



Members Day 2024

Institute for Collaborative Working **Australia**



ICW Australia’s inaugural Members Day was held in Sydney on 18 October 2024. Open to members, partners and affiliates, the day was an opportunity to hear from experts and other members about how Collaborative Working has been applied and how it has created additional value for organisations and projects.

The outcomes we sought in holding a face to face Members Day were:

- to bring the Community of Practice (CoP) together to build connections,
- to showcase the capabilities and resources available within the CoP, and
- to seek continued engagement with ICW Australia toward our objectives.



Brett Ackroyd & David Pender

“In the last three years... we’ve had 2000+ volunteer hours. Many of you in this room have donated to building this Community of Practice and helping the Institute get established... A big thank you goes out to all of you for that effort, passion and input.”

Opening Remarks
Brett Ackroyd, Managing Director



Jamie Waddington & Josh Choong

Our Shared Vision

Melinda Soncini, TransformX Consulting, led a whole-of-room discussion about our shared vision for Collaborative Working in Australia.

“You have to lean into it and build some trust.”

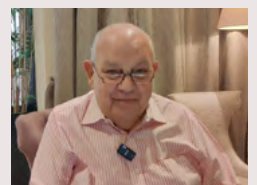


ICW UK CEO Frank Lee and Chairman Lord Evans sent video messages wishing us a successful day:



Frank emphasised the increasing importance of structured collaboration, and identified the need for Australia-UK collaboration in areas such as sustainability and defence.

Lord Evans recalled that with each year he has seen greater and more successful examples of collaboration, with increasing recognition of its importance and rewards.



Case Study Panel

COLLABORATION IN ACTION

Our Collaboration in Action Case Study Panel generated a number of useful insights into the practical application of Collaborative Working. The Panel discussion reflected a key insight from the day: that change driven by education and awareness is needed by all parties and across all roles including leaders, operations, clients, contractors, lawyers, businesses, and governments.



Mick Saunders, Department of Defence, spoke about the Regional Maintenance Centre - an industry/government collaborative organisation for navy fleet maintenance. We heard the government and major client perspective from Mick and the importance of co-location and reducing friction in ICT systems to enable a collaborative culture.



Mark Simister, Metaphic, spoke about the application of Collaborative Working in major infrastructure and utilities sector programs. We heard from Mark about the importance of building effective and agile business processes and performance management frameworks to embed a collaborative culture and make it 'real' for participants.



Michael Perkins, Southern Waters Legal, spoke about Collaborative Working in professional services and the importance of education on the benefits of Collaborative Working and how it can help de-risk traditional transactional relationships. This education is vital to engaging stakeholders who are more comfortable with transactional decisions – especially the lawyers!

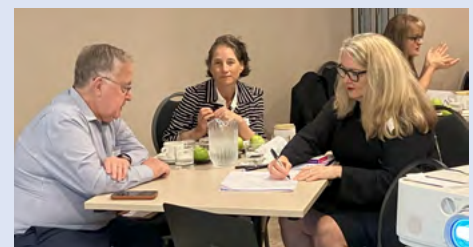


Andy Davis, Babcock, spoke about the value a collaborative approach can bring to a large corporate entity. Andy reflected on Babcock's decision to implement Collaborative Working across a wide variety of complex projects simply because it leads to better business approach. Again, education of clients and other partner organisations was a critical enabler to this.

Roundtable

The Current State of Collaborative Working as a Business Discipline in Australia

David Pender, Knowledge Perspectives, facilitated a Roundtable as part of our ongoing Research Project One (RP1) on The Current State of Collaborative Working as a Business Discipline in Australia. The Roundtable focused on the paradigm shift involved in transitioning to Collaborative Working relationships.



Collaborative Working 101 ...OR HOW TO CONVINCE EVERYONE

John King, True / False Consulting, delivered a presentation on how the ISO 44001 lifecycle framework for relationships can be more effectively communicated to different personality styles, based on the DiSC personality styles.

John highlighted three critical success factors:

1. leadership,
2. people capability, and
3. organisational culture.

John also spoke about the strategic imperative of collaboratively-driven innovation.



Facilitated Discussion Collaborative Contracting and Project Management - Enabling development of Collaborative Working culture



Peter Colacino, Mott MacDonald / Modifica Advisory and **Brett Ackroyd**, ICW Australia / Elysium EPL discussed lessons from project management and collaborative contracting to enable development of Collaborative Working culture. This included the degree of collaborative maturity of government, and also the level of industry readiness for Collaborative Working as a business discipline.

A key message from Peter was the need for leaders and key stakeholders to drive a change program throughout industry, focused on major projects.

SIG MARKETPLACE

Our Special Interest Group (SIG) Leads introduced themselves and outlined their focus and activities.

- **SME (Small to Medium Enterprises) SIG** led by David Pender
- **Professional Services SIG** led by Michael Perkins
- **Contracting for Success SIG** led by Brett Ackroyd
- **Program Management SIG** led by Peter Colacino
- **Organisational Design SIG** led by Nic Coleman

JOIN
ICW Australia's
Special Interest Groups
as showcased on the day

Join online at
icwaus.com.au/sigs

or by email to
enquiries@icwaus.com.au

Soft Skills Survey - a free tool from Hargraves Institute

Hargraves Institute's Soft Skills Survey was mentioned and user-recommended as part of the discussions about collaborative culture. The Soft Skills Survey helps you understand your strengths and weaknesses across essential skills - the four Cs: **creativity**, **collaboration**, **communication**, and **critical thinking** - and a fifth C: **change**.

Visit <https://www.hargraves.com.au/soft-skills-survey/>

Whole-Of-Room Discussion Building the Community of Practice

Josh Choong, ICW Australia, facilitated a whole-of-room-discussion on how to raise greater awareness of Collaborative Working and building the Community of Practice (CoP). As part of this, **Leonie Cutts**, CCS Corporation, led a brief exploratory Collaborizza session.



Collaborizza

Developed in a collaboration between CCS Corporation and Hargraves Institute, **Collaborizza** is a team transformation workshop in a pizza box!

Visit <https://www.hargraves.com.au/products/collaborizza/>

ICW Australia KEY TAKEAWAYS

In reviewing the day it's clear that the last three years have been a good start but the challenge of building greater awareness and understanding of Collaborative Working and its benefits continues.

A key focus of effort remains to engage key influencers for the adoption of Collaborative Working both across government and industry.

The other key takeaways for us were:

- We need to continue to collect and share stories of the tangible benefits of Collaborative Working,
- We need to simultaneously drive systems change and cultural change,
- Change is needed by all parties and across all roles: leaders, operations, clients, contractors, lawyers, businesses, and governments,
- As individuals, we have energy to contribute to building the Collaborative Working CoP – both through our own organisations and projects and through contributions to this community, and
- As a community, we need to harness our energy, collaborate, and coordinate efforts and joint initiatives - and drive toward our shared vision.

100 Influential Conversations...

DRIVE INTEREST IN
COLLABORATIVE WORKING
THROUGH YOUR NETWORKS

ICW Australia Managing Director Brett Ackroyd has set the goal to have **100 influential conversations...**

We would like to invite YOU to participate in this drive!

All it takes is three steps:

- 1. Identify a key person** within your networks to have a conversation with as part of our efforts to drive interest in Collaborative Working
- 2. Have the conversation** (note: if you need assistance or resources email ICW Australia at enquiries@icwaus.com.au)
- 3. Let us know the outcome** - tell us about your influential person conversation, including their interest in Collaborative Working and any next steps, leads or follow-ups...