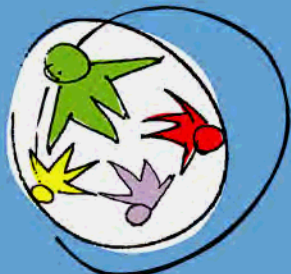


Our Community **MATTERS**

Your community knowledge bank helping groups survive, improve, grow and innovate



Resources, News, Innovations and Tips on:

- ✓ Funding, Finance & Membership Management
- ✓ Leadership & Advocacy
- ✓ Management & Training
- ✓ Marketing & Media
- ✓ Boards, Committees & Governance
- ✓ Community & Business Partnerships
- ✓ Insurance & Risk Management

www.ourcommunity.com.au

October 2007 - Issued October 23, 2007

Welcome to the latest edition of **Our Community Matters**, your regular free community sector update. It is yet another benefit of membership of www.ourcommunity.com.au – the premier destination for Australia's 700,000 community, education and not-for-profit groups. Our Community provides community groups with the latest funding and fundraising news as well as practical management, board, marketing and community-business partnership information. Our Community also operates the [Australian Giving Centre](#), the free online donations service that has so far raised \$6 million for Australian community appeals. 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 by emailing kathyr@ourcommunity.com.au.

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1. Community View



We are living in the early days of a better nation

By Rhonda Galbally AO
CEO

After almost a year of phoney war, the election campaign has finally begun.

It's often said that Australia has compulsory voting, but that's not true; we have compulsory turning up at the polling station, and what you do after that is up to you. But the law is there to emphasise that Australia does expect its citizens to have a civic spirit, a collective conscience, and a commitment to democracy.

All these are good things. You yourself know they're good, because in between elections you're keeping them alive by supporting community groups, which provide the essential skeleton of civil society. Most Australian voters are involved in at least one not-for-profit association, making a contribution to at least one thing where they're working without personal reward.

That's just one piece of evidence that contradicts the all too common assumption from so many politicians that the only thing a voter cares about is how much money a party is going to put into his or her wallet – that an election is an only slightly disguised auction. But that's market thinking, and it doesn't belong in the one-minute thinktank that's the Australian voting booth. Because **it's not about you.**

As John F. Kennedy said, "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country." Politics would be so much easier if you could do it with nothing more than tax tables and a pocket calculator, but that's exactly why we have these complicated systems in place for elevating the collective good over individual selfishness.

Australia is many communities, all of which have interests and hopes and dreams that must be listened to. Australia is the relationships between those communities, the interactions and exchanges and bonds that need to be strengthened. Australia is the ideals and the regrets of our ancestors flowing down to us. Australia is the desires and the reproaches of our descendants rippling back from the future.

When you walk into that booth on November 24, imagine that you have to justify your vote to Alfred Deakin and Eddie Mabo, or Peter Lalor and Louisa Lawson, or to the people bearing your surname and carrying your genes who are not yet born.

Take the long view. Think of the 22nd Century; any Australian child born today is odds on to enter it. Assess what your candidates have to offer in the eye of eternity. Ask whether their policies will strengthen or weaken civil society. Ask, at least, what they'll do for the causes you support and the organisations you belong to.

With the pencil in your hand, facing a voting list the size of a bedsheet, you have to combine the ethics of Martin Luther King with the judgement of Solomon and the prophetic abilities of Nostradamus. The global warming crisis has reminded us all that our actions, and our failures to act, matter not just today but centuries into the future. We need to get this right.

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2. How your group can make the most of Australian Giving Week

Australian Giving Week 2007 is taking place across the country from December 3-9, and as revealed in last month's edition of Our Community Matters, this year promises to be bigger and better than ever before.

As foreshadowed last month, we have a range of new initiatives designed to draw attention to Giving Week, which is supported by Westpac, and to help focus attention on the many ways that individuals, families, businesses, local councils and groups can make a difference to the community in the lead-up to Christmas (and throughout the year).

Following last month's article many community groups expressed an interest in the Christmas Giving Cards initiative, which is supported by Australia Post, and we are now able to reveal more details about how community groups can use this program to boost their profile and their finances this Christmas.

For every Giving Card sold, \$1 will be donated to the community group or school of the sender's choice.

