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1. CIC speakers bust myths, declare war on whinging community at the core

By Harrison Tippet

The tenth and final Communities in Control Conference came to a close on Tuesday May 29, after more delegates took part in two days of listening, debating, networking, exchanging tips and strategies, and most importantly recharging.

The conference an initiative of Our Community and Catholic Social Justice was one of the most successful yet, and a fitting way to say goodbye to a movement that has become a highlight of the year for hundreds of community sector workers across the country.

The speakers were top notch. They blew away myths, knocked down straw men, declared a war on whinging community workers, and implored us to help lift the tone of the national debate, and to ask and entertain the idea that some of us may need to change within it.

The delegates were similarly thoughtful and engaged. As one delegate put it:

All of the delegates get so much out of coming together and, in a way, as innovative as looking forward it always is, Communities in Control also has its roots in the most ancient of human traditions: to gather and listen and speak and learn from one another and to connect.

You have been facilitating a new millennium type of corroboree, really, and I hope whatever shape the future, it continues to draw us together to celebrate our successes and strengthen our abilities for better outcomes (as well as hear great thinkers, eat great food and laugh at rude jokes).

I think you all have done an amazing job over the last 10 years, please don't stop now!!!

We are thinking and reading and digesting all your feedback from the session and will work out where we go next. Watch this space!

@harrison_tippet
full text, or listen to the audio, you can find transcripts and audio at www.ourcommunity.com.au/cic2012papers



DR JAMES WHELAN,
Research Director, Public Services Program, Centre for Policy Development

Dr James Whelan took to the CIC podium to discuss the impact of the Cameron Government across the United Kingdom following the 2010 election of David Cameron. Dr Whelan explained the ways in which David Cameron transformed British society into a "Right Have Broken Britain" based on concepts described in a Phillip Blond book: *Red Tory: How the Left and*

When the Cameron Government launched Big Society Innovation, it was a story from Numbers 10 the program

Dr Whelan showed that the Cameron Government was essentially asking the British to sacrifice for each other, with the government stepping back from social services.

Dr Whelan said. Volunteerism in Big Society had become a moral obligation, as volunteers were expected to replace public servants, and do the job for free.

Dr Whelan suggested both Australian political parties appeared to be edging towards the Big Society changes (and see Part 6).

A recently released Centre for Policy Development study on Big Society, written by Dr Whelan and released in 2012, can be downloaded [here](#), click [here](#) to read or listen to his speech at Communities in Control, and check out [Part 12](#) to have your say about Big Society.



ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR NATASHA CICA,
Director, Inglis Clark Centre for Civil Society, University of Tasmania

I Was Only Following Orders: When to Speak Up, When to Pull Out, When to Shut Up

A/Prof. Natasha Cica used her speech at Communities in Control to discuss the way we deal with the conflicting considerations of the face when working for change.

She explored the topic using the story of Olegas Truchanas, a Lithuanian émigré who was the subject of her first book, *Dreaming*.

Mr Truchanas escaped World War II and arrived in Tasmania in the late 1940s, befriending a group of local watercolour artists, who in the 1970s tried to save a glacial lake, Lake Pedder, from inundation by a hydroelectric scheme.

At the time, the artists were trying to do something about what they considered to be wrong

A/Prof. Cica said the biggest current issues on the Australian landscape were the treatment of children in care and the treatment of indigenous Australians

She offered no answers, preferring for each individual to take the story of Olegas Truchanas and his fellow artists and develop their own understanding of the issues.

When we do stare that responsibility in the face, in a human sense, a connected sense, an

[Click here](#) to read this speech.



DR SAMANTHA THOMAS,
Senior Research Fellow, Monash University

From The Bottom Up: Do Nothing About Us Without Us

When the knowledge and experience of affected communities and individuals are not included in health improvement initiatives.

Using two case studies, obesity and gambling, Dr Thomas suggested that focussing on individual behaviour could be damaging, and that trying to shame people did not lead to progress.

Health improvement initiatives should be based on the principle that everyone can control what they do.

Dr Thomas said harm minimisation and health promotion should be the focus of health improvement initiatives. We need to be really, really focused on personal responsibility rather than blaming others.

Downstream (is) us telling governments how they need to do, (while) upstream (is) us telling governments how they need to do.

Dr Thomas said information strategies on obesity and gambling were usually centered on negative impacts. He suggested a more effective strategy would be to show the positive impacts of being fit, strong.

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GEORGE MEGALOGENIS,
Author, Journalist, Political Commentator, Blogger

George Megalogenis, author of *The Australian Moment*, was invited to give the opening address at the Communities in Control conference. He will be guiding the conference through the thinking behind his new book.

Following what he has warned that politicians would not be remembered in 20 years if they had no achievements to show for their power.

whereby a country, after 20 or 30 years, tends to forget the mistakes of the past and starts to repeat them. Australia was at the tipping point now in its national memory, he said, following the last recession in 1991.

Mr Megalogenis said we were starting soft as a country even before the onset of the Global Financial Crisis, citing a number of examples that he said showed we were moving towards a more comfortable life than the

- < 2003/2004 was the first time on record in which the total of family payments exceeded payments to the disabled, the unemployed, the sick, and veterans and their beneficiaries.

- < @ 7 8 he first time on record, than to tertiary education.

Mr Megalogenis said Australia needed to make sure it did not forget the mistakes of the past.

He said the current mining boom of the 1850s and when we made an active national choice to build a bigger country following the growth spurt after the gold rush or after the post

Click [here](#) to read or listen to this speech.



MARGARET SIMONS,
Journalist, author, academic and YouCommNews founder

Taking on the Fourth Estate: Why the times NOW for people-powered news

Journalism is a rapidly changing industry, with new media taking over and pushing traditional mediums, particularly print, to the precipice of endangerment, Margaret told the Communities in Control audience.

