International Volunteer Day

International Volunteer Day (IVD) was celebrated on 5 December and was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1985. IVD provides volunteer organisations and individual volunteers with the opportunity to raise the public awareness of their contributions to economic and social development at local, national and international levels. CPA Australia supports international volunteering specifically through a relationship with ProBono Australia.

- Firstly, there is Volunteer Match to assist in the search for a CPA. These may be for ongoing roles or specific appointments / contracts / assignments. This information is posted on the web and CPA Australia are able to link to it in the next available CPA Update. This is the weekly newsletter to members that is circulated each Wednesday morning. Our experience tells us that it will generally generate 4-6 applications for the pro bono work for your interview process.
- Secondly, there is the ability to seek qualified help through our ‘Mentor the Treasurer’ program. In partnership with Pro Bono Australia, we now offer qualified CPA Australia members the opportunity to add value to their community through the Mentor the Treasurer program.
- Thirdly, there is ‘Find a CPA’ to search for an accountant in public practice however please note that this service is not necessarily pro bono.

Please note that CPA Australia members are bound by the most stringent codes of professional conduct and ethical practice. Further details about these matters and how CPA Australia upholds professional standards are available at this link.

For more information access the CPA Australia webpage; http://www.cpaaustralia.com.au/

Understanding financial reports of not-for-profit entities (PDF)

New Zealand’s large and diverse not-for-profit (NFP) sector has a strong history of helping vulnerable and disadvantaged people and is a significant employer in New Zealand’s economy.

With the assistance of Grant Thornton CPA Australia have developed a complimentary guide for those who work in NFPs, to help them better understand the accounting and regulatory aspects of not-for-profit financial reporting.

Follow this link to view the report
CPA Australia launches financial literacy app for children in Cambodia

CPA Australia has launched an educational app to improve the financial literacy of children in Cambodia.

Partnering with Australian international aid organisation CUFA, the CPA Australia Count4Kids Cambodia App was launched on Friday in Chhouk village, Kampong Chhnang province in central Cambodia. Anthony Matis, General Manager – Education, was on-hand to distribute the tablets.

The app will provide local children aged 7-12 with the opportunity to learn the basics of financial literacy. Announcing the launch of the initiative, Alex Malley said: “As one of the world’s largest accounting bodies, we recognise the value of an education grounded in the principles of accounting and finance. Whether kids come from Chhouk village or from Sydney, we know that the development of financial literacy at a young age creates independence and can have a positive long-term impact.”

The CUFA Cambodia Children’s Financial Literacy Program is in its sixth year of delivery and each year works with over 12,000 children across a number of provinces to provide children with financial literacy lessons to establish good habits of savings from an early age.

Recognised Employer Partner status for the whole ACT Government

During CPA Congress in Canberra, the ACT Government became the first government in its entirety to be awarded Recognised Employer Partner status with CPA Australia. While a number of government departments in various jurisdictions have this status, the ACT Government is the first jurisdiction to achieve this at a whole of government level.

Kerry Mayne presented the ACT Chief Minister, Mr. Andrew Barr MLA and Head of Service, ACT Government Ms Kathy Leigh with the ‘ACT Government’ REP Certificate.

In an email to ACT Government employees afterwards, Kathy Leigh said: “Our finance and accounting teams play important roles that are often behind the scenes. This award recognises these staff and the work being done to support them to continuously develop their skills, maintain their professional qualifications and provide the best services possible to the ACT community.”

Information on becoming a Recognised Employer Partner can be accessed through this link.
Member Pathway Agreement signed with the Philippines Institute of Certified Public Accountants

CPA Australia signed a Member Pathway Agreement (MPA) with the Philippines Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA) last Friday in the Palawan Islands in the Philippines. This took place during PICPA’s 70th Annual National Convention, attended by over 2000 of its members from around the country. The MPA allows local CPAs in the Philippines who have sat and passed the CPA licensure exams, to attain an international designation through us by studying the CPA Program with possible exemptions.

