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A Message from the President

Hello everyone,

I hope you all had a fabulous break over Christmas and New Year's. 2020 was a challenging year for us all in many different ways. I am proud that we have done so well in staying focused and adapting to the new ways of living.

We will need to be able to continue to adapt as there will be new challenges ahead. I am so proud of my fellow Board members, volunteers, members, sponsors and partners working together to support each other. I trust that we will get the same support in 2021.

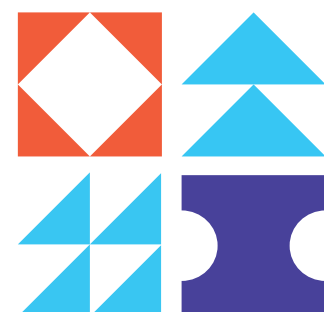
As a Board we are continuously looking into improvements, trying to enable business continuity for our members. We are as much eager as you to host in-person events.

However, we are mindful of government regulations and restrictions. Should we get the opportunity to host in-person events in the near future, we will make sure to make an announcement via our communication channels for all our members. In the meantime, we will continue to run our events virtually, and perhaps soon in-person within the allowable limits and guidelines.

Please feel free to reach out to us if you need any support.

Best wishes

Vik Kapoor
President, PMI Melbourne Chapter
e: president@melbourne.pmi.org.au
w: <https://www.melbourne.pmi.org.au/>



Professional Development Portfolio Update

The 2nd Webinar of the Professional Development Series

The Chapter kicked off the year's events with the second webinar of the series titled **"BEYOND THE BOARDS, THE KANBAN METHOD"** conducted on 16 February. Our speaker was Nicholas Wong from Hansei Coaching in New Zealand. The webinar was well attended and received by almost 120 Chapter members.

It's probably safe to say that anyone who manages a project would benefit from the Kanban method. Who has not heard about board management software applications such as Asana, Trello, Monday.com to name just a few? A tool cannot be utilised fully if you are not familiar with the underlining method and its principles.

Kanban is a great tool that complements others. As Kanban University puts it:

The Kanban Method is not a replacement for a current framework or process. Rather it works with any existing process or framework and takes an evolutionary approach to improving what is already in place.

The graphic is a promotional poster for a webinar. At the top left is the Project Management Institute logo with the text 'Project Management Institute, Melbourne, Australia'. To the right are several colorful geometric icons. The main title 'PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES' is in blue, with the subtitle 'Session #2: Beyond the Boards, the KANBAN method' below it. A central box contains a Kanban board icon and the text 'Topic: Kanban Method'. Below this, 'Learning objectives' are listed: 'What is the Kanban method?', 'Why is it gaining popularity?', 'Is Kanban agile?', and 'How to expand your toolbox even further'. Two circular portraits of the host and presenter are shown below. The host is Tiendung (TJ) Le, and the presenter is Nicholas Wong. At the bottom, it says 'Virtual Event (Zoom) - members only', 'Date and Time: | 16 Feb 2021 | 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm |', and 'Registration: FREE (members) | PDU: 1 (Technical)'. The inquiry email is 'development@melbourne.pmi.org.au'.



PMP & CAPM Study Groups

In 2021 we are planning to continue the success of the PMP Study Group with the facilitation of Mr. Vidyesh Alve. The recent change to the ATP framework by PMI necessitated a few changes in the way that certification trainings are run. This affects our study groups too. Once we have the details finalised, we will communicate them to you all.



Vidyesh Alve
PMP Study Group Facilitator

Partnerships PMI Credentials Training Courses

PMI Melbourne has been enjoying strong partnerships with PMI-certified training providers. The Chapter has been able to promote PMP and CAPM training courses for MetaPM.

The partnership with Falcon Training still has a lot of room to grow to benefit both parties. Falcon Training has recently become millpond, with which the Chapter is in active discussion for a more fruitful partnership this year.

The partnership with Novavi was new and based on Disciplined Agile training opportunities.

We are also in the process of discussing a new partnership with vCare Project Management, which used to be a Chapter partner in the past.