Ms Simons began her speech with the example of Andy Carvin, the USA National Public Radio journalist who covered the Arab Spring uprising as it happened through Twitter, using that platform to find news, verify news, and share news.

Ms Simons said big media outlets were struggling to make changes to the way they functioned in order to keep their audience, and therefore their advertisers (i.e. their revenue).

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smaller and le
she said.

Ms Simons said the loss of big media outlets might seem like a blessing, but perhaps not when you exa
they had allowed journalists to do:

- < Support quality journalism;
- < Build communities of interest;
- < Contribute to the flow of information;
- < Allow scrutiny of the powerful;
- < Lubricate democracy; and
- < Allow practical expression of freedom of speech.

Ms Simons gave a view of the future of journalism were to become an industry controlled by anybody with
social media account
said.



SCOTT RIDDLE,
Strategic Syndication Partnership Manager, Google

Technological Stewardship: Charting Your Course in an Increasingly Digital World

Scott Riddle joined Communities in Control to discuss the array of new tools availab
community groups, and the best ways to use them.

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world, Mr Riddle said, which was 'causing changes' tha
could force organisations to sink or swim.

u
up some major questions about the way you @

Mr Riddle outlined a number of developments for community organisations to note and understand, inclu

- < Changes to YouTube to allow long form content that meant it was becoming a viable live broadcast me
- < u 8 = -person live video chat;
- < Crowd sourcing trends for example, creation of new maps using Mapmaker;
- < Big data: New tools for collecting and analysing massive data sets, allowing a huge number of po
useful developments for example, monitoring of flu (and prediction of outbreaks);
- < New tools to allow greater visualisation of data and for instance, geographic representation
8 7 u
- < Massive Online Open Courses (MOOCs) new breed of o
the world
- < Cloud computing developments that allow you to reduce software costs, and obtain ready access to
software from anywhere;
- < 7

h crowd sourcing, above).

Mr Riddle finished with three simple suggestions for community groups to consider when responding to
navigating the new digital world:

1. Undertake real, long term strategic planning;
2. Actively seek new talent and new ideas;
3. Embrace digital, but only when it adds value.

[Click here](#) to read or listen to this speech.



DAMIAN OGDEN,
Founder & Executive Director, Campaign Action
& Obama Campaign Adviser

*Generation Next: A new way forward for
community leadership*



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born, they are
groomed and
mentored.

Leadership skills
can be learned, but
self-appointed
leaders are rarely
the leaders that w

Campaign Action Founder Damian Ogden told Communities in Control delegates that there were three important aspects to the great change:

1. Progressive public policy providing vision, direction and agenda
2. Community organising building a constituency that fights for change
3. Grassroots electoral campaigns determining who makes decisions, and who holds the decision makers accountable.

He stressed the importance of leadership.

@ ...
base, empower communities, grow new leaders and give them the

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and mentored. Leadership skills
can be learned, but self-appointed leaders are rarely the leaders that



In the lead up ...
Ogden joined as a campaign volunteer, working with another man named Dwight.

Dwight was a 64 ...
the primaries. As the generation approached, he was managing more than 600 volunteers who were working together to win the important area of West Indiana (which they eventually did).

) ... but he became a ...
U ...

Following the election, Dwight, a man who always had leadership potential, won the Chicago City Council.

† ...

[Click here](#) to read or listen to this speech.



Communities in Control is co-ordinated by Our Community and CatholicCare.

Transcripts and audio of the speeches are available free of charge at
www.ourcommunity.com.au/cic

Transcripts of all 10 years of past conferences are also available free from the website.

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2. Community champion Joan Kirner delivers landmark social justice oration

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That was the message from former Victorian Premier Joan Kirner as she delivered a landmark speech at the Communities in Control Conference in Moonee Ponds on May 29.

Ms Kirner, who is the Victorian Communities Ambassador, was chosen to deliver the speech named in her honour in recognition of the leading role she played in the 1980s and final year.

Ms Kirner told conference delegates that a society that broke the link between economic success and social justice was on the road to social division and economic disintegration.



0 she said, pointing out that Australia ranked second in the UN Human Development Index, and its residents had the highest median wealth in the world.

going gets tough.

Ms Kirner said people committed to social justice needed to reject the false promise of the basic areas of education and health, saying those without the means did not have any real choice.

Get together, get angry and get organised.

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Ms Kirner said the happiest, most productive societies in the world were those where there was the least gap between highest and lowest income earners.

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@ system

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Ms Kirner laid out the values that had formed the basis of her more than four decades of community work:

- < People matter;
- < Women matter as much as men do;
- < All people deserve to be treated with respect (and treating people with respect gains respect);
- < People affected by decisions should be part of making them; and
- < Equity before the law and in the distribution of resources underpins a successful, socially just society.

She urged community activists to restate and recommit to their own values, and to plan their individual and collective campaigns to strengthen social justice in Australia.

‡ If we recognise and emphasise common humanity, we can build a productive and progressive nation which can achieve social justice and economic justice and environmental sustainability.

) 8

Universal early childhood education, training and employment for all were the keys to social justice, Ms Kirner said.

@ even if

respects and enhances our common humanity and our common environment.

ensure that Australia is a socially just nation.

for what you are already doing for our common humanity, and

A transcript, audio www.ourcommunity.com.au/joankirneroration

K M

Former Victorian Premier Joan Kirner received a Companion of the Order of Australia

Parliament and to thank her for her contributions to gender equality, the development of education and

eminence and merit of the highest degree in service to Australia or humanity at large.

Ms Kirner has fought for community, equality and social justice in a range of theatres over four decades.

The frontwoman for a grassroots campaign for educational reform in the 1970s, Ms Kirner went on to join Parliament as a Labor Party MP, serving as Minister for Conservation, Forest and Lands (during which she introduced the seminal Landcare program), and Minister for Education (introducing a range of equity-based educational reforms).

She retired from Parliament in 1994.

