

THE OFFICE AFFAIR – IS IT ANYBODY’S BUSINESS?

Office affairs happen much more often than you might imagine. In fact, an international study has suggested that almost one in two people have an intimate relationship with a co-worker at some point in their career. Is it just a matter of two people getting together, or does the workplace environment change all the rules?

A report on the website of leading business publication **INTHEBLACK** examines the complications that can arise from office affairs, and notes some management experts even suggest a workplace policy on what type of relationships (or behaviours) are deemed acceptable during office hours.

Ultimately, office affairs are a reality that many of us have to work around and it can be a tricky situation for all concerned – particularly if the relationship breaks down. [See the report here](#)

WHY A FOUR-DAY WEEK MIGHT NOT GIVE YOU BETTER WORK-LIFE BALANCE AFTER ALL

There have been calls from some political leaders and commentators for the introduction of a four-day week. In theory, it would provide a better work-life balance and potentially offset the loss of work opportunities caused by increased automation. On face value it seems like a solid concept, but experts say the reality is something quite different.

In the latest issue of leading business publication **INTHEBLACK**, three experts discuss the pitfalls associated with re-tooling our concept of the working week.

Plus, when it comes to work-life balance, for many of us the ability to switch off from work is increasingly difficult in our tech-connected 24/7 world, regardless of whether we are on-site for four days or five.

WHY ‘DO GOOD – FEEL GOOD’ IS THE NEW SEXY

It used to be said that ‘sex sells’. That may still be the case for some brands, but it seems that doing good – and being *seen* to be doing good – is the new hot button for business success. Whether it’s helping the planet or helping those in need, consumers are also looking to feel good about themselves when they make a purchase.

The latest issue of leading business publication **INTHEBLACK** examines how consumer consciousness is turning traditional business practice on its head. Social enterprises that have been able to tap into this market – with genuine and clearly defined make-a-difference offerings – are reaping big rewards.

SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST: WHY OUR CHARITIES ARE FACING MERGERS

There are plenty of important causes to support in Australia, but the charity sector is a crowded market. As the pool of donations and grants shrinks, pressure is building on like-minded causes to merge or disappear.

A special report in the latest **INTHEBLACK** magazine examines the reality for many worthwhile causes: they need to collaborate or collapse.

Philanthropists and corporate funders are making it clear that they can't support everyone but, despite the threats, getting passionate advocates to join forces is not a straightforward process.

Increasingly, donors are looking for more than just the 'feel good' factor. Donations are starting to come with strings attached, as those donating big money expect to see results. The report examines how the relationship between philanthropists and charities is evolving, and shares examples of successful mergers within the sector – as pressure builds for more.

THE LAST DAYS OF CASH?

There was a time when talk of a cashless society seemed to be just that – talk. But now, as we shop online and tap credit cards (and phones) to make purchases, we can all see that cash may actually be going the way of the dinosaurs. What comes next, and can we really get by without any physical banknotes and coins?

A special report in the latest **INTHEBLACK** magazine looks at the latest trends and developments in the fast-evolving world of digital dollars.

BACK TO THE FUTURE – ARE WE FACING AN 1890s PROPERTY CRASH AGAIN?

When it comes to economic depressions, most of us think of the Great Depression of the 1930s. But Australia had an even greater economic challenge in the 1890s. It even saw big banks go under, and leading figures are warning that we are currently at serious risk of repeating history.

A former chief of the Commonwealth Bank (and chair of a recent inquiry into our financial system) is among those sounding the alarm, as the proverbial drums beat louder – while vested interests appear determined to keep talking up astronomical house values in many key markets.

A report on the website of leading business publication **INTHEBLACK** examines the parallels now with what was happening in Sydney and Melbourne before the 1890s crash, as well as the factors that may yet save us from a repeat of history. [See the report here](#)

TO ORGANISE INTERVIEWS:

Contact Abigail Murison on 03 9606 9660 or abigail.murison@cpaaustralia.com.au