

# IMPACT NEWS

Volume 10; Issue 3. Autumn 2010

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GIS website —  
[www.gisnsw.org.au](http://www.gisnsw.org.au)



## Index

Inside this issue.	1
Responsible Gambling Awareness Week 2010	
POKIES: A problem we can fix.	2
Problem Gamblers add \$800m to Club Cooffers	3
110 Pokies per Australian	4
Granny Stole for Pokies	5
Instant Credit	6
Upcoming Events Society Activities	
Useful Resources	7
Membership form	8

## Inside this issue:

How exciting Responsible Gambling Awareness Week is almost upon us! In the Shoalhaven the GIS will be hosting a Free Public Seminar featuring keynote speakers senator Nick Xenophon along with academic and author Dr Charles Livingstone. As we wait with baited breath for the Federal Government's response to the Productivity Commission's (PC's) final report into gambling we highlight some of the (PC's) main recommendations from the draft report released late last year. Inside, Dr Charles Livingstone tells us that the Pokies are 'a problem we can fix' and in an article by Jacob Saulwick, NSW clubs concede that almost \$800 million of their annual revenue may come from problem gamblers. Scott Driscoll, Executive Director of 'The Retailers Association', claims if money lost on Pokies was instead spent across the retail sector, unemployment would be halved overnight. An article by Ellie Harvey explains how an online betting agency is targeting gamblers low on funds. All this plus our usual features and information.

## Responsible Gambling Awareness Week 2010

This year all State and Territory governments have agreed to work together and have set the third week of May commencing 17th as Responsible Gambling Awareness Week [RGAW]. It is good to see the Australian jurisdictions pulling together to make this a truly National event and very timely in light of the reporting of the Federal Productivity Commission's Inquiry into Gambling, 2009 due out soon. The report was sent to government on 26th February and according to the website "*the Government is required to table the report in each House of the Parliament within 25 sitting days of receipt*".

RGAW is a week to highlight issues relevant to gambling and problem gambling as well as promoting the support services for those negatively impacted. All RGF funded Gambling Counselling services across NSW are encouraged to promote their services and here in the Shoalhaven we are joining together to organise a **FREE PUBLIC SEMINAR** to inform the community about services available and promote awareness about how to keep gambling safe. This event will be held at Nowra School of Arts on 18th May [see inside for details]. **Senator Nick Xenophon and Dr Charles Livingstone, Monash University will be our keynote speakers for the day** [see article page 2]

This is also a good opportunity to inform the community about the gambling reforms proposed by the Federal Productivity Commission and foster some community debate and understanding on the need for these reforms. We encourage you to come along to take part and/or inform yourself by reviewing the reforms at the Productivity Commission website [<http://www.pc.gov.au/projects/inquiry/gambling-2009>].

The aim of the reform is to develop a national public health and consumer protection framework for gambling. This is to prevent problem gambling in the community and to promote better awareness of gambling risks and how to keep gambling under control. Some of the main recommendations outlined in the Productivity Commission's draft report released in October 2009 apply to Electronic Gaming Machines [poker machines] and include:

- A universal pre-commitment strategy so that people who want to gamble on Pokies have to make decisions about time and money they want to risk before they start to gamble via a card/USB technology.
- Reducing the maximum bet from \$10—\$1
- Limiting jackpots and cash pay outs
- Strengthening host [venue] responsibility measures

*Continued page 2*

## Responsible Gambling Awareness Week 2010

*Continued from page 1*

- Reduce ATM withdrawal limits in gambling venues to \$200
- Reducing the maximum amount of cash that can be inserted to \$20 [currently \$10,000 in NSW] and consider loss limiting machines
- Strengthening existing harm minimisation strategies
- Increase product disclosure and player information
- Developing increased duty of care and legal recourse provisions for consumers
- Increasing public awareness of gambling risks and how EGM's work
- Increasing self-help information and support for those affected by problem gambling
- Strengthening regulatory independence and increasing public transparency of gambling information.

The GIS supports most of the recommendations and our submissions can also be found online if you are interested in further details [refer PC website—submissions].