Your group can springboard off this by taking up one of the following two options:

- **OPTION 1: Hold a Christmas Giving Cards Fundraiser.**
We have formulated a simple fundraiser to make it easy for your community group or school to make money from the Christmas Giving Cards program. For every pack of five mixed cards that your staff, students, and parents sell, your group or school keeps \$5. Packs cost \$15 each and include five high-quality, environmentally-friendly cards, envelopes and stamps.
Download the Christmas Giving Cards Fundraiser form from www.ourcommunity.com.au/givingcards.
- **OPTION 2: Spread the word about the Christmas Giving Cards initiative.**
Make sure you let all your supporters – including businesses, MPs and your local council – know they can order Christmas Giving Cards, with \$1 per card going to your group or school. Send out the following notice as an email, or as an item in your next newsletter:

This year if you want to send a Christmas card that keeps on giving, send a Giving Card!

\$1 from every card purchased will be passed on to a community group or school of your choice – if you buy Giving Cards this year, please consider nominating us, <add school/group name>, as the recipient.

Giving Cards are high quality, environmentally friendly, allow plenty of room for overprinting or personal messages, and cost only \$3 each. There are several different styles to choose from – something for everyone!

Find out more about the Giving Cards initiative by going to www.ourcommunity.com.au/givingcards.

(The Giving Cards initiative is being run as part of Australian Giving Week 2007: December 3-9 – www.givingweek.com.au)

You can find out more about the Christmas Giving Cards initiative and download all the forms by going to www.ourcommunity.com.au/givingcards.

Giving Week auction – time running out for you to get involved

Items for the annual Australian Giving Week celebrity auction are already coming in – you don't have long to act if you want to take part!

A range of personal items donated by notable Australians will go under the hammer as part of the Giving Week online auction, with proceeds to go directly to a group of the celebrity's choice.

If you have a famous patron or supporter, you can benefit from this nationally promoted auction by asking them to provide an item for inclusion, with proceeds to go directly to your group.

Already we have received offers of a motivational talk from long-distance runner Steve Moneghetti, two signed CDs and a bag from *The Cat Empire*, and a signed polo shirt from Australian basketballer Lauren Jackson.

To find out more, contact Hannah Schwartz at hannahs@ourcommunity.com.au or telephone (03) 9320 6838.

► **There are many more ways you can get involved in Australian Giving Week – visit the Giving week website at www.givingweek.com.au to find out more.**



3. Making the board bored

If you're on a board and you're determined to bore everybody brainless, have a form agenda for every meeting.

And include a standard agenda item for Correspondence.

And read out the items of correspondence you've received one by one.

Many boards do. Some even have rules stipulating that all correspondence, or at least all correspondence that fits a certain category (from the funder, say, or from the auditor), must be read out during the meeting in full.

Some groups also stipulate that outward correspondence be listed, along with a brief description of the contents of each letter sent since the last meeting.

This is a recipe for time wasting, irrelevance, and triviality. Correspondence may contain important material for decision, or it may not. If it does contain information people need to know about, it should be on the agenda as a specific item, and if it doesn't it shouldn't be listed at all.

If the members need to know the text, circulate it before the meeting. Having the secretary read it out is a waste of the meeting's valuable time, and passing a folder of documents around means that at any given moment at least one board member won't be paying attention to what everybody else is talking about.

Fine-tuning your meeting agenda is just one of the topics tackled as part of the Certificate IV in Business (Governance) – a new qualification designed specifically for members of not-for-profit boards and committees, and those that work with them.

New dates and locations for the Certificate IV have just been released, with sessions to be held in:

- Hobart October 29 - November 1, 2007
- Dubbo November 27-30, 2007
- Melbourne December 3-6, 2007
- Brisbane February 11-14, 2008
- Darwin February 26-29, 2008
- Melbourne March 4-7, 2008
- Canberra March 10-13, 2008
- Sydney April 1-4, 2008
- Adelaide May 19-22, 2008

For more information go to www.ourcommunity.com.au/certificateiv or contact Lisa Reed on (03) 9320 6820.

Board Builder conference selling fast

Another key learning opportunity coming up for the members and supporters of not-for-profit board and committees is the annual Board Builder conference, which will be held in Melbourne on Monday, November 26.

There will be keynote speeches on the dynamics of boards and how to change direction without major trauma, as well as four concurrent sessions on legal updates and facts, financial management, board relationships and board renewal.

The popular Board Doctor panel session will also make a return during this year's conference, giving participants the chance to get some expert advice from a variety of viewpoints on key board issues.

For more information about Board Builder 2007 or to make a booking, visit www.ourcommunity.com.au/boardbuilder2007.



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4. Why web forums are the new black (and other lessons in technology)

In the last edition of Our Community Matters we talked about the dramatic impact technological advances are having on the world of fundraising – how innovations like online donations and online charity shops are changing the way people give.