Before, during and after her Parliamentary career, Ms Kirner has been prominent in the national struggles for equality, environmental protection, and community development.

Having played an integral role in the development of the social fabric of Australia, she remains an enduring community activist and champion for the forgotten.

Our Community Cup Managing Director Denis Moriarty, who has worked with Ms Kirner in government, the private sector and the community sector for the past 30 years,

advocacy, education and, most importantly, empowering communities and community action for a fairer and more socially just Australia.

U M justice, delivered at the Communities in Control Conference on May 29 in front of a 1000 strong crowd drawn from all over Australia, received a standing ovation.

@ collective responsibility to close the gap in income distribution and provision of services for all citizens even if it hurts you

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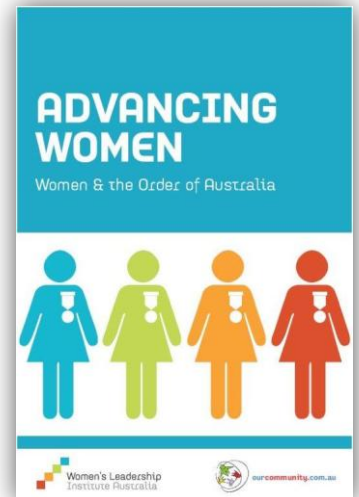
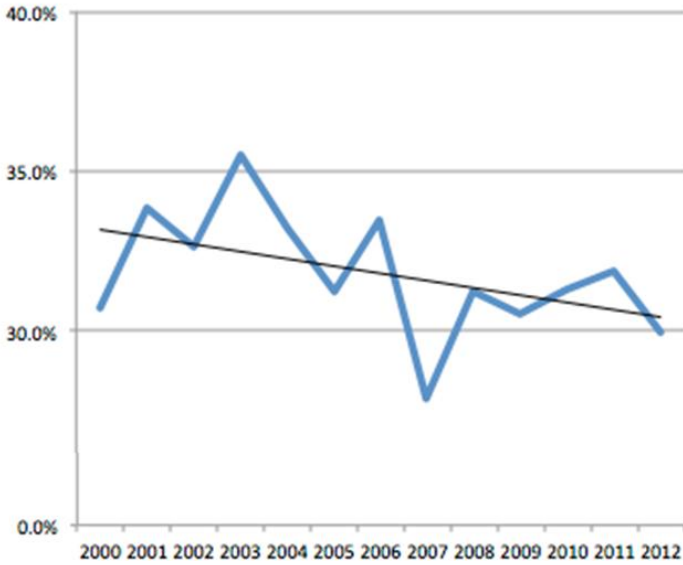
3. Too few women join club

8 Birthday Honours list that brought heaven down (see Part 2) also demonstrated that a long way still have to go.

Ms Kirner was the only woman amongst the eight Australian Commanders of the Order of Australia June 11. In all, 540 awards were announced (or 70%) to men and just 159 to women.

Taking the 2012 awards as a whole we find that the proportion of awards going to women has dropped sharply to its lowest level this century.

The trend line continues to slope downwards.



Your homework:

Look around you. Identify the women doing great things in your community.

Now put pen to paper and nominate them for an award.

If you need help, download *Women and the Order of Australia* book at www.ourcommunity.com.au/honours

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4. PM announces central Victorian jobs project winner of social justice award

A central Victorian project that is working to give long-term unemployed people the confidence and skills they need to fill local jobs has won a landmark social justice award.

The inaugural ban Kirner Social Justice Award was a \$1000 award for grassroots community workers and projects. It has been won by the Maryborough N... project.

The announcement was made via a video message from Prime Minister Julia Gillard at the Communities Conference on May 29, 2012.

Maryborough has a disproportionately high rate of generational unemployment, the Maryborough Neighbourhood Renewal Team says.

locally, rates of unemployment and disengagement from education and training have remained amongst the highest in the state.

positions. They cite instances of people leaving within days of starting a new job and cannot understand why unemployed people do not take up the



L-R: Margaret Kent, Place Manager, Maryborough Neighbourhood Renewal; Kaz Hughes, Getting Ahead participant; Mark Johnson, CEO, Central Goldfields Shire; Matt Broad, Employment & Learning Coordinator, Maryborough Neighbourhood Renewal; De Moriarty, Group Managing Director, Our Community; former Victorian Premier Joe Caddy, CEO, CatholicCare, and Reshma, Getting Ahead participant.

The Getting Ahead project is designed to help people who have experienced generational unemployment to gain skills and training that are needed to get and keep jobs and training.

Ten months since the introduction of the project, seven of the 15 participants are employed and the remainder are in accredited education or training.

relationships and civic

Project participant Kaz Hughes told the Communities in Control conference that the program was confronting but gave participants the building blocks they needed to improve their personal and professional lives.

She said Getting Head helped her build up her confidence, recognise her strengths, and identify those areas where she needed more development. As a result, her family life had improved, and she had returned to study.

The Joan Kirner Social Justice Award recognises those people and groups who are emulating the lifetime work of former Victorian Premier Joan Kirner AM.

Maryborough team has shown, social change initiatives work best when the process of change is owned by those

The Joan Kirner Social Justice Award is an initiative of Our Community and the Trawalla Foundation, which is supported by Our Community chair Carol Schwartz and her family.

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5. Last chance to contribute to the Communities in Control OurSay

The Our Community OurSay project is winding down but you still have time to pose questions and vote yours and others to the top of the pile.

More than 100 questions have already been posed as part of the Communities in Control OurSay (<http://oursay.org/communitiesincontrol>), with more than 3000 votes lodged.

Set up to coincide with the recent Communities in Control Conference, this experiment with people-powered democracy is exploring the theme of government and community, inviting participants to pose questions to any and all levels of government on a community in control topic of their choice.



The project opened a fortnight before the Communities in Control Conference. Panelists included former Deputy Premier of Victoria John Thwaites, former Liberal MP for McEwen Fran Bailey, and outgoing Manningham City councillor Stephen Mayne.

