

AD LIB



SUMMER '10



THOUGHTS FROM THE DEPUTY LEADER



By Steven GRIFFITHS

Deputy Leader of the South Australian Opposition

Shadow Treasurer

Shadow Minister for Federal/State Relations

Shadow Minister for Government Enterprises

From the time I was old enough to vote I have always been a supporter of the beliefs of the Liberal Party – the Party of initiative, enterprise and opportunity.

It was not until January 2003 that I became a member of the Liberal Party. The reason for this delay in becoming involved was due to the fact that as a local government Chief Executive Officer from 1993 I believed that I needed to be removed from a direct involvement in politics.

However, the election of Rann Labor to Government in 2002 made me reconsider this position as I could see that people needed to become involved in the future of their community, state and nation.

Throughout my life I have believed that all people have a responsibility to contribute positively. Becoming a Member of the Liberal Party has been part of my conviction.

After two years in the Liberal Party, and enjoying the opportunity to be with and discuss important issues with people who also wanted to make a positive contribution, I stood for pre-selection to replace the retiring Member for Goyder, Mr John Meier. After working hard to build my profile, which included many months of door-knocking, I was elected to represent the people of Goyder at the March 2006 State election.

It is a great privilege to be elected by the people through our wonderful democratic system to be their voice and representative in State Parliament. My role as the Member for Goyder is one that I will never take for granted.

My decision to enter politics on this level was not a decision I took lightly as I knew the challenges ahead would be great. I knew that to make a contribution to South Australia, working to make our state a better place to live, work and invest, was a commitment that required passion and dedication. I would not have stepped up to the challenge if I did not believe I could do my very best every day.

Luckily I have the full support from my wife Donna and our children Tyler and Kelsey. Without the support of my family it would be impossible.

“Throughout my life I have believed that all people have a responsibility to contribute positively.”

After being elected to represent the people of Goyder in 2006 I was delighted to be immediately appointed as a Shadow Minister. In July 2009 I was elected by my Liberal parliamentary colleagues as the Deputy Leader of the Opposition to work alongside Isobel Redmond, Leader of the Opposition.

To take on this higher level of responsibility after only three years is a great honour for me. Knowing that I have the support and confidence of my peers to work together for South Australia is a heartening experience.

Also as Shadow Treasurer, Shadow Minister for Federal/State Relations and Shadow Minister for Government Enterprises the challenges are both enjoyable and frustrating.

Enjoyable for the fact that I get to work closely with people, business and industry groups which gives me a true understanding of the current issues facing South Australia but frustrating in the fact that while in Opposition we in the State Liberal Party are limited to what action we can take to make South Australia a better place to live and conduct business.

After eight years of mismanagement under a Rann Labor government something must be done to ensure South Australia boasts a strong economy and is once again competitive with the rest of the nation. South Australia's tax regime is the harshest in Australia and acts as a major hindrance to our competitiveness. It is concerning that a recent national study has revealed that tax on businesses in South Australia is 4.8% higher than any other state in the country.

In line with Liberalism South Australia needs a government that nurtures and encourages its citizens through incentive, rather than putting limits on people through the punishment of overly burdensome taxes and the stifling structures of Labor's corporate state and bureaucratic red tape.

As such the Liberal Opposition is focused on tax reform needed to attract new investment. It is vital that tax policies are in place to provide opportunity for business to be successful, competitive and generate employment.

As a first step under a Redmond Liberal government all land tax payers will benefit from our plan to lift the land tax base threshold from \$110,000 to \$250,000.

This reform will see 57,000 residential and business people with a land value below \$250,000 no longer paying any land tax. Such incentives will be implemented to help reverse the damage the Rann Labor government has inflicted on South Australia.

After almost four years as a State Parliamentarian I am excited about the coming election on 20 March 2010.

Isobel Redmond is an inspirational person with an invigorating approach to politics in that she is not driven by media spin but by the real needs of our community. All who meet or hear Isobel are impressed and clearly she is connecting with the people of South Australia in a way that has the Labor Party worried.

All of us now have the responsibility to ensure that March 20th 2010 is the start of a new, exciting era for South Australia. We need a change of government to occur and I am very confident that it will happen.



'BIG AUSTRALIA' POLICY NEEDED

By *Stephan KNOLL*

State Young Liberal Treasurer

The release of the intergenerational reports has sparked a debate on population policy within this country. With projections of Australia reaching a population of 35 million by 2050 there are fears about how we deal with better fertility rates and migration in terms of infrastructure, job creation and social cohesion, however, there are great benefits of a 'Big Australia', the first and foremost of those being growth. Australia's youth need to grapple with this issue as population demographics will most greatly affect those working over the next 40 years.

