



Raymond Partners  
ACCOUNTANTS AND ADVISORS

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*"Our Goal... Is Helping You Reach Yours"*

*Merry Christmas*



*Back row: Roy Raymond (Partner), Stephen Raymond (Partner), Paul Kennedy, Glen Raymond, Matthew Halls  
Front row: Pamela Soutar, Faye Raymond, Donna Byers, Jayson Nooy, Rebecca Cuthbert*

Welcome to the Raymond Partners Pty Ltd first ever quarterly Newsletter!!

Our aim is to keep our clients informed and up-to-date with all relevant Taxation matters, events and seminars that we will be holding throughout the year.

Roy, Steve, Faye & Pam along with the staff at Raymond Partners Pty Ltd would like to extend their appreciation to all of their clients who have given their support throughout the years and look forward to attending to your taxation needs for many more.

On that note everyone at Raymond Partners Pty Ltd would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas, and a safe and prosperous New Year!

68 VICTORIA STREET WARRAGUL VICTORIA 3820  
Phone: 03- 5622 3587 Fax: 03- 5623 6309 Email: [raymondpartners@dcsi.com.au](mailto:raymondpartners@dcsi.com.au)

## Seminars

In recent times Raymond Partners in conjunction with Ropan Financial Planning Group have offered our clients the opportunity to attend some fantastic Seminars. Held at the Fountain Room at Warragul's Art Centre these have not only proved to be an informative night but also an inspiring and great night out. In the new year we will be holding more Seminars, keep an eye out for updates via our Newsletters.

In case you have missed out on our seminars, here is a look at the last few guest speakers:



### Peter Thornhill

*As a successful investor, his views have a firm base in the real financial world. His presentations have become legendary for their no-nonsense assault on popular wisdom.*

*He believes that there is no such thing as a market "crash"; investing for the long term is the surest way to tap the market's riches; market volatility is not a measure of risk; and looking backwards "can damage your wealth."*



### Tommy Hafey

*For fifteen years Tom Hafey was one of the Super Coaches of the VFL. Tom Hafey coached four teams to Premierships, ten Grand Final appearances and over 500 AFL Games.*

*Tom speaks on teamwork and motivation, and has acted as a great stimulus to many groups. He presented ideas such as "If it is to be, it is up to me." And the definition of Tom Hafey's 4 D's:*

1. Desire
  2. Dedication
  3. Determination
  4. Discipline
- = Your Destination



### Dr Don Stammer

*Dr Stammer has enjoyed four distinguished careers. The first was as an academic. Second was in central banking, third, a long period as an investment banker. Now in his fourth career, Don Stammer is a company director and commentator on investment markets.*

*Rated highly by business leaders and fund managers for his analysis of the trends and opportunities in investment markets, Dr Don Stammer speaks on issues surrounding Economic Outlook and Investment.*

## John Soutar's Retirement



After 45 years of being an accountant John Soutar has retired. John Started as an accountant back in 1964 and started his own firm in 1989, since 2008 he has been a much valued part of Raymond Partners Accountants.

All the staff at Raymond Partners join his valued clients in wishing John the best for his retirement.

We look forward to assisting to the needs of John's clients in the coming years, as we endeavour to help each and every one of you to reach your goals.

## Tax Updates: 50% Investment Allowance

Don't forget the 50% Investment Allowance for Small Business's (turnover of less than \$2million a year) ends on the 31/12/09.

To be eligible you must have contractually committed yourself to buying the asset by 31/12/09 and then you must first use the asset or install it ready for use before the 31/12/10. You can claim the 50% deduction on investments of \$1000 or more.

If you are not a small business you may still be eligible for a 10% tax deduction on investments of \$10000 and over.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call our office.

## Self Managed Super Funds

If you are the trustee of a Self Managed Super fund (SMSF) and you have not lodged your SMSF annual income tax return, you may have received a letter from the ATO, outlining what you need to do and also the consequences of not doing so. A new approach has been implemented for SMSF who despite being reminded have not lodged their annual tax return.