The top three questions dealt with the topics of euthanasia, oral language deficiency, and nursing home care for people.

Voting has continued since the conference and the three top spots are still up for grabs. The top three questions at close of voting on June 20 will be forwarded to the appropriate level of government for a response.

Join in! You have until close of business on June 20 to contribute questions and votes. Go to <http://oursay.org/communitiescontrol>

on the May 29 panel

1. So do the overwhelming majority of

us, in making laws, are in a different position to people who are responding to

be able to choose to die with some form of assistance

2. \ intervention they face a drastic future, so much so that 50% of youth of our country have a serious oral language deficiency. Why, as a nation, are we not tackling the challenges that these

All three panellists were surprised by the figure quoted in the question, with Fran Bailey saying the problem likely stemmed from a lack of early detection of oral and written skill problems.

3. 0 †

Both John Thwaites and Stephen Mayne raised the possibility that such facilities could be established under the upcoming National Disability Insurance Scheme.

of Health and Ageing out of Canberra ought to be providing an incentive, a higher... see it as an area where they should get involved.

@ -designed scheme nationally on disability will be the answer.

@ were born or some other disability,



[Click here](#) to read the full transcript of the May 29 OurSay panel, to download the audio or listen

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6. Charities Commission reveals timetable; Coalition reveals charities agenda

After a flurry of deferments and redefinitions in the for-profit reform, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) Taskforce Implementation Report highway.

controlled by other agencies, and population centres that want to detour the traffic past their own shop.
V #

We now know who the Commission is, too. Unsurprisingly, Susan Pascoe of the ACNC Taskforce, is going on to head the Commission itself. A superb choice.

The ACNC team has been largely recruited the website and includes such prominent sector figures as Murray

† # #
Impleme k #

- a) providing legal, accounting, governance or other professional advice, or
- b) acting as an advocate for the sector.

@ h of information provided here at Our Community, but its own information section will be devoted only to giving information to manage their compliance obligations.

We now know, too, that the first effect of this entirely laudable effort to reduce overlap and red tape is unfortunately to increase overlap and red tape.

The ACNC will be working with other Commonwealth and State and Territory agencies to develop once, use often reporting framework.

In the meantime, charities will continue to meet their current state and territory financial reporting requirements. The Government is working closely with states and territories, the COAG NFP Reform Group, to minimise or reduce regulatory duplication.

From July 2013, is a incorporated association will have to make two annual reports instead of one.

† # V #

Those difficulties, however, are (we hope) only temporary.

The deeper issues come to the fore when we consider exactly how the ACNC is going to combine the cost of reducing reporting requirements for-profit organisations and increasing transparency for the public.

The reporting required in 2013 will be fairly basic: ABN, purposes, number of employees, number of

By 2014, however, financial information is going to be required. And not just the kind of financial information that will satisfy your auditor, either; financial information that enables the prospective donor to compare costs, costs of service provision and fundraising expenses between charities.

And that is a veritable gallon drum of worms, as the Implementation Report made clear:

Submissions highlighted problems associated with collecting information about administration costs and costs of service provision due to the lack of consistent accounting definitions leading to invalid or misleading comparisons, and by activity reporting lacking the support of some accounting systems.

While [Standard Chart of Accounts] definitions exist for fundraising expenses, they vary between Territories reflecting the differing information requirements of fundraising regulators. Treasury is

currently leading discussions with the States and Territories on charitable fundraising regulation reform.

The Implementation Report may even be demonstrating the difficulties here are real

here are real issues

percentage of time the CEO spends on schmoozing with potential donors? Does that count? What about including a will form in the Annual Report? Should the cost of printing colour photographs be included?

fundraising expense. Money paid to an external fundraiser, yes

Bearing in mind that the great Australian public has a realistic understanding of what the actual costs of fundraising are, this is a potential for tears before bedtime.

what about the percentage of time the CEO spends on schmoozing with potential donors?

in this area, though, there may be some disappointment. The idea was that the ACNC would increase public confidence in the sector.

Members of the public develop relationships with charitable donors and beneficiaries. They want to know that charities operate according to their stated purposes, properly manage the finances and have good governance arrangements.

The public, though, can be quite suspicious of Australian charities. The public would have these doubts and only if, it believes that there is a fierce regulator that strikes like a thunderbolt on all wrongdoers.

But this is not at all how the Commission sees its role. There is a certain amount of bluster in the report. Appropriate sanctions for serious or wilful non-compliance.

filling out the appropriate forms.

u want government to have too much in the way of coercive powers over the civil sector, and that any problems can be addressed by greater transparency. An organisation that is trading while insolvent will be shown up when there is a public share available online, an informed public will bring the force of public opinion against them, procuring reform. Commission having to send an agent round.

Whether or not this theory is sound, it remains to be seen whether the Australian public folds in their continual search of a new occasion for moral indignation.

#

The Commission is, of course, very much the product of the current Labor government, and we will have to see how it might fare if the Coalition takes the reins.

Opposition Leader Tony Abbott is, of course, in favour of competition. He has speeded up the Pratt Foundation made that clear, though it was very short on specifics (its only actual commitment was to further centralise jurisdictions).

U (and potentially dangerous) for its apparent movement towards the theme of The Big Society where the state sheds as much as possible of its responsibilities to the voluntary sector (see Part 1 above). The term Big Society

8 are part and parcel of even the best lives. If it tries to, it ends up diminishing people's tempo because it takes away the element of striving that allows people to own their achievements. The government tackles problems that are best addressed in the community, is that people are denied the chance to achieve something for themselves.

