

2016 Annual Report



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2016 - A remarkable year for the Institute of Public Affairs

2016 was one of the most successful years in the 73 year history of the Institute of Public Affairs. Our achievements can be measured by the quality of our research, our impact on the public policy debate in Australia, the increase in the number of IPA members, and the growth of our donation revenue. The Institute of Public Affairs now has 4,322 members - the most in its history.

In 2016, the future of a fundamental human freedom - freedom of speech - moved to the forefront of the policy and political debate in this country. This was due in large part to the research and analysis by the Institute of Public Affairs over the course of many years.

As the Institute of Public Affairs plans for our next 75 years, four principles will guide our work.

Future

Our work is for the future. We have a responsibility to pass on to future generations the legacy of freedom.

Freedom

Human flourishing can only be achieved when individuals have the dignity and responsibility to make their own decisions.

Opportunity

Every person should have the opportunity for a better life.

Prosperity

A free society ensures prosperous communities.

Since 1943 the Institute of Public Affairs has worked to the objective enshrined in our constitution - 'To further the individual, social, political and economic freedom of the Australian people'. The need for the voice for freedom in Australia is as great now as it has ever been.

Thank you for your support.



The Hon. Rod Kemp
Chairman



John Roskam
Executive Director



Matthew Lesh being interviewed on ABC Triple J radio station talking about freedom of speech on campus



Sarah Wilson and IPA production crew filming an IPA membership video



Dr. Chris Berg appearing before a Senate Committee inquiry into media regulation

The voice and impact of the Institute of Public Affairs in 2016

555,631

Number of times IPA videos
have been watched

200,343

Number of unique
visitors to the IPA website

91,044

Number of times the
IPA video on the *QUT*
case has been watched

60,000

Average number of people
who see a Tweet from the
IPA each month

40,000

Average number of people
who see a Facebook post
from the IPA each week

19,810

People who read the IPA's
landmark *75 Radical Ideas to
Transform Australia*

11,126

Number of IPA supporters on
Facebook (49% of whom are
under the age of 34)

10,545

Number of people following
the IPA on Twitter

4,322

Number of IPA members

1,378

Number of mentions
of IPA research in print
and online media

1,330

Supporters of the IPA's
Generation Liberty
Facebook page

451

Number of times IPA research
staff appeared on radio

155

Number of times IPA research
staff appeared on television

75

Number of times the
IPA was mentioned in
Federal Parliament

27

Number of IPA events held
around Australia



IPA Institute of Public Affairs

THE VOICE FOR FREEDOM
ESTABLISHED - 194

www.ipa.org.au



Dr. Bella d'Abrera presenting at the IPA *Open Minds Workshop* for IPA Young Members



John Roskam speaking at a *Generation Liberty* event at the University of Melbourne



Dr. Jennifer Marohasy presenting a lecture in Ballarat on Climate Change

Future

We have a responsibility to pass on to future generations the legacy of freedom

The work of the Institute of Public Affairs with young people is vital.

The Institute of Public Affairs engages directly with young people, and undertakes research on what young people are learning and being taught. The research of the *Foundations of Western Civilisation Program* of the Institute of Public Affairs informs the Institute's work with young people.

Generation Liberty is a program of the Institute of Public Affairs for young people. It provides opportunities for young people to learn about freedom by engagement both online and through events and workshops. *Generation Liberty* produces reading guides, curriculum resources, and videos to educate young people about freedom.

The Institute of Public Affairs has 785 Young Members who are under the age of 25. More than 1,300 young people engage directly with *Generation Liberty* on Facebook. The Institute of Public Affairs employs Campus Coordinators at three Australian universities (the University of Sydney, the University of Melbourne, and the University of Queensland) to engage with students.

During the year, 17 *Generation Liberty* events were held around the country. The learning and reading materials for young people available through *Generation Liberty* include study guides such as *7 Free Market Economists You Need To Know*, *The Greatest Liberty Speeches In History*, and *The 5 Best Introductory Books On Western Civilisation*.

