

# IMPACT NEWS

VOLUME 15: ISSUE: 1 Spring 2014

Bumper Issue

www.gisnsw.org.au



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<i>Concern Over Proposed Gambling Venues as Aged-Care and Child-Care Providers</i>	1
<i>Society Activities</i>	2
<i>Consumer Voices Program Receives Additional Funding</i>	2
<i>Premier Mike Baird Pledges NSW Clubs a jackpot</i>	3
<i>Victorian Premier Rejects Clubs' Childcare Bid</i>	3
<i>Pokies Lobby: Give Us Your Kids</i>	4
<i>Jail with Pink Walls</i>	5
<i>This Is No Life For A Kid</i>	6-7
<i>Hear Allison Keogh Talk at GIS AGM</i>	7
<i>NSW Select Committee on the Impact of Gambling : Recommendations</i>	8-9
<i>Greens slam idea for tax breaks for pokies with childcare</i>	10
<i>Upcoming Events</i>	11
	12

## Concern Over Proposed Gambling Venues as Aged-Care and Child-Care Providers

The Gambling Impact Society has been fielding a number of community concerns about the NSWClubs proposal to enter into the field of Aged Care and Childcare service provision. Many are raising concern over the appropriateness of such a proposal given the significant links with community harm from gambling in these venues and the inherent risks for children.

The Australian Productivity Commission's findings of both 1999 and 2010 indicated that Clubs in NSW are major providers of poker machine gambling in the community. Most clubs depend on gambling for the majority of their revenue and research indicates that less than 2% of their gaming profits goes back as cash to community projects. Much of it is used to build bigger and bigger Casino type facilities in local areas.

Whilst the GIS supports the aim for Clubs to diversify their businesses and lessen their dependence on gambling revenue, the suggestion that Clubs are best placed to provide services to these more vulnerable members of our community is outrageous.

The ClubsNSW proposal also suggests that government incentives should allow Clubs to pay less tax on their poker machine profits if they expanded into Child Care services:

*"A report commissioned by Clubs NSW estimated a third of 4000 clubs in Australia that pay income tax would diversify into childcare as their "primary purpose" if they could get a tax exemption for providing social services".*

Refer <http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/clubs-offer-childcare-in-exchange-for-pokie-profit-tax-break-20140913-10gftu.html#ixzz3IGXYtYRJ>

Questions about Clubs tax exemptions were raised in the Henry Tax Review (2010) whilst in 2009 Betty Con Walker (Economist) stated in her book, Casino Clubs NSW: Profits, Tax, Sport & Politics *"The extent of Tax subsidies has been estimated at around \$600 million a year (by 2009 –10) - and with organic growth, could exceed \$7 billion over ten years. Those funds could buy a lot of schools, hospitals and even a train or two"* (p211) ... and Child-Care centres?

**The GIS is calling for community debate on this proposal and is keen to hear from Aged-Care and Child-Care providers, parents, carers and community members .**

## Society Activities

We apologise for the slight delay in getting this publication to the printers –our volunteer editor has been up to her ears with end of year exams, so well done Kelilah. We thought we would send you a bumper issue to compensate, as a lot has been going on.

Kate returned from an 8-week break in Europe where she combined holidays with attending the European Association of Gambling Studies Conference in Helsinki in September. She gave a presentation on the GIS Consumer Voices Program which was well received.

Kate was interested to see the considerable number of presentations by the gambling industry on player information technology. Along with how many European gambling providers are embracing this strategy within their Responsible Gambling measures on EGMs and online gaming and wagering products. Of course Internet gambling is big business in

Europe and the UK, so whilst these may be regarded as somewhat passive “Responsible Gambling” interventions it is good to see the actual technology being used to increase consumer information and options for placing limits etc. Some of this is apparent in Australia but it does seem to be more widely available in Europe.

Kate also represented the GIS as a keynote speaker at the Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation’s inaugural conference last month where she and Professor Jim Orford (Birmingham University) presented on the 5-Step Method for Working with Family Members Affected by Problem Gambling. They also provided a one-day pre-conference Workshop.