The GIS recognises the legitimacy of the gambling industry to market its products and business but also recognises the facts of community harm from gambling. We believe there is a need for a public health approach to gambling similar to that required for drug, alcohol and tobacco use. We believe there is a need for greater balance in marketing gambling products, increased community awareness of the risks inherent in gambling, increased consumer protection and better public awareness of how to keep gambling safe. These proposed reforms support these concepts.

However, the reforms will only get built into State policy if the community takes an interest in what is happening and publicly supports the strategies. **This is an election year and an opportunity for you to have your say on this important community issue. Particularly here in NSW where we have over half Australia's gaming machines in the community. Kevin Rudd came to power saying he wanted to reduce State gambling dependencies—now it's time to hold him to account.**

So in Responsible Gambling Awareness Week take some time to think about this issue, inform yourself and consider supporting the reforms by writing to your Federal and State Members of Parliament and/or ourselves at [info@gisnsw.org.au](mailto:info@gisnsw.org.au) where we will be collecting community responses to these reforms to pass on to our government.

For further details of the GIS seminar and opportunities to support these reforms see [www.gisnsw.org.au](http://www.gisnsw.org.au)

## ***POKIES: a problem we can fix*** *Charles Livingstone October 23, 2009*

***We have the technology, now governments must find the will to take new recommendations on gambling further.***

PEOPLE lost \$12 billion playing poker machines in Australia's clubs and pubs last year, two-thirds of the country's gambling expenditure. More than \$2.7 billion of that came from Victoria. At least 40 per cent of it was spent by people harmed by their gambling. About a third of regular pokie users experience harm, half of them at serious levels. Pokies are responsible for more than three-quarters of Australian's gambling problems. So the Productivity Commission's focus on poker machines in its new draft report on gambling is well and truly warranted.

Although there are many forms of gambling available in Australia, in what sometimes seems to be ever proliferating variety, the pokies are clearly the main game. Gambling has been a simmering issue ever since the wave of deregulation that began in the early 1990s, but the commission's second report marks an important watershed in this public debate, demonstrating unequivocally how pokies in their current form are a dangerous product, and arguing that a new approach to regulation is needed to make this product safer.

Poker machine manufacturers design their products to be as seductive as possible, and to make as much money as possible, so that their customers (clubs, pubs and gambling operators such as Tabcorp, Tattersall's and Woolworths) will buy them. They put considerable effort into designing and refining pokies, making models that appeal to every conceivable market segment. For those who play them, this appeal can often be irresistible, and Australian laws currently allow pokies to consume \$1200 an hour. This is an inherently dangerous combination of characteristics.

The Productivity Commission has adopted what amounts to an "upstream" public health strategy, suggesting that we should stop people falling off the cliff, rather than scrape them off the rocks at the bottom. The current "problem gambling" strategies adopted by our state governments, including Victoria, are big on rescuing the fallen. So is industry, for whom it conveniently permits an expression of concern at the problems caused by their products, while posing no real threat to the revenue. It also has the effect of shifting responsibility on to individuals, rather than the system that creates the harm.

It's entirely possible to make pokies safer. In pursuit of this, the commission adopts two broad approaches. The first is to reduce pokie intensity. Victorian law currently permits maximum bets of \$5 per spin. In NSW, the limit continues to be \$10. That may not sound like much, but you can bet that amount 20 or more times per minute.

*Continued page 3*

## ***POKIES: A problem we can fix***

*continued from page 2*

It soon adds up. In Victoria, you can load up the machine with \$1000; in NSW \$10,000, using the bank note acceptors built into the machine. The commission points out that these limits are ridiculous, if what is on offer is supposedly harmless fun. Instead, they propose bet limits of \$1 per spin and a load-up limit of \$20. These limits would not impact on casual, recreational gamblers. They would, however, limit the harm-producing capacity of the machines, even though they won't eradicate it.

For this reason, the commission's second proposal is equally important. The "pre-commitment" system proposed would use a card or other means to access an individual account, stored on the pokie network (all Australian pokies are already networked to ensure data capture for revenue and marketing purposes). Once a pre-set spending limit was reached, no further play would be possible. Such limits could be daily, weekly or monthly, and could also allow users to set a time limit. Systems such as this have been successfully tested here, and are being introduced in other countries including Canada and Norway. The technology is available now.

