Who is Linux Australia

by Joshua Hesketh

Quick intro

- I work for Rackspace
  - Primarily on Openstack
- President for Linux Australia
  - Treasurer in the past
- I have a Bachelor in Mechatronic Engineering
- I am passionate about open source
- I helped organise
  - linux.conf.au 2009
  - PyCon Australia 2012+2013
  - and continue to provide guidance to teams and other conferences

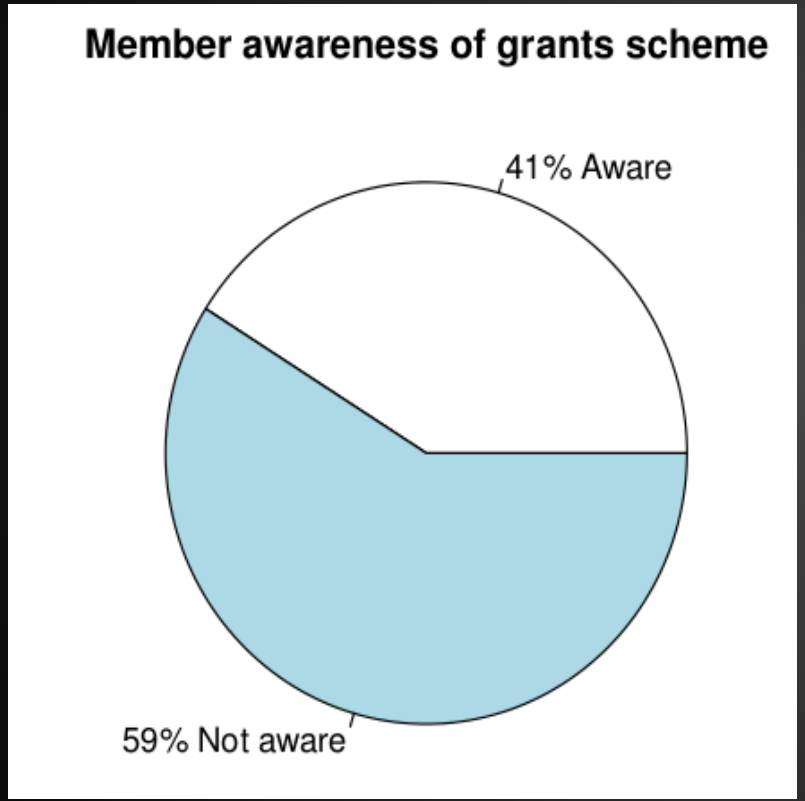
http://josh.people.rcbops.com

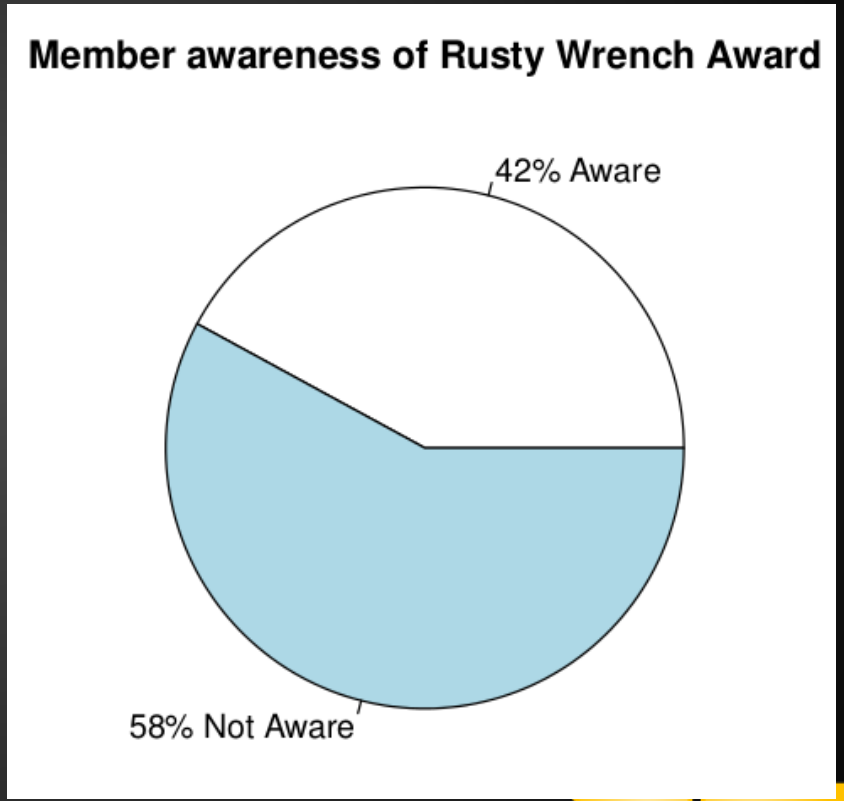
Spoiler...