As outlined below the Consumer Voices program has recently received notification that Minister Kevin Andrews has granted a 6-month funding extension., which is good news.



All project officers worked hard last year to expand the program and we thank them along with all our Gambling Help partners for making the program such a success.

We have a very busy few months ahead of us. You can help us by making sure you book a Consumer Voices education session early as delivery has to be before April. We are therefore keen to get as many bookings in place before the festive season commences.

There will be another Consumer Voices Training Retreat occurring on 16-18th January in the Shoalhaven for potential speakers. So if you have people who have been impacted by problem gambling (gamblers and/or family members) who would like to get involved, let us know and we can send on more details.

Meanwhile enjoy the lead up to Xmas...Santa is on his way.

## Consumer Voices Program Receives Additional Funding

After several months on hiatus, the Gambling Impact Society’s Consumer Voices Program has successfully secured additional funding from the DSS form early November 2014 through to April 2015. This is very exciting news as we wait to hear the results of an application for a three year funding program in December.

The Consumer Voices Program is now made up of 21 trained volunteers, who will continue to use their training in many ways - from Consumer Voices presentations, to media work, right down to writing for the newsletter. There are a variety of ways our volunteers can use their skills to inform and inspire the wider community.

The program will continue to run sessions in Sydney, the Illawarra and the Shoalhaven under the leadership of Barbara, while Kate will be forging ahead to establish the program in Canberra.

Another training weekend for new volunteers is being planned for the weekend of January 16 - 18 and we are looking for new recruits to get involved with the program. Existing volunteers haven’t been forgotten, with refresher meetings planned for February - April, and hopefully an advocacy and media workshop as well.

This is very exciting news for the Consumer Voices Program and we thank Kate, Barbara and of course, Reina for all their hard work and relentless effort in furthering the program. **For further information on any aspect of the program contact Kate Roberts at [info@gisnsw.org.au](mailto:info@gisnsw.org.au)**

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

# NSW PREMIER MIKE BAIRD PLEDGES NSW CLUBS A JACKPOT: Tax rate will be guaranteed for the next four years

Source : Andrew Clennell From: [dailytelegraph.com.au](http://dailytelegraph.com.au) October 13, 2014

THE clubs' tax rate will be guaranteed for the next four years if Premier Mike Baird wins the election.

Clubs will also be able to pay winning punters in cash - instead of a cheque - up to \$5000, instead of \$2000 as is currently the case.

A memorandum of understanding, to be announced today by Premier Mike Baird at the Clubs NSW annual conference, will allow clubs to "increase the cheque-issuing limit from \$2000 to \$5000 and align this with the jackpot transfer limit."

This will mean winners of between \$2000 and \$5000 will be paid in cash, with anti-gambling advocates sure to argue that this encourages people to re-gamble the money.

The MOU also pledges a Coalition government will enable clubs to use the money they are now required to spend on charity and sporting organisations on capital works to help them become evacuation centres during disasters.

The MOU says a Liberal and Nationals government will "enhance the capabilities of clubs to act as evacuation centres and determine if Club Grants should be broadened to include capital upgrades used during emergency situations, such as emergency power supplies, dam expansions and other necessary support measures to ensure clubs can continue to play this vital role."

Under the laws governing ClubGrants, amounts equaling 2.25 per cent of registered clubs' prescribed profits in every tax year are to be returned to the community.

The MOU sets out how, for the next four years should the Coalition be re-elected, the tax rate to be paid by clubs with revenue of \$20 million-plus will remain at 37.49 per cent, well below Labor's pre-2011 tax rate of 39.99 per cent.

Clubs with revenue of between \$10 million to \$20 million will pay 35.49 per cent (down from 38.09 per cent) with clubs earning \$5 million to \$10 million at 33.49 per cent (down from 35.09).

Clubs will still contribute \$2.96 billion in gaming tax and \$270 million in GST to the state coffers over the

next four years.

State hospitality minister Troy Grant said the change in the cheque-issuing limit brought NSW clubs in line with other states.

Mr Grant said to counterbalance this the MOU also lowered the poker machine "cash insertion limit" for each player from \$10,000 to \$7500. He said the issuing of so many cheques had created an "impost" on the clubs of \$1.1 million a year.