There are, however, some shortcomings with the commission's recommendations. They propose that people should be able to opt out of such a pre-commitment system. This makes as much sense as letting motorcyclists opt out of crash helmets. The commission has also suggested that there could be some trade-off between the two arms of their product safety proposals. Both, however, are necessary, and both need to be introduced as soon as possible, not in

2016 as the commission has suggested. Pokies are causing harm right now, and an army of people will experience further harm every year we delay.

Introducing these reforms will be difficult, but they're technically achievable in relatively short timeframes. The biggest obstacle we face is the dependence of vested interests on gambling revenue. State governments with inadequate revenue bases are currently responsible for gambling regulation. Although they've recently conceded that pokies need winding back, they've only paid lip service to that admission, introducing, for example, marginally lower bet limits that are unlikely to have any impact on harm production. Gambling corporations are very large and very powerful. They're unlikely to surrender their rivers of gold without a long fight. We also need to find a way to wean local clubs off their dependency on the pokies. This is particularly serious in NSW, where 100,000 pokies have metastasised throughout the social fabric of working class suburbs.

That's why a national approach is needed, one that can see beyond the short-term interests of cash-strapped state governments and provide leadership to a club sector that, in NSW at least, has already conceded that it's over-dependent on gambling dollars. The commission's report identifies some important ways forward, although there are equally important areas where much more effort is required. This is a public health problem we can largely solve. We should seize the opportunity to do it now, and end a cycle of misery and harm that holds hundreds of thousands of Australians in its grip at any one time.

*Charles Livingstone is a senior lecturer in the department of health social science at Monash University.*

## **Problem gamblers add \$800m to club coffers**

*smh.co.au*

*Jacob Saulwick March 20, 2010*

NSW clubs have conceded that almost \$800 million of their annual revenue could come from problem gamblers - a fact that is prompting renewed calls for a shake-up of poker machine laws.

The *Herald* understands the Productivity Commission's final report into gambling, handed to the government last month, has not softened on the need for tougher regulation to reduce habitual gambling on poker machines.

The report, more than 1000 pages long, does not have to be released until June. But it is understood to provide significantly more detail on how to reduce gambling losses than was contained in the draft report released in October.

That report incensed pub and club owners by recommending caps on how much punters could put through machines.

However, the final report is understood to look past claims by the clubs lobby that imposing new technology on the industry - for instance, that would allow punters to cap their losses - would be prohibitively expensive.

The draft report cited evidence that as much as 40 per cent of all poker machine revenue could come from gamblers struggling to control their habit.

That figure was vigorously contested by Clubs Australia, which said in a submission that it had underestimated the number gamblers who did not have a problem.

"To review the self-report estimate of the proportion of 'problem gamblers' and 'at-risk' gamblers against the total self-report, we find approximately these groups may contribute to 23.1 per cent of all gambling revenues," Clubs Australia said.

"However, even this estimate is highly doubtful."

*Continued page 4*

## Problem gamblers add \$800m to club coffers

*Continued from page 3*

A 2007 report by Allen Consulting found that clubs earned \$3.4 billion from gambling. Twenty-three per cent of that sum is \$782 million.

The anti-pokies senator Nick Xenophon said yesterday that even though he thought the figure underestimated the size of the problem, it was still a big concession. "This is as close to an acknowledgment as we've got that a significant proportion of their revenue comes from problem gamblers."

The government's response to the final report is being prepared by the Minister for Community Services, Jenny Macklin, and the Assistant Treasurer, Nick Sherry.

The Monash University academic Charles Livingstone, who is a poker machine critic, said Senator Sherry's involvement - he has responsibility for tax policy - indicated the government might tighten tax laws for clubs.

Because they are not-for-profit organisations, registered clubs are exempt from income tax on revenue earned from members.

The commission has already flagged concerns that this gives large clubs providing services such as gyms and hotels an unfair advantage over other local firms.

The Gaming Technologies Association, which represents poker machine manufacturers, puts the cost of implementing the commission's draft reforms - a limit of \$1 a button push, maximum losses of \$120 an hour, and restricting machines to accepting \$20 notes - at more than \$2 billion.

