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### WEEKEND WONDERING

On weekend Wonding Dave chats with Business Expert Alan Manly looking at the 5 myths about starting

Take everything you think you know about starting a business and throw it away: these all-too-common misconceptions about what it's like to start your own business could actually be your undoing!

Declaring yourself an entrepreneur will naturally attract comment. Some say it's a yearning for financial wealth that is your driving force. Others suggest it's not the money but the recognition you really crave. Then there's the belief in a need for power (expressed in polite company as a desire to be free from the wage slave concept). Regardless of your motivation to venture into business for yourself, beware these common myths that can and do mislead the unwary!

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## Myth 1: Hard work will always be rewarded

"The only way he'll succeed is by the sweat of his brow." That's something of a figurative Biblical quote. I suspect this came into fashion when manual labour was the major source of production.

Interestingly, the origin was actually a curse placed on a disobedient Adam. So, there it is: hard work was a curse, not a motivation.

The truth is that hard work doesn't always pay dividends; it depends entirely on where you direct your efforts.

There's a good reason why beachgoers are warned not to swim against a rip: you'll simply tire yourself going

### Myth 2: Bureaucracy is the enemy

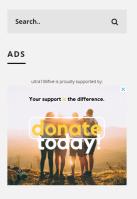
Forget structure and process, an entrepreneur going out on their own can do things fast and free. No need for formality and excuse makers; the start-up will be nimble and grasp every opportunity as it appears.

This may go well when the entire start-up remains unchallenged as a one-person job running out of your garage or spare room.

Sadly, though, when a delivery arrives and there is no paperwork to prove the order, the nimble entrepreneur's claims of efficiency look more to customers like a lack of management.

And let's not forget the accountant's worst nightmare of being handed a shoe box full of receipts each tax time!

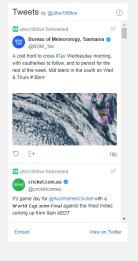
Big bureaucracy is cumbersome. But proper record-keeping and structure underpin a viable business.



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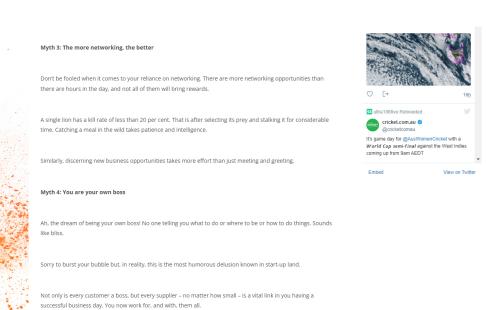
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The second time around start-up has a lower chance of survival if the first owed its success more to blind luck than a well-thought-out business plan.

Try to understand and perhaps accept why you as a potential start-up entrepreneur are really undertaking this adventure. That's the real key towards making a success of your business.

Alan Manly is the founder of Group Colleges Australia and author of *The Unlikely Entrepreneur*. To find out more, visit www.alanmanly.com.au







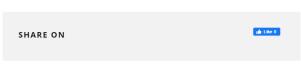




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