

IMPACT NEWS

VOLUME 11; ISSUE 4 Winter 2011

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Gambling reforms vital to leading role in world health: experts

Julia Medew *Sydney Morning Herald June 20, 2011*

HIGH-profile health experts have thrown their weight behind anti-gambling measures being considered by the federal government, saying Australia must act to maintain its position as a world leader in public health.

The head of the Public Health Association of Australia, Helen Keleher, and 39 specialists, including the anti-tobacco crusader Simon Chapman, have written to key politicians to express their support for low-impact poker machines and a mandatory pre-commitment scheme for users to set themselves limits.

In the letter sent to the Prime Minister, Julia Gillard, and the Opposition Leader, Tony Abbott, the group said they also supported the recommendation of the Parliamentary Joint Select Committee on Gambling Reform to overhaul research funding into the problem.

"An effective response to the harms of problem gambling is required urgently. As we have learnt from other successful public health responses, social marketing and education campaigns alone will not work," they wrote.

A mandatory pre-commitment scheme would allow gamblers to select an amount they are willing to lose before they start gambling.

Once reached, they are locked out of further play.

Low-impact poker machines would reduce the total amount people could lose from about \$1200 an hour to about \$150 an hour.

The group, which includes a former

Australian of the Year, Fiona Stanley, and the poker machine expert Charles Livingstone, said problem gambling was a major cause of avoidable health problems, with about 115,000 Australians experiencing a serious gambling problem, and another 280,000 with a moderate or developing problem.

They said harms included financial distress and ruin, high rates of physical and mental illness, and the promotion of theft, fraud and other crimes associated with financial desperation.

Gambling also diverted household income away from food, shelter and other basic necessities, they said, straining relationships and commonly leading to family breakdown and to the neglect of children.

"For every person with a gambling problem, between five and 10 others are affected: children, husbands, wives, partners, employers, neighbours, family and friends," the group wrote.

The letter seized on the importance of a mandatory pre-commitment scheme for gamblers, saying it would further establish Australia as a world leader in public health.

"As was the case with tobacco, gun controls and seatbelts, when there is compelling evidence of serious and immediate threats to public health we are compelled to take action to minimise harm," they wrote.

"Each year that we delay the introduction of effective measures to address harms derived from gambling on poker machines, hundreds of thousands of people will experience gambling problems."

SOCIETY NEWS

This past quarter has been a busy time for the management committee as we organised the Responsible Gambling Awareness Week (RGAW) seminar at Wollongong. This is no mean feat and takes considerable effort by our voluntary team to organise guest speakers, venue, catering etc and then hope that we get a required amount of participants to justify it all. Thankfully once again it was a great success and thanks go to all involved. (See report below).

Our Chairperson Kate Roberts has been actively involved in the Ministerial Expert Advisory Group on Gambling established by the Federal Government to inform its plans for gambling reform. This has involved monthly meetings between November and April and a final meeting in mid-April. The final report should be up on the FAHCSIA website shortly. Kate found it an interesting process with much collaboration among a variety of stakeholders including academics, gambling support services and the hospitality and gambling industry. But as to be expected there was also considerable debate and some vigorous exchanges took place.

The GIS was also well represented by Dorothy Webb, Kate Roberts and Ralph Bristow at the Joint Select Committee on Gambling Reform public inquiry hearings earlier in the year and it was interesting to see many of our statements reflected in the final report released in May. Our role in community and consumer advocacy has been a considerable one as we try to represent the views of our sector –

consumers affected by problem gambling and maintain our focus on the public health aspects of problem gambling. It is a challenging time as the gambling industry seems intent on undermining the reforms with their major media campaign and now public rallies in marginal Federal electorates.

These provide advertisements and forums provide minimal factual information. We therefore refer you to the Australian Government's own website www.Problemgambling.gov.au to obtain the facts and make your own decision on whether to not to support these reforms.

Our new Problem Gambling: Self Help Guide for Families was launched at the seminar on May 18th and 2,000 copies were printed - half of which were distributed across the State for RGAW. This professional, but voluntarily, developed 44 page book has been very well received in the community. So much so that RGF has recently ordered another 5,000 of them.

