Informed, engaged communities for health
Impact Report: December 2022

Most Australian politicians, in federal, state and territory Parliaments, now receive a copy of the weekly Croakey News bulletin. We provide this service to help maximise the impact and reach of our work.

We also appreciate those who help share our work through referrals and newsletters. This month our articles were shared by The Public Interest Journalism Initiative, Australian Healthcare & Hospitals Association, The Australian Prevention Partnership Centre, and the Public Health Association of Australia, amongst others.

Long COVID, primary healthcare reform, the National Health and Climate Strategy, the latest Family Matters report, and the COP15 biodiversity summit were among the topics covered in December. We also continued the #HealthyCOP27 series and published a new report about the journey, work and outcomes of the Aboriginal Kidney Care Together – Improving outcomes Now (AKCTION) program.

We also publish the foreword by Professor Marcia Langton AO in ‘Minum Barreng: The Story of the Indigenous Eye Health Unit’, a new book exploring the history of efforts to improve eye health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, written and edited by members of the Croakey team.

Make sure to download your copy of a new report compiling the #SpeakingOurMind series of articles, privileging the voices of lived experience, and don’t miss this Tweetbinder analysis of the Twitter conversation we curated using the hashtag, #WellbeingBudget2022.

A heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported our inaugural #CroakeyFundingDrive.

Social Media Impressions

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

This month: 471,610 impressions | This year: 9,606,305 impressions
Week ending 8 December: As we draw near to the end of the year, our thoughts are turning to what lies ahead in 2023.

In January, some readers will be polishing off submissions to the Treasury’s Wellbeing Budget consultation, or perhaps finalising a pre-Budget submission (due 27 January).

Our bulletin this week identifies many issues requiring attention in the New Year.

COVID has not gone away, as we are reminded by those sharing often distressing stories about the debilitating impacts of Long COVID, reported by Jennifer Doggett in our lead story.

Also in the spotlight is primary healthcare reform, steps towards a National Health and Climate Strategy, and an overview of the latest Family Matters report.

As the COP15 biodiversity summit opens in Montreal, the United Nations has urged governments to stop the destruction of nature, while doctors in lutruwita/Tasmania call for Federal action to protect globally significant takayna/Tarkine rainforest.

Continuing our #HealthyCOP27 series, Jade Bradford explores wide-ranging health concerns associated with industrial developments in the Pilbara region of Western Australia, while Associate Professor Ying Zhang reflects on her first COP experience.

Don’t miss this year’s final, bumper edition of The Health Wrap, and another engaging story from the #HEAL2022 conference about “engaging with climate complexity”.

Make sure to download your copy of a new report about the journey, work and outcomes of the Aboriginal Kidney Care Together – Improving outcomes Now (AKCTION) program.

Thanks to @WePublicHealth, we also cover National Skin Cancer Action Week and the World Conference on Injury Prevention & Safety Promotion.

Finally, heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported our inaugural #CroakeyFundingDrive.

You are also invited to our open news conference this Sunday evening, and our end of year #CroakeyCatchUp on Thursday, 15 December.
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.

“Putting health at the centre of all climate solutions – a personal reflection on attending COP27” via @CroakeyNews croakey.org/putting-health...

Dr Ying Zhang @yzhang01 - Dec 11

We need to be protecting people by investing in clean renewable infrastructure that protects First Nations #culturalheritage

Senator Dorinda Cox @dorinda_cox - Dec 13

Investigating the toxic health impacts of industry in the Pilbara region of Western Australia - By @Jade_Braddy for the #HealthyCOP27 series croakey.org/investigating...

Melissa Sweet @MelissaSweetDr - Dec 13

Richard Yin @RichardYin6 - Dec 9

If @WoodsideEnergy were serious about protecting the health of the community around Burrup, provide real-time publicly accessible air monitoring around the peninsula. If the air quality is safe, what have you got to hide? #dirtydozenpolluters

Are we there yet? On the long road to Medicare reform

The most radical changes to primary healthcare since the introduction of Medicare were proposed this week in a report by

https://www.croakey.org/impact/
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[Image]

Public Health Association Australia @PHAA - Dec 5
*Globally, about 12,000 people die each day from injuries and violence, with three of the top five causes of death among people aged 5–29 years being injury-related.* Read more in @CroakeyNews: croakey.org/from-around-th... #PublicHealth #Safety2022 @amyepeden

croakey.org
From around the world, catch the latest news on preventing injuries an...
Introduction by Croakey: Globally, about 12,000 people die each day from injuries and violence, with three of the top five

National Indigenous Kidney Transplant Taskforce (NIKTT) Gathering in Adelaide next week.

#TransplantationEquity must be led by Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander patient experts.