Exam Preparation Courses

The first PMI credential exam preparation courses offered this year by one of our training partners MetaPM Learning using Virtual Instructor-Led Training (VILT) are:

Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM)® Exam Preparation Course – 3 Days

Special Member Price of \$1,210

21 – 23 June 2021

Project Management Professional (PMP)® 2021 Exam Preparation – 5 Days

Special Member Price of \$1, 950

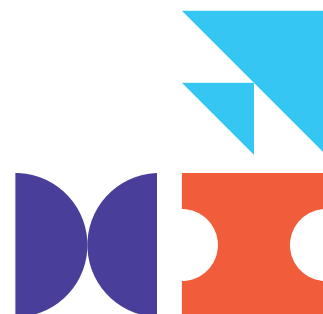
12 – 16 April 2021

MetaPM is an Authorised Training Partner by assessment of the PMI. Please contact MetaPM at 1800 800 436 or enquiries@metapm.com.au for more info. Registration can be made on the [website](#).

Disciplined Agile Community of Practice (CoP)

A CoP focusing on Disciplined Agile is expected to be established early in the year with the leadership and participation of RMIT University, PMI Melbourne chapter, other Australian PMI Chapters, as well as the Region's leaders.

We will be agile in building the community while keeping a vision of building a thriving community with a wealth of services for members and society.



Volunteering opportunities

Given the portfolio's ambitious plan for the coming year, I am preparing to call for volunteers who will work with me and the Board to lead and manage various initiatives and activities. Some of the examples are:

- Disciplined Agile CoP manager and coordinators
- Study groups facilitators
- Professional development series coordinators

Please register your interest via VRMS for the most up to date information on new volunteering opportunities in our portfolio. Alternatively, please reach out to me to discuss.

Got an Idea?

I'd love to hear from you if you have any ideas or suggestions for anything that you think can benefit our members' professional development.

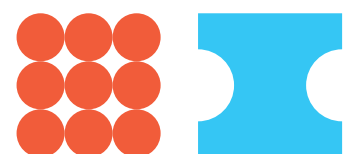
Stay well and safe.

Best regards,
Tiendung (TJ) Le, PhD, DASSM
Professional Development Director

Email: development@melbourne.pmi.org.au

Phone: 0421 968 474

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/tiendungle/>



Membership Matters

Dear Members,

Welcome to my first column for 2021. I hope you are all keeping well and are excited about being involved in as many opportunities as possible on offer by our Melbourne Chapter this year.

Below are my TOP 5 to get you motivated:

1. Book for our **Chapter Events:**
[Register Now](#)
2. **Certify** as a CAPM, PMP, DA or earn PDUs:
[Professional Dev](#)
3. Keep track of **Chapter Activities** via:
[LinkedIn / Facebook](#)
4. Sign up for our well-known **Chapter Mentoring Program:** [Mentoring Registration](#)
5. Get involved by becoming a **Chapter Volunteer:**
[Volunteering](#)



QUOTE from Germany Kent

“Being involved in the community helps to shape your thinking. The outreach in being a blessing to others is a resource for reflection and much gratitude.”

Join the action – see you online or in person soon.

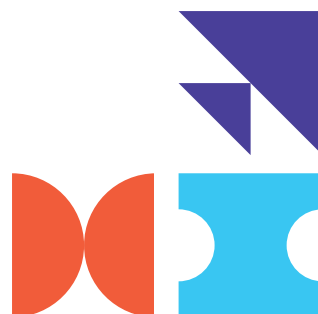
All the best,

Katy Dimitropoulos

Membership Director, PMI Melbourne Chapter

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w: <https://www.melbourne.pmi.org.au/>

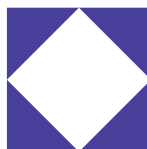


Welcome to Our New Members

Between **4 December 2020 to 1 March 2021**, **forty-nine new members** joined our PMI Melbourne Chapter. We look forward to getting to know them and hope to see them at our 2021 events.

Rachael Bacon
Satishkumar Agrawal
Kylie Broughton
Shannon Vaz
Chi Ho Walter Hon
Atta ur rehman Qureshi
Syed Hussain
Fawad Iqbal
Ferial Al Jammal
Lindsay Kamalageethan Krishnapillai
Christina Iaria
Iuri de figueiredo
Scott Downie
Richard Chibuogwu
Vijay Kumar Cataram Rushikesh
Fernanda da Silva
Deepak Mistry
Josh Pugh
David OHara
Pankaj Jaswal
Christopher Ikadeh
Sachin Loomba
Arun Kornath
Denny Mammen
Kavitha Murthy

Chuanmin Jin
Michaela Skelly
Mike Thanos
MD Atihullah Khan
Elliot Mihai
Suyog Ramesh
Asif Ali Khan
Vera Evtimov
Imran Minhas
Azam Suleman
David Stanton
Jason Lee
Philip Moore
Jay Danielson
Payam Daie
Michael Moloney
Syeda Fakhrunnisa
Chamitha Galappatti Guruge
Kate Fleming
Kerry Flynn
Christopher Pereira
Liubov Karpenko
Mounil Kadakia
Paul Shayegan
William Tan



The next online **New Member “Meet and Greet” session** will take place on **Wednesday 17th March 2021**.

