



Australian Community Futures Planning Newsletter No. 1

We have it in our power to create the world anew

Welcome to Australian Community Futures Planning's first newsletter.

What's been happening at ACFP?

- *Australia Together* is in draft.
- We commenced education about the origins of the draft Vision and Directions for *Australia Together*.
- A Community Engagement Program has been developed.
- We've started seeking potential partners to join the Alliance for National IP&R.
- We've launched three episodes of our new seven-part video series, *The State of Australia in 2020*.
- ACFP's Founder Bronwyn Kelly released:
 - a major essay on the ACCC's News Media Bargaining Code and the threat it poses to Australia's democracy, and
 - a media article on the huge hole in the federal budget arising from current climate change policies and how to fix it.

Read the latest drafts of the Vision and Directions for
Australia Together



Watch out for the
first drafts of
Australia Together
in early 2021.

ACFP was set up in March 2020.

Find us at

<https://www.austcfp.com.au/>

Drafting *Australia Together*

Australia Together is Australia's first national community futures plan. The plan will have a ten to thirty year timeframe to help us arrive at our preferred destination by 2050 or sooner.

In order to give Australians an idea of the starting points for *Australia Together*, ACFP is currently working on assembling the baseline data for the plan. We're setting out the starting points so Australians can see where we are in 2020 with the state of our **society**, **environment**, **economy** and **democracy**.

All data sources are being fully referenced for transparency. We expect this will take until early 2021 to complete and work will be ongoing.

Australia Together

Australia's first national community futures plan.
A plan by Australians for Australians.
Designed to increase our chances of arriving safely at
our preferred future by 2050 or sooner.

Releasing videocasts in *The State of Australia in 2020* series



ACFP has created a seven-part videocast series on

The State of Australia in 2020

The series covers data about the starting points for *Australia Together*. We've released three episodes including:

- [Episode 1](#) – an introduction to the top twenty issues affecting Australia in 2020;
- [Episode 2](#) – on our growing inequality, poverty, hunger and homelessness, the loss of the fair go for all, the growth in racial and religious conflict and exclusion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders; and
- [Episode 6, Part 2](#) – on climate policy failure and how to fix it by global leadership.



Episode 6 on climate change has been released early because of the climate emergency. Watch out for associated articles from ACFP about climate change and its effects on our lives, environment and society. [Here's one about the federal budget and how climate policies will cripple our economy.](#)

The State of Australia in 2020 project is helping us build Australia's first comprehensive Wellbeing Index. For information about the Index and its place in Australia Together visit ACFP's [Australia Together webpage](#).

Launching our Community Engagement Program

Our [Community Engagement Program for Australia Together](#) was launched in May. It's early days for consultation. ACFP is concentrating on getting sound data and information together for consultation with Australians.

Progress with community engagement is dependent on the willingness of Australians to become involved in the Alliance for National IP&R. We don't need many volunteers for this but to date we've had no response from those we have approached, so building the Alliance is likely to be slow work. But we will press on. Interested Australians can find out more about the [Alliance for National IP&R here](#). ACFP will start a wider campaign for volunteers on the Alliance in early 2021.



In other news

ACFP's Founder, Dr Bronwyn Kelly has published a major essay on [Prospects for journalism, the free information market and democracy in Australia under the ACCC's News Media Bargaining Code](#). The Code is being lauded by most mainstream news organisations as vital for Australia's democracy. But others consider the Code to be anti-competitive and a threat to democracy. Dr Kelly's essay uncovers problems for our democracy in the Code.



Dr Kelly has also released a new article about the 2020/21 federal budget. [There is a gigantic hole in this budget](#) arising from the government's policies on climate change. Read about the serious impact our current climate policies will have on Australia's economy and what we can do to fix it.