



It was great to see a couple of familiar names among the recipients of the Queens' Birthday Honours listings in recognition for the significant contributions they have made through their lives and their work for Australian people.

Former FRSA Board Chair and FRSA Board member, Ms Jennifer Hannan, has been awarded a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia (AM) for her significant service to youth through the development of child protection and family relationships support initiatives, and to the community. Jenny has been an agent for change in the sector for a long time, with a very keen interest and dedication to children and it is lovely to see her work acknowledged in this way.

Another woman for whom I have the highest regard is Mrs Suzanne Margaret (Aunty Sue) Blacklock. I had the absolute pleasure of meeting her and learning more about her life's work and her recent work with Winangay Resources when I met her at the FRSA Conference in 2014. She has dedicated her life to improving outcomes for Aboriginal Children – both in and out of care. She is a strong and purposeful advocate for ensuring Aboriginal

Children have a good life strongly connected to care and to culture and I was delighted to see her acknowledged for her work on the Queens Birthday Honours list and awarded a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia (AM).

It was also good to see Mr Alasdair Roy receive an Order of Australia (OAM) for his role as the Children and Young People Commission in the ACT.

The National Press Club held a NFP Forum as part of its Election 2016 Program yesterday. I went along and heard Senator Zed Seselja from the Coalition, Dr Andrew Leigh from the ALP and Senator Rachel Siewert, from the Australian Greens, talk about the NFP sector and the accepted, appreciated and valued (by all) significant impact the sector, and peak agencies within the sector, have on Australian life.

[Click here to read more](#) on the FRSA Blog ...

As noted previously, the work of the bureaucracy continues. The Attorney General's department continues its consultation process around the KPMG report. Last week representatives were in Perth and Broome (I managed to attend the Perth dialogue and visit some members) and next week they will be in Cairns and Darwin.

DSS is also running some consultation processes with members advising they have been called from separate areas in the Department – one area looking for feedback on the user experience of the DSS Grant funding process and the other focused on funded agencies' experiences with their local contract managers.

In this edition you can also read about:

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Best regards,
Jackie Brady



REGISTRATION FOR THE FRSA NATIONAL CONFERENCE NOW OPEN

We are still working on pulling together a top class program for the [Family and Relationship Services Australia Conference](#) this year but can promise the same level of quality, inspiration and networking opportunities that our delegates come to expect from the FRSA Conference.

Last year, 98% of delegates who completed the Conference survey said that they found the Conference to be 'good', 'very good' or 'excellent'. And it is often referred to as a 'go to' event in the sector. Our confidence in the event is driven by Conference participants.

With 30 June looming, we have opened up Registrations and look forward to seeing you in Canberra 28 November – 1 December 2016 for a robust discussion about "Measuring Success in the Family & Relationship Sector: for the wellbeing of Children, Families and Communities".

For more information, visit the [FRSA National Conference Website](#).

Call for Abstracts Deadline Extension

Thank you to the people who have already submitted their abstract and symposium proposals in advance of our 12 June deadline.

Thanks so much to you all!

We have received a number of requests to extend the deadline for abstract submissions. In the spirit of shared learning we have decided to **extend the abstract/symposium** timeframe until no later than COB **Friday, 24 June 2016**.

To view submission guidelines and to submit, please [visit here](#).



Mid-election policy promises stocktake

Half way through the long 56-day election campaign, HuffPost Australia [take stock](#) of the election promises made so far by the Australian Labor Party and the Liberal Party of Australia.

While the current government has currently made 74 policy promises, Labor has only made 35.

However, whereas the government's 74 policies add up to a total of around \$931 million, Labor's 35 add up to around \$27 billion. About half of Labor's promises revolve restoring indexation of the Medicare Benefits Schedule (\$12.2 billion over the decade to 2017-27) and scrapping cuts to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (\$3.6 billion over the decade).

Other election policy promises pertaining to our sector:

Labor

- To invest \$3 billion childcare package, including:
 - Benefits to low and middle income families from an increase to the Child Care Benefit of 15 per cent
 - Relief for the family budget; an increase up to \$31 per child per week, or up to \$1,627 per year
 - An increase in the annual cap on the Child Care rebate from \$7,500 to \$10,000 per child; and
 - 107,800 families who would otherwise reach the Child Care Rebate cap this financial year won't have to choose between paying double fees or dropping out of the workforce.