Australia is a country of migrants. From Aboriginal settlement somewhere between 50,000 to 100,000 years ago, English settlement in the late 1700's and the more recent European, Asian, Middle Eastern and African migration, Australia has grown into a rich and diverse multicultural nation. With a legacy and history such as we have, it seems somewhat hypocritical to now start talking of winding back migration to hold back population growth. Migrants have brought much cultural diversity to this country. As families settle and over generations assimilate into Australian culture new migration helps to bring one very important aspect into the Australian psyche, respect and appreciation for the Australian way of life.

Strong migration helps Australia on an international scale. A larger population would help Australia to compete more easily internationally, as well as helping to have a more secure military presence and one better able to defend itself. Without wishing to seem alarmist, as the world population moves from 6 billion to 9 billion by 2050, the competition for food, land, water and infrastructure will become more fierce. Australia can help to contribute to solving this by keeping higher migration levels to deal with the population surge abroad as well as being seen as a good international citizen.

There are concerns that higher migration levels come at the expense of social cohesion. Over recent years we have seen riots in Cronulla and turmoil over the building of Muslim schools on Camden NSW expose a racist undercurrent, one that has turned the Australian flag into a symbol of hatred and exclusion instead of patriotism. Reducing migration only gives in to those elements and cements Australia's growing perception abroad as a racist nation. In the same way that anti segregationist policies in the US caused turmoil and discomfort in the short term, over time increased migration will be difficult but necessary to combating racism caused by fear and ignorance.

Population growth will help Australia to become a more sustainable and efficient nation. Australia has some of the least dense cities in the world. Melbourne with a population of 3.9 million has a density of 1566 people per square kilometre. By comparison Tel Aviv in Israel, with a population of 3.15 million has a density of 7533 and Berlin, Germany, with a population of 3.4 million has a density of 3842. Australians will have to deal with smaller home sizes but will be able to be better serviced in terms of transport, amenities and other social infrastructure.

Suggestions that we cannot support the population on the grounds of lack of rainfall and natural resources are false. Tel Aviv is over 4.5 times as dense as Melbourne but has less annual average rainfall at 530mm compared to 650mm. Sydney at a density of 2058 people per square kilometre and an average rainfall of 1175mm also has some way to go and smaller cities such as Adelaide even more so (Density of 1295 people/km² and rainfall of 520mm). In Adelaide, fare prices for public transport only cover 20% of the cost of provision of those services. This leads to diminished services as governments seek to contain costs. A more dense population helps to encourage more efficient and better serviced public transport infrastructure leading to greater uptake of its use.

By far the most compelling reason to keep higher growth rates, both natural and migration is age demographics. Currently 13 percent of the population is over 65. The intergenerational reports suggest that this will still rise to 22% by 2049. By scaling back population growth we will distort this even further and risk putting this country into permanent structural deficit for a generation to come. The Federal Labor Party member for Wells in Victoria Kelvin Thomson has come out and advocated for capping of the population to 26 million. At this level those over 65 will represent 29.6% of the population and reduce the ratio of working persons to over 65's from 4.75 to 2.1.

In the end the only answer is to continue on the current path. There are challenges to supporting a larger population and Australia will be relying on policy makers to have the foresight to deal with emerging issues to ensure that we are able to maintain and improve the Australian way of life. There are great benefits of a 'Big Australia' for growth, sustainability, international relations and demographics the real result of which would be a stronger, richer and more proud Australia.

INSIDE THIS EDITION



Christmas Drinks
Page 4



Candidate Profiles
Page 5 & 8



Wine Tour
Page 10

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



By *Michael van DISSEL*

SA Young Liberal President

Welcome to the Summer edition of Ad Lib and the last edition before the State Election!

I trust that you all had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and that 2010 brings you much happiness and success.

The State Election is almost upon us. What this means is that we all should be thinking and doing Liberal until the end of March. The Rann Government is tired and out of touch. It has missed the boat on water, infrastructure and law and order. It must go!

To get rid of the Rann Government, we must all work with our local members and candidates to ensure that they get elected. Elections are not won by staying at home. Elections are won with hard work and good campaigning.

I would encourage all Young Liberals to contact their local members and candidates to offer their services.

If we all put in just a couple of hours of work between now and the election we will make the difference.