Of the ability to spend ClubGrants money towards capital upgrades, Mr Grant said: "It's got to be specific to their role as an evacuation centre. It's not getting them a new dance floor, it's about putting infrastructure there to use to ... service needs as an evacuation centre" and take the cost off government.

"(Clubs may have) a golf course that has a dam. This could be ... expanded so helicopters could grab water from there (to put out bushfires).

"It can't be rorted, there are very tight guidelines." Clubs NSW chairman Peter Newell welcomed the new agreement.

## Victorian Premier Rejects Clubs' Childcare Bid

Source : AAP From: [sbs.com.au](http://sbs.com.au) 14 September 2014

Victorian Premier Denis Napthine has shut down a suggestion that licensed clubs could provide childcare in exchange for tax breaks.

He said the Victorian coalition government would be "very dubious" about licensed clubs offering childcare services. "I think that's fraught with a lot of danger," Dr Napthine told reporters on Sunday.

His comments followed a submission to the Productivity Commission childcare inquiry that licensed venues could "come to the rescue" if they could get income tax exemptions on poker machine profits.

## Pokies lobby: Give us your kids

**Source: Kirsty Needham, Tom Crowie** From: [Sunday Age](#) 14 September 2014

More than 1000 licensed clubs can fill the childcare shortfall by opening childcare centres on their premises in exchange for tax breaks on gambling profits, the poker machine lobby says.

Clubs Australia executive director Anthony Ball has written a submission to the Productivity Commission's childcare inquiry, urging it to consider the clubs' offer as a "credible solution".

"Not-for-profit clubs are well positioned to deliver affordable access to childcare," Mr Ball wrote. "The industry's extensive community networks, sizeable facilities, geographic footprint and capital expenditure programs ensures that clubs can help fill service gaps where demand is most acute."

A report commissioned by the organisation's NSW arm estimated a third of 4000 clubs in Australia that pay income tax would diversify into childcare as their "primary purpose" if they could get a tax exemption for providing social services.

The report said the nation's "reservoir of need" for social services also included aged care and suggested clubs were well placed to help meet the demand of an ageing population. Community Clubs Victoria executive director Leon Wiegard welcomed the idea of clubs providing childcare services on their premises, calling it a "win-win" for parents and his members.

"We say community clubs are community hubs. Parents have a problem with getting suitable places to go with their kids," he said.

The state peak body for licensed and not-for-profit clubs has been locked in a battle with the Napthine government over plans to increase the tax paid by poker machine venues and will target key seats at the coming election.

Mr Wiegard said he did not think it was inappropriate for big poker machine clubs to provide childcare.

"I don't see the difference at all between a bowls or golf club with poker machines and one without them," he

said. "They could fill this hole that is clearly there. I think it's a very good synergy."

But anti-pokies campaigner Tim Costello from the Australian Churches Gambling Taskforce lashed the submission, branding the idea of childcare at poker machine venues "outrageous" and "wrong".

He said clubs already received generous tax breaks that allowed them to spend money on their facilities and label them a benefit to the community.

While income tax breaks are available to sporting clubs, other community clubs such as RSLs can only access more narrow exemptions on money from members.

"Putting childcare and pokies together is simply inappropriate, you wouldn't have childcare at a brothel or in a tobacconist, yet they're both legal," Mr Costello said. "This would be socially devastating, to allow problem gamblers who are mums to drop off their kids and gamble."

The McKell Institute report said clubs should create "a cradle-to-the-grave" engagement with local communities. It gave the example of the Go Bananas play centre built by St Marys Leagues Club in western Sydney, which offered before and after-school care for \$10 a day.

Another key recommendation is for the federal government to create an infrastructure fund that could be accessed by clubs through a grants process to fund the construction of child and aged care services.

A spokesman for Clubs Australia said it was clear there was a rising demand for affordable childcare nationwide.

"Not-for-profit clubs exist to help their communities, and the provision of childcare services is another way in which they could do just that," the spokesman said.

Clubs Australia spearheaded the campaign to water down poker machine reforms proposed by the Gillard government in 2011.