The agreement includes two pathways:

- **Pathway 1:** Local CPAs or PICPA Members with more than 10 years’ work experience (five of which in a senior role) and who have met our other criteria (a four-year full degree, passed the local CPA exams and is in good standing), only need to complete three segments within the CPA Program (Ethics, Financial Report and Global Strategy and Leadership) to become a member.

- **Pathway 2:** Local CPAs or PICPA Members with less than 10 years’ work experience, who have met the criteria mentioned above, will be exempt from Foundation, but will need to complete all six segments of the CPA Program.

Public Sector Financial Management (FM) Model

CPA Australia has partnered with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA UK) to bring to Australia and New Zealand a robust assessment of the strength of Financial Management in organisations.

**What does it do?**

The CIPFA FM Model is a diagnostic online tool specifically designed for use by any public sector organisation to undertake a complete self-assessment of the organisation's financial management. The model provides solid evidence which can substantiate known weaknesses as well as highlights sub-optimal practice – powerful in the identification of critical cost management opportunities and efficiency gains.

**Benefits of using the tool:**

- Profiles strengths and development areas
- Shaped to support your organisation
- Improved electronic survey, data reporting and output functionality
- Comprehensive assessment of financial management against good practice

**Video overview:**


For further information please email Fiona Moore, Corporate Learning Solutions Manager, Fiona.Moore@cpaaustralia.com.au
Supporting Daniher’s Drive for MND

On the 15-18 October, 2015, Daniher’s Drive, organised by the Cure for MND Foundation, with CPA Australia as the major sponsor has raised $1 million dollars. Daniher's Drive was the brain child of Australian Rules football legend Neale Daniher, who last year announced that he is battling Motor Neurone Disease (MND). The Daniher family were all strongly involved throughout the drive and shared many stories about growing up on the family farm in Ungarie. The participating teams drove a total of 1,371.1 km over the course of four days.

“Daniher’s drive is one of the best things I have ever done,” says GM Victoria Division, Jon Aloni, who was in a car with current deputy president of the Victorian Divisional Council, Terry Brooks and his wife, Sally.

“The community events were incredible,” says Jon. “The morning tea in Penshurst was particularly memorable as we had the opportunity to speak to the local community and local primary school children about MND and the aim of Daniher’s Drive.

For more information on how to get involved, access; https://curemnd.org.au/get-involved/

Plan Your Own Enterprise keeps growing in Tasmania

The Tasmanian State Presentation of our Plan Your Own Enterprise competition for secondary schools recently took place in Hobart. Short-listed students from across the State, teachers, parents, friends and Tasmanian Divisional Councillors attended to see The Hutchins School take out both the Individual and Group Categories.

The Hutchins School has in fact won the National Group Category for the past two years, and so the team in Tasmania is now looking for a Tasmanian/Hutchins School hat-trick! This year Waqas Durrani, past CPA Student Ambassador and NCEO Future Leader, who is now training as a Financial Auditor with the Tasmanian Audit Office, spoke about his journey – his studies at UTAS, the value and opportunity of pursuing a career in business and of course, his experience as a CPA Student Ambassador and the doors that this opened for him.

The number of entries for this competition continues to grow year on year in Tasmania with well over 100 entries received from public and private sector schools from every region of the State. PYOE is now a very well embedded component of the Business Studies curriculum in many schools.

Finance Shared Services Discussion Paper


This Discussion Paper seeks the views of interested parties on the most effective and efficient way to consolidate shared and common service delivery in a manner that represents value for money to Government.

Responses to the questions above can be submitted to scs@finance.gov.au no later than 4:00pm, 10 February 2016.

It is proposed that an information session will be held on Thursday, 17 December 2015. This will provide an opportunity for the market to engage with key stakeholders from across the public sector. To register your interest to attend this information session, please send an email to scs@finance.gov.au.
HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON

Contributions to this report circulated every 8-10 weeks are welcome.
Email: publicsector@cpaustralia.com.au