The resource can be downloaded from the GIS and Gambling Help websites for free or you may order a hard copy through the Gambling Help site: www.gamblinghelp.nsw.gov.au/gamblinghelp/home.aspx

This has been a great partnership venture between NSW Health Carers Program who provided the initial seeding grant to assist us in getting the resource developed to a professional level. This was then presented to RGF with a request for funds to support the graphic art work and the initial printing. RGF are now providing ongoing support for further print runs and distribution. A Win/Win for all.

RGAW SEMINAR 2011 ANOTHER GREAT SUCCESS

Over seventy people attended the seminar from various parts of the state representing a broad spectrum of interested parties that included: politicians, welfare workers, counsellors, the gambling industry and consumers.

Following registration, MC - Dr Clive Allcock – in smooth and affable style, welcomed all present to the expectation of an interesting program which would focus on 'Problem Gambling: Prevention, Protection and Pre-commitment'

Stephen Jones Federal MP for Throsby, emphasised the responsibility for the government, to implement the recommendations of the 2010 Productivity Commission's report. He stressed the need for national standards in mandatory pre-commitment policy as being an essential public health approach for prevention and protection against associated high risks. He assured that privacy concerns would not be an issue as patrons

already, have to prove their identity when entering gambling venues.

In the regrettable absence of Senator Nick Xenophon, Kate Roberts presented 'The Nation – A Televised debate on the proposed government reforms, with Nick Xenophon, Stephen Ciobo MP, Anthony Ball (Clubs Aust), Kate Roberts (GIS), David Spears (Sky News) The debate, though vigorous, was inconclusive.

Kate Roberts spoke of 'Gambling in the Community' highlighting the accessibility of poker machines, particularly to our youth: behavioural addictions and the impact on individuals, families and communities and how proposed reforms are making an inherently dangerous product safer by reducing the risk of impact of this behaviour as cited in the Nova Scotia Study which revealed that voluntary schemes failed due to the reliance of will power of the player.

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Two consumers shared their separate stories of poker machine addiction. Common to both, they spoke of their financial ruin, feelings of betrayal, abandonment, and hopelessness and of their courage to reclaim their lives.

Greg Isles, Counsellor with Gambling Help Mission Australia, spoke of the services available to problem gamblers and their families, which guide and support them through these circumstance to empower them to work towards their recovery.

The Rev Harry Herbert(Chair RGF Trustees), assisted by Janice Oliver (NSW Health Care Program) launched the “GIS Problem Gambling: A Self Help Guide For Families”. High praise was given for its content; to Elle Holder, for its graphic design; for the Guide’s potential value to families. Appreciation was given to both speakers: to RGF for covering the publishing costs and to the NSWHC Program for providing a seeding grant for component costs.

Psychologist, Barbara Bicego (MAPS) gave a lively presentation on ‘ The Psychology of Gambling’. She dispelled the current psychoanalysis of a gambler with a

problem, in favour of seeking a person who is normal, like anyone of us, but who, in the present context of his/her circumstances, is vulnerable to surrounding enticements.

Dr Charles Livingstone – ETM Expert (Monash Vic – Public Health & Preventive Medicine) spoke about Gaming Technology. He demolished all arguments against mandatory pre-commitment and stressed the importance of reform with its public health focus on prevention to minimise harm.

Susan Rennie (Primary Care Partnership Program Victoria) asked us to consider the elderly/disabled on club outings; how they actually spend their money and their vulnerability to losing their pensions and the resultant grief and depression.

Kate thanked the guest speakers for their time and travel, and those present, including the stall holders and committee members. Special thanks was given to Clive Allcock, who graciously responded and brought the seminar to a close.