The Coalition is much more interested in an empowered community than we are in an empowered community that has the capacity to do more for themselves because

U # speech by Opposition spokesman Kevin Andrews, is much narrower.

ensure that it represents the sector. We will work with the sector to transfer responsibility and of the Commission to the sector over the next few years

Under the Coalition, Mr Andrews says, the independent charities commission will:

- < Provide education and support services to registered charities;
- < Provide information to assist with the registration for new charities and not-for-profit agencies;
- < Represent the interests of charities and not-for-profit agencies in Australia;
- < Advocate for the rights of charities and not-for-profit agencies;
- < Represent the interests of charities and not-for-profit agencies to government;
- < Help facilitate the interaction between government and the charity and not-for-profit sector;
- < Undertake research and sector evaluations on issues of concern to the sector; and
- < Help foster innovation within the sector.

Other than that, regulation will be considerably simplified by taking your word for just about everything Andrews says the Coalition will:

- < Simplify reporting requirements for governance arrangements, with registration or an unincorporated association sufficing as evidence of appropriate governance arrangements;
- < Require all agencies to lodge a one governing body, indicating the agency is properly governed; and
- < Work with the sector to ensure adequate and known whistleblower provisions are in place.

u This, of course, flies in the face of the findings of the 2001 Charities Definition Inquiry, the 2008 Henry Review and the 2010 Productivity Commission report, all of which favoured a statutory solution.

@ U It would be a slap in the face for a large chunk of the not-for-profit sector, leaving us with the same festering heap of English case law we have under for the past 400 years.

In his speech, Mr Andrews quotes Abraham Lincoln, Tocqueville, John Burke, Adam Smith, Plato, Aristotle, and others for

Of rather more practical concern to Australian not-for-profits, however, is what precisely Mr Andrews (and Mr Abbott) mean

In the UK, the Big Society project has, in the context of a grinding recession, come to be seen as the cost of transferring responsibilities from the state to the voluntary sector without any corresponding shift of funding.

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7. Hazard Warning Privacy Protection

In the last edition of *Our Community Matters*, we outlined some of the hazards of working in the modern world not-for-profit and the challenge of maintaining adequate data security as among the biggest.

As we pointed out, new electronic media offers community groups enormous new capabilities, but also generate new threats.

As we reported, a number of recent examples show how things can go awry:

- ◁ a UK pregnancy advisory service was hacked by an anti-campaigner, who threatened to reveal the personal details of women who had contacted the service seeking advice;
- ◁ a Scottish disability charity was sanctioned after two memory sticks containing personal details
- ◁ a glitch in the London Marathon website resulted in the details of up to 38,000 runners being revealed

Now comes the news that the Australian Government could help provide some clues about what your organisation can do to protect the privacy of your clients, members and website users. (The organisation said that user profiles were held on a separate website and had not been compromised).

A new privacy fact sheet produced by the Australian Government could help provide some clues about what your organisation can do to protect the privacy of your clients, members and website users.

The fact sheet How to protect your personal information was released by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner to coincide with Privacy Week.

Being sensible, honest and discreet are the keys to properly collecting and handling personal information in the new age, which suggests that organisations:

- ◁ Only collect information you need, and make sure people know the information you collect. Ensure you have a clear policy on how you will use the information.
- ◁ Don't collect personal information about an individual just because you think that information may come in handy later.
- ◁ Tell people how you are going to handle the personal information you collect about them.
- ◁ Think before disclosing personal information that includes gaining permission from people if you wish to disclose their personal information for a reason that is different from the reason you collected it.
- ◁ If people ask, give them access to the personal information you hold about them.
- ◁ Don't keep information you no longer need or that you no longer need to have

u suggesting you:

- ◁ Think about the adequacy of existing security measures and procedures;
- ◁ Train staff in privacy procedures;
- ◁ Ensure adequate IT security, such as installing firewalls, cookie removal viruses and scanners;
- ◁ Check that personal information has been removed from electronic devices before you sell or dispose of them;
- ◁ Keep hard copy files in properly secured cabinets;
- ◁ Allow staff to access information only when necessary;
- ◁ Monitor your information handling practices to ensure they are secure.

[Click here](#) to download the fact sheet.

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8. The power, the passion, the struggles, the triumphs: OC award alumni update

Four recent stories from four very different community groups highlight some of the challenges and triumphs inherent in community sector work.

The common thread is that they are all past Our Community award winners.

Sisters Inside fights defunding decision

Sisters Inside is a Queensland organisation that won the inaugural Community Competition back in 2005.

The organisation advocates for the human rights of women in the criminal justice system, working to address the gaps in services available to them.

Victims are often left to provide ongoing funding.

They are often targeted against them in our community. Due to this horrendous abuse women turn to the courts for justice.



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Sisters Inside have posted a position urging the government to reverse the decision. [Click here to read more](#) or [hear an ABC radio program on the issue](#) or visit the Sisters Inside website.

Project Respect seeks help in funding campaign

2011 Kookaburra Award winner Project Respect is also fighting a government decision to discontinue funding.

The organisation, which works to fight against the trafficking of women and to stand up for the rights of women sex workers, says its only Victorian Government grant has been cut and the recent State Budget has no mention of any more to come.

The Attorney General has not responded to requests to meet with the organisation to discuss future funding. The organisation says.



u 8 months, who, in this short space of time, worked with 20

u o 8 The State Government is committed to addressing violence against women

† † 8 been trafficked into the Victorian sex industry, offered a gross violation of their

The organisation is urging supporters to send an email or letter to a state [local MP](#) to see the template, [here](#) to learn more about the work of Project Respect.

Asylum Seeker Resource Centre demonstrates the power of Fundraising Rule Number One

\ # [Complete Community Fundraising Handbook](#) very clear on Number One Rule of Fundraising:

1. @ *Rule Number One. Tattoo it to the back of your hand.*

And the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre 2010 Kookaburra Award winner, has recently provided a very stark demonstration of just how true that notion is.

At midday on Thursday, April 26, we received in our inbox an email featuring a video appeal fronted by former Minister and ASRC Patron Malcolm Fraser.