Please click below to register your attendance:



[Register here for March 2021 "Meet and Greet" Session](#)



Congratulations



On behalf of the PMI Melbourne Board, sincere congratulations to the following members who reached 5-, 10-, 15- and 20-Year Milestones during the period December 2020 to February 2021.

Certificates of Recognition have been awarded to thank the members for their loyalty, support, and involvement with our Chapter.

20 Years

Graham Daniel Falzon, Geoff Michael Rushworth, Satish Varma, Nadia Walsh, Catherine Wright, Geoffrey Dumesny

15 Years

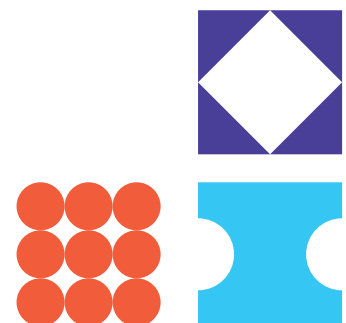
David Armstrong, Mairead Ledwith, Anna Bakhmoutski, Khatijah Shafi-Roden

10 Years

David Childs, Frank Mariani, Allan McPherson, Darko Mohenski, Robert van der Hock

5 Years

Michael Feng, Matthew Redmond, Sridevi Priya Ashokumar, Geoff Collie, Colin Convey, Brad Dickinson, Sohan Gunasekera, Neil Kingston, James Lee, Poh Lim, Adarsh Limaye, Dexter Motta-Marques, Marvin Ortega, Marie Anne Francia Pamplona, Marc Peril, Mohamed Raashid, Abhishek Sehgal, Stanislaw Surowiecki, Eng Ghee Tan



Interview with our OUTREACH DIRECTOR – Lyn Windsor

Our Membership Director, Katy Dimitropoulos, caught up virtually with re-elected Board Member Lyn Windsor who kindly agreed to be interviewed for this month's Newsletter.

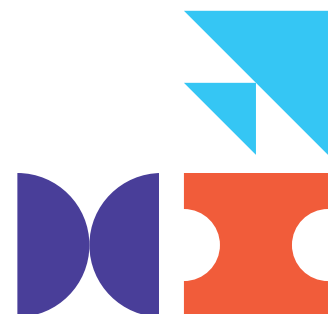
Lyn is a long-term serving PMI Volunteer and Melbourne Chapter Board Member who has made many valuable contributions to our PMI organisation. In 2020, Lyn served as our Immediate Past President. This year Lyn takes on responsibility for Chapter Sponsorship. Below are some insights into this hard-working and high-performing PM Professional.



What led you to the PM Profession?

Like many of my colleagues, I am an 'accidental' project manager. I held a role as Applications Development Manager for Ansett and was asked to take on the management of the implementation of GST. With no formal project management experience, I had a project team of 110 resources, a budget of \$3.5 million and 28 organisation-wide projects to implement in 11 months with an immovable deadline.

I enjoyed the challenges this role provided me so much, that I decided I wanted to learn more about Project Management as a profession. Research led me to finding PMI and the PMP certification. I joined PMI Melbourne, signed up for a PMP course run by Kevin Bourke and then completed my PMP. My Project Management journey began...and I have never looked back!



When did you become involved with PMI – globally / locally, and in what capacity?

Not long after joining PMI Melbourne, I took on a Chapter lead role in the project to develop the second edition of the PMCDF. This project had a global team and was led by PMI Melbourne's Past President Chris Cartwright.

At the same time, I joined the Chapter Board and took on the role of Events Director.

On completion of the PMCDF project, PMI Global asked me to take on a role as Head of Delegation representing them in the ISO development of the standard for Societal Security TC223. I was fortunate to be able to work with representatives of multiple countries on the development of this standard.

At the same time, I became involved in 2 local initiatives:

- working with Chapter member, Liz Clarke, on an initiative for the headmistress of Collingwood College students to determine the level of nutrition in students.
- the delivery of project management training to Australian Volunteers International. This led to the formation of Project Aid.