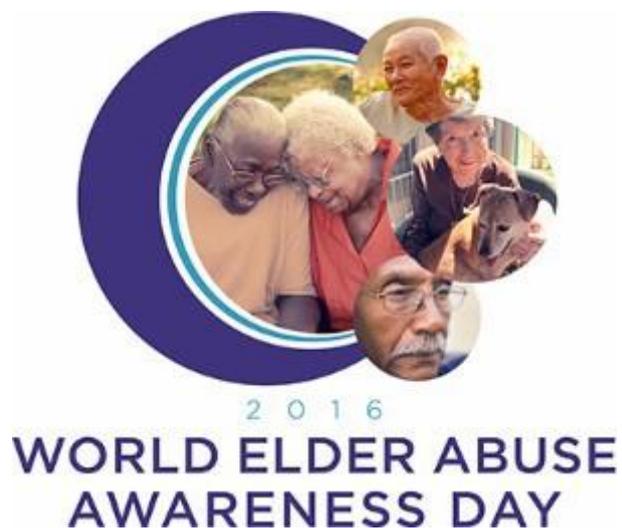
- To advance strategies in Closing the gap in Indigenous health.
- To commit \$70 million as an initial investment to address family violence, comprising:
 - \$47.4 million for targeted legal services.
 - \$15 million for a Safe at Home grants program.
 - \$8.4 million to improve perpetrator interaction mapping.

- To reform Australia's competition laws to protect disadvantaged Australians and tackle inequality.

Liberal

- To invest \$34 million to support employment and training in the National Disability Insurance Scheme from 1 July 2016.
- To provide \$525,000 for five Safer Communities projects across the Logan region.
- To establish a \$40 million Safer Communities Fund.
- To commit \$20 million for drug and alcohol rehabilitation (Perth and country WA).
- To provide up to \$10 million across Australia to support the development and upgrade of accommodation for people with a disability.

- To deliver \$2.7 million in community safety funding through Queensland police.
 - To invest \$15 million in a platform for recognising and safeguarding the rights of older people.
-



Today (Wednesday 15 June) being World Elder Abuse Day. The Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) has released an issues paper on elder abuse, calling for submissions from Individuals, groups, government agencies and legal professionals. You may review and respond to the issues paper here.

To learn more about the day, visit the website here.



Child, Family, Community Australia (CFSA) at the Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS) has just released a Resource Sheet on risk assessment instruments in child protection.

The Resource Sheet outlines the different approaches used to assess whether children are at risk of maltreatment and explore some of the issues and criticisms surrounding the use of standardised risk assessment instruments in child protection.

Risk assessment in child protection occurs during the processes of notification and investigation. It aims to determine whether a report of concern about a child needs further investigation and which service, or level of intervention, is required to respond.

Specifically, the Resource Sheet elaborates on:

- comparison of consensus-based and actuarial assessment instruments;
- strengths and weaknesses of different types of risk assessment instruments;
- comparison of the strengths and weaknesses of consensus-based and actuarial assessment instruments;
- assessing risk in a "risk society"
- criticisms of standardised risk assessment instruments
- risk assessment when working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families; and
- alternative approaches.

Welcome new legislation to reduce red tape for charities in South Australia and Tasmania

David Locke, Acting Commissioner of Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) while Susan Pascoe is on leave, has announced that South Australia and Tasmania have passed legislation to reduce red tape for charities.

South Australia

On 24 May 2016, the South Australian Parliament passed the *Statutes Amendment*

(Commonwealth registered Entities) Bill 2016, with an implementation date of 1 January 2017.

Incorporated associations that are ACNC registered charities will now be required to only file their Annual Information Statement to the ACNC without needing to submit information to their state regulator.

All charities registered with the ACNC will also no longer need to apply for a fundraising licence in South Australia, nor will they have to file an annual return to the state government. This will be a significant reduction in time and resources, not only for charities based in South Australia but any who fundraise there, or who do so nationally.

Tasmania

Just last week on Thursday 2 June 2016, the Tasmanian Parliament passed the *Associations Incorporation Amendment Bill 2016*, which is scheduled to come into effect on 1 October 2016.

Tasmanian incorporated associations registered with the ACNC will no longer be required to provide duplicative reporting to their state regulator.

The amendment also harmonises the threshold for a “small” charity in Tasmania, meaning that approximately 3,000 registered charities with annual revenue of less than \$250,000 will no longer be required to have their accounts audited.

The ACNC will continue to work with the other States and Territories to achieve further advances for their respective charities. Please read more in the [Commissioner’s Column](#).