The Flying Squad is active and busy campaigning. To be part of the Flying Squad, please contact Mr Michael Crosby on mtdcrosby@gmail.com

The Federal Young Liberal Convention will be held in Adelaide on the weekend of 29, 30 and 31 January. There will be Welcome Drinks hosted by Senators Nick Minchin and Concetta Fieravanti-Wells, a Gala Ball with the Senator the Hon. Eric Abetz, Farwell Drinks with Senator Cory Bernardi along with many, many guest speakers during Saturday and Sunday. We are very fortunate that Hon. Tony Abbott MHR and Isobel Redmond MP are giving major policy announcements at the Convention. Tickets are still available at www.youngliberal.org

We have a busy year ahead of us with the State and Federal Elections... not to mention the usual Young Liberal events. I look forward to seeing you all again at the Young Liberal Council on 16 February 2010!

CHRISTMAS DRINKS



Michael van Dissel and John Bowers



Ben Bartlett & Talis Evans



Sonja Jankovic and Kate Aston



Stuart Burrows and Fred Fan



Craig Simms and Patrick Giam

Young Liberal Christmas drinks were held on Sunday December 13 at the King's Head hotel. Sam Hooper gave a speech about his experiences on 'The Apprentice'



Bridie Sampson and Sanjay Kumar



Nathan Atterton, Sam Hooper, Jack Batty and Reuben Bolaffi



Michael Crosby, James Bourke and Ben Woolford

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS: NORWOOD CANDIDATE - STEVE MARSHALL



BACKGROUND

Steven is currently the General Manger of Michell Pty Ltd's Textile Division which exports wool and textiles throughout the world. He is also on a number of boards including Compost for Soils (Chairman), Injekta Pty Ltd (chairman and Spastic Centres of SA (SCOSA).

Prior to taking on his current role at Michell Pty Ltd, Steven was Managing Director of a number of businesses including the family business. These roles supplemented his various board roles.

A local to the electorate of Norwood, Steven has lived in the Norwood area for many years.

He has a Bachelor of Business Degree majoring in marketing from the University of South Australia and an MBA from Durham University in the UK.

In 2001 he was awarded the Centenary of Federation Medal in 2001 for services to Business and the Community

Has has two children – Charlie aged 11 and Georgie 10.

What are some of the important issues in the electorate of Norwood?

1. Water, 2. Land Tax, 3. RAH, 4. ICAC, 5. Heritage and conservation

What advice would you give to aspiring candidates?

Work on a campaign to see what is involved.

Choose a seat which you have a natural fit with.

Be prepared for plenty of hard work - but also the opportunity to learn more about an electorate and meet some great people.

How can Young Liberals help you to win?

Young Liberals are crucial. They provide much needed resource at the election time.

Polling booths, fundraisers, posters, letter boxing are all critical jobs in a successful campaign.

Young Liberals also provide the candidate with a direct link younger voters and their issues.

Why does the Rann Government have to go?

The Rann government has had eight good years with massive GST and property tax revenues to execute their agenda.

Unfortunately we have very little to show for this.

SA now has the highest taxes of any state in Australia, we have massive blow outs in government spending year after year, we have failed to drive improvements in education and health. The government has squandered additional revenue on spin and the politicising of the public sector. Rann and Foley have failed to deliver on mental health and disabilities.

They have favoured spin over substance and deserve to be sent a message at this coming election

What local events have you been attending and what fundraisers have you been holding?

I am currently getting to as many functions and events in the electorate as possible. At the moment I am averaging more than 50 seperate functions per month. There are plenty to attend in Norwood. We have a very active community. In the remaining days until the election I have 16 seperate street corner meetings scheduled. Our major fundraiser is the Norwood Summer Garden Party on Friday 12th of February, 6-9pm. Tickets available at \$80 (\$60 per member). I am also looking for some volunteers to help out on the night. Please let me know if you are interested.

ADELAIDE & UNLEY YOUNG LIBERAL POLICY NIGHT



Sonja Jankovic, Alex Polson and Mihali Kouros



Senator Mary Jo Fisher and Brendan Clark

RUDD GOVERNMENT

DEBT:

The Rudd Government has burnt a hole in the nations pocket and broken an "alarming number of its election promises" Senator Ferguson writes:

LABOR'S DEBT BOMBSHELL



\$37,628,041,665.25

LABOR GOVERNMENT 2 YEARS ON:

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

By Senator the Hon

ALAN FERGUSON



As we enter into what promises to be a very big year on the political front, it is timely to reflect on the 'all talk, no action' Labor government and to look at some of the achievements of the Coalition since the last election.

The defeat of the Howard government and the advent of the Rudd government in 2007 was confronting for the Coalition, it brought with it change, new challenges, negotiations and re-organisation. Now with a new leader and a looming election amidst some spectacular Rudd government failures – such as the Copenhagen non-event and a myriad of broken promises, it would be fair to say the Opposition is on the front foot chasing a grandstanding, do-nothing government.

