

## Newsletter: 2017 AAC | Nauru dilemma | Volunteering with attitude

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### 2017 Australasian Aid Conference

The Australasian Aid Conference (AAC) has become a must-attend event for Australia's international development community. The 2017 AAC will be bigger and better than ever. It kicks off on Tuesday 14 February with the launch of two books and an opening-night cocktail party, and concludes with the inaugural DFAT [Aid Supplier Conference](#) on Friday 17 February. In between, there will be some 30 sessions and over 100 presentations, as well as the conference dinner and the inaugural [Mitchell Humanitarian Award](#) presentation. Check out the conference [program](#), and register to attend [here](#).

And it's not too late to submit your pitch for the [3 Minute Aid Pitch](#) (3MAP). To fill the last couple of slots, we are extending the deadline to 9 January. Details [here](#).

### Save the Children's Nauru dilemma

What happens when, despite your belief that mandatory offshore detention of children on Nauru breaches the UN Convention on Rights of the Child, you are asked to provide welfare and educational services to children on Nauru? This was the dilemma facing CEO of Save the Children Australia, Paul Ronalds. The decision to proceed with the contract is explored in a new Development Policy Centre [discussion paper](#) and accompanying [podcast](#), in which Paul reflects candidly on Save's engagement with Nauru.

### Bill Armstrong: volunteering with attitude

For generations of young Australians with a passion for social justice, volunteering in developing or indigenous communities has been a rite of passage. Bill Armstrong has been deeply involved in this movement since the 1960s, working with organisations such as the Overseas Service Bureau (now Australian Volunteers International), and Indigenous Community Volunteers. In our last Aid Profile for 2016, Bill [shares his perspectives with Robin Davies](#).

The whole Aid Profiles series makes great summer reading - [catch up here](#).

### Prestigious award

Research Fellow Michelle Rooney, was recently awarded recognition from the prestigious Association for Political and Legal Anthropology for her thesis research on citizenship in settlement communities in PNG. You can read about the award [here](#), the judges' comments [here](#), and the blog post based on her winning paper [here](#).

### Merry Christmas

And finally, since this is our last newsletter for the year, thanks for your support and interest throughout the year, season's greetings, and see you in 2017! The blog will close for the year on 23 December, and re-open on 9 January.

### Upcoming events

*World Development Report 2017: Governance and the Law*

5 - 630pm, Tuesday 14 February, Barton Theatre, Crawford School, ANU. Details [here](#).

*Australasian Aid Conference 2017*

14–16 February, Crawford School, ANU. Event details [here](#).

### **Blog highlights**

[Women empowering women](#)

[First microstate visa arrivals](#)

[Devpolicy transparency recognized](#)

### **Latest podcasts**

[Robin Davies interviews Bill Armstrong](#)

[Advocating for women in Porgera: an interview with Everlyne Sap](#)

[2016 PNG Update - Part 2 - ANU-UPNG Research Showcase Podcast](#)

[2016 PNG Update - Part 1 - Bruce Davis & Charles Abel Podcast](#)

### **On the blog**

[PNG LNG landowner royalties – why so long?](#) By Sam Koim and Stephen Howes

[The Nauru dilemma](#) by Paul Ronalds

[Judicial setbacks for the PNG anti-corruption movement](#) by Bal Kama

[PNG education policies in urban contexts: Christ the King Primary School, Port Moresby](#) by Michelle Nayahamui Rooney

[Australia's microstate visa: first arrivals](#) by Henry Sherrell

[Advocating for women in Porgera: an interview with Everlyne Sap](#) by Camilla Burkot and Everlyne Sap

[PNG's eye health heroes](#) by Bob McMullan

[Gaining insights across development silos](#) by Jessica Taaffe

[Improving quality education in a world obsessed with student numbers: evidence from PNG](#) by Anthony Swan and Grant Walton

[How to maintain momentum on nutrition and early childhood development](#) by Mark Rice

### **In brief**

[Fortnightly links: inequality, Nicaragua, coconuts, Radi-Aid awards, Syria, and more](#)

[New discussion paper: what changes Australians' views about aid?](#)

[A proposal for open access Pacific migration to Australia](#)

[Devpolicy Research Fellow wins Best Paper prize](#)

[Bill Armstrong: volunteering with attitude](#)

[Introducing the 'Donor Tracker'](#)

[Support for ODA and donations to NGOs \(previous paper replaced\)](#)

[Practicing what we preach: Devpolicy receives 4\\* transparency rating](#)

*This is the fortnightly newsletter of the [Development Policy Centre](#) at Crawford School of Public Policy, The Australian National University, published every second Friday.*