



# Young Actuaries Program: Positioning for Success with Social Media

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### **Contents**

- The power of social media
- Case studies: professionals using social media to their advantage
- How recruiters are using LinkedIn
- What does social media mean for actuaries?
- Wrap up



## Straw poll: what is social media?



Necessary evil?



Cool/fun?

Time waster?





Important communications channel?



# We are living in the digital age: social media has become a powerful force

In 2013, Mobile, Social Lead Shift From Traditional Media to Digital, 19 February 2013



## FINANCIAL TIMES

Companies allowed to tweet #USearnings, 2 April 2013

After bombings, social media informs (and misinforms), 23 April 2013





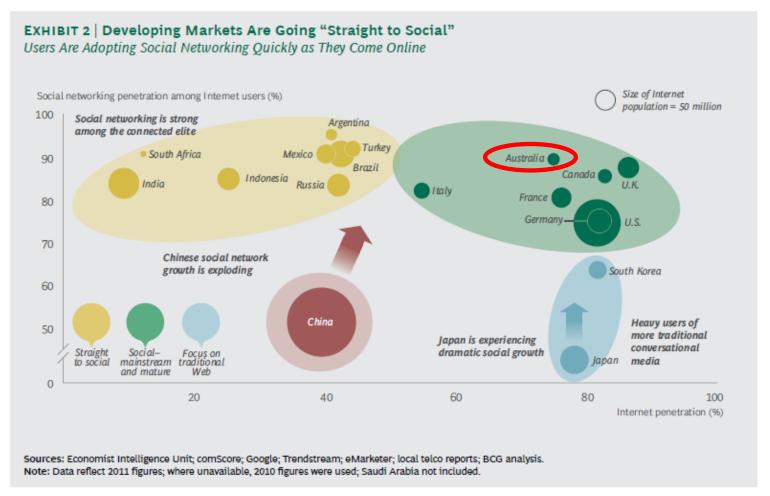
Twitter Speaks, Markets Listen and Fears Rise, 28 April 2013





# Australia is a quick adapter of technology and we've embraced social media

#### G-20 Social media and Internet adoption rates



Source: The Internet Economy in the G-20: The \$4.2 Trillion Growth Opportunity, The Boston Consulting Group, March 2012

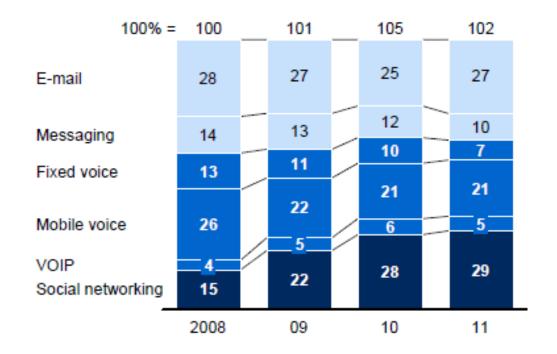


# Communication is increasingly taking place via social networking

## Use of social networks for communications nearly doubled from 2008 to 2011, while use of landline phones and instant messaging fell

Communication portfolio, 2008-111

%; average minutes of use per day, 2008 index



<sup>1</sup> Q: You mentioned several activities you do daily or almost daily. How much time do you spend doing these activities? NOTE: Numbers may not sum due to rounding.

SOURCE: iConsumer survey 2008-11

Source: The social economy: Unlocking value and productivity through social technologies, McKinsey Global Institute