But it's not just in the area of fundraising that technology is having an impact on the community sector.

Take, for example, a new advertising campaign being run by the UK's MS Society. The '[Putting the Pieces Together](#)' campaign features the words and images of people with MS – many of them recruited through the organisation's online web forum.

Six "MS models" are featured in the ads, including a 22-year-old woman who talks about the impact of MS on her sex life – "Sex brings on a major attack of the shakes. It's embarrassing and off-putting for both of us, but we can laugh about it now" – and a 24-year-old woman holding a brand new, gold-coloured stiletto on a poster carrying the words: "I miss beautiful shoes with gorgeous, sexy heels. I don't wear them any more, because the last thing I need is another reason to fall over".

The beauty of this campaign is that it is based on real experiences, and real people. And the MS Society's message board provided a terrific opportunity to collect those experiences.

"We believed it was vital to use words and images that reflected the real experiences of people with MS," says MS Society chief executive Simon Gillespie.

"There's no point using models and artificial language when you are dealing with such a devastating condition. People who live with MS know what the real story is, which is why our campaign strives to tell that story."

Lesson #1: Real stories ram the message home, and what better place to find real stories than on your own message board or web forum.

Another example of technology in action comes from Macmillan Cancer Support in the UK, which last month staged a coffee morning with a difference – this one was held in Second Life, the 3-D virtual world.

UK Fundraising reported that the online event was to involve the serving of virtual coffee to visitors, and staging of an auction of items donated by designers from across Second Life (SL).

"To promote the event giant coffee cups have been placed at strategic locations all over SL to attract donors: when a donation is made, the donor takes a giant spoon, stirs the cup and wins a free virtual t-shirt together with one of the designers' randomly selected gifts, which itself will have a value of up to several thousand Linden dollars, the currency of Second Life."

The event was to be the first to take place in the new Second Life Macmillan Cancer Information Centre, which allows SL users affected by cancer to get access to cancer information and support.

Lesson #2: Successful community groups are always on the look-out for the chance to break new ground and find new opportunities to reach their community of interest.

Incidentally, and quite aside from its Second Life presence, Macmillan is another group that has a very active chat board on its website – a place where people can join in or start a discussion, share their experiences of cancer, post messages of remembrance, or find someone to chat to at any time of the night or day.

Lesson #3: While message boards can provide an excellent channel back into the lives and minds of your clients and interest group, their primary aim should always be to provide a source of support and information.

Macmillan Cancer Information Centre has an "innovations manager" – Wendy Fowler, who is overseeing the Second Life experiment.

"We had been considering our involvement with Second Life in a bid to engage and support even more people affected by cancer," Ms Fowler was quoted as saying.

Lesson #4: Who's making sure your group's keeping up with the latest trends?

Before we leave the topic of technology, a quick word on [Wikipedia](#) – the multilingual, web-based encyclopedia that allows people to view, post and edit articles on any topic they can think of.

The English version of the site now contains more than two million articles, and is among the top 10 most-visited websites worldwide. In fact, it's now a major source of information for web users across the planet.

Lesson #5: What does Wikipedia have to say about your organisation? No article on your group yet? What's stopping you??

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5. Thanks for the feedback

Thanks to all of the hundreds of people who took the time to complete our reader feedback survey last month – we were really overwhelmed with both the number of people who took part and also the incredibly positive feedback we received about this newsletter.

As long-term subscribers would know, we've been producing Our Community Matters since Our Community began more than six years ago, so it's great to know that we're still hitting the mark.

The feedback survey was undertaken in preparation for a revamp of the newsletter early in the New Year – your comments will be used to inform that revamp.

Here's what you had to say:

- 88% of you read Our Community Matters every time or most times you get it, with 56% reading your copy within a few days of receiving it.
- 62% of you say your copy of Our Community Matters is read by two people or more – applying some conservative calculations, that translates into a staggering 100,000 readers across Australia!
- 77% of you read the newsletter on the screen, with 19% printing it out to read. A total of 71% of you would like to continue to receive the newsletter in its current format (as a PDF attachment) and in its current frequency (monthly).
- The vast majority of readers rate as "good" or "very good" the overall length of the newsletter and the number of articles, the quality and length of articles, the frequency of delivery of the newsletter, and the format and look of the newsletter (although it was in the latter category – the format and look – that it appears we need to do the most work).
- The Community Briefs, the Calendar and Rhonda Galbally's 'Community View' are the most popular regular sections of the newsletter, but Our Community Heroes and the Good Moves jobs and board/committee vacancies are also popular.
- The types of articles you're most interested in reading include those on fundraising and leadership, new resources and tools on the Our Community website, and community sector updates and news. Training and conference information and dates, and articles to do with media/marketing, boards/committees and legal advice and information are also popular.