"For one sector alone this is a prohibitive cost that would devastate the industry and put at risk 140,000 Australian gaming machine-related jobs and \$13.5 billion in economic activity in the short run," it says.

But the *Herald* understands the commission reported that the cost would be less than that. In part, this is because clubs would eventually replace older machines in any case.

The Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, created an impression he would push for gambling reforms before the last election, saying he hated poker machines and knew something of their impact on families. But any effort to curb clubs' reliance on gambling would be politically fraught in an election year, facing intense opposition from within the Labor Party and in the community.

### Disclaimer:

The views and opinions contained in this newsletter are not necessarily the views and opinions of GIS (NSW) Inc.

## 110 Pokies per Australian

### **Driscoll: "Retailers Could Cut Unemployment in Half Without Pokies Scurge"**

*Monday, 18th January 2010*

**Scott Driscoll**, National Executive Director of *The Retailers Association* has called on Prime Minister Kevin Rudd to intervene and curtail the States drunk on Pokies revenue, for the sake of job creation, if protecting families wasn't enough.

"With Australia now in the "*World's Top 10*" poker machine countries, with a Pokie per 110 Australians, we are killing off jobs and industry, so that our Governments can get fat on Pokies blood money at the expense of lives and jobs," said Mr Driscoll.

"As well as families suffering more with the growth of Pokies numbers across Australia, the retail sector suffers dramatically also as the Pokies plague spreads. People who can least afford to pour their wages down the throats of Pokies, in turn reduce spending on food, clothes and household essentials for their families. This has been a serious retail trend since Pokies emerged in Australia," said Mr Driscoll.

"Most of the *\$10Billion* that now goes into Pokies each year in Australia used to be spent across the retail sector. It used to support the creation of real jobs," said Mr Driscoll.

"If we wiped out Pokies overnight and returned that same \$10Billion to where it used to be spent we would halve the unemployment rate in Australia tomorrow and could create *303,000 new retail jobs*," said Mr Driscoll.

**For further comment call Scott Driscoll  
on 0413 831 045.**



**Phone  
Gambling Help NSW  
for information on your  
local Problem  
Gambling Service  
1800 858 858**



## Young gran stole for pokies addiction

By: Neil Keane

*The Daily Telegraph. March 18, 2010*

### **GRANDMOTHER Barbara Wells is the sad, sorry face of Australia's \$18 billion addiction to gambling.**

The 39-year-old was yesterday sentenced to 18 months in jail after stealing more than half a million dollars from her Sydney employer to feed a two-year addiction to poker machines.

She lost it all - \$545,222 that was not hers, all fed into poker machines.

Maitland Local Court heard Wells became addicted to poker machines in 2006 after enduring domestic violence.

As a property manager with Davis Property Consulting at Mascot, she siphoned company money into three of her own accounts to feed her addiction.

It started with just a few thousand dollars but quickly escalated into a regular habit whereby she would steal up to \$15,000 at a time.

The company's directors only noticed the money was missing when clients started complaining their payments had not gone through.

Wells, from Yowie Bay, pleaded guilty yesterday to 129 charges of stealing property as a clerk or servant.

Solicitor Peter Cleaves said Wells became "a zombie" when playing the pokies but that she had strong chances of rehabilitation.

Wesley Mission gambling counsellor Jeff Lucas has heard dozens of similarly distressing stories.

"People gamble for recreation but it's when they start to chase their losses that it becomes problematic," he said.

Wesley Mission reported that Australians spend more than \$18 billion on gambling each year, including more than \$12 billion on poker machines.

A government Productivity Commission report released in October estimated 125,000 Australians had gambling problems. Up to 15 per cent of poker machine users were considered problem gamblers, with almost 300,000 more at "moderate" risk.

Wesley Mission said part of the problem was machine settings allowed pokie addicts to lose up to \$1200 an hour on a single machine.

"Problem gambling is a hidden illness," Mr Lucas said. "It's not like drugs and alcohol where you can see the effects of an addiction."

Magistrate Sharron Crews sentenced Wells to 18 months jail with a 12-month non-parole period.