The email that accompanied the video image outlined

- < The problem is that while we welcome the step, the organisation said, but one that has created an impediment to ASRC services.
- < The answer is to #

So over we went to GiveNow which the Asylum Seekers Resource Centre uses to collect its donations, to see the effect the email was having. Guess what? The donations were rolling in.

Who's getting what today?		
12:06PM	\$100.00	Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC)
12:02PM	\$200.00	Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC)
12:02PM	\$25.00	Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC)
12:02PM	\$100.00	Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC)
12:01PM	\$100.00	Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC)

† ask and ye shall receive @)
 \ people (People give
 when someone they like and trust ask for help to have a good contact list as well.

Change Media Project highlights refugee story

Finally, a little something to put a smile on your dial.

Change Media, another 2010 Kookaburra Award winner, is an organisation that uses digital media

an



This project just goes to show medicine

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9. Equal Pay: the devil in the details

Fair Work Australia has awarded a landmark pay rise to community workers. Now all you have to do is get the Federal Government has launched [explanatory web page](#) for-profit organisations it funds; or its share, where an organisation is funded by state and federal agencies.

there is confused.

The NSW Government seems to be hoping to delay implementation in that state by grounds that workers there are paid more in other states and should wait for the other states to catch up before a demonstration from workers who want their jam rate to rise).

sector workers (and to save you getting out your calculator, that works out to \$21 per head). Issues of principle do seem to be taking back seat.

says Equal Employment Opportunities Commissioner Dr Judy McGregor.

There are legal obligations relating to pay equality and for far too long we have exploited goodwill of thousands of workers, predominantly women. Inaction means we're condoning a fundamental breach of human rights. We cannot afford to ignore this clear injustice for a large group of low paid

The Commission's inquiry recommends a stepped approach to implement fairness on pay rates over turnover of carers.

[New Zealand](#) where a similar push is underway. Over this

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10. Hot New Diet Tip: How to live longer and be healthier

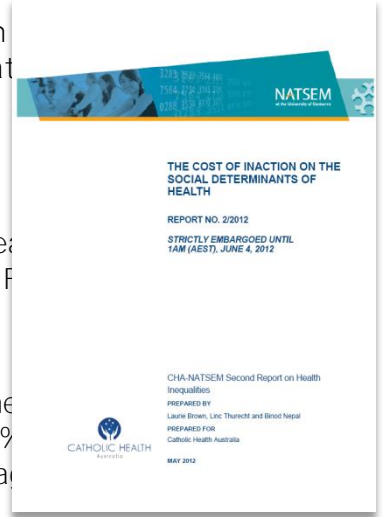
Pop Quiz! I smoke, I have high blood pressure, and my diet gives me high cholesterol. What would improve my health more: giving up smoking, fat and salt, or changing jobs?

Well, research has found that job classification is a better predictor of cardiovascular death than cholesterol, blood pressure and smoking combined.

An English study found that professional workers lived on average 78.5 years, unskilled non-manual workers 76 years, and unskilled manual workers 71 years. For

on the society around us, and where we stand within it.

Australia today is a pretty unequal society, and that shows up At the top of the scale, among the people with the most advantages, only 10% report having poor health; for those at the bottom, the most disadvantaged, 30%.



Given that in Australia.

new study from Catholic Health

Catholic Health Australia found that if the health gaps between the most and least disadvantaged groups of Australia, we would see the following health and economic improvements:

- < 400,000 additional di
- < 500,000 Australians could avoid suffering a chronic illness;
- < 170,000 extra Australians could enter the workforce, generating \$8 billion in extra earnings from taxes and salaries;
- < Annual savings of \$4 billion in government welfare support payments could be made;
- < 60,000 fewer people would need to be admitted to hospital annually, resulting in more than 500,000 fewer hospital admissions, with savings of \$2.3 billion in hospital expenditure
- < 5.5 million fewer Medicare services would be needed each year, resulting in annual savings of \$1.1 billion;
- < 5.3 million fewer Pharmaceutical Benefits Scripts would be filled each year, resulting in annual savings of \$184.5 million each year.

And, Social justice helps everybody. Paging Joan Kirner!

\ " o new scheme for social impact investing in disadvantaged communities.

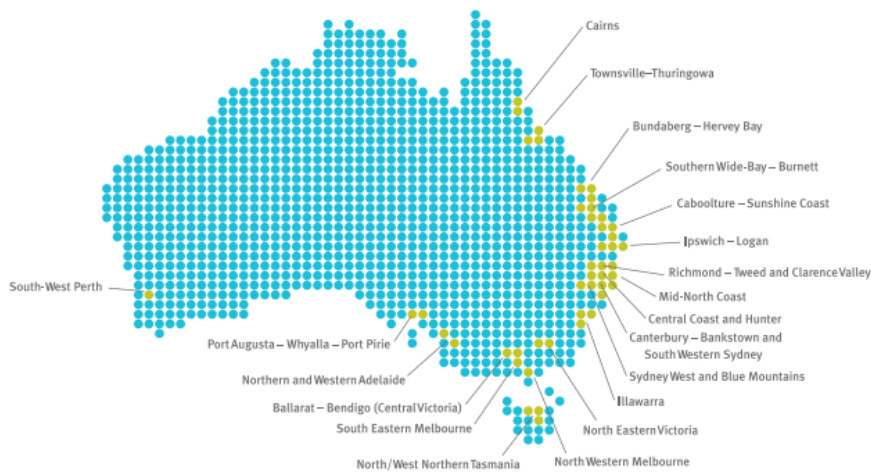
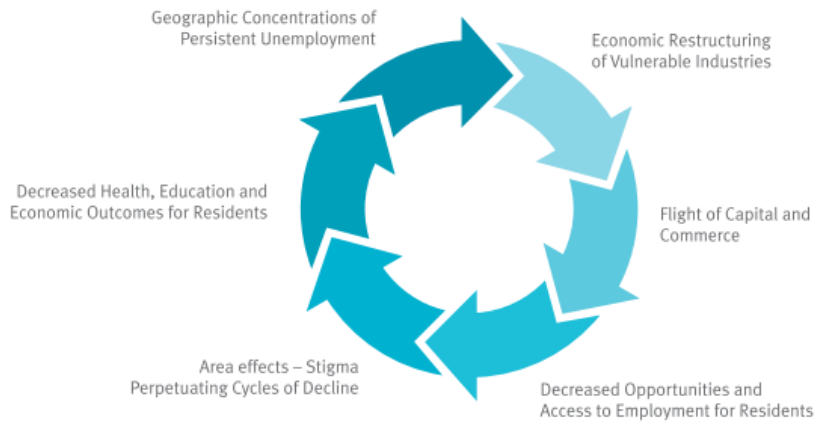
Mr Shorten has launched two reports by Dr Ingrid Parkes *Placebased Impact Investment in Australia* (literature review) and Building Blocks for Action sales pitch that says:

Placebased Impact Investment approaches bring an investment lens to addressing community development underinvestment in Australia. These approaches seek to reverse the cycle of underinvestment and economic renewal in those communities that are at risk of, or already in decline, distress or disrepair and in so doing prevent further decline and restore economic vitality.

The reports were commissioned by the DEEWR Social Innovation Group, the National Australia Bank, Miss K " †

The theory is that you can in fact eat your cake and have it and make money.

The report says that disadvantaged communities in a death spiral:



can be salvaged by social investing

INVESTING IN START-UP BUSINESSES IN TARGET AREAS



argue with graphics like that.

7 the graduating class at Princeton University.

Moneyball U O

0 comes, while not entirely random, have a huge amount of luck baked into them. Above all, recognise that if you have had success, you have an obligation. You owe a debt, and not just to your Gods. You owe a debt to the unlu

You can read the spec [here](#)

11. Stop the Presses! OC Training Calendar released today

\ #

Upcoming opportunities include

Strategies for Sustainable Funding Sessions [\(Click here for details..\)](#)

Location	Dates
Melbourne	27 July
Sydney	27 July
Perth	30 July
Brisbane	30 July
Melbourne	17 September
Sydney	17 September
Perth	21 September
Brisbane	21 September
Inverell	24 September
Byron Bay	26 September
Melbourne	23 November
Sydney	23 November
Perth	26 November
Brisbane	26 November

Introduction to Writing Winning Grant Applications [\(Click here for details..\)](#)

Location	Dates
Melbourne	27 July
Sydney	27 July
Perth	30 July
Brisbane	30 July
Melbourne	17 September
Sydney	17 September
Perth	21 September
Brisbane	21 September
Inverell	24 September
Byron Bay	26 September
Melbourne	23 November

Sydney	23 November
Perth	26 November
Brisbane	26 November

Advanced Grant Writing Seminars ([Click here for details.](#))

Location	Dates
Canberra	22 June
Melbourne	10 August
Sydney	10 August
Perth	17 August
Brisbane	17 August
Melbourne	3 December
Sydney	3 December
Perth	7 December
Brisbane	7 December

Secrets of Successful Boards Seminars ([Click here for details.](#))

Location	Dates
Melbourne	20 August
Sydney	20 August
Perth	24 August
Brisbane	24 August
Melbourne	15 October
Sydney	15 October
Perth	19 October
<u>Brisbane</u>	<u>19 October</u>

All scheduled Our Community training opportunities can be viewed at www.ourcommunity.com.au/scheduledtraining

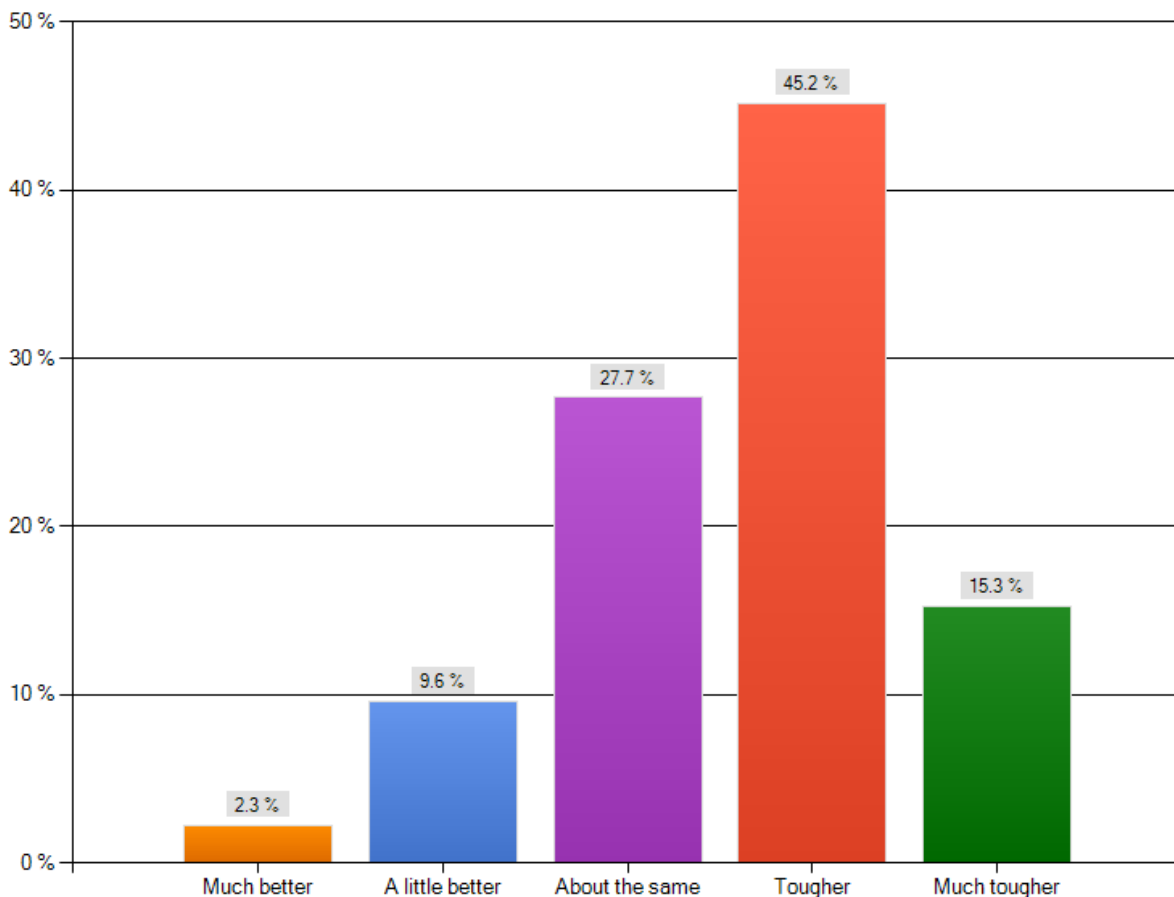
We also offer tailored training on a topic of your choice at a location of your choice. Go to www.ourcommunity.com.au/tailoredtraining or email or call Alana Matison alamn@ourcommunity.com.au or (03) 93206805.