In the space of just over two years, the Rudd government has notched up some alarming statistics due to its wasteful spending and mismanagement of taxpayer funds, not to mention Australia surging into debt at an alarming rate.

It took the Coalition and the Australian people more than a decade to pay off the previous \$96 billion debt left behind by Labor; how long will it take to pay off the Rudd Government's estimated \$300 billion debt?

Some of Labor's other mind-boggling 'achievements' include:

- \$46 million in tax bonus payments to dead people and

Australians who live overseas

- The failure to undertake any cost-benefit analysis before spending more than \$18 billion on its 'Building the Education Revolution' program and on its bungled 'Laptops in Schools' program
- Wasting \$200 million on its poorly implemented 'pink batts cash splash'
- \$10 million wasted on the GROCERYchoice website
- Schools stimulus debacle – \$1.7 billion blow-out
- Northern Territory indigenous housing program – \$45 million and not one completed house
- 2020 Summit – \$2 million wasted.

In addition to burning a hole in the nation's pocket, the Rudd government has broken an alarming number of its election promises including: lowering petrol and grocery prices, implementing a federal takeover of public hospitals, promising to 'turn back' asylum seekers arriving on boats, nationwide broadband access, introducing a mandatory energy renewal program, stopping Japanese whaling and cutting emissions by 60%.

Despite Mr Rudd 'declaring war' on many of his so-called 'number one' priorities, they are victims of the policy-on-the-run, spin and empty rhetoric synonymous with the government.

The Opposition, on the other hand, finished 2009 with a spring in its stride. December 2009 saw the Coalition reject the deeply flawed Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme Bills in the Senate as well as the election by the Liberal Party of Tony Abbott as its new Leader. Abbott went on to say that the new leadership represented the end of the Liberal Party being referred to as the 'former government' and the start of a 'fair-dinkum Opposition.'

Our 'fair-dinkum Opposition' is the party of initiative and enterprise. We believe in the rights and freedoms of all people and a government that encourages

individual and private sector initiative rather than a big, all controlling government which interferes in all facets of life.

Moving forward, the Coalition will further differentiate itself and create a strong, viable alternative government with policy decisions reflecting our core principles.

The Senate will play a major role in scrutinising

government policy and ensuring that flawed legislation like the ETS and changes to Youth Allowance, Private Health, Industrial Relations, Taxation and Broadband do not pass in their current form.

2009 saw the end of my three year term as the Australian Regional Representative on the Executive of the Common-

wealth Parliamentary Association (CPA).

This has been a challenging and rewarding period as the CPA comes to terms with its modern structure as an organisation for Commonwealth Members of Parliament around the globe.

The organisation will be 100 years old in 2011 and has come a long way from its initial membership of the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and South Africa to the 153 national and state legislatures from across the Commonwealth.

Because of the size of the membership, there are some who would seek to raise its status as an influential world body. I am of the opinion, however, that it should always remain an organisation for parliamentarians of every political persuasion to help each other, and for older and wealthier member legislatures to assist newer, emerging democracies, both at a state and national level.

The Commonwealth of nations represent governments of the day and should still be the body with the highest status and influence among comparable organisations. Executive Committee Membership has been a wonderful experience for me personally and I'm sure that my successor in this role, the current Senate President, John Hogg, will continue to represent the interests of our national members of parliament.

2010 will be a busy year for all as we head to the next election. I commend the Young Liberals for the hard work and effort they have dedicated to the Party and the various campaigns in the past and I hope that this invaluable contribution will continue and hopefully, see us back into government at both State and federal levels in the near future.

EDITORIAL

By **MONICA O'SHEA**



As the State Election draws closer I thought I would dedicate this editorial to my thoughts on campaigning.

Campaigning is the most rewarding of all activities one can partake in as a Young Liberal. There is nothing more satisfying than returning from a letterbox drop in a marginal electorate or a supermarket visit and knowing you have spent your time well.

On countless occasions over the past few months I have been in awe at the amount of time individuals, businesses, candidates, party

members our state president and the secretariat are are putting into this campaign.

Recently, I attended a joint meeting for a number of state electorates. The guest speaker, a Member of Parliament, talked about how he and his parliamentary colleagues had donated a good percentage of their salaries to the state campaign. This inspired me because it made me realise just how much our MP's are willing to put on the line to win this election.

I have been involved in the Young Liberals for 4 years and joined the Liberal Party just after the 2006 state election.

This state election, will therefore be my first as a member of the party. As a young liberal, there is only so much I can do - I am not rich, and I don't own my own business.