In my professional life, I was being asked to take on roles in, and relocate to, different countries / cities (France, Singapore, Hong Kong, Sydney, Brisbane). In each location, I joined the local Chapter and continued my work as a volunteer. This included:

- commencing an initiative to form a Women's Group for the Hong Kong Chapter
- Events volunteer for the Brisbane Chapter

On finally returning to Melbourne, I took on a lead role providing Project Management training to University students building racing cars for the international FSAE competition. I also took on Project Management and PMO Management roles for Victorian ICT for Women's Go Girl program for 3 of their biennial events (attended by 1,500 -2,000 schoolgirls).

At the same time, I assisted Anca Slusanschi by developing the Transition Plan for PACFP. I also chaired the Nominations Committee for 2 elections. I then joined the Board again and have held roles as Events Director, President, IPP and now Outreach Director.

What do you like most about serving on the PMI Melbourne Board?

Serving as a member of the Board, provides me with the opportunity to work with my colleagues to ensure we deliver value to our members. I consider myself extremely fortunate to be able to work with such a committed and talented team.



What is your current Board role with PMI Melbourne and what are your responsibilities?

My role as IPP has included:

- liaison with external parties, including the Bushfire Recovery Program, Victorian ICT for Women
- supporting the marketing initiatives of the Chapter as a member of the editorial committee.

What is one of the most noteworthy projects you have worked on?

I have been fortunate to work on several major transformation programs in different sectors. One of the most noteworthy for me was the migration of the two Virgin Airlines, Virgin International and Virgin Blue, into one airline, Virgin Australia. It also involved the migration from 2 separate vendor platforms to a third. The scope of this program impacted all Virgin staff members, customers, and partner airlines. My component involved management of the Business Transformation activities supporting the application areas of Reservations, Ticketing, Sales and Staff Travel. I had an amazing team of 40 resources who went over and above to deliver to very tight deadlines.

What recommendations or advice do you have for fellow members who would like to volunteer?

Volunteering provides so many opportunities to give back while at the same time assisting with your personal development and building your networks. It also requires time and commitment, and it is important to consider these factors when taking on voluntary roles.

What do you like to do in your leisure time?

I love to spend time with my family and friends. I have a large garden which requires quite a bit of work and generally have home maintenance projects in progress e.g., house painting. I also get to the beach for walks most days. Having been a mad scuba diver in the past, I love the sea air.

What is the biggest learning in your career journey?

'I have had so many opportunities to work with wonderful teams in diverse organisations and cultures. Without their support, dedication and commitment, success would not have been possible. For me, leadership is key. I always consider myself a 'servant leader'; the technical aspects of project management are secondary to this.'



WIPM – New Year, New Event Series

The PMI Melbourne Chapter is proud to support gender diversity and inclusion initiatives, with Women in Project Management (WIPM) being our key program.

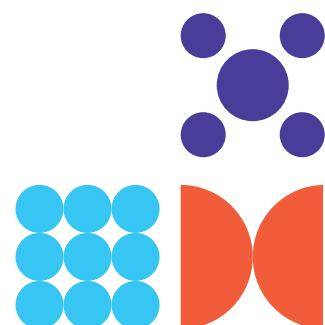
This year, our focus will be on guiding new career entrants and experienced professionals towards success in this new era of a post COVID work environment through our WIPM event series – “WIPM Career Mastery”. We will have 4 events throughout the year and we hope that you will come along for the journey with us.

We kickstarted the year with our first event on Thursday 11th March 2021 by celebrating International Women’s Day 2021. We interviewed Katy Dimitropoulos who shared her career journey, as well as provided us with insights regarding her own challenges career-wise and in the workplace aligning to the **#ChooseToChallenge** theme.

Following that, we had career coaches from Sundial Innovations, Alison Saunders and Nicki Ursu to provide ways to “Discover Your Unique Career Value” as our first topic of “WIPM Career Mastery” series.

They brought us on a journey through a powerful framework to help us identify our unique career value, so that you can confidently demonstrate your worth to your employers, clients and most importantly, yourself. It was definitely a subject of great interest for our members, as we were guided through on how we could harness one’s career potential with their unique approach, to be in control of yourself and in the driving seat. The key takeaway was that clarity about yourself and confidence within you helps articulate our worth to others.