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12. Our Community Poll reveals tough fundraising climate

and, it seems, things are not looking so bright.

What's the climate for fundraising/donations like for your organisation, when compared with the same time last year?



The next edition of *Raising Funds* newsletter will provide some tips for fundraising in a tough climate.

Our latest poll seeks to gain your views on the possibility of a rather big change in store for the Australian community sector.

In his speech at the 2012 Communities in Control Conference, Peter O'Shanahan told us that ready or not, we are heading for a "Big Society".

What do you think about "Big Society"?

- A good thing** – government should get out of the way and let us get on with things
- A bad thing** – we need government intervention to create a just society
- Could be good; could be bad** – depends how it's implemented
- What's "Big Society"??**

Take the poll and view past results at www.ourcommunity.com.au/poll

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13. Volunteering updates from Australia and beyond

Volunteering Australia on the move

Volunteering Australia (VA) will shut the doors of its Melbourne office at the end of this month and shift its headquarters to Canberra from the start of July.

In a release last month confirming the move, VA board president Paul Lynch said the organisation felt it represent the interests of volunteers by having a strong presence in Canberra.

reform of its current governance structures and has determined that the organisation will be better placed to do this from Canberra.

The move has seen all seven current staff members, including CEO Cary Pedicini, leave VA. Mr Lynch paid Mr Pedicini and other staff members, and thanked them for their work.

VA said the move would not impact on service delivery including support for National Volunteer Week and GoVolunteer matching service.

New GoVolunteer website close to launch

As Volunteering Australia (VA) shifts its headquarters to Canberra, it is preparing for the launch of a new GoVolunteer website.

The revamped website has been rebuilt with the help of Seek and the Boston Consulting Group.

Volunteer management system VIKTOR Online is at the heart of the new site, promising enhanced matching of volunteers to jobs. The site has also been redesigned in order to improve the experience for volunteers and involving groups.

In another change announced just this week, Volunteering WA is to take over responsibility for the administration and support of GoVolunteer. It is hoped this will improve service delivery for site users.

VA has urged groups that currently use the site to ensure their listings are up to date and that organisations are accurate, with the launch expected to see an increase in site traffic.

For more information, contact GoVolunteer by email on govolunteer@govolunteer.com.au

State of Volunteering report released

Organisations must continue to meet the high expectations of volunteers if they are to successfully attract them, according to the *State of Volunteering in Australia* report.

The Volunteering Australia report says volunteering opportunities need to evolve to meet community demand.

VA says Australia has a strong foundation for volunteering but must continue to meet the changing needs of the community, taking in traditional methods of volunteering such as place-based volunteering, episodic volunteering and virtual volunteering.

[Click here](#) to download the report.

Seven key points in new UK volunteer code of practice

Volunteering England and the Association of Insurers have released a new code of practice for volunteer

The code aims to provide volunteers with guidance on safety as well as on when they should ask for advice. The seven tips for volunteers are:

- < Take care in whatever you do.
- < Think about your safety and the safety of others around you.
- < Involve other people.
- < Ask for help and information.
- < Be clear about what you are doing.
- < Check your existing insurance policies to see what you are covered for.
- < If you are volunteering for an organisation you are probably covered by their insurance, though you should ask the organisation to make sure.

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14. Fancy working in youk? Join us in National Telework Week

Are you sick of driving to and from work during peak hour, sitting in bumper bumper traffic?

Are you losing your fingers as you wait for public transport during winter?

u 8

Between November 12 and 16 this year, the government is holding National Telework Week, an event designed to promote some of the benefits of the national broadband network (NBN) businesses by encouraging for-profit organisations and government agencies to allow staff to work from home.

The government says telework has many benefits, saying it can:

The view from the home office of one lucky Our Commun

- < Improve workforce participation opportunities
- < Boost enterprise productivity
- < Reduce urban congestion on roads and public transport, especially at peak times
- < Reduce air pollution, greenhouse gas emissions and fuel consumption associated with commuting
- < Improve the economic and cultural vitality of local areas as for the decentralised
- < Provide time and cost savings for employees

The Government wants to double telework rates to at least 12%.

flexible arrangements. Work is what you do, not where you

u V " V -definition interactive environments from wherever they are, be it at home or elsewhere. This increases work productivity and can reduce the need for long daily commutes to office.

u

Our Community has signed up as a Telework Week participant from November 12 work remotely, where that works for the organisation and is convenient for them. (In fact, we do this all

For more information about Telework Week, visit <http://www.nbn.gov.au/benefits/telework/>