Readers also told us about the things they liked most about Our Community Matters, and we were really delighted to learn that so many of you believe the newsletter helps you to feel connected and part of something bigger.

"It contributes to a broad sense of there actually being a not-for-profit community, that we have resources and some clout when we organise and work together cooperatively," said one respondent. "It reassures me that as a sector we have the ability to influence the powerbrokers who so often take not-for-profit organisations for granted."

Another wrote about "the feeling of being connected to others who have a similar passion to mine and learning about what is happening around Australia".

And yet another respondent talked about the newsletter's worth in creating "a bigger picture of national and international views in an industry that can often feel rather isolated and siloed".

We welcome your ongoing feedback, suggestions and news tips, which you can email at any time to kathyr@ourcommunity.com.au.

Our Community Matters will continue in its current form until the end of the year, and we look forward to bringing you a new and improved version of the newsletter early in 2007.

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6. Our Community Heroes: Leonie Forsyth

Each month we honour and celebrate a Community Hero – someone who is working to make a real difference to the health and vibrancy of their local community.

This month's hero is Leonie Forsyth – a woman who is working hard to keep kids safe in the Hunter Valley.

Leonie's nominator, Judi Geggie, writes:

"Leonie Forsyth has a passion. Leonie wants the Hunter community to be better at keeping our children safe from accidental injury.

"Leonie has been the Regional Executive Officer for Hunter Kidsafe for many years but as Hunter Kidsafe is reliant on donations and community grants she has not been adequately paid for her hours of work because of restricted funds.

"Leonie has continued to work extra hours during the week and on weekends on exhibitions, show days, carol nights, Safety Seat Saturdays, and fundraising activities such as the Kidsafe Paddle in order to promote the activities and the safety messages of Kidsafe.

"Leonie has a vision for the construction of a Child Safety Education Centre at the John Hunter Hospital, Newcastle. This Centre will educate children, parents and service providers on how we can create an environment which is safe for children.

"It is of great concern to Leonie that children of the Hunter continue to be injured in their home from hot water, falls, strangulations, drownings and driveway reversing and with more information and better supervision these could all be preventable.

"Hunter Kidsafe has been well supported by the emergency services of the Hunter, media outlets, NGOs and an Advisory Committee, but without the drive and commitment of Leonie Forsyth, Hunter Kidsafe would not be in existence."

Leonie will receive a Community Heroes certificate, a selection of Our Community books and a 12-month subscription to a range of Our Community newsletters. She will also be featured on the Our Community website.

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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7. Downturn in religious belief raises alarm bells for community sector

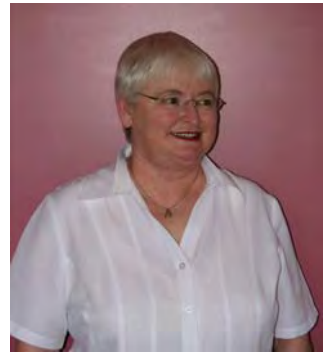
The Christian religion places considerable emphasis on the performance of unselfish charity. Children going to Sunday school hear the story of the good Samaritan:

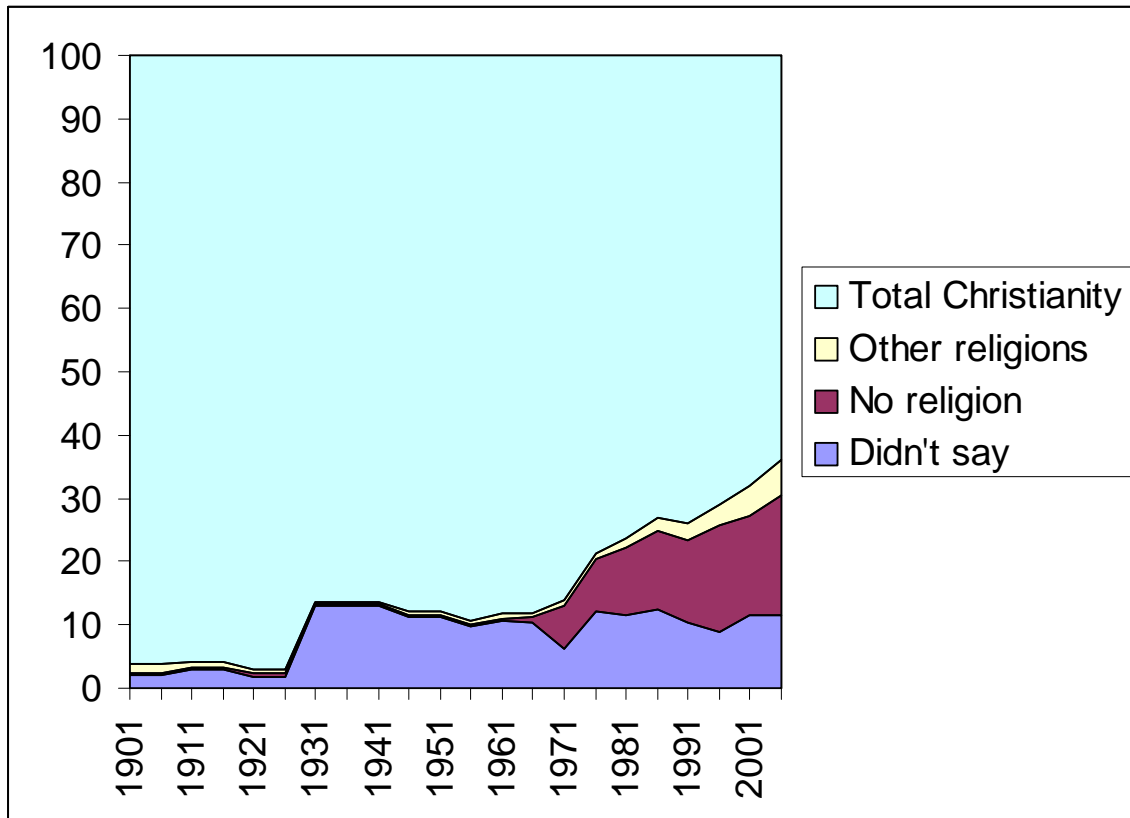
Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest saw the man but passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds... Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him.... Go and do likewise."

This does have its effect; in America, in the UK, and here in Australia people who describe themselves as religious give more money to good causes, and volunteer more often, than those who don't (and it's not just Christians, of course; all other religions have similar precepts).

Which means that it's a worry to community groups if there are fewer people who describe themselves as religious – which is what's happening.

The rate of people believing in no religion, and the rate of those who have a religion that they don't attend, is rising steadily.





Some 52% of the members of Generation Y – people born after about 1980 – don't believe in God, and only 19% are actively involved in a church, according to a new book based on [interview research](#) conducted by Monash University, the Australian Catholic University, and the Christian Research Association.

The authors of [The Spirit of Generation Y](#) are worried that this could have damaging effects. They say the majority of people who do charity work are actively religious, and that as those numbers dwindle, so will the volunteers.

While this is a real concern, there are reasons not to panic. As the graph above shows, this trend has been running uninterrupted for some 35 years now without disaster.

We should of course recognise the contribution made by churches to the formation of social capital. Those who are today actively involved in service to the community and have positive civic values are far more likely to come from the ranks of those who have spiritual and religious beliefs and actively practise them.

The book itself concedes, however, that despite this, Gen Y as a whole is not notably more self-centred and lacking in altruism than older generations, despite their lower level of belief – which would suggest that falls in the rates of institutional religious commitments are not necessarily as serious for community work as the study data might suggest.

Any community group that wishes to appeal to Australian youth, however, must understand what drives them, and the book provides valuable insights into their thinking.

Although broader support structures such as church and local community have grown weaker over the last century, families appear to have compensated by increasing the intimacy of family life, and young people also rely more heavily on friendship networks [to] hold at bay the threats to personal security inherent in the much more isolated status of the individual within society.

...Despite moving away in large numbers from traditional religious sources of meaning, they seem to have a strong sense of purpose in their lives. There is no evidence of a widespread plague of meaninglessness or social alienation among Generation Y, nor of a critical lack of social support.

We should all be exploring the modifications to our organisational images that may be necessary to enlist the Generation Y sense of meaning behind our own causes.