~# whois linux.org.au

> Incorporated on 01 Nov 1999
> 3000+ members
> 7 council members
> 16 subcommittees
> Bound by https://www.linux.org.au/constitution

2013 Member Survey, key findings





	Yes, I was aware	No, I was not aware
(A) ensure a successful and to a lesser extent, profitable linux.conf.au	67.3	32.7
(B) grow the Australian open source technical community and the social capital within that community	78.8	21.2
(C) ensure an effective pipeline of committed open source enthusiasts including fostering younger members in high school and universities	46.9	53.1
(D) increase the grants and funding program	29.1	70.9
(E) increase promotion and communication activities, such as newsletter production	39.7	60.3
(F) prevent burnout within the community, which is largely volunteer based, by increasing and widening participation	22.7	77.3
(G) increase the voice Linux Australia has in the Australian IT and open source sector, and grow relationships with media and government	66.2	33.8
(H) increase influence in the Australian IT sector, particularly regarding software patents, digital privacy, IT related infrastructure and legislation	58.7	41.3
(I) have fun!	59.1	40.9

Table 5: Priorities of Linux Australia

	Average Importance (%)
(H) increase influence in the Australian IT sector, particularly regarding software patents, digital privacy, IT related infrastructure and legislation	66.27
(B) grow the Australian open source technical community and the social capital within that community	66.21
(G) increase the voice Linux Australia has in the Australian IT and open source sector, and grow relationships with media and government	65.65
(C) ensure an effective pipeline of committed open source enthusiasts including fostering younger members in high school and universities	65.17
(I) have fun!	62.88
(A) ensure a successful and to a lesser extent, profitable linux.conf.au	62.41
(F) prevent burnout within the community, which is largely volunteer based, by increasing and widening participation	58.33
(E) increase promotion and communication activities, such as newsletter production	49.71
(D) increase the grants and funding program	49.47

Table 6: Priorities ranked by member importance

2013 Member Survey, key findings

- We can do more advocacy work in Australia
- There is generally high confidence in Council
- We need to encourage younger members and students to join Linux Australia
- We need to keep linux.conf.au affordable
- We have a large cohort of retiree members who have needs we are not meeting

A little bit of history

1999

aterm
Electric Eyes
Launcher properties
aterm
8:43pm up 3:00, 5 users, load average: 1.26, 0.99,
88 processes: 84 sleeping, 4 running, 0 zombie, 0 stopped
PRI NI SIZE SWAP TRS RSS SHARE STAT %CPU %MEM TIME
20 19 356 0 304 356 272 R N 89.8 0.2 122:28 rc5des
0 0 5912 4 132 5908 5780 S 5.1 4.6 0:12 mpg123
0 0 43228 648 95
2 0 836 0 3
10 10 596 92 2
10 10 832 0 2
0 0 3736 0 18
0 0 2648 4 10
0 0 468 0 2
0 0 296 4 20 292 224 S 0.0 0.2 0:00 portmap
0 0 552 0 28 552 436 S 0.0 0.4 0:00 syslogd
0 0 624 0 24 624 296 S 0.0 0.4 0:00 klogd
0 0 292 4 20 288 220 S 0.0 0.2 0:00 atd
0 0 548 0 24 548 452 S 0.0 0.4 0:00 crond
0 0 532 0 24 532 436 S 0.0 0.4 0:00 inetd
Browse...
Fish5.dir.xpm
Football.xpm
FootballUS.xpm
GNUstep.xpm
Gear.xpm
HP-16C-48.xpm
HandOpen.xpm
HandPointing.xpm
HandPointingLeft.xpm
HandPunch.xpm
HandReach.xpm
GIMP Tip of the day
Most plug-ins work on the current layer of the current image. In some cases, you will have to merge all layers (Layers->Flatten Image) if you want the plug-in to work on the whole image.
Show tip next time
Prev. Tip
Next Tip
Close
co1.jpg-1.1 (RGB, layered)
File
Edit
Select
View
Image
Layers
Tools
Filters
Script-Fu
Dialogs
MyScripts
Decor
Modify
Animators
Stencil Ops
Alchemy
Shadow
Render
Utils
Selection
Blend
Color Cycling
Rippling
Waves
Spinning Globe
Run Program
gimp
Browse...
Run
Cancel
Electric Eyes - Images
co1.jpg
co2.jpg
co4.jpg
co5.jpg
Use Large Thumbnails
Generate Thumbnails
Main

NOKIA
C
1
2 abc
3 def
4 ghi
5 jkl
6 mno
7 pqrs
8 tuv
9 wxyz
0
#

CARRIER
TRANSDATA
LIMITED
DATA
307

linux.org.au

Last Modified: Sun, Oct 25, 1998

Linux Australia

Welcome!

[Community News](#)
What is new with Linux Australia and Linux in Australia generally?

[What is Linux?](#)
What is this Linux thing anyway?

[Help! I have a Problem!](#)
Check this for some ideas and advice on how to find answers to your questions.

[Organisation Details](#)
What is Linux Australia? What is it trying to do?

[Services and Information](#)
The services and information that Linux Australia provides, and links to our local mirrors.

["TuX" the Penguin](#)
You've all seen "TuX" the Penguin, but what is his connection with Australia? Linus himself tells us. "*Penguinitis is contagious*"

[Sponsors](#)
A number of generous individuals and organisations support Linux Australia through their donations. Find out who they are.