For our second topic of our “WIPM Career Mastery” series, please stay tuned for more information and save the date in your diaries for **Thursday 17th June 2021**.





To celebrate International Women's Day 2021, we did a mini interview with one of our WIPM volunteers, **Le Fei Yeo**:

1. What led you to get into the technology industry?

Back in the late 1990s, the trend was Biotech and IT. When I graduated from high school in 1999, I decided to go with IT because I was very much into [pocket digital assistants \(PDAs\)](#). My first device was the Palm Pilot which my dad had gotten from a garage sale and enjoyed advocating the use of such devices to aid work and play.

Before I started studying for my Diploma in IT, I was dabbling with front end web development, Flash multimedia creation and BASIC programming as well as with writing tech reviews and articles for a special-interest group for Palm Users.

2. Did you always know where you wanted to be?

As a kid, I wanted to be a music conductor, and thought that if I worked hard and did well in my piano exams I would eventually manage to become one. However, I was told that being in the performing arts industry was not the right path to follow as it did not

have great career prospects, so I somehow fell into whatever was trending at the time. I studied IT to be an engineer and later moved into Program/Project Management within the IT space for 15+ years now.

3. What was it that helped you reach a leadership position?

Being in organisations that work with you on your career planning and development. Also, the people that I work with, especially my direct managers and immediate co-workers who have helped, guided, mentored and provided opportunities for me to learn, grow and contribute.

4. What advice would you give others who want to reach leadership positions in the technology industry?

Don't be afraid to try anything new and of change. It will not be an easy and smooth journey, but not being in your comfort zone is the only way to drive yourself to reach for what you want. Being pro-active and leveraging on your internal network on what you want to explore will accelerate the process.

If you would like to know more about the WIPM program and exciting volunteering opportunities, please contact:

volunteering@melbourne.pmi.org.au

Volunteering Update



Volunteers are the lifeblood and foundation of PMI.

Our volunteers come from diverse backgrounds and have a common interest in project management. They are committed and enthusiastic people who work alongside our Chapter's Board members, contributing significantly to the enhancement of the experiences that we can offer to our members.

PMI Melbourne Chapter Volunteers help to deliver a fantastic range of exciting and memorable services, events, and programs as well as assist the Chapter's Portfolio Directors and the Chapter's Board behind the scenes.

This month we would like to invite you to know more about Ivor Halford, the Volunteer of the Month for February 2021 and find out more about how our energetic and enthusiastic volunteers are assisting us with enhancing your experience across the PMI Melbourne Chapter – Enjoy!

Volunteer of the Month

Ivor Halford, PMP®



Let's start with the first question, please tell us about your professional background.

I have been a Project Manager and over the recent years a Program Manager, for thirty years. I obtained my Project Management Professional certification twenty years ago.

My domain has been primarily IT Infrastructure and over the recent years my focus has been in managing large Lifecycle Management programs, covering both infrastructure and systems.

I have been lucky to work for two fantastic organisations over my career. The first being Orica (previously ICIA) and the second being Coles (previously Coles Myer).



That's interesting, so how did you arrive at the project management profession?

My background before moving into project management was in Operations and Voice and Data Networks. I am what you call an accidental project manager in that through my role as a Network Analyst, my manager at the time recommended me for a project manager role and nearly 30 years later this has well and truly become my passion and my profession.

And what has been your biggest learning so far in your personal development journey?

To be a good PM you need to be well organised and a good people person. You need to take the time to understand your key stakeholders and what they want to achieve, as well as what they can bring to the project.

OK, moving on to the next question. So, when did you become involved with the PMI globally and locally and in what capacity?

I joined PMI in 1998 and a year later I joined the Melbourne Chapter Events team. I have contributed in other ways, such as by serving as a member of the PMI Nominations Committee on three occasions, including one time as its chair.

With the Events team and with running our monthly events, it is simply a matter of more hands making light work. Whether the events were held at our partner venues or virtually during COVID, my role has been about helping out where I can, including assisting with registrations, quizzes and other activities needed to run the event.

Oh, that's great. So, what inspires you about volunteering at PMI?

Like any community-based organisation PMI relies almost solely on volunteers. I felt that by being a member of the Events Team it would not only be an effective way of contributing. It would also be a good reason to attend each of the monthly events, providing me with the opportunity to grow my network and learn about new industry trends.

Alright, and what do you find the most valuable about being a PMI Melbourne chapter member?