D.WEBB

the punch and judy show, clubsnsw-style

by [cyenne](http://www.cyenne.com) on Jul.12 2011

<http://www.cyenne.com/discussion/the-punch-and-judy-show-clubsnsw-style/>

Remember Punch and Judy? Those wacky, zany puppets who smack each other (and anyone else who comes near) around with big sticks? Well there’s a new puppet show in town, with a host of little Punches and Judys lining up to take a whack. The target of their attention? Poker machine reform... and the puppeteer is ClubsNSW.

Let’s be very clear about this. The single biggest, loudest and most aggressive opponent to poker machine reform in this country is ClubsNSW. Every other dissenting voice is simply doing their bidding as they pull the strings and direct the play.

So who are the puppets in this ensemble? Who does ClubsNSW have lined up to fight their fight for them?

The first puppet on the stage is, of course, ClubsAustralia. I’ll come back to this a little later on but for now, let me just say that ClubsAustralia are nothing more than a front for ClubsNSW. They are an umbrella organisation that ties together all the Clubs associations around the country (and in New Zealand too, for that matter) and drives matters of national interest... and ClubsNSW is pulling all the strings.

Following on from ClubsAustralia are, of course, the Clubs associations from around Australia. ClubsVIC,

ClubsACT, ClubsNT, ClubsQLD, ClubsSA, ClubsTasmania and yes, even ClubsWA (where they have no pokies) and ClubsNZ, are all represented by ClubsAustralia... meaning that ClubsNSW has them all in its pocket. Never mind that different states have very different demographics, rules and positions when it comes to poker machines; they’re all toeing the ClubsNSW line.

The next puppet is the Australian Hotels Association (AHA). Long-time rivals of ClubsNSW, who vehemently resisted the introduction of poker machines into pubs in NSW have joined forces with ClubsAustralia in opposing the current proposed poker machine reforms. A deal with the devil, you might say, but not surprising given that ClubsNSW, as the puppet-master, wields an obscenely large amount of power behind the scenes.

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



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The AHA are doing what they're told, providing a unified front while actually contributing little but their name.

And of course, this puppet show wouldn't be the same without the Sydney shock jocks, led by the quintessential modern-day Punch, Alan Jones. It's almost amusing to see Jones, who loves pulling the strings himself, having his opinions fed to him by the Clubs association he holds in such high regard. "This fool in Tasmania Andrew Wilkie!" (whack!) "These ridiculous poker machine laws!" (whack!) "This dope Wilkie!" (whack!) And, as ever, he has an entranced audience eager to yell "Behind you!" every time someone dares support the reforms, so he can spin around and whack them with his big stick. Slapstick comedy indeed.

Who else? Ah, now we come to the big guns. The NSW Coalition have thrown their support behind the ClubsAustralia "It's Un-Australian" campaign, opposing the reforms and rejecting everything they contain. This is no surprise, as the Coalition were in ClubsNSW's pocket long before the election that swept them into power. As I've written about before, in October 2010 the NSW Coalition signed a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) with ClubsNSW. Barry O'Farrell, Andrew Stoner and George Souris all signed off on a list of demands from ClubsNSW that included: no additional casinos; no change to existing conditions such as maximum bets, reel spin speeds, ATMs in venues and feeding cash into machines; and fewer limitations on clubs with regard to new games and new technology. In other words, the NSW Coalition agreed to do what ClubsNSW said.

Careful guys, your strings are showing.

While we're speaking of the Coalition, there's an even bigger puppet just around the corner. The Federal Opposition have also pledged to support the "It's Un-Australian" campaign, with Federal Puppet for Reform Rejection Steve Ciobo whacking anything remotely resembling a gambling reform with his stick. Punch would be proud.

But it doesn't stop there. The most recent puppet to hit the stage is the NRL, who have publicly declared their support and have taken to the stage to join in the whack-fest. David Gallop, Steve Mortimer, Phil Gould... they've all put on their jester outfits and wildly decried the reforms. They'll kill our clubs! they cry. They'll kill our game! Personally, I find it extremely revealing that Gould's recent article in the Sydney Morning Herald was originally titled "Why Our Game Needs Pokies Cash", but was changed several hours later to "Why Gallop Is Right On This One." You can't have it both ways Phil. Either the NRL needs poker machine revenue to survive, in which case the game should have died years ago; or it doesn't, in which case you have no reason to oppose the reforms.