In 2016 the Institute of Public Affairs conducted its inaugural *Open Minds Workshop* for 25 young people aged between 16 and 25. Participants learned about democracy in Ancient Greece, the Magna Carta and the origins of parliamentary democracy, and the history of liberalism in the Enlightenment. During the year a landmark research report on the education of young people in Australia was released by the Institute of Public Affairs.

The *Free Speech on Campus Audit 2016* was a systematic review of the policies and processes on freedom of speech and intellectual inquiry of Australian universities. It was the first review of its kind ever undertaken in Australia. The review found that intellectual freedom is under threat in the majority of the country's tertiary institutions.



Brendan O'Neill speaking at the University of Queensland about the importance of free speech



Simon Breheny filming the IPA video on the QUT case



Hannah Pandel speaking at the IPA Gala Dinner

Freedom

Humans flourish when they have the dignity to make their own decisions

Essential human freedoms such as freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of association, the freedom to work and to own property are fundamental to liberal democracy.

Human flourishing can only occur in an environment of freedom.

For a number of years threats to freedom of speech in Australia have been a focus of the work of the Institute of Public Affairs. This is because without freedom of speech it is impossible to possess any of the other human freedoms.

In 2016, the argument for freedom of speech was highlighted by the cases of the Queensland University of Technology students being sued for Facebook posts made in 2013, and also the complaint made against Bill Leak.

During 2016 the visits to Australia by Mark Steyn and Brendan O'Neill hosted by the Institute of Public Affairs directly engaged more than half a million Australians in the discussion about the importance of freedom of speech. Mark Steyn and Brendan O'Neill made dozens of media appearances and spoke at events around the country for the Institute of Public Affairs. In addition the Institute of Public Affairs supported the sold-out national speaking tour of Andrew Bolt for his book *Worth Fighting For*.

The success of the work of the Institute of Public Affairs can be measured by opinion polls of public attitudes to freedom of speech. A *Newspoll* survey of 1,000 Australians commissioned by the Institute of Public Affairs revealed that 64% of respondents disapproved of the government investigating a cartoonist for a cartoon because an individual found the cartoon offensive or insulting. The survey also found widespread support for changing the law so that it would no longer be unlawful to offend or insult someone - 45% of respondents agreed the law should be changed, while 38% disagreed.

The research on freedom of speech undertaken by the Institute of Public Affairs has been mentioned in the national news media on more than 700 occasions during 2016, and the video produced by the Institute of Public Affairs on the Queensland University of Technology case has been viewed over 91,000 times.



Aaron Lane presenting IPA research on work reform to the Productivity Commission



Simon Breheny being interviewed on Channel 7 in Sydney about tax reform



Brett Hogan speaking with IPA members

Opportunity

Every person should have the opportunity for a better life

Opportunity comes from our freedom and our choices. Opportunity comes from the actions of individuals and from individuals working together. Often the actions of government are more likely to hinder than encourage opportunity.

The research work of the Institute of Public Affairs on reform in the fields of industrial relations, education, and criminal justice is founded on a commitment to every individual being entitled to the dignity of living a life of human flourishing.

The video produced by the Institute of Public Affairs, *Free Markets: The key to human flourishing in Cambodia* has been viewed more than 20,000 times and is one of the most popular education resources available through *Generation Liberty*. The video is supplemented with a dedicated website for teachers and students, which includes study materials and curriculum guides.

A major research paper by the Institute of Public Affairs *Your Right to Work: The employment policy of a truly Liberal government* published in 2016 highlighted 'at its heart, industrial relations law is about people, and their ability to earn an income, support a family and take greater responsibility for their own lives.'

Other Institute of Public Affairs research considered policy questions such as the ways in which trade union activity was hurting community volunteerism, *Code Red: Fair Work and the long march of the unions through our emergency services institutions*, and how public sector industrial relations negotiations were damaging the economy, *Driving a soft bargain - Examining the Commonwealth Public Sector Enterprise Agreements 2011-14*.

