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June 2024 Issue

The Australian Sydney Chapter of ICAI Newsletter June 2024



Australian (Sydney) Chapter of ICAI
Indian Chartered Accountants



July 10, 2024

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Message from Head of Professional Events



Suneet, Head of Professional Events

Dear Members,

Learn continually. There's always "one more thing" to learn – Steve Jobs

I was honoured to be elected as the Head of Professional Development for our Australia Chapter back in February 2024. Steve Jobs's words have always stuck with me throughout my career, learning should never stop. The Chapter has given me the platform to further this cause by imparting learning to our members. It gives me immense pleasure when our members comment that they found the session insightful, and I always hope that they 'learnt at least one more thing'. My career of 20 years in banking and financial services has wired me to persistently have a growth mindset and seek value creation.

Although we have lived in Australia since 2004, my wife and I became members only in 2023 and the credit goes to Dilip Girglani for introducing us. In a short span of less than 1 year we have thoroughly enjoyed the community of like-minded individuals, Ritesh passing the test with flying colours of making this statement in his introductory message! Shantilal's infectious energy was evident when he clicked a dozen photographs for my wife and I at last year's Diwali party when we requested only 1. This is by far the best thing about the Chapter, meeting folks at different stages of their personal, professional journeys, everyone sharing their experiences, all leading to stronger bonds.

The energy and dedication of the 2024 committee members is truly inspirational. The committee members spend a significant amount of time behind the scenes curating content, generating ideas for events and executing those ideas, all for the benefit of our Chapter members and most importantly in the spirit of giving back to the community.

Keep smiling and stay positive!

Warm Regards,

Suneet

Recent CPD Events

Recap of New Migrants Session



On 16 June 2024, the Australian (Sydney) Chapter of ICAI successfully hosted the 'New Migrants Session' at Western Sydney University, in order to help individuals settle and thrive in Australia. The event was moderated and held under the esteemed guidance of successful members and was insightful for people wanting to understand the cultural diversity and enormity. A comprehensive discussion took place during the progression of the event where attendees heard from members and received the opportunity to network with like-minded professionals.

Highlights of the Session:

- A leap into Australia's cultural diversity: The session started on a strong foot by elaborating on the cultural diversity and vastness of Australia and presented the attendees with the opportunity to understand Australia, its people, and how culture affects and connects people.
- Networking and perfecting the resume: Speakers spoke on the importance of perfecting one's resume, marketing their skills, and mastering the STAR approach for interviews. The STAR approach refers to 'situation, task, action, and result'. Members compelled attendees to engage in meaningful networking.
- Guidance from experts: The session was a success due to the prestigious guidance of the successful members, their readiness to offer insight for common queries, and their willingness to share personal anecdotes as means of offering a safe, comfortable, and familiar space for attendees wishing to settle in Australia.

Unveiling the optimisation of your wealth journey



The Australian (Sydney) Chapter of ICAI proudly presented the "Optimise or Commence Your Financial Wealth Journey" seminar on 18 June 2024, at CPA Australia. The seminar was headed by the eminent financial expert Mark Chan, who offered valuable FYE (30th June) preparation strategies. Moreover, the session was moderated by CA Yateender Gupta. The event provided invaluable insight into optimising and commencing the upcoming financial journeys ahead of the financial year-end. Our keynote speaker of the night, Mark Chan, Principal and Senior Financial Planner, provided expert knowledge, practical advice, and operative steps for all the attendees.

Key Highlights of the Event:

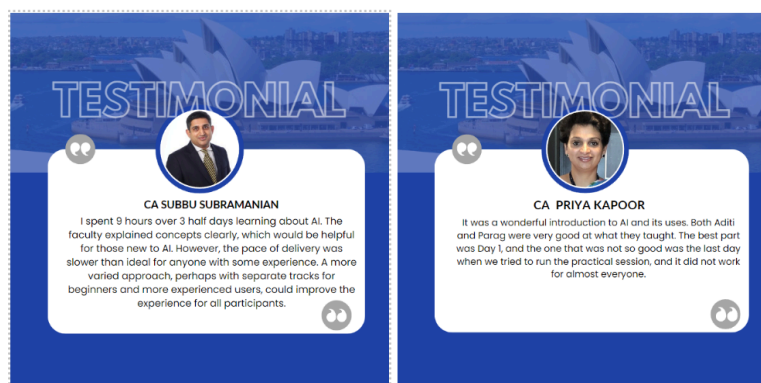
- **Strategies to enhance financial planning:** Under the esteemed guidance of Mark Chan and his visual presentations, attendees received detailed strategies to optimise and enhance financial planning ahead of the financial year-end of June 30th.
- **Ways to maximise wealth creation opportunities:** Everyone in attendance received expert counselling with regards to maximising wealth creation opportunities and becoming more vigilant, and strategies surrounding superannuation, investments, and properties.
- **Networking with peers:** The session allowed attendees to connect and network with like-minded professionals and peers and form meaningful connections that would allow them to manage their finances and wealth expansion.