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8. Finding the right pillars to support your fundraising efforts

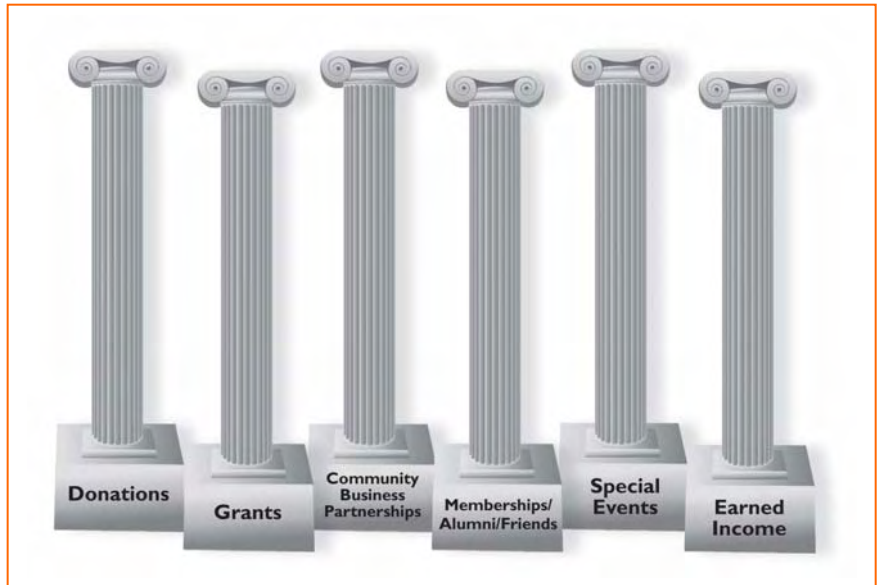
We're coming up towards peak fundraising season and so it's a good time to issue a reminder about Our Community's Six Pillars of Raising Funds.

These are the six areas that we believe almost any community group or school could be tapping into in order to develop a diverse fundraising strategy – a strategy that will help immunise you against the potentially fatal effects of a sudden loss of or dramatic drop in income.

As we explain in our two new books – *The Complete Community Fundraising Handbook* and *The Complete Schools Fundraising Handbook* – you need to build a structure that is supported by enough props for it still to be able to stand even if one or more major funding sources suddenly dries up.

The Six Pillars of Raising Funds are:

- (1) **Special Events:** dinners, dances, sporting carnivals, film nights, fêtes, -thons, etc.
- (2) **Earned Income:** charging for what you have (hiring out rooms, car parks, equipment, etc.) or what you do (fee for your services), harnessing the buying power of your supporters through affinity marketing (e.g. supermarket community benefit schemes), or the selling power of your supporters through product fundraising (lamington drives etc).
- (3) **Grants:** from local, state and federal government, and from philanthropic and corporate foundations.
- (4) **Community-Business Partnerships:** involving donations, exchange of volunteers, in-kind support, pro-bono or discounted services and products, sponsorship, shared premises/infrastructure, etc.
- (5) **Alumni/Friends:** for schools this includes tapping into the supporter base provided by your current and past students, teaching and non-teaching staff, other schools in your area, local business supporters, etc.; for community groups it refers to your members, staff and supporters.
- (6) **Donations:** through major gifts, direct appeals, online donations, one-off and ongoing (e.g. monthly) donations, and bequests.



Each group will differ in its use of the pillars, resting more heavily on one than another depending on skills, resources and preferences. But all groups should be having a look at how they could be doing more in each of those six areas, building up their strategy year by year.

Our Community has developed a range of resources to help you in each of those areas, including:

- **A free Fundraising Wizard** – to help you assess your current fundraising strategy
- **Free help sheets** – covering all the Six Pillars of Raising Funds, plus Australian fundraising legislation and auspicing information
- **EasyGrants newsletter and grants education service** – a regular newsletter that documents every grants opportunity in Australia (subscription includes access to the EasyGrants Database)
- **Top 50 Grants guides** – highlighting 50 of the best grants programs available to Australian community organisations (separate versions available for each state/territory and in six different interest areas)
- **Raising Funds newsletter** – a bi-monthly newsletter that delivers to your inbox fundraising ideas and strategies any community group or school can apply.

- **How-To books** – including *The Complete Community Fundraising Handbook*, *The Complete Schools Fundraising Handbook*, *Effective Letters: 50 of the Best Model Letters*; *Winning Grants Funding in Australia* and *How to Find Money Fast: 50 ways to raise up to \$5000*.
- **The Australian Giving Centre** – a free online donations service that allows you to promote your appeal and take credit card donations seven days a week, 24 hours a day.
- **Grantseeking and Fundraising workshops** – these half-day seminars are designed specifically for people working in the community sector, providing practical tips on how to find and win more grants and how to put in place a terrific fundraising strategy.

You can find out about all of these resources by exploring the Community Funding Centre at www.ourcommunity.com.au/funding, or by clicking on the 'Find Money' tab on the top of the website.