That's a long, long line of puppets landing a lot of blows and making a lot of noise... and almost all of it is coming from NSW. Which brings me back to my original point about ClubsAustralia, and how ClubsNSW are pulling their strings.

Consider this.

Peter Newell, the Chairman of ClubsAustralia, is also Chairman of ClubsNSW.

Anthony Ball, CEO of ClubsAustralia, is also CEO of ClubsNSW.

Josh Landis, Executive Manager (Policy & Government) of ClubsAustralia, holds the same position with ClubsNSW. He is actually in charge of the day to day operations of ClubsAustralia.

Jeremy Bath, Media Relations Manager of ClubsAustralia, is also the Media Relations Manager with ClubsNSW.

Carissa Simons, Senior Media Officer with ClubsAustralia, is also the Senior Media Officer with ClubsNSW.

Anita Balalovski, Media Officer with ClubsAustralia, is also a Media Officer with ClubsNSW.

That's a whole lot of people holding down two jobs.

Then there's the website. Until recently, ClubsAustralia didn't have a website. If you googled "ClubsAustralia" the first match was the ClubsNSW website. I've been talking about this for

months, and it seems that the good folk at ClubsNSW have finally paid attention. ClubsAustralia have their own website now, it's been online for a couple of months. Guess who registered the domain name?

ClubsNSW.

What's more, the official contact email address for the domain is the ClubsNSW email address of **Greg O'Brien**, who just happens to be the ClubsNSW Privacy Officer

It's a sad indictment on the industry that a single organisation, supposedly created with altruistic intent and operating behind the veneer of respectability that not-for-profit status implies, can pull so many strings, seemingly at will, to get what it wants. This is not about helping problem gamblers; it's not even about protecting the rights of members. It's about power, and lots of it.

Disclaimer:

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

CONSUMER VOICE

Since before the 1999 Productivity Commission, which recommended a public health approach to problem gambling, the industry spokespeople have been loud and clear in their silence of their knowledge, or lack of it, of the impact of poker machine addiction, on the problem gambler (one person), his/her family (5-10 people), the community ie employers, workmates, retailers, **Centrelink (our taxes), and the judicial system.**

Data collected from the Victorian Government's 2009 - 2010 study report (published last month on Vic. Dept. of Justice website) estimated that nearly 16,000 people become problem gamblers every year in Victoria alone. As Dr Charles Livingstone (Dept Health Social Science at Monash Uni.) reports in his article 'Pokie Reform is about People, Not Profit' (The Drum: 7th July 2011) - "If you take this figure and extrapolate it to Australia (not an unreasonable proposition) we would estimate that about 62,000 adults become problem gamblers every year,"

As recorded, this was a serious study overseen by highly competent gambling researchers from Australia and overseas, including epidemiologists, statistical, public health and survey design experts".

You will have read on the front page of this newsletter the letter, to Prime Minister Gillard and Tony Abbott, from the head of the Public Health Association of Australia, Prof Helen Keleher and 39 high profile health experts. They write in support of the Federal Government's reforms for mandatory pre-commitment and low impact poker machines.

Therefore, it is to be hoped that the club industry will take heed and stop stalling for time in the hope that there will be a change of government – a negative strategy, as this will prolong and increase the impact on families and the community. Is this really what a club industry wants to do? Is this an ethical business strategy? It is all about self-serving, as we know. Here is a great opportunity for the Club Industry to shine! Come on you Big Guns!

To a man – you now have the chance to show real leadership to our youth! To fly in the face of the nation's public health professionals would not only show disdain, disrespect and a disregard for authentic public health research, but it would also show a lack of common sense – and this would really be **UnAustralian!!**

Ed: *"Three out of four Australians say people should be limited to spending a nominated amount when gambling, a new poll shows."* (see SMH July 28, 2011)

CAN WE MAKE POKIES SAFER?