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

The University of Wollongong is currently conducting a study which aims to identify individuals at-risk of problem gambling by examining the body's physical reactions to wins and losses during play on a computer gambling task. By recording brain waves using an electrode cap, researchers hope to identify differences between wins and losses, and between problem and non-problem gamblers. The team of researchers\* are seeking community participants who are currently, or have previously experienced problems caused by gambling. Participants will be required to attend a testing session at the university campus and play the computer task designed to mimic a simplified poker machine. Participants will be reimbursed for their travel expenses with a \$30 Coles Myer card, and will receive another \$20 Coles Myer voucher for their participation. The task has been approved by the University of Wollongong's ethics committee, and because of the task's design there is little reason to believe that participation in the study will cause harm and/or encourage participants to relapse into problematic gambling activity. The benefits of uncovering differences in physiological markers between problem and non-problem gamblers are immense. It will help determine why problem gambling develops in the first place, why people continue to gamble despite severe problems caused by the activity, and will aid the early detection, intervention, and prevention of gambling problems. The findings will also help clinical practice by providing a means by which progress in therapy can be measured. If you would like more information about the study, or wish to participate please contact Lisa Lole on 42214513 or 0404786160.

\* *The researchers are Lisa Lole (University of Wollongong), Associate Professor Craig Gonsalvez (University of Wollongong), Professor Alex Blaszczyński (University of Sydney) and Adam Clarke (University of Wollongong).*

## Instant credit lets online losers keep on betting

*ELLIE HARVEY March 25, 2010*

AN ONLINE betting agency is targeting gamblers low on funds by offering them instant credit of \$200 to induce them to spend more, amid renewed pressure to nationalise gambling laws.

SportsBet.com.au tracks a gambler's average bet and, when the funds in their account fall below the value of their usual punt, offers them three options including \$200 in credit.

If they have not recovered the \$200 within a week, users are expected to pay back the balance.

The state Minister for Gaming and Racing, Kevin Greene, condemned the practice, renewing his calls for a national approach to gaming regulation.

He told the Productivity Commission inquiry into gambling last year that national rules were needed. The commission's final report is complete and will be tabled in Parliament shortly.

A national approach would have to be agreed to by all the states, and it is understood the Northern Territory and Tasmania do not support the move. SportsBet is licensed in the NT where credit betting is allowed.

Alex Blaszczynski, director of the gambling clinic at Sydney University, said offering credits was "unconscionable" and he believed gaming companies should have a duty of care.

"From a moral point of view, if they're going to potentially expose problem gamblers to excessive financial problems, then I think the onus is on them to ensure that they're providing effective monitoring," Professor Blaszczynski said.

A SportsBet spokesman, Haydn Lane, said the credit facility had been offered since 2007.

"This option is attractive to members who wish to replenish their account balance with minimum delay and without transaction charges."

Clients are also offered the chance to top up their account with their own funds, or to never have the message appear again.

"This service is no less ethical than other credit facilities offered by businesses, for example credit cards, however our facility is fee- and interest-free," Mr Lane said.

But Penny Crofts, from the University of Technology, Sydney law school, said if accessibility was increased, the number of problem gamblers would rise. "Their rational side might be saying 'I can't afford to gamble right now', whereas that gambling side will be saying ... 'If I gamble this money then I can maybe double my money and I'll get myself out of debt' ... It's problematic."

## Upcoming Events

### **Gambling Impact Society (NSW) Inc.**

Management Committee meets monthly, third Wednesday of the month, 12.30 –2.30 pm. Nowra Neighbourhood Centre 134 Kinghorne Street, Nowra. Contact: Chairperson Kate Roberts Tel: 02 4421 5077

### **Gambling Conferences**

#### **Australia**

**29-30 April 2010.** Sydney, Australia—RGF

Conference "A new decade a new direction"