AI - from Basics to Brilliance



The ICAI Sydney Chapter recently celebrated the successful completion of the second batch of its course on AI, titled "AI - from Basics to Brilliance." The course, led by Mr. Parag Patki, Managing Partner and AI Consulting Head at Tata Consultancy Services, Sydney, provided 40 participants with hands-on experience using AI tools in their daily work.

The course was meticulously designed, with each session spanning three hours and spread across three consecutive Fridays, allowing attendees to delve deeply into the subject matter and gain valuable practical insights.



Social Event

Recap of Women's Wellbeing Workshop

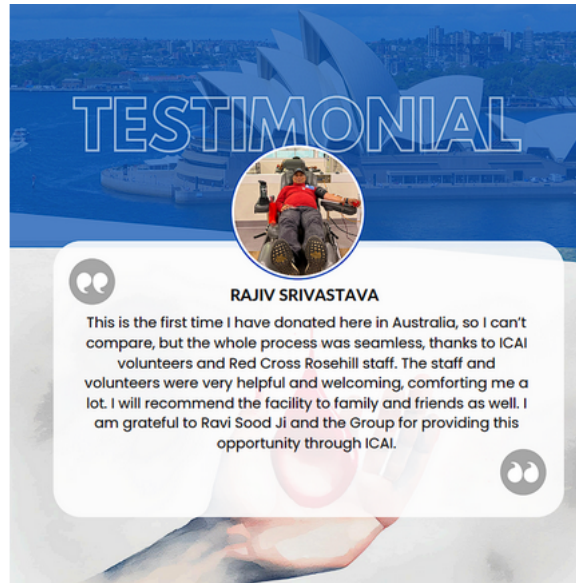
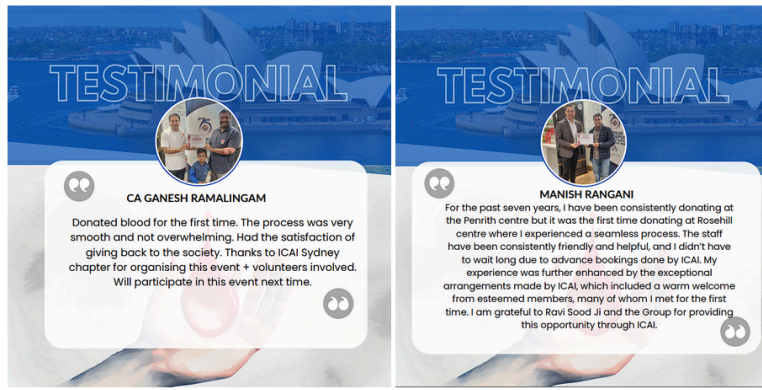


The 'Women's Wellbeing Workshop' which was organised by the Australian (Sydney) Chapter of ICAI on 23 June 2024, at Western Sydney University, was a huge hit. The workshop was led by Toastmaster Margrit Fisher, and was moderated by CA CPA Priya Kannan, alongside esteemed speakers Jignyasha Ambasana and Rebecca Robinson. The dynamic sessions shed a light into the key phases of a woman's life, and focused on women's physical, mental, and hormonal health. Attendees received key insight into the life of women, and understood the social, cultural, and environmental factors that weigh in on a woman's body and mind. We are grateful to witness the attendance of several people in the journey towards women empowerment and embracing the journey of life with vitality and resilience. It was the perfect occasion for people to know more about puberty, pregnancy, menopause, bone density, osteoporosis, and more in women.

CA Day: Blood Donation Drive



Our blood donation event was a great success because of the outstanding planning work done by Sandeep Saini and Dilip Girglani, as well as the hard work of our committed volunteers Vivek Goel, Ravi Sood, and Zalak Shah. More than 90% of our enrolled members attended, bringing a great vibe and a sense of community to the day. We would especially want to thank Lifeblood Parramatta for making sure everything went smoothly and Councilor Sameer Pandey for gracing us with his presence.



Women Leadership Conclave



Recently, our Chairperson, CA Tanuja Bissa, had the privilege of speaking at the Women Leadership Conclave organized by ICAI's Women Members Excellence Committee in Mumbai. She shared insights on Global Pathways through Professional Excellence to an audience of over 500 women CAs. It was a proud moment to see the impact of our members on a global scale.

Upcoming Events

Deep Dive into latest Accounting Standards

Join us for an enlightening evening on 16th July from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM at KPMG Parramatta. Doors open at 5:30 PM. Immerse yourself in the

latest Accounting Standards with top industry experts. This event is a brilliant chance to stay ahead and connect with fellow professionals.

Don't miss out – we look forward to welcoming you!



Ethics

Mark your calendars for the Australian (Sydney) Chapter of ICAI's must-attend Ethics CPD event, "Ethics," with esteemed speaker Ralph Khoury. Gain essential knowledge on the role of finance leaders in promoting governance and ethical practices.

Ralph Khoury will address the importance for finance professionals to assert their right to say "no" in the face of unethical practices and weak leadership. Improve your expertise and join us for an evening of crucial learning and networking.