## Jail with pink walls by: Gordon

Campbell | 23 October, 2014 - 2:03 PM

<http://www.4bc.com.au/blogs/2014-4bc-afternoons-audio-blog/jail-with-pink-walls/20141023-3ipo2.html>

A recent story on the internet about gambling and the introduction of child-care centres alongside these venues has caused some consternation.

It seems that the only voices not being listened to in the determination of pokie venue child-care services are those of the children themselves.

Allison Keogh was a child that suffered the pink walls of the child care room along with her brother.

Now 41 years old, Keogh feels that this issue is only getting worse.

“I kind of had assumed as we go on in time,” said Keogh, “that things like those kid’s room just wouldn’t even exist anymore or they would at least introduce time limits.”

“And now we’re at the point where we’re thinking about child-care!

“We’ve lost all perspective, I think, on this.” Clubs NSW seems to be gaining support for this child care service from NSW liberal Party.

“I think this is a strategy from the clubs to create a big dependence on them for essential services so people cannot avoid going there”.

Keogh felt that in the face of this adversity, she has to take some kind of action against this decision.

Keogh can’t understand the logic in the situation, as the [Gaming Act in NSW stipulates that no new gaming venues should be built near a school.](#)

***“I think this is a strategy from the clubs to create a big dependence on them for essential services so people cannot avoid going there”.***

The excerpt below shows the exact piece of legislation:

*The Authority may approve a LIA only if it is satisfied that:*

*(a) the LIA complies with the requirements of this Division and the regulations in relation to the LIA, and  
(b) the LIA has demonstrated that gambling activities in the relevant venue will be conducted in a responsible manner, and*

*(c) in the case of a class 1 LIA:*

*(i) the proposed increase in the gaming machine threshold for the relevant venue will provide a positive contribution towards the local community where the venue is situated, and*

*(ii) the relevant venue is not, if the venue is a new hotel or comprises new club premises, situated in the immediate vicinity of a school, hospital or place of public worship, and*

*(iii) the LIA has adequately addressed any community concerns arising out of the consultation process under the regulations, and*

*(d) in the case of a class 2 LIA:*

*(i) the proposed increase in the gaming machine threshold for the relevant venue will have an overall positive impact on the local community where the venue is situated, and*

*(ii) the relevant venue is not, if the venue is a new hotel or comprises new club premises, situated in the immediate vicinity of a school, hospital or place of public worship,  
And*

*(iii) the LIA has adequately addressed any community concerns arising out of the consultation process under the regulations.*

# This Is No Life For A Kid

By Allison Keogh, October 21, 2014

<http://thehoopla.com.au/life-kid/>

*Allison Keogh is a freelance facilitator, coach and speaker in the area of leadership, culture and change in organisations and communities. She also speaks as part of the Consumer Voices Program for the Gambling Impact Society to raise awareness about the impacts on children of problem gambling and the need for effective policy and support.*

I'm old enough to remember the one-armed bandits being wheeled out of my local Club to be replaced with the push button bandit. But not too old to forget the endless, untenable hours spent in the Club "Kids Room", which we called the "Jail with Pink Walls" ... also known as the devastation and destruction of my family. The voice of the forgotten child is lost in this politicised debate about the possibility of child care centres to be housed in pokie venues.

Loud voices with deep pockets dominate. For many reasons, we don't often hear from children of previous generations who are now old enough to speak for themselves: shame, stigma, the desire to leave the whole horrid experience behind, the anxiety that re-living the experience causes, opening up such a personal experience to public scrutiny and the fear of betraying family and causing further irreparable damage.

This is convenient for the industry and governments.

So it is now more important than ever that all impacted children know they have a right to tell their story. They must know they have nothing to feel ashamed of and their perspective is valued and important – and I want to set that example. I feel exposed and vulnerable speaking out, but without doing so, I fear people will never fully appreciate the harm caused or why urgent attention and intervention is required.

There are so many impacts it is difficult to be succinct. It is so much more than skipped meals. It goes much deeper and is exceptionally personal and painful. Diminished self worth, fear and anxiety, intense confusion, feelings of responsibility, resentment, anger, pain, frustration, helplessness, despair, guilt, abandonment, loss and hurt.