Opportunity must extend to all members of the community which is why the Institute of Public Affairs undertook research on issues concerning poverty and also on criminal justice reform in Australia.

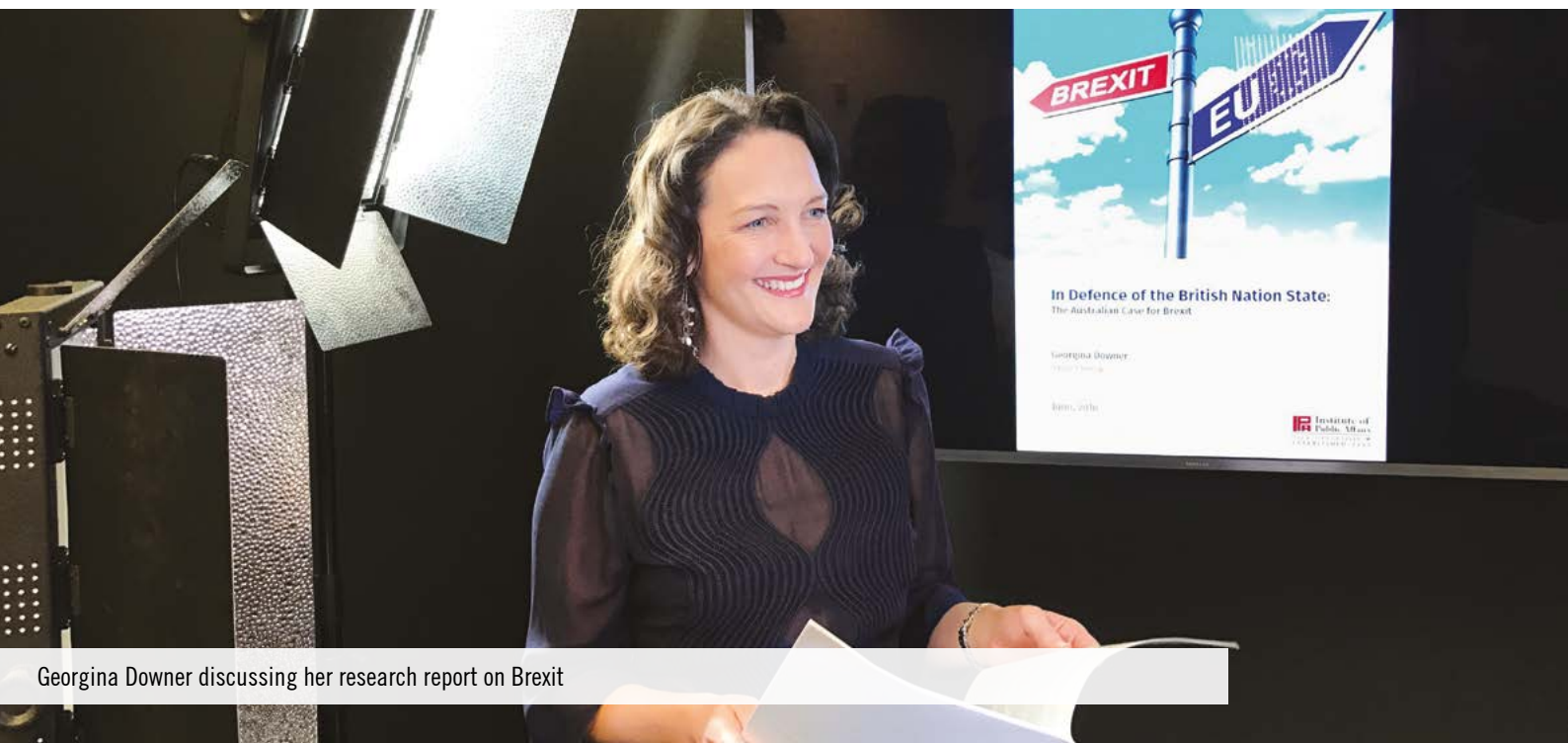
The Good News on Poverty: Things are getting better for the poor in Australia and *The use of prisons in Australia: Reform directions* were significant reports published during the year by the Institute of Public Affairs.