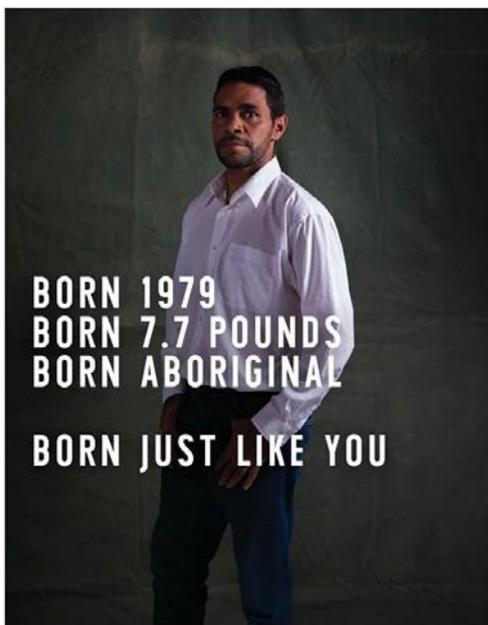


[Applications are now open for the Google Impact challenge!](#)

The Google Impact Challenge supports non-profit innovators using technology to tackle the world's biggest social challenges. Australian non-profits are invited to apply and share your bold ideas for a better world.

Google will award \$4.5 million across 10 organisations to help bring their ideas to life. Four winning organisations will receive a \$750,000 grant, and six additional finalists will receive \$250,000.

For more information, or to apply, visit the website [here](#).



Our uniqueness begins at birth.
Our wonderfully diverse relationships can last a lifetime.

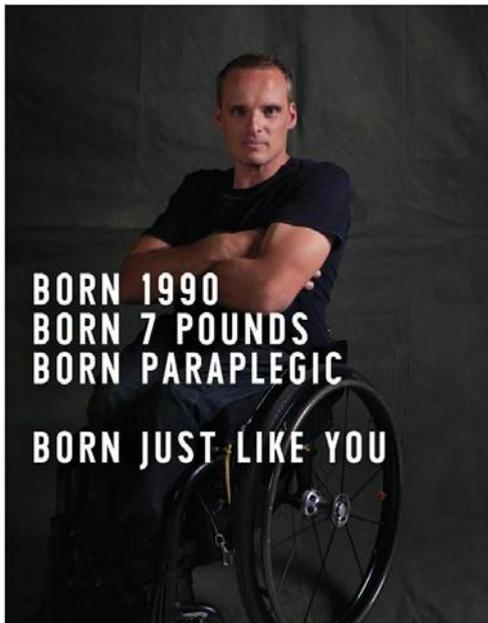
For judgment free support visit
www.nsw.relationships.com.au

Relationships Australia
NEW SOUTH WALES

'Born Just Like You' ad campaign drives acceptance of diversity

'Born Just Like You' — an advertising campaign launched by [Relationships Australia NSW \(RANSW\)](#) is trying to break down prejudices and challenge people's inherent biases by showing that everyone is born equal.

Playing on the simple fact that not a single person exercises choice when being born, RANSW wants to challenge everyday people to take a look at the themselves and re-evaluate their unconscious biases.



Our uniqueness begins at birth.
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Relationships Australia
NEW SOUTH WALES

RANSW, which provides relationship services and support to anyone, is hoping to make people re-evaluate their views of others and to create a conversation around diversity.

The campaign aims to make people notice the snap judgements they make on a daily basis regarding race, gender, age, religion, sexuality and disability.

Frank Francis, CEO of Relationships Australia NSW commented, "Practicing openness, it's on all of us to improve inclusiveness in our society".

For more information on the services RANSW offers, please [visit here](#).



Men's Health Week, 13 - 19th of June, encourages communities across Australia to reach out to men, boys and their families to promote health and wellbeing through engaging activities, events and promotions.

For more information about MHW, visit the [website](#).

ANTI-POVERTY 16 - 22 October 2016 WEEK

Anti-Poverty Week in 2016 starts on Sunday 16 October and ends on Saturday 22 October. The UN's International Anti-Poverty Day is Saturday 17 October.

The Week focuses on poverty around the world, especially in the poorest countries but also in wealthier countries such as Australia.

To notify your plans or get further information, contact 1300 797 290 or via email: apw@antipovertyweek.org.au. To learn more, visit the [website](#).



ARE THERE PEOPLE IN YOUR OFFICE MISSING OUT ON FRSA NEWS?

Are there other staff members in your office who would benefit from receiving the FRSA newsletter? Subscription to the newsletter is simple. Just forward this email to the relevant individuals and ask them to click on the link [here](#). Please [contact](#) our Amanda Carter if you have any queries.



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