Hot Grant

This month's Great Grant in the EasyGrants newsletter and grants education service is the Grants to Voluntary Environment and Heritage Organisations program, provided by the Department of Environment and Water Resources.

The program will provide up to \$10,000 to help community-based organisations to value, conserve and protect Australia's natural environment and historic heritage by assisting with administrative funding.

This is one of the few programs available in Australia that is specifically designed to cover salaries, office supplies, staff and volunteer and training expenses, and even utility charges so it's one well worth grabbing onto if you can.

For more information go to www.ourcommunity.com.au/easygrants.

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9. When is an employee not an employee?

If your organisation engages workers, you have to know whether they count as employees, independent contractors, or volunteers. The worker's status may affect the tax treatment of your transactions.

To help you sort out these issues the Australian Tax Office has developed a new checklist to clarify your tax and superannuation obligations

- when a new worker starts
- while they're employed, and
- when they leave.

It's on the [Employees, Volunteers and Other Workers](#) webpage on the ATO site. The webpage also includes links to tools such as the Tax Withheld Calculator, tax tables and specific information on pay-as-you-go-withholding, fringe benefits tax and superannuation.

Another new item is the ATO guide to [Fringe Benefits Tax and Entertainment](#) for not-for-profits (again, only those not-for-profits that have employees – about 35,000 out of Australia's 700,000 not-for-profits).

The tables and examples in this guide should, the ATO feels, provide assistance to not-for-profit organisations that provide their employees with food and drink, or leisure activities.

This is a recent addition to the [basic material](#) on fringe benefit tax (FBT) and not-for-profits.

And here it's necessary to make a point about Tax Office guides – the ATO is not your enemy. But it is not, except in a very specialised sense, your friend, either.

Your organisation wants

- (a) to comply with the law and
- (b) to minimise your tax and have more money to spend on your aims and objectives.

The Tax Office will help you with only one of these goals. You can use the FBT rules, which have major concessions for not-for-profits, to effectively pay your employees more; but you're not going to find out how from the ATO.

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10. What's on in the community sector – Dates for your Diary

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 of the events taking place over the next month include:



Certificate IV in Business (Governance) – Hobart
29 Oct- 1 November

- **International Volunteer Manager Appreciation Day**
(International Volunteer Manager Appreciation Committee)
1 November



Winning Grants Workshop – Sydney (Our Community)
2 November

- **Recycling Week** (Planet Ark)
5-11 November
- **Australian Lung Cancer Day** (The Australian Lung Foundation)
8 November



Winning Grants Workshop – Adelaide (Our Community)
9 November

- **Walk Against Warming** (Environment Victoria)
11 November
- **National Psychology Week** (Australian Psychological Society)
11-17 November



Winning Grants Workshop – Brisbane (Our Community)
12 November

- **Spinal Injuries Awareness Week** (Spinal Injuries Association)
12-18 November
- **World Diabetes Day** (Diabetes Australia – Victoria)
14 November



Winning Grants Workshop – Perth (Our Community)
15 November

- **Lung Cancer Day** (The Australian Lung Cancer Foundation)
17 November
- **National Skin Cancer Action Week** (Cancer Council Australia)
18-24 November
- **Dress Down Day** (The Cancer Council Queensland)
23 November



Winning Grants Workshop – Melbourne (Our Community)
23 November

- **World AIDS Awareness Week** (Victorian AIDS Council)
24 November - 1 December
- **Board Builder Conference 2007** (Our Community)
26 November
- **Water Safety Week** (Aquatics & Recreation Victoria) ... 24 November - 2 December
- **White Ribbon Day** (White Ribbon Foundation of Australia)
25 November

FEATURED EVENT:



**White Ribbon Day
November 25, 2007**

White Ribbon Day was created by handful of Canadian men in 1991 on the second anniversary of one man's massacre of 14 women in Montreal, and has since become a worldwide event.

The White Ribbon Foundation of Australia, which organises the Australian event, aims to eliminate violence against women by promoting culture change through a national media campaign and education and male leadership programs aimed at men and boys around Australia.

During White Ribbon Day on November 25, people are urged to buy a white ribbon to show their support for the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

www.whiteribbonday.org.au

More events, plus the full listing for each event (including organisational contact details and websites) can be found in the online Community Calendar at www.ourcommunity.com.au/calendar.

!! NEWS FLASH !! Due to unprecedented demand for the Winning Grants Workshop in Melbourne, we will be holding a second session on the afternoon of November 23, as well as the morning session. The new session will be held from 2pm to 5pm. For info and bookings go to www.ourcommunity.com.au/winninggrants.

