Impact Report: **August 2021**

This report gives an overview of Croakey’s publishing during August 2021 and the range of individuals and organisations commenting on our articles and activities.

**Social Media Impressions**

We record our social media analytics using Buffer. The figures below are for total impressions across Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.

2,309,896 impressions

See our latest readership figures [here](https://www.croakey.org/impact/).

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5 August, 2021, *Equity can be no afterthought in COVID response* is one of our recent headlines. With millions of Australians still under in lockdown amid COVID-19 outbreaks, equity concerns are front and centre of our packed bulletin this week.

We share important lessons from Melbourne’s public housing towers, the Aboriginal community controlled health sector in Queensland, and New York City’s hospital system. Our stories highlight the importance of comprehensive primary healthcare and trusted health workers, including Aboriginal Health Workers and community health nurses.

We also reveal how governments are contributing to preventable health problems and suffering. Meanwhile, a Federal Government assault on charities is set to undermine a sector that is already under stress and working hard to address inequities.

If you need some light relief, we recommend our featured video, [Coronavirus Rhapsody](https://www.croakey.org/impact/). And don’t miss the Lowitja Institute’s webinar on First Nations Knowledge Translation on 12 August.

André Picard, a prominent health journalist in Canada with more than 125,000 Twitter followers shared an article on health equity by Daniel Reeders.
We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the country where we live, work and travel upon, and to Elders, past, present and future.
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Croakey Professional Services

A series of articles sponsored by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care is drawing attention to important public interest matters.

Other activities

On 13 August, Dr Melissa Sweet and Laurell Grubb attended and live tweeted a webinar on regulatory threats to charities.
12 August, 2021: As COVID continues to spread across NSW, raising grave concerns for Aboriginal communities and regional areas, we delve into pandemic lessons to help inform our responses to another pressing global health crisis. Commenting on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report, health leader Fiona Armstrong said the northern hemisphere summer revealed our future: “predictable, unprecedented, destructive, violent weather events, leading to large scale loss of life and livelihoods”.

And yet, the Australian Government failed, again, to show leadership. Our bulletin shares the perspectives of many advocating for climate action, from Torres Strait Islander communities to health and medical leaders.

We also hear from bushfire survivors about a landmark legal case in NSW, urand learn some tips from the Every Australian Counts campaign.

Don’t miss the latest edition of The Health Wrap, where Associate Professor Lesley Russell takes a deep dive into the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the arts sector, as well as sharing some reflections on the Tokyo Olympics. As the games came to a close, health policy analyst Charles Maskell-Knight digs into global rankings of a different ilk: the Commonwealth Fund’s health system analysis of high income countries.

This week, our coverage of the climate crisis generated national and global engagement, including with the Global Climate and Health Alliance and Professor Walter Ricciardi, President of the World Federation of Public Health Associations and President of the Italian Society of Hygiene, Preventive Medicine and Public Health. Some climate and health articles were also disseminated by the Climate Media Centre and Maelor Himbury’s daily email list.
Other topics and engagement

The National Rural Health Alliance cross-posted our article, ‘Fears grow for regional areas and Aboriginal communities as COVID spreads beyond Sydney’, and the Public Health Association of Australia cross-posted our article, ‘Alcohol marketing and digital platforms: stronger regulation is required’. 
Croakey Professional Services activities

On 12 August, the Lowitja Institute launched an e-publication compiling a series of articles on First Nations knowledge translation, produced by Croakey Professional Services and edited by Associate Professor Megan Williams, who welcomed the series as a useful resource.
Other activities

Croakey director Professor Bronwyn Fredericks and Professor Odette Best published the third edition of *Yatdjuligin: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nursing and Midwifery Care*.

Croakey director James Blackwell made the news in the Northern Territory
19 August, 2021: By any measure, it’s been a grim week. Afghan people, especially women and girls, face an uncertain and traumatic future.

In Australia, COVID continues to spread, threatening remote Aboriginal communities and with repercussions reaching beyond our borders to our neighbours in Aotearoa New Zealand. Our stories show it’s vital that governments listen and respond to communities’ concerns. This means supporting rather than punishing, and recognising that communities hold solutions. It means providing not only mental health services but also addressing issues such as financial distress and insecure housing. For Indigenous communities, it means ensuring the pandemic response is culturally safe, rather than causing trauma and harm. It means supporting and increasing the Indigenous health workforce.