**18 May 2010.** Nowra, Australia—RGAW Seminar "Know the Odds"

**9-10 June 2010.** Sydney, Australia—Gambling Reform Summit

#### **International**

**13-16 April 2010.** Toronto, Canada —Discovery 2010

**26—28 April 2010.** Calgary, Canada—14th Annual Canadian Gaming Summit

**28 -29 April 2010.** Auckland—New Zealand Gaming Expo

**4 May 2010.** Minnesota, USA—Public Health Gambling Conference

**19-21 May 2010.** New York, USA—International Masters of Gaming Law Spring Conference

**8 -19 June 2010.** Macau—GZE Asia

**10 -12 June 2010.** Portland—National Council on Problem Gambling

## Society Activities

Ten years! It's been Ten years since our first meeting at Nowra Neighbourhood Centre when five people came together to share a mutual problem. Each one had a family member who was a problem gambler and we were there because we were not coping with the breakdown of the physical, mental and social structure of family life. We were pleased that our Federal MP, Joanna Gash, also attended this meeting with demonstrated interest, giving us support and encouragement and adding "but you'll have to do all the work"! And work we have, under the inspiring leadership of Kate Roberts who, with the original group of five and together with a dedicated committee of volunteers, can proudly celebrate Ten years of 'hard labour' in the field of Problem Gambling consumer advocacy, community awareness and education.

It is therefore appropriate that we hold our RGAW event - Public Seminar - in Nowra on May 18<sup>th</sup> when we will launch the new GIS website. We hope your own activities during this week will increase public awareness of the impact of PG in your regional area.

Thankyou to you all for your support these past Ten years.

D. Webb

## Useful Resources

*Don't Leave It to Chance: A guide for families of problem gamblers*—Edward Federman, Charles Drebing & Christopher Krebs (self-help book)

*Adolescent gambling*—Mark Griffiths

*Teenage Gambling*—Carol Silverman Saunders

*Losing Your Shirt*—Mary Heineman (self-help book)

*Behind The 8-Ball*—A Guide for families of Gamblers—Linda Berman & Mary –Ellen Siegel (self-help book)

*Overcoming Compulsive Gambling: A Self-Help Guide* - Prof. Alex Blaszczynski

*Stop Gambling*—A Self-Help Manual For Giving Up Gambling - Simon Milton

*Wanna Bet*—Winners And Losers In Gambling's Luck myth - Tim Costello & Royce Miller

*Stop Gambling Start Living* - Laraine Rasmussen.

*House of Cards: Hope for gamblers and their families* - Tom Raabe.

*The Addictive Personality*—Craig Nakken

*Creating Self Esteem*—Lynda Field

*Practical Financial Strategies Booklet: A Self Help Guide for Problem Gamblers* By Gerri Coleman (Contact Central Coast Problem Gambling Service, 02 4344 7992).

*Free Yourself*—Self-help Guide and Audio Tape kit - cost \$49.95 (Contact Gabriela Byrne, 0414 844 387)

*My Passionate Affair with Poker Machines* (video) - \$49.95 (Contact Gabriela Byrne, 0414 844 387)

*Free Yourself* (video) - \$49.95 (Contact Gabriela Byrne, 0414 844 387)

*You Figure It Out*— Resource Kit (including video, CD and training notes for Community Education with High School Students— Know The Odds, Tel: 0417107440)

*Overcoming Compulsive Gambling* - desensitisation/relaxation audio tapes (Contact Prof. Alex Blaszczynski, - Westmead Hospital, Sydney)

*Illawarra Health Gambling Recovery Program* - group treatment manual for counsellors - (Contact Responsible Gambling Fund Unit, Dept. Gaming & Racing for info. on reprints)

*Women & Gambling Information Kit*—Karen Richardson & Kate Roberts- contact GISW(NSW) 02 4421 5077

*Less than Even: The Hidden Cost of Gambling*—video. Contact GISW(NSW) 02 4421 5077

*Against the Odds*—Youth & Gambling—Discussion CD. Contact GISW(NSW) 02 44215 077

*No More Bets Please* - video. Contact [monkeysee@monkeysee.com.au](mailto:monkeysee@monkeysee.com.au) or [sales@livingsolutionsbookshop.com.au](mailto:sales@livingsolutionsbookshop.com.au)