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11. Community Briefs

Community workers praised

“Driven”, “passionate”, “dedicated”, “committed”, “persistent” – these are just some of the descriptions of community workers that have emerged as entries flood in for the Alcoa Foundation 2007 Outstanding Community Worker Award.

Entries have been received from all across Australia, from big groups and tiny ones, and from every corner of the community sector.

The nomination period has now closed, with entries to be sorted and assessed by a panel before the winner is announced in early December.

All nominees will receive a certificate acknowledging their nomination as an outstanding community worker, with the winner to receive \$5000 to be spent on their own choice of professional capacity-building.

We'll also be featuring some of the stories of great community workers in Our Community Matters over coming months.

Seeking innovative governance case studies

Our Community is calling for feedback about innovative governance structures that have been put in place for community centres, community hubs and the like.

We're looking for examples of things like shared services between users, co-location with merging of backroom functions, council-facilitated co-sharing of administrative responsibilities, collaborative arrangements between centres, etc.

If you are part of an organisation such as this, please contact Patrick Moriarty on patrickm@ourcommunity.com.au.

Our Community given the nod as a “cool company”

Our Community has been recognised as an “über-cool social capitalist company”, winning a national award run by *Anthill Magazine* and PriceWaterhouseCoopers late last month.

The organisation found itself among distinguished company in the shortlist for the Social Capitalist section of the 2007 ‘Cool Company’ Awards, which are designed to publicly acknowledge and celebrate Australian organisations that are doing things differently or defying convention to bring about positive change.

The work carried out by Our Community was cited as a “wonderful example of the next frontier of the world wide web – using a profoundly borderless technology platform to enrich bonds at the hyper-local level”.

The Cool Company award caps a stellar year for Our Community. Earlier last month, the organisation also won an Australian Marketing Institute Award for Marketing Excellence in recognition of the partnership with Australia Post that has spawned a range of initiatives, including the ever-popular Marketing, Media and Post Centre at www.ourcommunity.com.au/mmp.

This year has also seen Our Community co-founder and CEO Rhonda Galbally named by the Australian Financial Review's *Boss* magazine as one of Australia's 25 “True Leaders”. Rhonda was described by the selection panel as a “visionary” whose career provided a perfect example of how to build bridges between different worlds.



Denis Moriarty (Our Community) & Kara Wise (Australia Post) accept the Australian Marketing Institute Award for Marketing Excellence

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12. Good Moves: Community Jobs & Board/Committee vacancies



Good Moves :: Jobs Bulletin

www.ourcommunity.com.au

JOB VACANCY LISTINGS (Paid Positions)

Queensland

Job Title	Organisation	
Psychologist/Social Worker/Counsellor	Good Shepherd Shared Management Services	Details

Victoria

Job Title	Organisation	
Senior Marketing Executive		Details
Centre Manager	Knox Infolink Inc	Details
Executive Officer	Dandenong Ranges Music Council	Details
Instructor Band 1	Northern Support Services for people with disabilities	Details
Charity Manager & Marketing Coordinator (dual role)	Ethiopiaid Australia and Reed Personnel Services Pty Ltd	Details
Executive Assistant \$60,000	Australia Cares	Details
Facilitator - Tri Sector Connection \$80,000	Australia Cares	Details
Part Time Minute Taker	Footscray Rental Housing Co-operative Ltd	Details
HR Manager	HomeGround Services	Details
Team Leader and Case Managers	Windermere Child and Family Services	Details
Manager Community Programs		Details

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	Wareemba Community Living (Inc.)	Details
Treasurer	MW CAG INC	Details

Queensland

Job Title	Organisation	
Chair, Secretary	Gold Coast Family Connections Inc	Details

Victoria

Job Title	Organisation	
Treasurer & General Board Member	Glen Eira Learning Centre Inc.	Details
General Board Member	Broadmeadows UnitingCare-UnitingCare Sunshine Mission	Details
General Board Member	Paediatric Continence Association of Australia	Details
General Board Member	Housing Resource and Support Service	Details
General Board Member	Australian Breastfeeding Association	Details

www.ourcommunity.com.au/jobs

Your best choice to find and advertise a job

To advertise a job, go to www.ourcommunity.com.au/jobs/advertise - (A low fee of \$30 apply)

13. Fast Forward

If you found this newsletter helpful, please feel free to send it onto 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 web page.

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

14. 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. **Australia's Giving Centre** – 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