



Fact Sheet

THINK GLOBAL, ACT LOCAL



GUESTS:

Alby Tomassi - Alby Tomassi is the Co Founder of YGAP and the Co-Owner of Banff St.Kilda and Jimmi Jamz East Brunswick restaurants in Melbourne. YGAP stands for Y Generation Against Poverty and was established to inspire social entrepreneurs to end poverty. Alby is also a member of the Real Estate Institute of Victoria. With over 14 years experience in hospitality, Alby has successfully seen his restaurants serve over 4500 customers weekly and now employs over 40 staff. With a keen eye on social enterprising, Alby looks forward to sharing his knowledge and expertise on YGAP's next social enterprise, Feast of Merit.

Laura Meese - Laura Meese is the YGAP Ghana Team Leader and has had the pleasure of attending three of YGAP project partners in Ghana, Rwanda and Cambodia. Laura is a social worker with 5 years experience, who works currently with high risk adolescents. Laura is currently completing a Masters of Social Policy. Laura had been volunteering in various capacities since the age of 15.

STATISTICS:

- The 2012 World Giving Index report, the largest study into charitable behaviour across the globe, involving 160 countries in total. The 2012 report ranked Australia as the most generous country in the world. The high levels of involvement in the



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three giving behaviours in Australia mean that this country sits at the top of the World Giving Index. In a typical month, more than two-thirds of Australians donate money to charity and help a stranger. More than a third volunteer. In addition, Australia has the highest score on average over the past five years. There is tangible evidence that the Australian government is taking action to further encourage philanthropy, allowing the donations and efforts of the Australian public to have yet more impact.

- Despite Australia's individual giving being generous, Australia's current level of overseas aid sits at just 35 cents every \$100 of gross national income. (April 2012)
- In the league ladder of rich nations, Australia sits in 13th place out of the 23 OECD nations and well below the average of 0.46 per cent of gross national income.
- Recently Credit Suisse ranked Australia as the world's second-wealthiest country.
- The reality is that most Australians think we give a lot more aid, most think we give up to about 15 to 20 per cent of our overall income. They are shocked when they are told the percentage is less than half of 1 per cent.
- Perhaps it is not so surprising, given that our private giving to overseas aid is high compared with other countries.
- Australian aid spending does have a big impact. Australia's aid program currently saves the lives of an estimated 300,000 people each year and provides basic education for almost 1 million children, as well as improving outcomes in a wide range of other areas such as agriculture and governance.
- Both sides of politics have committed to boost Australia's level of aid spending to reach 0.5 per cent of gross national income (or one 50-cent piece of the 200) by 2015.
- Lifting aid to 0.5 per cent of GNI would allow Australia to save the lives of an additional 500,000 people each year and provide basic education for another 700,000 children.
- Australia sits in a part of the world where there are more people living in poverty than anywhere else. It is a region with some of the highest levels of needless child deaths, with East Timor ranking 142 out of 194 countries for child mortality and 18 of Australia's closest neighbouring countries developing.



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- Australians have comfortably the highest median wealth of any country for the second year running (Oct 2012), according to the [Credit Suisse](#) Global Wealth Report.
- Australia's median wealth of US\$194,000 was well ahead of countries such as Japan, Italy, Belgium and the UK, which fell in the US\$140,000-US\$110,000 range.
- In terms of average wealth Australians fell to second behind Switzerland, which averaged US\$468,000 to Australia's US\$355,000.
- Globally give more financially in donations than men. (World Giving Index Report 2012)

SMALL CHANGE BIG DIFFERENCE

YGAP'S 5 Cent Campaign aims to put value into the 5c coin. In isolation 5c coins are basically worthless, but with over \$150 million worth in circulation they can make a big difference. The 5c Campaign aims to support five projects that will alleviate poverty in Australia.

WEB LINKS:

www.ygap.com.au

www.fivecent.com.au

www.kinfolk.org.au

www.urbanseed.org

www.cathyfreemanfoundation.org.au

REFERENCES:

<http://www.cafonline.org/PDF/WorldGivingIndex2012WEB.pdf>