

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



The Australian Leadership Paradox — New book launching 16 October

Australia is a successful, prosperous and solutions-oriented country. So why are we stuck in a culture of disappointment, confusion and complaint about our leadership—particularly in politics but also in business and the community?

Based on more than a decade's experience working with thousands of leaders from across Australia's business, government and not-for-profit sectors, *The Australian Leadership Paradox—What it takes to lead in the lucky country*, by Geoff Aigner and Liz Skelton, offers timely insights into this question.

The Australian Leadership Paradox provides an alternative lens on how Australians think and feel about 'leadership' and shows how our cultural dynamics are holding us back from enjoying something more inspiring and effective.

- What are the contradictory traits in our understanding of leadership?
- Why do we have such a love-hate relationship with power and authority in Australia?
- Is our culture of mateship and egalitarianism holding us back from real change and innovation?
- Why do we have a persistent narrative about 'battling adversity' when we enjoy unprecedented prosperity relative to the rest of the world?
- How can we change the discourse and the practice of leadership in Australia and take our place on the world stage as the visionary, courageous leaders we could be?

The book will be launched in Hobart on Wednesday 16 October at Fullers Bookshop. The event, which is supported by the **Tasmania Leaders Program** and the **UTAS Inglis Clark Centre for Civil Society**, features co-author and Director, Social Leadership Australia, **Geoff Aigner**, in conversation with ABC Statewide Mornings Presenter, **Leon Compton**. There will also be a Q&A with the audience.

"This conversation about leadership is very timely," said Associate Professor Natasha Cica, Director of the Inglis Clark Centre for Civil Society at UTAS.

"It comes hot on the heels of a Federal election where Australians across the political spectrum clearly were hungry for a fresh and authentic approach to power and prosperity. Geoff Aigner and Liz Skelton's book has the potential to reframe our thinking and action on these questions – if enough of us are willing to step up and do the hard work of re-examining our own values, priorities and practices."

When: 5:30-7:30pm, Wednesday 16 October 2013.

Where: Fullers Bookshop, 131 Collins Street, Hobart.

Cost: Free, but RSVPs are requested to (03) 6234 3800 or rsvp@fullersbookshop.com.au

Media enquiries

For more information or interviews, please contact Rachael Vincent, Social Leadership Australia, (02) 8262 3589. To find out more about the authors and Social Leadership Australia, visit www.benevolent.org.au/leadership

For preview copies of the book, please contact Louise Cornegé, Allen & Unwin, (02) 8425 0184