Keeps me up to date with project management trends and allows me to mix with my peers coming from different businesses.

Yeah, coming down to the last question, so when you're not project managing, what do you like to do in your spare time?

Most of my spare time is spent with my wife and daughter. Outside family, my passions include Richmond Football Club, golf and horse racing. I also played soccer and cricket for many years. I believe it is important to have your downtime to enjoy life.



All right. Anything else you would like to add from your side? ?

I always look out for PMs or prospective PMs to join PMI as it is such a fantastic community with many resources and opportunities to get involved.

**Ivor is a source of inspiration for all PMI members.
Thank you for your time, for sharing your story with us and
congratulations on being the Volunteer of the month on behalf of PMI
Melbourne Chapter!**



Volunteering is a great act of kindness!

You give of yourself and bring with you your life experiences, skills, abilities, compassion, intellect and humour and ask for nothing in return. Yet you receive friendship, appreciation and satisfaction.

Enhance the profession of project management, reap the benefits of expanding connections and leverage career advancement opportunities; all while volunteering with PMI.



Build a Professional Network

Build your professional network by forging lasting relationships with thousands of PMI volunteers and professionals worldwide.



Gain Skills and Experiences

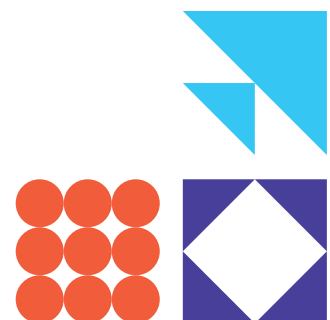
Develop and sharpen vital new skills, including leadership, collaboration and team-building techniques.



Develop as a Leader

Leverage opportunities to develop your personal leadership skills while making a difference in your profession, community, and life.

Are you interested in joining the PMI Melbourne Chapter Volunteering Team?
Send an email to volunteering@melbourne.pmi.org.au and let's talk!



Our Visual Identity

Creating a language for The Project Economy

Our visual identity helps us define and lead The Project Economy. It begins with a design language. This is the language of The Project Economy and the qualities required to be a part of it: collaboration, determination, teamwork, outcomes, growth, vision and community. We represent each of these qualities with a unique symbol. These symbols will be embedded in our communications over time, reinforcing their meaning.



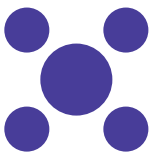
COLLABORATION

We can't do it alone. Whether it's partnering with a colleague, client, company or non-profit organisation, each of us brings something unique to the table. And we are made stronger when we work together.



DETERMINATION

Sometimes projects go according to plan. Most of the time, not. Perseverance is needed to complete any project and successfully deliver outcomes that make a difference in the world.



TEAMWORK

Projects are delivered by people, but winning projects are delivered by teams. Project delivery relies on team players and people who contribute added value to any project, making the team stronger.



GROWTH

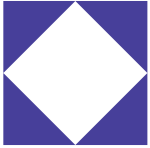
Change and transformation, while at times unfamiliar, spur progress. Whether it's skill development or organizational expansion, growth brings new opportunities into our economy - and contributes to the greater good.



INNOVATION

New ideas. New products. New methods. Constant transformation is what helps us tackle new problems and find fresh solutions. We know that the world isn't one-size-fits-all. We bring new takes on everyday things to constantly move forward and make life better across the world.





OUTCOME

We celebrate not just the process, but the positive impact that projects around the world make on society. We're changing the world - for the better - one project at a time.



COMMUNITY

The people that are part of our world make it what it is today. Our community is one of our most valuable assets. We celebrate it and keep it going by welcoming all who wish to join us to make the world a better place.



VISION

This can mean being unconventional. It can mean coming up with new ideas to solve new challenges. It's about perspective, seeing the big picture, and the ability to create solutions for now that are sustainable for generations to come.

Board of Directors



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About Us

The Melbourne Chapter of the Project Management Institute (PMI) is part of an international not-for-profit professional organisation dedicated to the advancement of project management excellence through professionalism.

With more than 500,000 members in over 170 countries, PMI is the leading membership association for the project management profession.

PMI is recognised for the advocacy programs conducted with governments, organisations and industries around the world as they recognise and embrace project management to achieve business results.

The PMI Melbourne Chapter has around 1400 members.

More information can be found on our [website](#).

You can also connect with us on LinkedIn  and Facebook 