Breakfast CFO Series

Let's hear it from our ex-chairman CA Samir Mehta



1. What was the inspiration behind starting the " Breakfast CFO" Series?

Over time, our Chapter has evolved into a strong community of over 500 members. Initially, it was a forum to assist new migrants, but it has now become a platform for networking and professional development. Many of our members are already in C-Suite positions, and many others aspire to join their ranks. I wanted to create something impactful during my tenure leading the Chapter, beyond our regular professional development events to support this cohort. The idea for the "Breakfast CFO" Series came after the conference last year, followed by brainstorming sessions with the committee members. As a result, we have now decided to launch the "Breakfast CFO" a premium breakfast series, allowing our members to meet and interact with leading CFOs in Australia. The objective is two-fold: firstly, members can gain insights from top finance professionals and secondly increase the brand awareness of our Chapter and ICAI. This will enhance our Chapter's reputation as a pool of talented professionals, opening limitless opportunities for our members. I, along with Ex-Chairman Subbu Subramanian, will be leading this initiative in the coming months. Please feel free to reach out if you would like to join the team.

2. What can participants expect to gain from attending these breakfast sessions?

Participants will have the opportunity to hear from leading finance professionals about their career journeys, successes, challenges, and strategies. These sessions will provide insights into the day-to-day challenges and corporate strategies from those currently in the business, helping our members develop a CFO mindset. Additionally, attendees will learn about industry developments and future expectations. The speaker will provide real-world examples and case studies to illustrate their points, making the session highly practical and relevant. Each event will include Q & A session moderated by one of our members, followed by networking and morning tea, plus an opportunity to meet and greet our guest speaker and also other senior professionals in our Chapter.

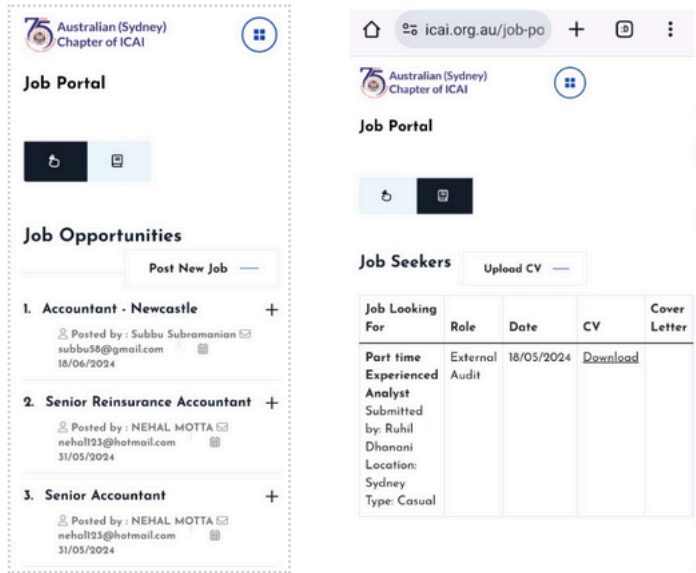
3. How do you plan to structure these sessions to ensure they are valuable and engaging for CFOs and finance professionals?

We plan to hold these in-person events at the excellent facilities of CAANZ in the City. The series will kick off with an inaugural event on Thursday,

August 8th, starting at 8 AM and concluding at 9:30 AM. We are excited to announce that a prominent and experienced CFO has accepted our invitation to be the guest speaker for this inaugural event. Don't miss the opportunity to book your seat as soon as the RSVP opens. Depending on the success of the first couple of sessions, we will determine the frequency for these events. We look forward to welcoming you to this unique and valuable event.

Website Updates

Don't miss out on exciting career opportunities! Our job portal offers a variety of positions tailored to your skills and experience. Whether you're seeking new challenges or aiming to advance your career, our job p



Community Catalysts: Celebrating Volunteers

CA Vivek Goel



I had a wonderful experience working as a volunteer for Blood donation camp held on 30th June 2024. The opportunity to contribute a little bit of my time for CA society was very satisfying. It was a pleasure working as a part of the team under Sandeep's leadership. Looking forward to more opportunities and social events in future.

Be part of the ICAI Sydney Chapter

Join the Australian (Sydney) Chapter of ICAI and enjoy a range of benefits:

- **Up to 70 CPD Hours Annually:** Invest in your professional development with various programs.
- **Flexible Online Access:** Attend events online for added convenience.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** Contribute to your community and network with fellow members.
- CA Divaz, Networking and Sponsorship.
- Unlock the Advantages of Membership:
 - Access exclusive professional development programs.
 - Network with a vibrant community of Chartered Accountants.

Stay informed with the latest industry news and updates.

Become a member today!

<https://www.icaiaustralia.org.au/membership/member-registration>

Committee Members

- CA. Tanuja Bissa - Chairperson
- CA. Shantilal Jain - Vice Chairperson
- CA. Priya Kannan - Secretary
- CA. Mahesh Agarwal - Treasurer
- CA. Sandeep Saini - Head of Social Events
- CA. Ritesh Lekhak - Head of Memberships
- CA. Suneet Jain - Head of Professional Events
- FCA. Dilip Girglani - Social events support
- CA. Savita Agarwal - Secretarial support
- CA. Devang Jain - Treasury support

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Samir Mehta - GAICD, CPA, CA and 20 others · 1 repost



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