**Perhaps my father's words summed it all up the night he scooped me up from the Kids Room floor, when I was nine. On waking, I heard him mutter 'this is no life for a kid'. This was just the beginning of what would be years of struggle for all of us with my mother's fondness for the pokies.**

For me, this translated into years of stress and related illness. Ulcers by the time I was 17, significant weight loss and working three jobs to support myself as a young adult.

What followed was years of therapy, counselling and personal development in an attempt to heal some painful wounds and shift from a mindset of survival to one of growth and aspiration that many take for granted.

When I first heard of the proposal from ClubsNSW to 'solve the child and aged care crisis', I felt acid rise to my throat. Not just from the sheer audacity of the proposal, but because I feared the response to it – that they would achieve support.

That fear is looking to be realised in NSW at the hands of the State Government.

**On a basic common sense level, the current NSW Gaming Act should be enough to prevent this. Section 36, relating to the Local Impact Assessment process, states that no new gaming machine venues should be located near a school. Establishing child care centres within one makes a mockery of the law and its intent. But expecting politicians to implement sensible policy would be naive and ignore a raft of ugly truths.**

Following the heavily politicised debate around poker machine reform in 2010, I swept every corner looking for information, alternate views and research. It was stomach-turning stuff. Productivity Commission reports from 2007 and 2010 have been largely shelved and ignored. Legislated 'enhancements' to poker machines boggle the mind in terms of increased intensity of play and risk of addiction – far beyond what would have been the case when I was a child.

Revelations of longstanding and increasing political donations, lobbying and agreements between political parties (bi-partisan) and the industry render any hope

## This is No Life For A Kid (continued...)

of responsible debate and policy making almost futile. Even politicians who believe something must be done, lack the courage to take on the industry.

This is a betrayal and breach of the trust that I should be able to hold in our elected representatives. It isn't just that they didn't 'do' anything. It is that the major parties have been active participants in legislating for further harm for a very long time.

The gaming industry peddles out misleading and inaccurate information, which many politicians regurgitate with sickening ease. There is commentary and speculation about the 'socio-economic status', intelligence, education level and mental health of families such as mine: disrespectful, unqualified diagnosis, and disparaging assertions that exacerbate the pain.

Clubs Australia doesn't believe that mere members of the public deserve a voice or a say. It's not enough that people like ClubsNSW CEO Anthony Ball have climbed to great heights in the [Power Index](#), openly bragging about direct and widespread access to MPs, or that they have a war chest of money and powerful well-funded advocacy. They want to silence those less powerful.

Their strategy is to focus debate on the people who develop a problem with poker machines and away from the product itself. They will tell you of the small portion of the total population that have problems with poker machines, but they won't tell you that more than 30 per

cent of people who actually play poker machines end up with a problem. They question or bring attention to the mental health of anyone who ends up with a problem, and even invest money in research to prove it. They draw attention to online gambling, while 80 per cent of people seeking help with a gambling problem are due to poker machines. It's a 'look over there' strategy, while painting themselves as the rescuers and saints of the community.

I refuse to accept poker machines are designed as harmless, recreational entertainment. Australian machines in particular are known internationally for their intensity and addictive features. Being able to feed \$10,000 at a time into a machine can hardly be described as recreational. It's madness.

**Let's be honest here. The Club's real agenda is to create more dependence on them for essential services and increasing revenue from poker machines, blindingly obvious in the McKell Institute [report](#) they commissioned.**

I've heard politicians and industry spokespeople say we need to remove the emotion from debate. When I hear that, I feel dismissed and diminished. That somehow my experience and the experiences of hundreds of thousands of other children are not worthy. Sure, reform must come from a rational place. But the impetus for it is emotional. It's heartbreaking, it's real and it is underestimated and easily overlooked.

## Hear Allison Keogh Talk at the GIS AGM

The GIS will be hosting their Annual General Meeting at at the Nowra Neighbourhood Centre on Wednesday December 3rd 2.00—3.30pm. All GIS members and the general public are welcome to join us for an afternoon tea. Allison Keogh along with other members of the Consumer Voices Team will be sharing their experiences of gambling with a particular focus on the issues of problem gambling and its impacts on children. This is a concern for all members of the community but of particular interest to those in the child-care industry.

