involved in the Week. You can do so by arranging your activities - no official 'approval' is needed - or by joining in with activities that other people are arranging. For more details visit www.antipovertyweek.org.au or call (03) 9287 5577.

Business School supports scholarship for Community Leader.

Subscribers to our **Scholarship & Awards Newsletter** will already have seen this but community leaders now have the opportunity to undergo the Executive MBA School at the Melbourne Graduate School of Management.

The School and the School's alumni have joined together to provide \$10,000 subsidy to allow a community leader to complete the course. The scholarship holder will need to be Victorian, have demonstrated potential management and/or leadership qualities and satisfied the AGSM entrance requirements for the Graduate Management Qualification, Graduate Diploma in Management or Executive MBA course and be employed by a recognised community based organisation.

For more information visit the **Scholarship & Awards Newsletter** or visit the AGSM website at <http://www.agsm.edu.au>

Discount for Fundraising Course.

Members of Our Community are being offered a discount on an intensive five-day fundraising course being held in Sydney and Melbourne.

Principles and Techniques of Fundraising (101) is designed for new and experienced fundraisers, is being held in Sydney and Melbourne and jointly run by the fundraising school at Indiana University's Center on Philanthropy and Swinburne University of Technology's Asia-Pacific Centre for Philanthropy and Social Investment. Participants will receive a 700-page study guide that includes gift club ideas, donor evaluation forms, a bibliography from the Centre on Philanthropy at Indiana University, copies of overheads for volunteer and staff training and formulas for establishing best practice benchmarks.

Courses will be held in Sydney from October 20 to October 24, and in Melbourne from October 27 to October 31 and cost \$2195. An early bird special of \$1995 is available for those who book the Melbourne course before October 3 and **Our Community members will receive a 10 per cent discount.**

For details contact Grace Lee glee@swin.edu.au, (03) 9214 8825 or Denis Tracey detracey@swin.edu.au, or visit the website at <http://www.swinburnephilanthropy.net/>.

And don't forget..... Communities in Control conference video now available.

There are still copies of the Communities in Control conference two-video pack featuring the presentations of all the keynote speakers. For those people not at the conference the speakers covered in the video pack are:

- **EMERITUS PROFESSOR LEN SYME**, School of Public Health at the University of California, Berkeley.
- **PROFESSOR LISA BERKMAN**, Professor of Public Policy and Epidemiology and Chair of the Department of Health and Social Behavior at Harvard School of Public Health.
- **Mr SAM LIPSKI AM**, Chief Executive Officer, The Pratt Foundation.
- **The Hon. AMANDA VANSTONE**, Federal Minister for Family and Community Services.
- **The Hon JOHN THWAITES**, Victorian Deputy Premier and Minister for Victorian Communities.

- **PROFESSOR FIONA STANLEY, AC**, the 2003 Australian of the Year and CEO, Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth.
- **SIR GUSTAV NOSSAL AC, CBE**, one of Australia's most eminent community leaders, a former Australian of the Year, and world-renowned authority on immunisation and health.
- **The Hon. BRONWYN PIKE**, Victorian Minister for Health
- **STEPHEN MAYNE**, Founder, crikey.com.au

The cost of the video is **\$62 plus \$6.50 for postage and handling (a total of \$68.50)**. There has also been an incredible response to the 500-word summaries that are now loaded on the site as well as the speeches and powerpoint presentations where they have been made available.

To order the Communities in Control video, access the summaries or to download or print out speeches, visit the Communities in Control home page or [click here](#).

[Back to Top](#)

10. Fast Forward.

If you found this newsletter helpful, please feel free to send this newsletter onto your friends and fellow community groups in your area. We would also like your input into this newsletter.

If you have any thoughts or any issues you would like addressed we would appreciate hearing from you. You can send your comments to brianw@ourcommunity.com.au or call (03) 9320 6813.

If you have received a grant or scholarship found on our database or successfully adapted the Raising Funds newsletter, let us know.

We now have button logos for those groups who want to set up links to ourcommunity.com.au from their own websites. You can find them on the media Centre. Just visit http://www.ourcommunity.com.au/article/view_image_list.do and right click your mouse on the image you want and then click on SAVE to your own computer. If you have any problems just contact brianw@ourcommunity.com.au or call (03) 9320 6813.

We also have brochures for any associations who want to mail out to their member groups and let them know about our products and services. Just let us know and we will be happy to supply.

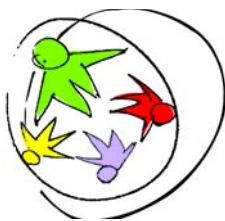
If you would like to reproduce anything in this newsletter in your own group/association newsletters or websites, you are free to do so. Please just add a small credit line, "courtesy of www.ourcommunity.com.au" and direct link to the ourcommunity.com.au site if on a web page.

[Back to Top](#)

\$\$\$ FundingFinder Toolkit Resources

Do you have them all?

Funding Tool No.1 Raising Funds Newsletter



Raising Funds Newsletter

Your monthly guide to successful fundraising (\$45 per year)

This is Australia's best-value fundraising resource and is the essential tool for any community group or school wanting ideas on fundraising.

Raising Funds is jam-packed with ideas, advice, tips and practical stories every month and is the companion newsletter to Easy-Grants. Grants is one form of finding funds, but fundraising must also be a primary source to get that much-needed extra funding for your community group. No community group - no matter how small or big - can do without this newsletter. And it is still only \$45 a year - amazing value.

Articles that appeared in the August Edition of Raising Funds - What have you Missed?

'Valuing volunteers - why it is important to put a price on their heads'

'New approaches in marketing - what else can you be doing?'

'Charity begins at ATO - What the changes mean for your group'

'Free software for community organisations. Can it apply to you?'

Plus Great ideas to make money, Top Tips, fundraising news from around the world and much more

Funding Tool No.3 Guidebook - How To: Find Money Fast

Looking for inspiration for your next fundraiser? Find Money Fast has 50 great ideas that have worked for community groups. A great resource packed with plenty of ideas, tips and advice to improve your next fundraising initiative.

**50 GREAT IDEAS TO RAISE
UP TO \$5000!**

Purchase Now ONLY \$36!



Funding Tool No.4 Guidebook - How To: Win a Philanthropic Grant

Easy Grants helps you to find the grants. This great guide takes you step-by-step through the grant-seeking process, helping you to prepare and research a winning funding application.

**STEP BY STEP GUIDE TO
WINNING GRANTS!!**

Purchase Now ONLY \$36!



Funding Tool No.5 Free Donations Service

Does your community organisation want donations for your latest fundraising appeal? How much easier would it be to point potential donors to a free donations service where the \$ goes straight to your project.

**COLLECT DONATIONS THROUGH
OUR NATIONAL GIVING CENTRE!!
Completely FREE!**



Funding Tool No.6 BusiGrants Newsletter

Each year Federal, State and Local Governments give away hundreds of millions of dollars to support thousands of commercial businesses across Australia. Is your enterprise one of them? Now you can stay up-to-date with all commercial funding opportunities by subscribing to BusiGrants, Australia's first monthly newsletter providing details on all the available business grants (money to grow your enterprise) as well as scholarships and professional

**GRANTS FOR BUSINESS & COMMERCIAL
COMMUNITY GROUPS!!
visit www.busigrants.com.au**