At Croakey our resources are limited, and we are very conscious also of what we are not covering this week, such as the earthquake in Haiti, floods in Japan and critical climate and heath discussions. The scale of the challenges facing us is daunting. As we look ahead to an uncertain future, where communities and health systems will face increasing pressures, at Croakey we are wondering what we could be doing now to prepare for what lies ahead. We hope to hear from readers on how you are planning for the next month, season or year in your communities, workplaces and regions.

For those in lockdown, Professors Odette Best and Bronwyn Fredericks offer some useful advice. They discuss how writing itself can be a form of activism and resistance in the context of their work editing the third edition of Yatdjuligin: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nursing and Midwifery Care.

Our stories featured in the NACCHO news bulletin, and were widely shared.
We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the country where we live, work and travel upon, and to Elders, past, present and future.

Lesley Russell Wolpe @LRussellWolpe · 12h
As COVID outbreaks continue to spread, communities have much to teach governments.
Insightful reporting from @CateC who lives in the area she’s reporting on.

`@croakey.org`

To improve pandemic control, listen to the leaders of western and sout...
As COVID outbreaks continue to spread, communities have much to teach governments, reports journalist Cate Carrigan in the second of

Charisinha Kaliyanda @Chailiyanda · 6h
I spoke to @CroakeyNews about the need more more effective and inclusive pandemic messaging. Making sure we build on the strengths of communities to inspire hope is crucial. Check out the full article here:

`@croakey.org`

To improve pandemic control, listen to the leaders of western and sout...
As COVID outbreaks continue to spread, communities have much to teach governments, reports journalist Cate Carrigan in the second of

Lillian Chan @ill_3c · 21h
What a great article by @CateC in @CroakeyNews talking about the importance of working with communities and community leaders in the #covid response

Lillian Chan @ill_3c · 22h
Loved the part from Atam Atan, president of the NSW Refugee Communities Advocacy Network talking about how the narrative of portraying family groups, kinship networks and extended families as a ‘problem’ is puzzling, when actually these relationships are strengths.

Croakey Services @CroakeyServices · 18h
Writing together as a form of activism and resistance while sharing stories and knowledge @CroakeyNews @croakey.org/writing-together... love this cover - thanks @blacknursinghs and @BronFredericks for writing about your writing

Yaljuljgin
Elounger and Terry Hoyt-Johns. Healing and Mentalising Care

Healing Foundation @HealingOurWay · 5m
To know that from the highest offices of Government, from those responsible, that you are seen and heard is an important step in the healing process, both personally and collectively #MakeHealingHappen #StolenGenerations READ ON: croakey.org/redress-an-ess...

UQ News @UQ_News · 17m
Reflecting on the features of “successful” public inquiries.

#UQ's Alastair Stark and @UNSW's Sophie Yates write for @CroakeyNews @HASSUQ
Read more: bit.ly/3YuPo

https://www.croakey.org/impact/
Other activities included reviewing a Public Health Association of Australia draft policy on public interest journalism as a determinant of health. Some members of the Croakey team also Zoomed in for a long overdue catch up and debrief.
26 August, 2021: Planetary systems and health systems are under intense and escalating pressures, according to stories in this week’s bulletin where we hear from a wide range of health leaders about potential solutions as well. We also focus on the health and wellbeing of children and young people, including as part of a comprehensive update on climate and health news.

In the first of an important two-part investigation on the Medical Research Future Fund, Associate Professor Lesley Russell lifts the lid on the body’s funding decisions and reporting mechanisms. Linda Doherty previews the 2021 Oceanic Palliative Care Conference, to be held online from 7-10 September. The Croakey Conference News Service will be there in force; please follow the discussions on Twitter via #21OPCC and the #21OPCC Twitter List.

The article was also shared by the Deeble Institute for Health Policy Research, and Health Services Research Association of Australia and New Zealand, and prompted a tribute from Prof Adam Elshaug, who said Russell is “a national health policy treasure”.

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Other activities: Dr Melissa Sweet and Laurell Grubb were interviewed by the Public Interest Journalism Initiative for a research project. Sweet reviewed an article for the Australian Journalism Review.