

IGNITING CHANGE BY COMBINING EXTRAORDINARY LIVES

2016 – 2017

"Purposely small, dynamic and nimble we provide intuitive, compassionate and spontaneous responses to those needing our support. The best way to understand how we work is to tell some of the stories that have inspired people to act, enabled things to happen, catalyse support for change, and connected people in new and extraordinary ways."

JANE TEWSON

It's been a very full year and we estimate **for every \$1 invested in us we return at least \$15 for the community.**

The evidence of our work is in the connections we make - beneath is a snapshot of the year that's been in four key areas:

Creating new initiatives

Meeting the people feeling the issues

Inspiring support

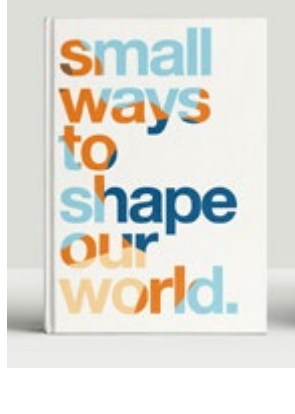
Enabling change

CREATIVE INITIATIVES

These creative projects make the perfect Christmas present with purpose for staff, customers, friends and family and are available to purchase through Igniting Change.

Our new book 'Small Ways To Shape Our World' has just gone to the printers with insights from the brave community organisations and individuals we walk alongside. It explores connection and meaning in shapes and words, and invites the reader to 'reshape our world with small act of kindness, thoughtfulness and quiet rebellion.'

Thanks to the wonderful teams of TWBA and Hardie Grant for all their hard work and support to realise our dream!



We have supported TWICH Women's Sewing Collective for over 4 years. Abuk, Tuona and Tatyana make fabulous clothing using recycled fabrics and African prints. We recently connected them with Diamond Rozakeas from the Mulberry Group of cafes, and now they're working on a range of tote bags from their donated hessian coffee sacks. We love their entrepreneurial spirit and pride in their South Sudanese community.



You can order tote bags and books for family, customers and friends (ideal Xmas gifts!) by writing to: jayde@ignitingchange.org.au Bags \$25 each; Books \$10 each

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Small changes x lots of people = big change

Little things count. They add up. They ignite change and make the people around you happier

54 VISITS TO MEET THE PEOPLE, FEEL THE ISSUES: INCREASING AWARENESS OF THORNY ISSUES THAT ARE OFTEN HIDDEN FROM EVERYDAY LIFE

The courageous groups and individuals we support are tackling tough, entrenched, often unpopular issues and struggle to attract funding. Bridging the gap between people experiencing the issues and those in a position to support them can be life changing for all involved.

All these projects are supported by the Igniting Change Foundation.

Some of the visits included:

Mornington Peninsula

Mums Supporting Families in Need; Fusion Youth Refuge; Southern Peninsula Community Support and Information Centre; Eastbourne Primary School

Northern Territory

Children's Ground, Akeyulerre; Yarrenyty Artlere Art Centre

Melbourne

The Human Rights Law Centre; Mental Health Legal Centre; Social Studio; First Step Drug and Alcohol Service; Mirabel Foundation; Caulfield Park Community School; Youth Unit in Port Phillip Prison; Resilient Aspiring Women, Giant Steps.

Loddon Mallee Area

Australia Help, The Salvation Army, East Loddon Food Share Program.

Gippsland

Morwell Neighbourhood House; Lifeline and Gippsland Centre Against Sexual Assault

