

The Embroiderers Guild, Victoria

**THE EGV CANNOT RAISE MONEY FOR CHARITIES, DISASTER RELIEF OR OTHER CAUSES.
Information Sheet**

This is an issue that troubles many members who naturally want to assist when urgent donations are required from the community at large.

The EGV is a NOT-FOR-PROFIT organisation (details below). That means we cannot raise funds or accept donations for other causes. All money raised in the name of the EGV can only be used to benefit the EGV.

It is sometimes argued that the Red Cross, and Salvos for example, can and do raise money to assist people for many reasons, including natural disasters. However these are charity organisations, with specific objectives built into their constitution to raise funds for distribution.

WHAT CAN WE DO INSTEAD?

There are still ways that we, the Guild as a whole, or individual branches or guidance groups, can assist. Some examples:

- Making and donating items (not using EGV funds) to particular charities to be sold or raffled by the charity, such as an embroidered quilt.
- Making and donating items (not using EGV funds) to be given to victims of a disaster, for instance chatelaines, embroidered items, quilts.
- Or more effectively, encourage members to make individual donations to the cause.

This legal definition comes from the ACNC (Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission).

“Not-for-profits can make profit, but any profit made must be applied for the organisation's purpose(s). Organisations can retain profits instead of applying it towards their purpose, as long as there is for a genuine reason for this related to its purpose.

These conditions are defined in our constitution are as follows: Memorandum of Association Item 4 Page 4 -Non-profit clause, and Item 7 Page 5 – Dissolution clause.

As a not-for-profit organisation, we are given significant tax exemptions. ACNC monitors our annual financial report to ensure that we are fulfilling our objectives as defined in our constitution.

All money raised in the name of the EGV can only be used to benefit the EGV and its members in accordance with our objectives.

This information sheet should be read in conjunction with the EGV by-laws ‘Donations’ - March 2016