Thanks @CroakeyNews for sharing this alongside incredible @AKction2 report!

croakey.org
As new report launches, historic meeting of Aboriginal and Torres Str... More than 30 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander kidney patients and their carers will travel from across Australia to attend

https://www.croakey.org/impact/
Week ending 16 December: An unjust legal system, a housing crisis, harmful food systems, and inequitable access to mental healthcare.

This week we shine a spotlight on several critical health concerns requiring urgent government attention in 2023. As we ponder the real-life impacts of toxic online platforms, another “policy renovator’s delight” is the regulation of digital platforms and the associated dissemination of disinformation and misinformation.

Don’t miss Alison Barrett’s special investigation for the #HealthyCOP27 series, which raises some critical reflections for health ministers, advisors and departments.

We report on the World Health Organization’s new manual to assist countries in designing and implementing a health-promoting tax on sugary drinks, which is also a useful resource for health advocates.

Jennifer Doggett goes behind the headlines on changes to the Better Access program, and also reports on The Lancet special edition on racism and ethnic equity in science, medicine and global health.

We also publish the foreword by Professor Marcia Langton AO in ‘Minum Barreng; The Story of the Indigenous Eye Health Unit’, a new book exploring the history of efforts to improve eye health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Make sure to download your copy of a new report compiling the #SpeakingOurMind series of articles, privileging the voices of lived experience.

Our appreciation to all who engaged with the inaugural #CroakeyFundingDrive. Don’t miss our compilation of the #PetsOfCroakey.

We are also grateful to those who contributed to our recent open news conference with the theme #HealthEquityMatters2023. We will pursue these discussions in the New Year.

Apologies this bulletin is running a day late; we’ve had some technical difficulties.
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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**Future Earth Australia** @FutureEarthAus - Dec 19

A new approach to adaptation is needed that centres on people and that accounts for the diverse experiences within communities.

Read the full piece by Just Adaptation co-chairs @bhamie @PetaToshakart Mark Stafford-Smith & FEA's Kate Nairn.

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**Lesley Russell Wolpe** @LRussellWolpe - Dec 16

Excellent review from @JenniferDoggett

Behind the headlines on changes to Better Access
Introduction by Croakey: The Federal Government this week released a 336-page evaluation of the long-controversial Better Access program, ...

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**VHA** @vichealthassoc - Dec 17

Via @CroakeyNews - the WHO has called on countries that have not yet introduced taxes on sugar-sweetened beverages to implement such taxes, providing a detailed roadmap to support the design, implementation and evaluation of such policies. Read article:

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**Ruth Armstrong** @DrRuthAtLarge - Dec 15, 2022

The Lancet special edition on racism and ethnic equity in science, medicine and global health – Review of key articles from @JenniferDoggett @CroakeyNews

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**Kathryn Backholler** @KBackholler - Dec 16

Looks like the Australian National Obesity Strategy is working against public health (read the last paragraph in pic below) and link here croakey.org/tax-sugary-dr...

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**Homelessness NSW** @HomelessnessNSW - Dec 15

Across Australia housing affordability stress is main reason people need assistance - investment in social housing is crucial. It works to end homelessness and saves money!

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Making news

Our articles have been shared in newsletter and publications from The Public Interest Journalism Initiative, Australian Healthcare & Hospitals Association, and the Australian Prevention Partnership Centre. The Public Health Association of Australia also cross-published one of our articles on primary healthcare reform.

A Tweetbinder analysis of the #WellbeingBudget2022 hashtag, which was established and curated by Croakey, can be seen here. Some excerpts follow below.
Week ending 22 December: Our final article for 2022 is titled “Ten things we’ve learnt this year”. Please have a read, and let us know of other reflections you may like to share.

We also bring some pandemic lessons learnt, from the World Health Organization’s Director of Health Promotion, Dr Rüdiger Krech.

Don’t miss the CroakeyVOICES podcast from the recent Healthy Environments and Lives Network conference (#HEAL2022) with a focus on clean energy and First Nations communities.

We also report on a landmark agreement from COP15 negotiations to guide global action to protect nature and biodiversity.

During the summer break, we are republishing a selection of our articles from 2022.

Political impact

Most Australian politicians, in federal, state and territory Parliaments, now receive a copy of the weekly Croakey News bulletin. We have provided this service to help maximise the impact and reach of our work.
Congratulations

Tashy Ubeyratne, who undertook a project with Croakey as part of her Masters of Public Health at the University of Sydney, is pictured at her graduation ceremony, together with Vice-Chancellor Mark Scott. The project involved helping to organise and cover a webinar on climate and health ahead of the Federal election.

Presentations

Throughout the year, Croakey Health Media members gave presentations relating to our work, and also live-tweeted many events.

See the Twitter thread summarising the presentation.

See the Twitter thread summarising this event’s discussions.

See the Twitter thread summarising the launch.