We therefore extend a special invitation to those working in child-care services who may be interested to learn more about the impacts of problem gambling on children . As well as to consider the potential risks of any proposal that would see Childcare centres managed and located at NSW gambling venues.

**RSVP [info@gisnsw.org.au](mailto:info@gisnsw.org.au) by Monday 1/12/15.**

# NSW Select Committee on the Impact of Gambling: Recommendations

The NSW Select Committee on the Impact of Gambling has completed an inquiry into the negative impacts of problem gambling and has released 18 recommendations to the NSW Government to minimise the harm caused by problem gambling.

“The Committee has made 18 recommendations all aimed at minimising the negative impacts of problem gambling. These recommendations concern the regulation of electronic gaming machines, the adoption of state-wide third-party initiated exclusions from gambling venues, the delivery of gambling awareness campaigns, improving the health system to refer patients to appropriate gambling treatment services, and increasing the role of industry in preventing problem gambling” said Revd the Hon Fred Nile MLC, Chairman of the Committee.

1. Ensure that the electronic gaming machine Local Impact Assessment process is independently reviewed with objectives that include identifying mechanisms to prevent concentration of EGMs in areas where they will create great harm. If the review concludes that the process does not adequately assess the appropriateness of additional gaming machines in venues, this process should be reformed and the NSW Government consider freezing the transfer and creation of new entitlements.
2. Publish its response to the findings of the Gambling Research Australia investigation into the link between gaming machine design features and gambling harm, and take appropriate action.
3. Review the maximum jackpot prize for EGMs in the NSW Jackpot Technical Standard.
4. Review the maximum bet limit for EGMS in NSW in the Australian and New Zealand Gaming Machine Standard.
5. Investigate third-party exclusion with a view to implement a scheme in NSW clubs and hotel by 2017 at the latest, and during its investigation, consult with industry, healthcare professionals, gambling researchers and other relevant stakeholders.
6. Review the Gaming Machines Regulation 2010 (NSW) to apply daily cash withdrawal limits to ATMs in venues with EGMs.
7. Review the Gaming Machines Regulation 2010 (NSW) to specify an appropriate distance between ATMs and EGMs.
8. Work with the Australian Government to develop mechanisms that restrict short-term credit being made available through ATMs in EGM venues.
9. Approach the Australian Government to request a set of standards be established for online betting websites and that the *Interactive Gambling Act 2001* (Cth) be amended to prohibit financial institutions from processing transactions to non-compliant offshore betting websites.
10. Review Gambling Research Australia’s report into the impact of betting advertising on youth when it is published in 2015. If a link is established, then the NSW Government should approach the Australian Government to request that the national broadcasting codes further restrict the promotion of betting odds and gambling advertising during live sports broadcasting.
11. Launch an awareness campaign specifically regarding the risks of online gaming that focuses on improving consumer knowledge regarding the risks involved in accessing offshore gaming websites. This should be delivered in a variety of languages targeting a broad spectrum of communities.

## Select Committee on Impact of Gambling : Recommendations (continued ...)

12. Ensure that the Duty and Responsible Gambling Levy Agreement for the Barangaroo Restricted Gaming Facility is used to support the work of the Responsible Gambling Fund. Any other large gambling facilities approved in the future should also be subject to a levy to support the Responsible Gambling Fund.
13. Review the adequacy of funds committed to the Responsible Gambling Fund to ensure that it is appropriately resourced to deliver, in several different languages, an awareness campaign promoting the courage required to admit a gambling problem and to seek treatment.
14. NSW Health review its patient screening protocols to ensure patients with gambling problems are identified and referred to specialist treatment services.
15. Investigate the models of the ACT and New Zealand that require venues to intervene to assist problem gamblers with a view to implement a scheme in NSW.
16. Work to secure funding for Gambling Research Australia via the Council of Australian Government's Select Council on Gambling Reform.
17. If unsuccessful in securing an ongoing national role for Gambling Research Australia beyond 2014, then the NSW government should develop alternate models for publically funded gambling research at state level.
18. Support school programs that promote healthy lifestyle choices, investigate the approaches of other state governments in seeking to protect youth from the risks associated with gambling via school-based gambling education, and examine whether its current programs are appropriate and achieving the desired outcomes. The findings should form the basis from which to determine whether these programs need to be expanded in NSW.