### General Interest Websites

[www.socialwork.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.socialwork.unimelb.edu.au)  
[www.nags.org.au](http://www.nags.org.au)  
[www.unsw.edu.au](http://www.unsw.edu.au)  
[www.afm.mb.ca](http://www.afm.mb.ca)  
[www.knowodds.org](http://www.knowodds.org)  
[www.societystudygambling.co.uk](http://www.societystudygambling.co.uk)  
[www.camh.net](http://www.camh.net)  
[www.pgfnz.co.nz](http://www.pgfnz.co.nz)

**Do you know any interesting websites relating to problem gambling?**

***Let us know and we'll include them in our next edition***

**Email: [info@gisnsw.org.au](mailto:info@gisnsw.org.au)**

### Self-Help Websites

[www.gisnsw.org.au](http://www.gisnsw.org.au)  
[www.nrgs.org.au](http://www.nrgs.org.au)  
[www.gamblinghelp.nsw.gov.au](http://www.gamblinghelp.nsw.gov.au)  
[wwwsvh.stvincents.com.au/](http://wwwsvh.stvincents.com.au/)  
[www.education.mcgill.ca](http://www.education.mcgill.ca)  
[www.gamblersanonymous.org.au](http://www.gamblersanonymous.org.au)  
[www.miph.org/gambling/](http://www.miph.org/gambling/)  
[www.freeyourself.com.au](http://www.freeyourself.com.au)  
[www.responsiblegambling.org](http://www.responsiblegambling.org)  
[www.responsiblegambling.qld.gov.au](http://www.responsiblegambling.qld.gov.au)  
[www.gamblingproblem.co.nz](http://www.gamblingproblem.co.nz)  
[www.femalegamblers.org/suggestedreading.htm](http://www.femalegamblers.org/suggestedreading.htm)

***Do you know any interesting self-help websites relating to problem gambling?***

**Let us know by email [info@gis.nsw.org.au](mailto:info@gis.nsw.org.au)**



### Resources from NEW ZEALAND

PG Counselling Manual  
 PG Education In High Schools- manual and video  
 Pow Pokies T-shirts  
 Facts Sheets  
 On Gambling

Contact:  
[www.pgfnz.co.nz](http://www.pgfnz.co.nz)

### Shoalhaven Gambling Resource Library— GIS

(NSW) has developed a community library with reports, books, self-help literature & videos for loan to GIS (NSW) groups and others in the Shoalhaven locality. We can supply a resource list and are always looking for ideas for additions. Contact: GIS (NSW) 02 44215077

***Do you have any other suggestions? Please send them to us so we can share your ideas with others.***

Return Address:  
Nowra Neighbourhood Centre  
134 Kinghorne Street  
Nowra NSW 2541

**SURFACE  
MAIL**

**POSTAGE  
PAID  
AUSTRALIA**

Phone: 02 4421 5077  
Email: [info@gisnsw.org.au](mailto:info@gisnsw.org.au)

Print Post Approved:  
PP255003-05346

## WHY NOT JOIN & RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER QUARTERLY?

The Gambling Impact Society (NSW) Inc. looks forward to providing you with regular information and education on gambling and related subjects. The Society aims to increase public awareness through the newsletter, and provide a forum for support and information for those directly affected by problem gambling, community service providers and the gambling industry. We welcome your contributions to this newsletter and in joining we hope to provide you with an outlet for discussion, support & information. Your membership will contribute to the ongoing work in this field and help us achieve our goals.

Your membership fee will go to resource the publication of this newsletter and the further development of the society, which is a non-profit organisation developed and run by volunteers. Membership to 30 June 2010 is as follows:

Organisations \$50

Individuals \$25

Concessions/Students \$10

Additional donations welcome.

Name.....

Organisation.....

Address.....  
.....  
.....

Telephone:

Fax:

E-mail:

**Please circle:**

Organisations \$50

Individuals \$25

Concessions/Students \$10

Cheques payable to: Gambling Impact Society (NSW) Inc.

Mail to: Gambling Impact Society (NSW) Inc.  
c/o Nowra Neighbourhood Centre  
134 Kinghorne St, Nowra  
NSW 2541

*Any news, personal stories, comments on articles, important information etc., please send correspondence to **The Editor** e-mail—[info@gisnsw.org.au](mailto:info@gisnsw.org.au) and mark in “subject” section - **for newsletter**, or mail to above address*