## Why bother with social media?

#### From a marketing perspective...

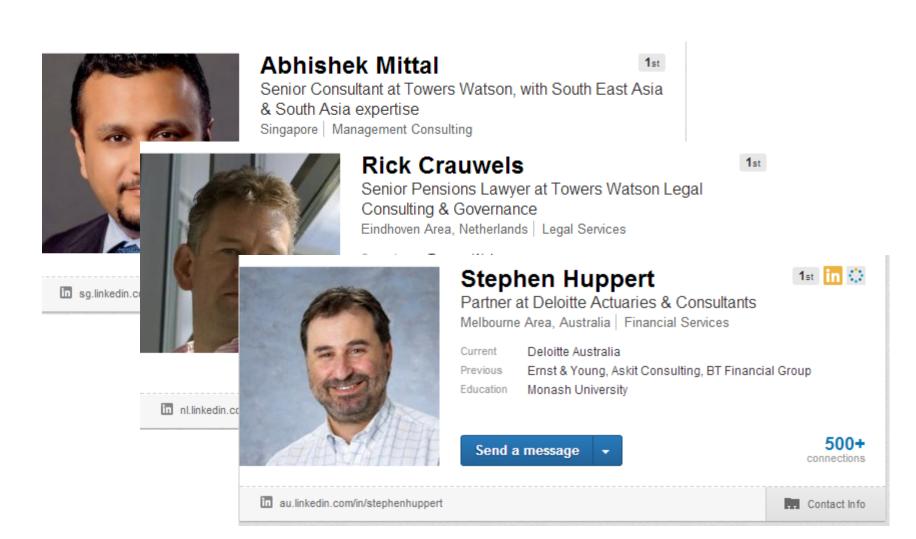
- Increases brand awareness go viral in the right way
- Broadens reach it's another touch point/comms and marketing channel
- Drives sales, reinforce our brand and service offerings
- Drives SEO
- Professional conversations are happening in social media

#### For Young Actuaries...

- Promote
  - Tell people who you are and what you're about
- Position
  - Start relationships with industry associations, organisations, other professionals bodies
  - Instigate industry discussion by sharing your thoughts on topical, professional issues
  - Demonstrate what you're interested in, what motivates you, what you're an expert at
- People
  - Connect with other professionals in your field
  - Build and develop relationships



# Case studies of professionals using social media to their advantage





## Abhishek Mittal: management consultant who has won awards for professional social media usage

## **MUMBLR**



#### Observations, tips

- Initially you're going to have teething problems such as building up your network, building trust and engaging people. It's not as if millions of people are there just waiting to find you. It happens on any network and in real life
- You need to spend time on it
- Good way to keep track of what competitors are doing, they're all on there
- You can expand your network. There's a big community out there you can connect with that takes you outside your physical network – you have a much wider reach
- Fastest way to get up to speed on what's going on in your field

"Surprises me that not a whole lot of us are there (on social), we're in the knowledge business – this is a great way of sharing knowledge"



## Rick Crauwels: lawyer, expert Tweeter - influencing Dutch pensions regulation via social media





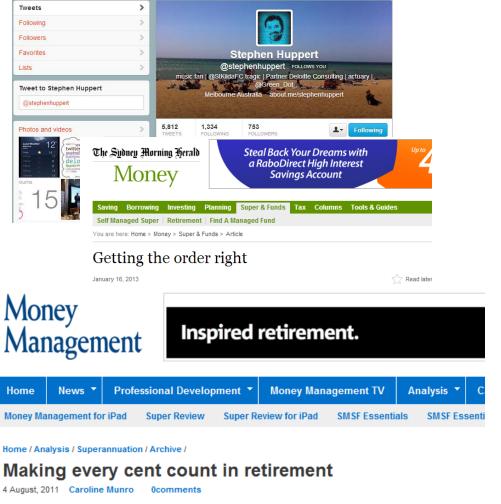
- Dutch Authority for the Financial Markets tweeted on a regulatory issue which stretched the legal borders of their area of expertise
- Rick reacted to a few of their posts, pointing out this was not a great idea
- Within a day, he had an invitation to have a discussion with them and gave them a deeper insight in his objections against the way AFM stretched its legal limits

#### Observations, tips

- Ideal way to start a discussion on a certain topic
- Ideal way to see what people are thinking about a topic by posting something and seeing what reaction you get
- Good way to contact and influence politicians in the pensions field
- On ROI, people are more aware of his expertise and it's easier to build up a name in the field through social media
- Always count to ten before you click the tweet button



