

Find New Homes for Everyday Items

Is your wardrobe door bulging? Are you up to your ears in e-waste? Here's some good news: someone else has a use for your unwanted things by Christina Sexton



Be uplifting Can you even count how many **bras** you own but never wear? Project Uplift collects bras for disadvantaged women in isolated Indigenous Australian communities, in the Philippines and in the Solomon Islands. For one of these women, your unwanted bra may be the only one she'll own, and it could even help her dress for a job interview. Project Uplift has scheduled a major distribution for March—give now! **More info:** upliftbras.org



Kick your old kicks You've recently invested in new **runners**? Don't bin your old ones. If they're still in good nick, pass them on to Shoes for Planet Earth. It will distribute them to people (both here and overseas) who can't afford to buy a pair. You can either post your shoes or leave them at drop-off locations in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland. **More info:** shoesforplanetearth.com



Work someone else's wardrobe Peer into the depths of your overstuffed wardrobe. Do you really need that many **work clothes**? Fitted for Work helps disadvantaged people prepare to re-enter the workforce. Its free outfitting service enables potential employees to put their best foot forward—in your gear! Drop off clothes, shoes and accessories in person, or pop them in the post. **More info:** fittedforwork.org



Make a good call Don't ditch your old brick of a **mobile phone**—pass it on to the Youth Cancer charity. Print a label from its website, and you can post your phone to the charity for free. It will refurbish and resell your phone to raise money for young cancer sufferers. **More info:** youcan.org.au



Give the gift of sight OPSM stores nationwide accept your unwanted **glasses** and send them to vision clinics, both here and overseas. Your old specs will go to people who wouldn't normally have access to eye care. **More info:** opsm.com.au



Make a sound investment If your kids had a passing interest in learning to play a **musical instrument**, but hassling them to practise became too exhausting, consider passing that dusty drum kit, violin or trumpet on to the Australian Children's Music Foundation (ACMF). Its mission is to use music to inspire children around Australia, particularly kids who can't afford to buy an instrument, such as those from Indigenous Australian and disadvantaged communities. Contact the ACMF to arrange for collection. **More info:** acmf.com.au



Shelve some books The Footpath Library wants to give your used **books** to homeless people in your area. If your hardbacks and paperbacks are in good condition, contact the library's book-resource manager in your capital city to find out what the organisation needs. Alternatively, give your local library a call to see whether the staff are keen to accept your preloved books. **More info:** footpathlibrary.org

Delete your e-waste As the prices of TVs and laptops continue to drop, disposal of outdated appliances has become a big issue. At present, only 17% of us recycle our e-waste. But in mid-2012, the government will start rolling out a national recycling scheme in which you can dispose of unwanted electronic goods for free (Go to environment.gov.au.) In the meantime, try Freecycle, a free community-based recycling site. **More info:** freecycle.org/group/au **P**