

## What is the Third Sector?

The Third Sector consists of organisations that are not-for-profit and non-government, together with the activities of volunteering and giving which sustain them. Although they differ among themselves, more importantly third sector organisations differ as a group from for-profit businesses and from government departments and authorities.

Third Sector organisations are a major component of many industries including community services, health services, rural, education, housing, sport and recreation, culture and finance.

Third Sector organisations vary greatly in size and in their activities. They include neighbourhood associations, sporting clubs, recreation societies, community associations, chambers of commerce, churches, religious orders, credit unions, political parties, trade unions, trade and professional associations, private schools, charitable trusts and foundations, some hospitals, welfare organisations and even some large insurance companies.

The Third Sector is gaining recognition in most countries as an important but hitherto undervalued and under-researched sector of society and of the economy. Research in this area has led many to recognise that third sector organisations are key institutions in civil society.

Many terms are used to refer to third sector organisations in different industries and countries. These include non-profit, non-government, community, voluntary, club, society, association, cooperative, friendly society, church, union, foundation and charity.

The name Third Sector has gained international acceptance as a positive and inclusive term.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Those interested can apply for membership on line at [www.anztsr.org.au/membership](http://www.anztsr.org.au/membership)

### Membership Categories and Subscription Fees:

Organisation	\$225 AUD
Individual	\$95 AUD
Student	\$45 AUD

Membership year is from 1 July to 30 June.

### Payment Options:

**VISA Payment Online** via the ANZTSR website – ‘Membership Registration’ – [www.anztsr.org.au/membership](http://www.anztsr.org.au/membership)

**Electronic Funds Transfer** – Please quote your full name and Invoice No. as the reference.  
Bank Account Details: Commonwealth Bank, Hornsby, NSW – Account Number: 28051194 BSB: 062 308

**Cheque** – Payable to Australian and New Zealand Third Sector Research Incorporated and posted to:  
ANZTSR, PO Box 31 Stepney, South Australia 5069

### For more information contact:

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**(ANZTSR) is a  
network of people  
interested in pursuing  
and encouraging  
research into private,  
not-for-profit,  
community or  
voluntary organisations  
and the activities of  
volunteering and  
philanthropy**

# ANZTSR

**ANZTSR aims to develop a better understanding and recognition of the Third Sector and its role in the development of a strong civil society by:**

- encouraging interest and support for research into the Third Sector;
- promoting research and scholarship in matters relating to the Third Sector;
- building networks of individuals and organisations interested in understanding the Third Sector;
- serving as a centre for information on all aspects of the Third Sector;
- developing and maintaining relations with other organisations concerned with Third Sector issues;
- convening seminars and conferences for participants in, researchers of, and all those interested in issues of the Third Sector.

## What is ANZTSR?

ANZTSR is an Incorporated Association, launched in 1993. It arose from the growing awareness of the importance of the Third Sector in Australia and New Zealand, the paucity of reliable information about it and the difficulty of working as isolated researchers.

ANZTSR joins similar organisations in the US (ARNOVA) and the UK (ARVAC) and the International Society for Third Sector Research (ISTR) as active networks that promote communication between researchers and help develop synergies in the research endeavour.

Research networks have also formed in several European countries or regions, in Latin America and Asia.

These all testify to growing interest in the Third Sector as an important, but hitherto under-valued and under-researched sector of societies, political systems and economies.

## Why Study the Third Sector?

The centrality of the Third Sector to the well-being of society, economy and polity is coming to be widely recognised, yet its character and dynamics, its strengths and weaknesses are not well understood. There is a need to build an infrastructure for knowledge about the Third Sector to be drawn upon by those working in the sector, by policymakers, by the media and by the wider public whose commitments create and sustain it.

## Who can Join ANZTSR?

Membership is open to all who share its objectives. Members include academics and research students, government officials with an interest in the Third Sector, and people working in Third Sector organisations, together with those organisations themselves. Current annual rates are shown on the next fold. The membership year is July to June.

## Who Studies the Third Sector?

Third Sector organisations and the associated phenomena of volunteering and philanthropy are studied by researchers from a wide range of disciplines and professional fields: sociology, political science, history, economics, psychology, law, accounting, marketing, community development, local government, organisation studies, social work, cultural studies, development studies, leisure studies, industrial relations, and many more.

## What does ANZTSR offer?

- ***A Refereed Journal - Third Sector Review***  
TSR enables the publication of relevant research findings and theoretical developments. There are two issues published annually including special issues, which are published as new research becomes available.
- ***A Biennial Conference***  
The conference brings together hundreds of people to share their knowledge, experience and research in the third sector.
- ***Advocacy***  
In the interest of third sector research in Australia and New Zealand.
- ***Website***  
The members section of the website is a repository of the biennial conference papers, Board Minutes, Special Meeting of Members, and Annual General Meeting Minutes.

***The ANZTSR website can be accessed at [www.anztsr.org.au](http://www.anztsr.org.au)***