### Stephen Huppert: local actuary, social media whizz getting business development and media opportunities

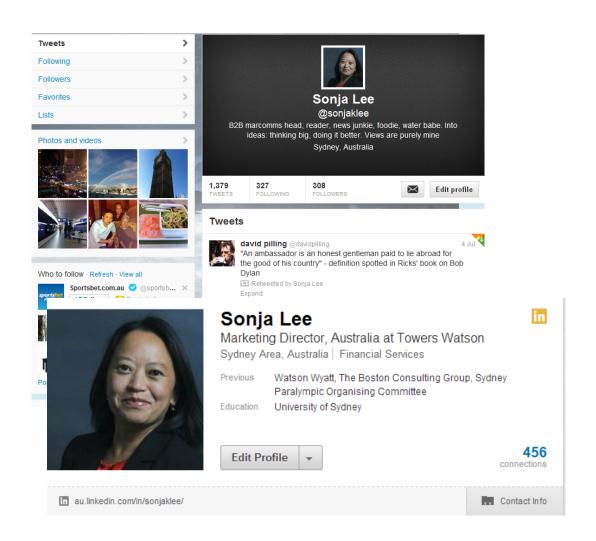


#### **Observations**, tips

- Lots of lurkers, clients comment face to face, not online but at least they're looking!
- Social media is not broadcasting, it's social interaction. Don't' forget "social"
- Don't be scared to use it
- Be prepared to experiment, see what others are doing, follow/unfollow on Twitter
- Has seen high ROI through Yammer in the workplace
- Learn how to quickly delete posts in whatever platform you're using



## My social media experience



#### **Twitter**

- Relationship building with key prospect
- You can keep up to date with what your prospects are doing (and they are often flattered by that!)
- Lots of super industry follows
- Powerful tool for industry conferences, very easy way to build your brand, meet new people with shared interest

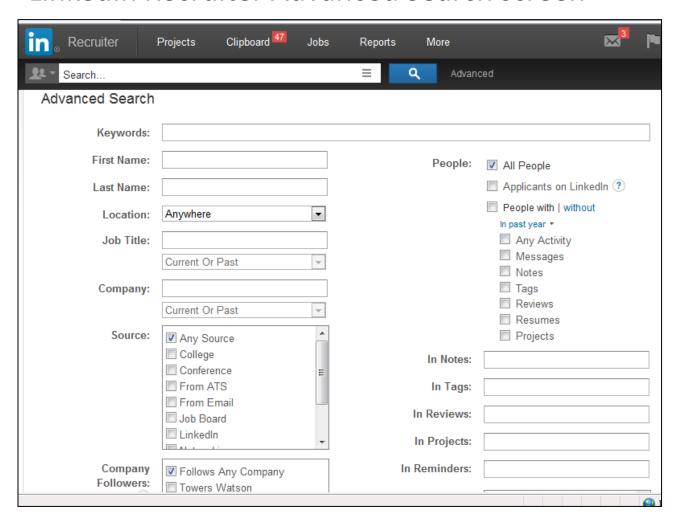
#### Linked

- Several approaches on job opportunities via LinkedIn
- Keep in touch with global colleagues, see who's moving where
- Sourced some high quality candidates for vacant position