Dr. Mikayla Novak speaking on welfare reform



Professor Sinclair Davidson discussing government spending on ABC Radio's Counterpoint



Georgina Downer discussing her research report on Brexit

Prosperity

A free society ensures prosperous communities

Prosperity is the outcome of free individuals working and cooperating together for their mutual benefit. Economically prosperous communities encourage a strong and thriving civil society.

Higher taxes and burdensome red tape do not promote prosperity, nor do misconceived climate change policies.

Research conducted by the Institute of Public Affairs during 2016 analysed the detrimental effect of proposals to change the taxation arrangements of superannuation, and identified that some of the proposed changes were retrospective in nature. The research report *Strangling the goose with the golden egg: Why we need to cut superannuation taxes on Middle Australia* had a significant impact on the public debate around superannuation.

Research reports published during the year such as *Canberra's Debt Problem: Where's the money gone?*, *Income Tax Weighing Down The Australian Family Budget*, and *What Politicians Need To Know About Negative Gearing* demonstrate the need for fiscal and budget reform.

Institute of Public Affairs analysis revealed that the cost to the Australian economy of unnecessary red tape is \$176 billion a year - which makes red tape the country's largest industry.

During the year a dedicated information and policy portal on red tape reduction was established - *Cut Red Tape To Unleash Prosperity*. It contains policy resources and recommendations, a community blog, videos, and real-life stories of business owners around Australia struggling with the burden of red tape and government regulation.

Energy policy was a matter of much public debate during 2016 and the Institute of Public Affairs was an active participant in that debate with publications such as *The Fossil Fuel Subsidy Myth* and *Ensuring a future for Australian Coal Fired Power Stations*.

In 2016, Institute of Public Affairs researchers continued a vigorous program of original research on climate change, particularly in the areas of data homogenisation and climate forecasting. In 2017 the Institute of Public Affairs will publish the third iteration of *Climate Change: The Facts*.



Rowan Dean, Janet Albrechtsen, Andrew Bolt and John Roskam at the IPA launch in Brisbane of *Bolt - Worth Fighting For*



Mark Steyn speaking on the importance of free speech on his tour of Australia sponsored by the IPA



The Hon. John Howard OM AC speaking about policy reform to IPA Members

Institute of Public Affairs

Selected Research Publications in 2016

- Canberra's Debt Problem: Where's The Money Gone?
- Code Red: Fair work and the long march of the unions through our emergency services institutions
- Driving A Soft Bargain
- Ensuring a Future for Australian Coal Fired Power Stations
- Free Speech On Campus Audit 2016
- Income Tax Weighing Down The Australian Family Budget
- In Defence Of The British Nation State: The Australian Case For Brexit
- Legal Rights Audit
- Making Welfare Sustainable
- Section 18C, Human Rights, and Media Reform: An Institutional Analysis of the 2011-13 Australian Free Speech Debate
- Section 487 of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act: How activists use red tape to stop development and jobs
- Southeast Australian Maximum Temperature Trends, 1887-2013: An Evidence-Based Reappraisal
- Strangling the Goose with the Golden Egg: Why we need to cut superannuation taxes on Middle Australia
- Ten Red Tape Initiatives For The Next Australian Government
- The Fossil Fuel Subsidy Myth
- The Good News On Poverty: Things Are Getting Better For The Poor In Australia
- The Red Tape State
- The Use of Prisons in Australia: Reform directions
- Unions In Labor: A Handbrake On Reform
- What Politicians Need to Know About Negative Gearing
- Your Right to Work: The Employment Policy of a Truly Liberal Government

Institute of Public Affairs research was cited by the following Parliamentary Committees:

- Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee: Estimates, Australian Public Service Commission
- House of Representatives Standing Committee on the Environment inquiry into the Register of Environmental Organisations
- Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee: Estimates, Australian Human Rights Commission
- Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee inquiry into the Provisions of the Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Media Reform) Bill 2016
- Senate Economics Reference Committee inquiry into Personal Choice and Community Impacts
- Senate Select Committee inquiry into the Establishment of a National Integrity Commission
- Senate Select Committee on the Murray-Darling Basin Plan inquiry into the Impacts of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan and Associated Commonwealth Programs on Regional Communities
- Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs: Estimates, Department of Social Services

IPA Staff



John Roskam
Executive Director



Chris Berg
Senior Fellow



Simon Breheny
Director, Policy



Gin Campbell
Executive Assistant



Rachel Guy
Director, Development



Scott Hargreaves
Senior Fellow and
Director, Planning



Brett Hogan
Director, Research



Andy Poon
Director, Finance and
Administration



Sarah Wilson
Director, Membership
and Events

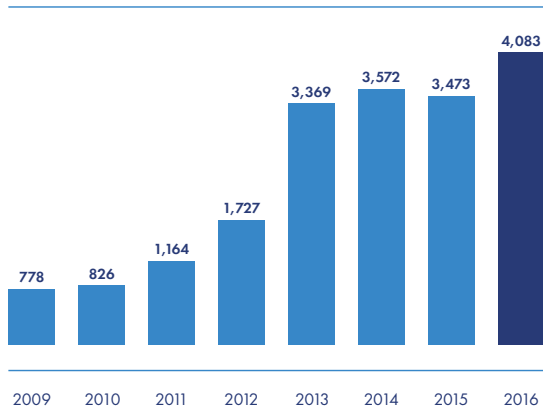
John Abbot – Senior Fellow
Darcy Allen – Research Fellow
Richard Allsop – Senior Fellow
Morgan Begg – Research Scholar
James Bolt – Digital Communications Manager
Andrew Bushnell – Research Fellow
Bella d’Abrera – Director, Future of Freedom
Sinclair Davidson – Senior Fellow
Georgina Downer – Adjunct Fellow
Blake Dunne – Research Assistant
Stuart Eaton – Engagement Manager
Father James Grant – Adjunct Fellow
Peter Gregory – Research Fellow
John Hajek – Campus Coordinator
Twana Hassan – CD Kemp Scholar
John Hyde – Emeritus Fellow
Michael Husek – Research Fellow
Aaron Lane – Legal Fellow
Matthew Lesh – Research Fellow
Nina Lohanatha – Membership Coordinator

Jennifer Marohasy – Senior Fellow
Christian McLaughlan – Campus Coordinator
Evan Mulholland – Media and Communications Manager
Saul Muscatel – Videographer
Biondi Nattaatmaja – Membership Assistant
Mikayla Novak – Adjunct Fellow
Hannah Pandel – Research Fellow
James Paterson – Deputy Executive Director (to March 2016)
Jason Potts – Adjunct Fellow
Martin Proctor – Campus Coordinator
Anniessa Putri – Finance Assistant
Sebastian Reinehr – Researcher
Gideon Rozner – Adjunct Fellow
Cindy Selo Adji – Finance Assistant
Andrew Shearer – CD Kemp Fellow
Deborah Sims – Director, Relationships and Engagement
Joshua Stranger – Graphic Designer/Digital Coordinator
Samy Therone – Graphic Designer/Digital Coordinator
Daniel Wild – Research Fellow

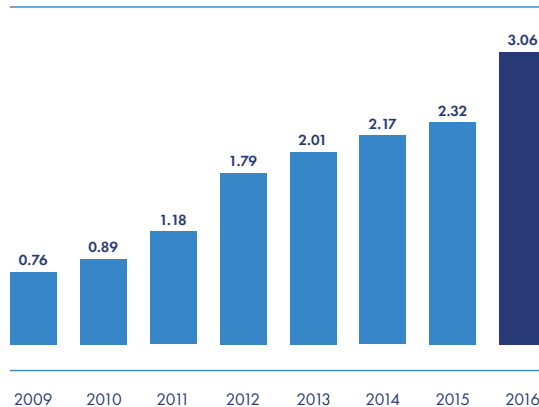
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Finances & Membership 2015-16