INSPIRING SUPPORT OF OVER \$6.2M FOR 68 COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS INCLUDING

A Better Life for Foster Kids, Akeyulerre, Asylum Seekers Resource Centre ASRC, Australia Help, Bairnsdale and East Bairnsdale Neighbourhood House, Berry Street, Boundless, Brotherhood of St. Laurence, Caulfield Park Community School, Children's Ground, Christian Family Centre, Collingwood Knights, Reclink Program, East Loddon Food Share Program in Dinglee, Eat Up Australia, First Step Drug and Alcohol Service, Fusion Youth Refuge Mount Martha, Giant Steps, Hestor Hornbrook Community School, Hijack'd, Hope Street, Human Rights Law Centre, Kogo, Launch Housing Homelessness Christmas Lunch, Learning for Life, Legal Aid NSW, Lifeline Gippsland, Limbs2Riddims, Mental Health Legal Centre, Mirabel Foundation, Morwell Neighbourhood House, Mums Supporting Families in Need, Murchison Football Netball Club, New Stars Basketball Association, PCYC St Kilda, Youth Unit Port Phillip Prison, Project Respect, Public Interest Advocacy Centre, Ramahyuck District Aboriginal Corporation, Resilient Aspiring Women RAW, Royal District Nurse Service RDNS, Shakti, Sisterworks, Social Studio, South Shepparton Community Church, Southern Peninsula Community Support & Information Centre (SPCSIC), Space2b, St Vincent de Paul (Rosebud), The Coming Back Out Ball, The Salvation Army, Loddon Mallee, Theodora House, Wallaroo Neighbourhood House, WEAVE Sydney, Yarrenyty Artlere Artists, YMCA Gippsland, Youth You Program, YSAS Morwell

Employment opportunities are an important way to support people to turn their lives around.

After a visit to the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, McCann's advertising agency, led by Ben Lilley offered internships to eight asylum seekers who have since found work using their skills. Two other organisations were so inspired by this, and they're setting up internships too!

ENABLING CHANGE - WE WORK HARD TO UNLOCK RESOURCES FOR OFTEN UNMET NEEDS AND CONNECTING UNLIKELY COMBINATIONS OF PEOPLE AND BUSINESSES WHO SPARK NEW IDEAS AND INITIATIVES FOR CHANGE

Some recent examples of ways we are igniting change by combining extraordinary lives:

PCYC in St. Kilda is a community gym which offers youth programs, accommodation, training and support to young people, empowering them to change their own world, and break the cycle of poverty and exclusion. Catalysed by Igniting Change, the Six Degrees Executive team and Nic Brunner renovated two of their accommodation units, which means secure and safe accommodation, a support system and dignity for two young people who would otherwise be homeless.



From his start in life as a child soldier in war-torn Southern Sudan, **Emmanuel Jal** overcame the seemingly impossible to become an acclaimed speaker, performer, actor, campaigner, recording artist and peace ambassador around the world. He's been tireless in his promotion of peace without prejudice and we were proud to host him for two weeks in March/April. Wherever he went, from prisons, to schools, to public conversations, he challenged stereotypes and inspired hope, always encouraging people to see the person and not their labels.

In March, the **Igniting Change and Virgin Unite leadership gathering** explored freedom - the many forms it takes and how it has evolved in our increasingly connected world. Guests and speakers included Ernesto Zedillo, former President of Mexico and Global Commissioner on drugs policy; Angela Ahrendts, Apple's SVP of Retail and Jimmy Wales, cofounder of Wikipedia.

Our growing relationship with **Victoria police** is taking many different forms. Here is some feedback about the impact Jayde had talking to new police recruits:

"The words 'thank you' actually don't have the weight I would like given what a profound affect your story had on me... I feel optimistic that nobody who heard your story today will ever use those terms or treat someone in the same manner that you were treated. I hope every time they are tempted to stereotype, to be derogatory, to dehumanise the people they meet, that they think of how they felt"



FROM LITTLE THINGS BIG THINGS GROW...

Small continues to be beautiful and with the right support, people in the community turn straw into gold. We call it rumpelstilskinning lol!

From an initiative by homeless people who are collecting sanitary items for other people experiencing homelessness, eye glasses for a prisoner's son so he can now read in school...to a men's health day at the local pub for the struggling farming community in the Loddon Mallee.

The people themselves have the ideas and solutions. We just need to listen.

"If someone's hungry, they are not thinking about how to better themselves - they just want a meal. The hot meal, the bed - all the (healing) relationships I've built started with helping people in a practical way. Without that you're just another talker."

— Paul Moulds, Salvation Army