THE DRUM ON ABC NEWS 24 ANALYSIS AND VIEWS ON ISSUES OF THE DAY. 23RD JUNE 2011

CHARLES LIVINGSTONE

The [Four Corners program](#) on pokie reform reminded me that most people don't understand that Australian pokies are a fairly risky form of 'entertainment'.

'Australian-style slots', as pokies are known overseas, are configured so that the amount of money you can lose using them is very high, particularly given their availability in suburban clubs and pubs. In NSW, bets can be as high as \$10 per spin, and you can spin the machines every couple of seconds. This lead the Productivity Commission to calculate that it was quite easy to lose \$1,200 per hour using a poker machine in a suburban club or pub. Colleagues and I have seen people go through money at this rate quite regularly in suburban pokie venues in Melbourne and Sydney. In NSW you can still load-up \$10,000 in one go, so it's easy to understand why these devices are regarded as 'high-impact'. With this sort of expenditure possible, the potential for very harmful losses is very high.

The club industry in particular is at pains to tell us that pokie gambling is an entertainment product. The discontinuity between this message, and the reality of pokie expenditure and associated harm, however, is very stark. The Productivity Commission estimated that the

average problem gambler spends about \$21,000 a year on gambling. Given that regular pokie users tend to be people on average incomes, the potential for disaster is significant.

Pokies do not, however, have to cost as much as they do. Since contemporary poker machines are simple computers housed in a distinctive decorated box, they can be programmed to do whatever we might want them to do. In the UK, slot machines have to conform to specific categories to be made available in particular locations, for example. Pubs are permitted only two C or D category slot machines – meaning they may have maximum bets of no more than £1 or 10p, and maximum prizes of £70 or £5, respectively. In other words, their purpose is entertainment, rather than the generation of super-profits for the operators.

In Australia, pubs and clubs have far more machines - the Mount PRITCHARD Mounties club, portrayed on this week's Four Corners, has 561 high impact pokies, for example, and pubs in Victoria are entitled to as many as 105.

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Obviously, if you can bet \$10 per spin on a pokie, you're likely to go through more money than if you're limited to, say, \$1. The maths of this are quite simple. If you're betting \$10 every three seconds say, and you keep that up for one hour, you will stake \$12,000 in that hour. Assuming that the machine repays 90% of your stake (which, on average, pokies do repay) you will lose \$1,200 in that hour. Now, if we do that sum again, with a \$1 maximum bet, the amount staked reduces to \$1,200 and the losses to \$120.

All that is fairly straightforward. Unfortunately, pokies are anything but straightforward.

Firstly Australian pokies typically have as many as 60 million possible outcomes, and the odds of winning the jackpot are rarely less than 1 in 10 million. This means that average outcomes are only achievable after something like a million spins, and even then are quite unlikely to include a jackpot. Big prizes skew the results of pokie play quite significantly. The existence of a major prize in the possible outcomes means that although the *theoretical* return to player ratio of 90% or so is achieved over the life of the game, the actual outcome of most sessions of play is the loss of all the player's initial stake, in a gradual cycle of running it down through a series of small (but highly addictive) 'wins'.

The way most pokies in Australia achieve their maximum bet is also interesting. Contemporary pokies are multi-line games, which allow users to bet on many 'lines' simultaneously. These lines are essentially complex arrangements of the fifteen symbols displayed on most pokie screens. Line one consists of the five symbols displayed in the middle of the screen, line two the symbols on the top row, and so on. By the time you get to line fifty, it's not so much a 'line' as a fairly ad hoc combination of available symbols. Nonetheless, the availability of such betting combinations means that even a one-cent machine becomes a fifty-cent machine if all lines are played. If all lines are played by problem gamblers, they are almost invariably played – and amongst regular and problem gamblers, they are almost invariably played. Add in the penchant of gamblers to increase their stake by perhaps ten-fold, and the one-cent game can easily be a \$10 game.