The full report can be read at:

[http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/prod/parlment/committee.nsf/0d27f4d52ce6077f6ca257d3300824c4d/\\$FILE/Final%20Report.pdf](http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/prod/parlment/committee.nsf/0d27f4d52ce6077f6ca257d3300824c4d/$FILE/Final%20Report.pdf)

## Book A FREE Consumer Voices Session

The Problem Gambling Consumer Voices - peer spokesperson project is a program whereby those who have been personally impacted by problem gambling are trained to deliver a one-hour education session in conjunction with the local Gambling Help service, to raise awareness of this hidden issue. The power of the personal story is a powerful tool for helping others to understand this public health concern.

During May 2012 – June 2-14 we have been piloting and delivering the program in the Illawarra, Shoalhaven and Sydney regions, where 124 sessions were provided to 1852 participants. These were arranged for over 115 different health and welfare agencies and community groups including: health professionals, community workers, staff of a range of community services, community groups, gambling venue staff and service groups (Probus, Rotary, Zonta, U3A etc).

The program has been a resounding success for all those involved including: community service participants, consumer educators and the Gambling Help counselling services who have partnered with this program. We have now been given extension funds for the next 6-months, by the Department of Social Services, to extend the programs reach (including the ACT). Please consider booking a session for you group/staff.

**CONTACT : GIS Project Officer Barbara Bicego (02) 4284 6732 or [info@gisnsw.org.au](mailto:info@gisnsw.org.au)**

## Victorian Premier Rejects Clubs' Childcare Bid (continued from page 4)

Clubs Australia boss Anthony Ball said in the submission not-for-profit clubs are well positioned to deliver affordable access to child care.

The group's NSW branch commissioned a report that claimed a third of 4000 clubs would be keen to diversify into childcare services if they could get income tax exemptions on poker machine profits.

## Greens slam idea for tax breaks for pokies with childcare

Source: APN Newsdesk From: [Sunshine Coast Daily](#)  
19 October 2014

A PLAN to encourage NSW poker machine clubs to offer childcare through increased tax breaks has been labelled "ridiculous" by the Australian Greens.

A proposal which would allow ClubsNSW to receive tax concessions for investing in child and aged care is being considered by the NSW Government.

The state is home to more than half the country's poker machines.

"Dumping children next to poker machines at the local club is no way to tackle the childcare crisis in Australia," Greens Senator Sarah Hanson-Young said.

"Offering child care at the pokies is fraught with danger and will only encourage parents into problem gambling," she said.

"This is a ridiculous move that could be avoided if the Abbott Government committed to properly funding the childcare sector."

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **National Association of Gambling Studies (NAGS) 24th Annual Conference**  
26-28 November 2014, Jupiters Gold Coast  
*'New Directions in Gambling - Is it time to broaden the conversations?'*  
<http://www.nags.org.au>
- **Gambling Impact Society NSW AGM**  
3 December 2014, 2.00pm– 3.30pm  
Nowra Neighbourhood Centre  
[www.gisnsw.org.au](http://www.gisnsw.org.au)
- **Third Asia Pacific Conference on Gambling & Commercial Gaming Research**  
12-14 April 2015, Beijing, China  
<http://www.gamblingstudies.org/>
- **Discovery 2015**  
21-23 April 2015, Toronto, Canada  
*'Persuasion, Prohibition and Personal Change'*  
<http://www.responsiblegambling.org/>

**Phone Gambling Help for  
information on your local  
Gambling Support  
Services**

**1800 858 858**



**Free Gambling Help  
is available online  
at  
[www.gamblinghelponline.org.au](http://www.gamblinghelponline.org.au)**

## 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 , University Sydney

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 <http://www.freeyourself.com.au/>