## LinkedIn is a powerful tool for recruiters (i)

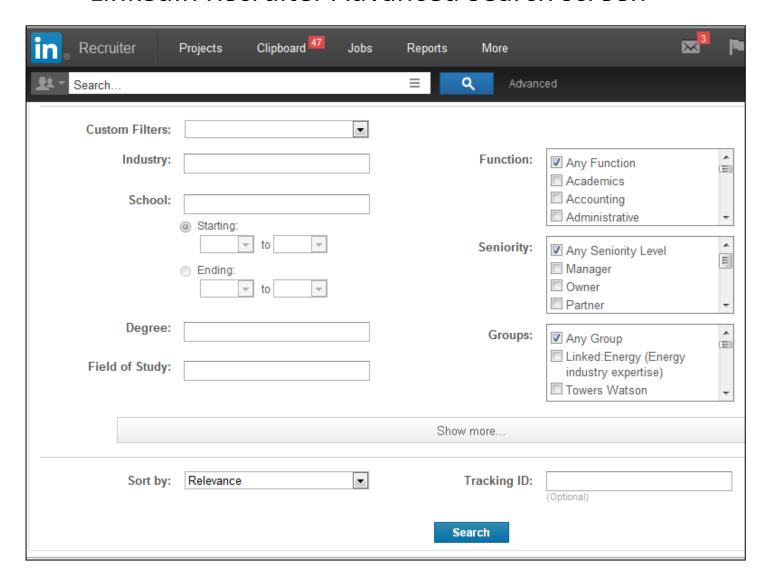
#### LinkedIn Recruiter Advanced Search screen





## Actuaries Institute LinkedIn is a powerful tool for recruiters (ii)

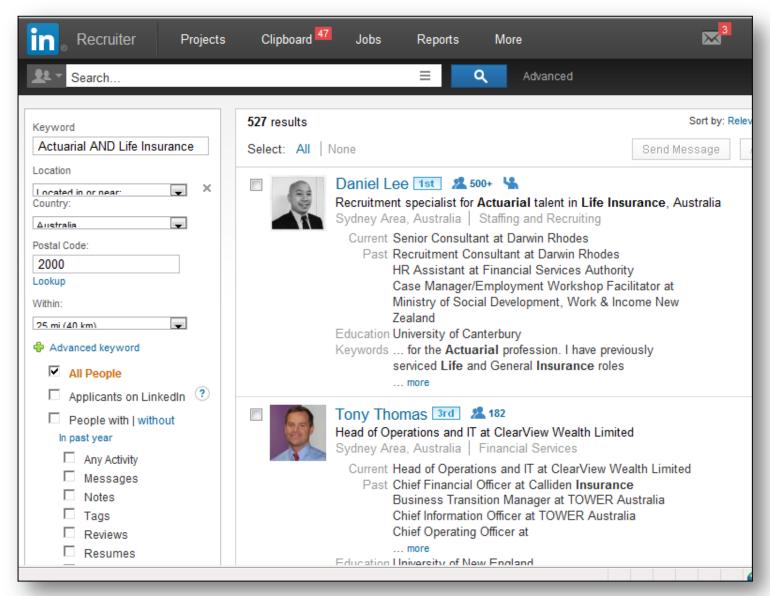
### LinkedIn Recruiter Advanced Search screen