Colleagues and I have been working through this for some time and using an Australian game design we've demonstrated that reducing maximum bets and prizes has a discernible effect on game outcomes. The most important effect is on the amount of entertainment one can obtain for a given outlay. Using a popular Australian game, we simulated 10,000 spins with both 90 credit and 45 credit maximum bets, and 27,000 credit and 500 credit maximum prizes. The purpose of our experiment was to determine how long you would get on the game for a pre-determined stake – in this case, \$40. What we discovered was that with the high game

settings, the average time was 21.6 minutes, but the median time was a very low 6.8 minutes. What this means is that at least half the users had gone through their \$40 within 6.8 minutes of commencing their game, and that many would resort to the dangerous practice of 'chasing' their losses by putting more money in the machine. At the lower settings, however, the average and median moved much closer together – average time on the machine expanded to 51.9 minutes, and median to 33.5 minutes.

Using this principle it's easy to design games that will provide the same entertainment value for recreational gamblers as current pokies, but give them much more value for money. Experiments in 2001 in NSW, funded by the gambling industry, demonstrated that most casual pokie users don't notice and/or are not concerned about such a change. In Victoria and Tasmania, the principle has already been adopted, with maximum bets having been reduced in Victoria from \$10 to \$5 per spin, a change currently under way in Tasmania. These changes are not rocket science, and only require a software change – not the replacement of machines, as some industry sources have argued.

Pokie operators tell us that pokie gambling in local venues is about entertainment, about having a bit of fun. Low impact pokies, of the type proposed by both the Productivity Commission and the Parliament's Joint Select Committee on Gambling Reform, would deliver just that – entertainment and fun, at a much more affordable price than is currently being paid by many gamblers, their families, friends and employers. In tandem with pre-commitment on high impact games, they can deliver a much safer, more entertainment focused and ethically defensible form of pokie gambling. Current arrangements, quite simply, are neither.

Charles Livingstone is Deputy Head of the Department of Health Social Science at Monash University. He is on twitter @CLdeFootscray

UPCOMING EVENTS

Australia and New Zealand

21-23 August 2011 Sydney Australian Gaming Expo 2011

23 - 25 November 2011 NAGS - National Association for Gambling Studies Australia - Crown Convention Centre Melbourne www.nags.org.au

22 - 24 February 2012 Problem Gambling Foundation of New Zealand's 4th International Gambling Conference Auckland, New Zealand www.pgfnz.org.nz

International

22 September 2011 - The Council on Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey's 29th Annual Statewide Conference Princeton, New Jersey USA www.800gambler.org

29 September 2011- Gambling, Public Policy and Health – International Research Conference National Institute for Health and Welfare Helsinki, Finland thl.academia.edu/

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 or sales@livingsolutionsbookshop.com.au



General Interest Websites

www.socialwork.unimelb.edu.au

www.nags.org.au

www.unsw.edu.au

www.afm.mb.ca

www.knowodds.org

www.societystudygambling.co.uk

www.camh.net

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

Resources from NEW ZEALAND

P G COUNSELLING
MANUAL

P G EDUCATION

IN HIGH SCHOOLS -
MANUAL AND VIDEO

POW POKIES
T-SHIRTS

FACTS SHEETS
ON GAMBLING

CONTACT:

www.pgfnz.org.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.**

Self-Help Websites

www.gisnsw.org.au

www.nrgs.org.au

www.gamblinghelp.nsw.gov.au

wwwsvh.stvincents.com.au/

www.education.mcgill.ca

www.gamblersanonymous.org.au

www.miph.org/gambling/

www.freeyourself.com.au

www.responsiblegambling.org

www.responsiblegambling.qld.gov.au

www.gamblingproblem.co.nz

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



RETURN ADDRESS

Nowra Neighbourhood Centre
134 Kinghorne Street
Nowra NSW 2541



Phone 02 4421 5077
Fax 02 4421 6872
Email 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 organization developed and run by volunteers. Membership to 30 June 2012 is as follows:

- Organisations \$50
- Individuals \$25
- Concessions/Students \$10
- Additional donations welcome.
- Additional donations welcome.

Name.....

Organization.....

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