My Passionate Affair with Poker Machines (DVD) <http://www.freeyourself.com.au/>

Free Yourself (DVD) <http://www.freeyourself.com.au/>

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

## Help Online

[www.gamblinghelponline.org.au](http://www.gamblinghelponline.org.au)

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

[www.gansw.org.au](http://www.gansw.org.au)

[www.gansw.org.au/GamAnon](http://www.gansw.org.au/GamAnon)

[www.smartrecoveryaustralia.com.au](http://www.smartrecoveryaustralia.com.au)

[www.chrysalisinsight.org.au](http://www.chrysalisinsight.org.au)

[www.freeyourself.com.au](http://www.freeyourself.com.au)

[www.nrgs.org.au](http://www.nrgs.org.au)

[www.stvincents.com.au](http://www.stvincents.com.au)

<http://youthgambling.mcgill.ca/Gambling2/index.php>

[www.gamblersanonymous.org.au](http://www.gamblersanonymous.org.au)

[www.miph.org/gambling](http://www.miph.org/gambling)

[www.responsiblegambling.org](http://www.responsiblegambling.org)

[www.femalegamblers.info/](http://www.femalegamblers.info/)

[www.pgfnz.org.nz](http://www.pgfnz.org.nz)

[www.gamblingwatchuk.org](http://www.gamblingwatchuk.org)

[www.gamblinghelp.nsw.gov.au](http://www.gamblinghelp.nsw.gov.au)

[www.problemegambling.gov.au](http://www.problemegambling.gov.au)

## General Interest Websites

[www.socialwork.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.socialwork.unimelb.edu.au)

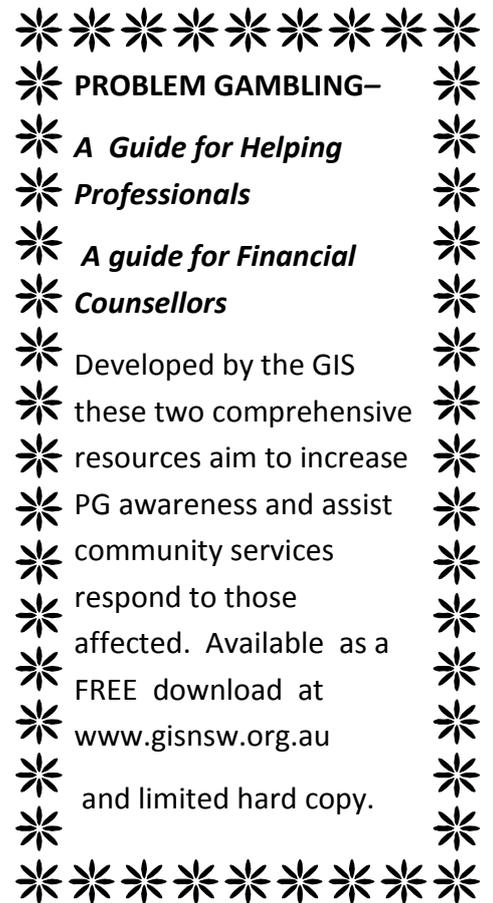
[www.nags.org.au](http://www.nags.org.au)

[www.unsw.edu.au](http://www.unsw.edu.au)

[www.afm.mb.ca](http://www.afm.mb.ca)

[www.societystudygambling.co.uk](http://www.societystudygambling.co.uk)

[www.camh.net](http://www.camh.net)



PROBLEM GAMBLING—

*A Guide for Helping*

*Professionals*

*A guide for Financial*

*Counsellors*

Developed by the GIS

these two comprehensive

resources aim to increase

PG awareness and assist

community services

respond to those

affected. Available as a

FREE download at

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

and limited hard copy.



Return Address

Gambling impact society (nsw) Inc  
c/o Nowra Nowra Neighbourhood Centre  
134 Kinghorne St  
Nowra  
Nsw 2541



Phone: 02 44 215 077

Fax: 02 44 216 872

Email: info@gisnsw.org.au

Print Post Approved:

100002174

## 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 each year is:

**Please circle:**

Organisations \$60

Individuals \$30

Concessions/Students \$15

Name.....

Organisation.....

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

Telephone:

Fax:

E-mail:

*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*