[Search](#)
Search this site for whatever you are looking for.

There are 214 days till the start of the
[Conference for Australian Linux Users](#)!!

Linux. The Internet's Operating System.

W3C HTML 4.0 [Check us out!](#)

CALU

Australia's first ever national Linux conference

Take No Prisoners

http://linux.org.au/conf/1999/sounds/snippets/rusty.mp3
(hidden feature http://rustyfacts.com/)

Linux Australia Incorporated

Active from 01 Nov 1999

linux.conf.au

“We can do better”

ABLOY
FINLAND
330

“Enabling the enthusiasms of our members”

-- Andrew Tridgell

Growing our community

http://tinyurl.com/koye3mw

Linux Australia Statement of Values

- Open Technology
- Community
- Freedom
- Respect
- Diversity

https://www.linux.org.au/values

IDENTITY
CRISIS
who am i supposed to be?

The Name

Votes ↑	Candidate
42	Leave Linux Australia's name unchanged (john_nc28@inodes.org)
25	Open Source Australia (OSA) (john_nc19@inodes.org)
13	Linux and Open Source Australia (LOSA) (john_nc17@inodes.org)
12	Australian Open Source Council (AOSC) (john_nc05@inodes.org)
10	Free Software Australia (FSA) (john_nc13@inodes.org)
10	Open Technology Australia (OTA) (john_nc24@inodes.org)
9	Libre Australia (LA) (john_nc16@inodes.org)
6	Free and Open Source Communities Australia (FOSCA) (john_nc10@inodes.org)
6	Free and Open Source Communities Australia New Zealand (FOSCAN) (john_nc11@inodes
6	Open Source Communities Australia (OSCA) (john_nc20@inodes.org)
6	Open Technologies (Australasia) Group (OTAG) (john_nc22@inodes.org)
4	Open Technology Society of Australia (OTSA) (john_nc25@inodes.org)
4	Open Technology Association Australia & New Zealand (OTANZ) (john_nc23@inodes.org)
3	Federation of Australian and New Zealand FOSS Communities (fanzfoss communities) (john_nc08@inodes.org)
3	Australian and New Zealand Association of Free and Open Source Societies (ANZA-FOSS) (john_nc01@inodes.org)
3	Australian Open Software And Systems (AOSS) (john_nc04@inodes.org)
3	Australian Association of Free and Open Source Societies (AUS-FOSS) (john_nc02@inodes
3	Open Communities Australia (OCA) (john_nc18@inodes.org)
2	Australian Federation of FOSS and Open Hardware clubs Societies and Associations(tAFoFAOSSaOHCSaA) (john_nc07@inodes.org)
2	Technology Liberty Australia (TLA) (john_nc27@inodes.org)
2	Community Software Australia (CSA) (john_nc06@inodes.org)

Who makes up Linux Australia

Conferences/events (2014)

- linux.conf.au 2014
- Drupal South Wellington 2014
- LaTrobe Miniconf
- PyCon AU 2014
- DrupalGov 2014
- Wordcamp Sydney 2014
- Joomla Day Sydney 2014
- DrupalCamp Sydney 2014

Subcommittees (2014)

- Admin Team
- AV Subcommittee
- Mirror Team
- Web Team
- Sydney Linux Users Group
- LOGIN (NewcastleLUG)
- TASLUG
- Media and Communications Subcommittee

What do we do

- Services for groups
  - banks, insurance, auditing, GST, etc..
- Grants
- Sponsorship
- Support local groups
- Advocacy
- What you would like us to do

Challenges

Challenges

- With open source being so mainstream, what does that mean for us?
- What does the popularity of mobile and web platforms mean for open source?
  - Are there opportunities or a need for advocacy in those areas?
- How do we extend our ideals to open web, open data, open government, open hardware and open culture?

Challenges

- Are LUGs still relevant?
- Are we still connected to our members?
  - We have even lower visibility outside of our immediate community.
- Are we still a national voice?
- Do we use antiquated communication platforms?

How do we ensure that our values are upheld in our industries?

How you can be involved

- Conferences
  - organisers, volunteers, logistics, admin, treasury...
- Council
- Software freedom days
- Local user groups
- Advocacy, lobbying, being a voice in and for our members
- Subcommittees
  - Web, admin, mirror, newsletter, memberdb...

“If our community is a Tesla, LA provides a charge station. It doesn't provide the car, nor the drivers, but if a bit of fuelling is all you need, it works well.”

-- Rusty Russell

“The Council does not achieve anything but what the community does.” - me

Thank you.

president@linux.org.au

Discussion at lunch on Friday (location TBA)

How did we get here

- 9-11 July, 1999 - CALU
- 01 Nov 1999 - Linux Australia formed
- January 17 - 20, 2001 - First linux.conf.au
- June 26 - 27, 2010 - First non-LCA event (PyCon AU)
-
-

Things we do well

...? Conferences

Council that does nothing

Challenges overcome

Where have we been let down

Lack of involvement.