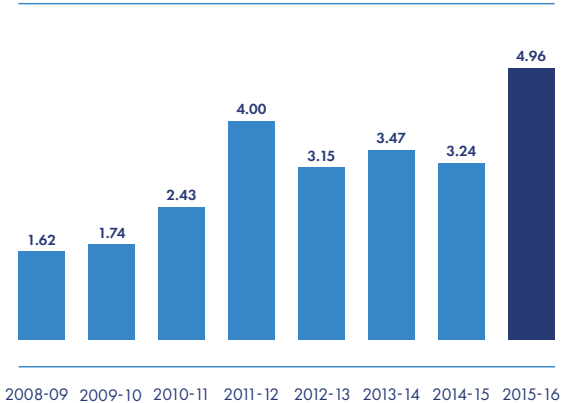
Membership at 1 July



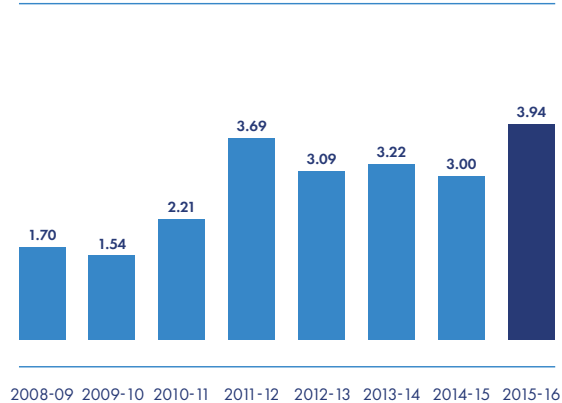
Cash Reserves at 1 July
(\$ Millions)



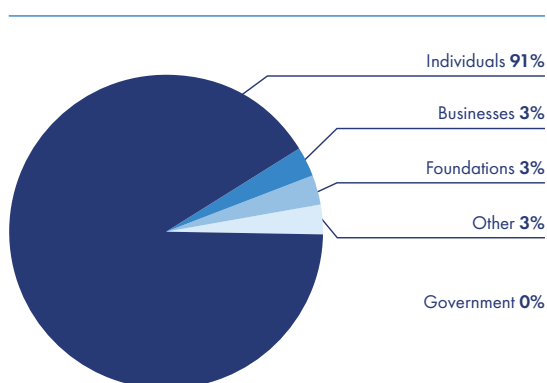
Revenue
(\$ Millions)



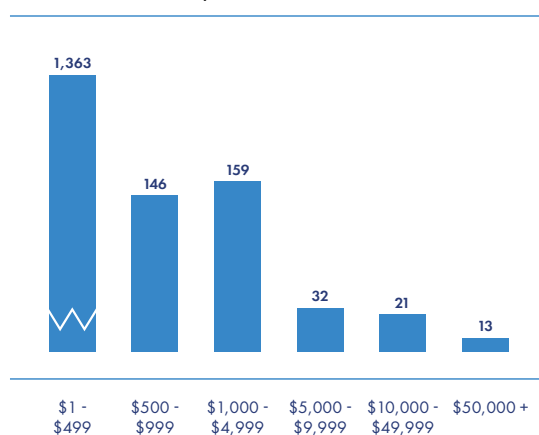
Expenses
(\$ Millions)



Revenue Sources



Number of Donations
By donation value



For membership and general enquiries please contact
Sarah Wilson on **03 9600 4744** or at **swilson@ipa.org.au**



On the front cover: IPA Young Members Riley Dye, Sharni Cutajar and Naomi Jayawardane. On the back cover: Kurt van der Wal and Bronwyn Allan