## Actuaries Institute LinkedIn is a powerful tool for recruiters (iii)

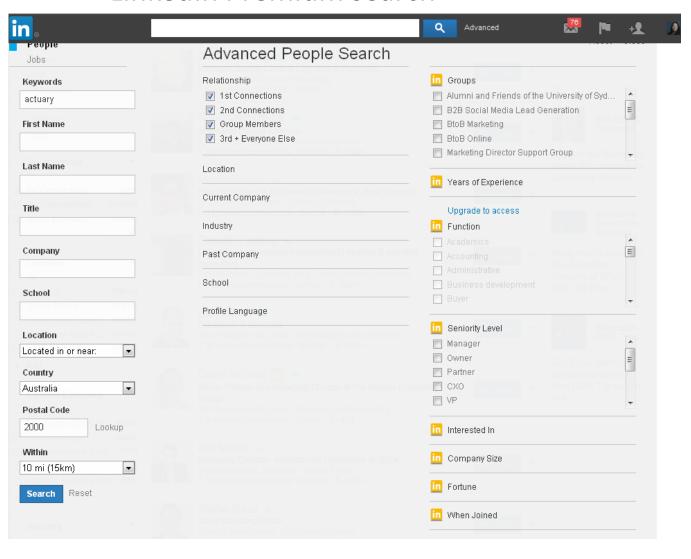
### LinkedIn Recruiter search results





# With a premium account, I can also do helpful searches (i)

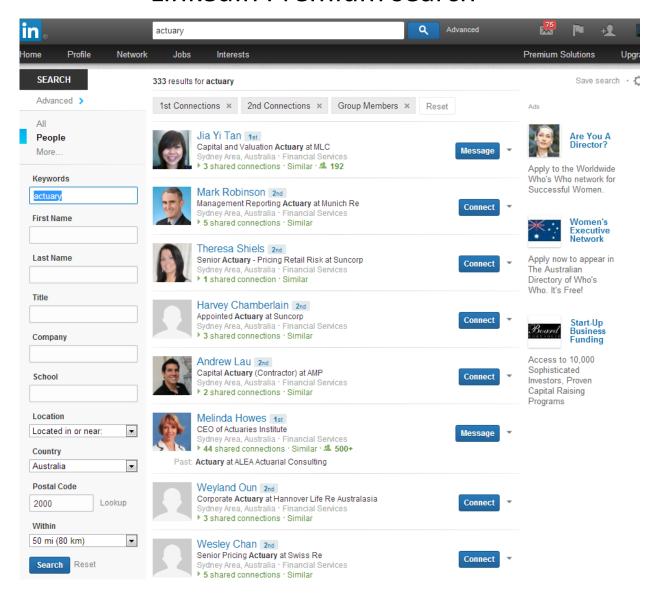
### LinkedIn Premium search





# With a premium account, I can also do helpful searches (ii)

#### LinkedIn Premium search





## My advice to young actuaries is to think about social media, be strategic

### Vision/ mission

Do it

| Be strategic   | Don't   |
|--|---|
| <ul> <li>Decide which accounts are for what, how you want to position yourself and how you're going to demonstrate it</li> <li>Be open to new ideas and ways of doing things - is there first mover advantage on Twitter?</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Ignore social media , you don't want to be left<br/>behind</li> <li>Think of it in purely negative terms or act like an arch<br/>conservative</li> </ul>         |
| <ul> <li>Be consistent in social media channels: use the same<br/>name, professional head shot of yourself</li> </ul>  | Use dodgy, grainy or distant pictures of yourself   |
| <ul> <li>Be sensible – ask yourself whether you would be happy to see that in print and attributed to you</li> <li>Follow those that you're interested in and know</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Do professional social media while drinking (you might regret it the morning after)</li> <li>Link to people you don't know or can't trust on LinkedIn</li> </ul> |
| Be genuine, honest   | Pretend to me something that you're not   |
| <ul> <li>Share interesting professional things: Interesting journal<br/>articles, thought pieces, Industry conferences, Relevant<br/>videos and pictures</li> </ul>  | Post overly personal things on professional accounts and vice versa   |
| <ul> <li>Use hash tags when relevant, it's a good way to pick up<br/>followers: use key words on LinkedIn</li> </ul>   |   |
| <ul> <li>Keep your accounts up to date, otherwise don't bother!</li> <li>Tweet one to three times a day is good</li> <li>Pilot things</li> <li>Use LinkedIn functionality – like, share, comment</li> </ul>                          | Over tweet or post things to LinkedIn , you might<br>annoy people who will then unfollow you  |
| <ul> <li>Use something like Hootsuite or Buffer to track your click<br/>throughs and where they're coming from</li> </ul>  |   |

**ROI** 



### **Conclusions**

- People are connecting and communicating through social media – a potentially highly influential and powerful channel if harnessed in the right way
- Professionals can and do use social media effectively to promote themselves and their organisations
- Recruiters and managers are increasingly using LinkedIn to source candidates locally and globally

How are you going to harness the power of social media?



## Questions?



### Connect with me

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