The consequence of not lodging include:

- The fund may be made non complying and issued with a notice of non compliance.
- A default assessment may be raised
- Failure to lodge on time penalty and other administrative penalties may be applied

If you feel this may affect your Super fund please contact our office.

## Keeping Tax Records

Each of us have different circumstances and in order to prepare an accurate tax return and support the claims we make it is important that we keep accurate records, if you are not sure, it is better to keep it.

A few more reasons to keep records are:

- To provide written evidence of your income and expenses
- To help you and your tax agent prepare your return
- To ensure that you are able to claim all your entitlements
- In case the Tax office ask you to prove the information you provided in your tax return.

Generally records that we should keep fall into these main categories:

- Any payments you have received
- Any expenses related to payments received
- When you acquired or disposed of an asset (such as shares or rental property)
- Any tax deductible gifts or donations
- Any medical expenses

Some of us will have more information to keep than others, if you would like more information on the categories listed above it is available on the ATO website: [www.ato.gov.au](http://www.ato.gov.au) type in "document 30327" to the search bar.

## Claiming Family Tax Benefit

Claiming Family Tax Benefits (FTB) has changed this year.

If you claimed FTB through the Year, you will be contacted by Family Assistance within 14 days of your Income tax return being assessed.

If you claim FTB as a lump sum at the end of the financial year you will need to:

- Contact the Family assistance office on 136150

Or

- Go to the website [www.familyassist.gov.au](http://www.familyassist.gov.au) and select the link at the bottom of the page - make an online claim (You may need to register to use the website but you will be directed to do so as you enter the site)

Or

- Visit either Centrelink or Medicare office and collect a Family Assistance Claim form and complete it.

## Glen's Rally Progress

Glen Raymonds speed and consistency was confirmed when he finished on the Podium consistently throughout the last half of 2008 and throughout 2009. This accumulated to him finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> outright in the 2009 Championship, and also his first outright Australian Championship with at the 2009 Quit Forest Rally, becoming the youngest ever driver to win an Australian Championship event.



Again in 2010 there will be coverage on TEN and HD1. Please follow us driving our new Mitsubishi Evo X, as we attempt to become the 2010 Australian Rally Champions!

## Getting To Know Your Accountants



### Roy Raymond

As Principal of Raymond Partners I am delighted with the way that the Practice has grown.

Twenty eight years ago, in an Office converted from a garage in Morwell, I always believed that my long term goal would be realised and that Raymond Partners would be a name to be recognised within the Accounting profession.

I am very proud of my staff, especially in the fact that with my two qualified sons, Stephen and Glen, there is a natural progression and a positive future direction for the Practice.

The Raymond Rally team has occupied much of my spare time, working with my four sons maintaining and building the rally car, which resulted in a very successful 2009. The prospects for 2010 look very promising and encouraging.

This past year has seen the arrival of my grandson Eli, who is an absolute delight and a real blessing to the extended family.

A huge thank-you to each of my valued clients for believing in me, and for allowing me the privilege to help you reach your goals.

**"OUR GOAL IS... HELPING YOU REACH YOURS"**



## ROPAN Financial Planning Group

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Please call us on

**1300 880 383**

to arrange your initial consultation

Meetings on Wednesdays at

**Raymond Partners office**



# Nixon Finance Pty Ltd



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ABN: 33 624 610 246

E-Mail [nixonfinance@bigpond.com](mailto:nixonfinance@bigpond.com)

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2 Sherbourne Rd  
Briar Hill 3088

All correspondence to:  
PO Box 633

Greensborough 3088  
Telephone: (03)9435 2600  
Facsimile: (03)9435 2699

Glen Thorogood:

0448 557 818

Phil Smith:

0438 713 679

Graeme Martin:

0400 556 700

68 VICTORIA STREET WARRAGUL VICTORIA 3820

Phone: 03- 5622 3587 Fax: 03- 5623 6309 Email: [raymondpartners@dcsi.com.au](mailto:raymondpartners@dcsi.com.au)