But I am young and I am capable of putting up posters. I am also capable of encouraging other young people to get out in the electorate and campaign.

I have no doubt that our opponents will be out in force this election. I still have memories of putting up posters during the Federal Election and bumping into truckloads of Young Labor members and union activists racing us to the poles and trying to get the best spots. These memories make me more determined than ever that we need to be prepared for election day and ready to campaign.

I hope that all Young Liberals will consider helping on election day - it doesn't take much to hand out a few flyers, put up a few posters or man a polling booth. But it will make a difference.

WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?
JOIN THE YOUNG LIBERAL FLYING SQUAD
Mtdcrosby@gmail.com



RUDD GOVERNMENT MUST ACT ON JAPANESE WHALE BOATS SITUATION

By **CHRIS BROWNE**

Unless you have been under a rock since late last year, you would've heard about the evil Japanese whaling boats in the Southern Ocean and the heroic Greenpeace fleet saving the large mammals.

The only thing is that I don't think that the Japanese whalers are evil and I don't think that the Sea Shepherd fleet is heroic. Actually, their dangerous vigilante mission is borderline piracy and their possession of non-lethal, military-grade weapons is potentially illegal.

Their photonic disruptor weapons are, according to the manufacturer, a hand-held laser that will "overwhelm a threat's visual senses without causing permanent eye damage." These same weapons have been used in both Iraq and Afghanistan by allied forces, so it's probably reasonable to assume that they aren't safe to use on the high seas.

The Japanese too have armed their vessels with water cannons and sonic emitters,

but the difference here is that they didn't go to the Southern Ocean looking for a fight. They went there to harvest a quota of non-endangered whales. Common sense, therefore, tells us that they only plan on using them for defensive measures.

Regardless of what side of the argument you sit, it is clear that the Australian government has been as good as silent on this issue. They vowed to protect whales but can't deploy a ship to monitor the Japanese harvest because they want to maintain strong relations with our most important trade partner while not vexing their core left-wing vote.

It should be a simple solution - send an observation vessel to the Southern Ocean to keep an eye on the harvest. If the protesters get out of hand and are breaking maritime safety rules the government should prosecute them upon their return to Australia.

If the Japanese break any of these same rules (it seems unlikely that they would if they

knew a government vessel was there) then charge only the captain of the vessel involved under Australian law. That way Australia can keep its hands clean by not preventing whaling, but rather by preventing dangerous conduct at sea in Australian territorial waters.

It seems like a simple resolution to a situation which is increasingly growing out of hand, especially following the destruction of the *Ady Gil* in January. Some form of action needs to be taken to ensure that no more lives are put in danger in our waters.

Maybe if the government corrected its immigration policies they could afford to redeploy an observation vessel to the Southern Ocean and save us from the incessant cries of the radical left.



CONGRATULATIONS



Candidate for Morialta John Gardner and Chelsey Potter got engaged on December 28. The photo above was taken a day after the proposal.



Makin Young Liberal David Randall got engaged to Katie on Christmas Day.



CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

ELDER CANDIDATE - BEN TURNER

What was your career and educational background prior to being a candidate?

I was raised in Victor Harbor and moved to the city to attend University. I completed my Law and Commerce degrees in 2005. I have practiced since then, specialising in the area of tax as both as a tax accountant and a tax lawyer. I have experience in a diverse range of organisations working in a big 4 accounting firm, large international mining and engineering companies, as well as a local law firm.

Why did you decide to be a candidate?

I think the ALP needs to be made accountable for their lackluster performance and apparent arrogance to the needs and desires of South Australians. When approached to consider running as a candidate, I thought if I could run an effective campaign it would be a good opportunity to send a message to those in safe Labor seats that they need to listen to their electorate and not become complacent and take their position for granted.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I am a bit of a sports nut, which includes playing or watching all the major sports we tend to love in Australia. I also enjoy anything to do with technology. Spending some quality time with friends and family is very important to me, and apart from that I enjoy learning about new things or doing things I have never done before.

What branch are you in and

what made you decide to join the party?

Hindmarsh is my local branch. I have always aligned myself with the Liberal party, but I think it was the narrow 108 vote defeat in 2004 in the electorate of Hindmarsh that made me realise the importance of every vote and that I could do more to

volunteer organisations that will demonstrate your desire to help the community. Finally, network all you can. The more support you can gather and the more well known you are in the community, the greater your chance of succeeding when selected as candidate.

Are there any other state issues that you see as important to the people of South Australia?

There are many important state issues for South Australia.

Water again is a major issue, as is the environment and climate change in general. We need to do all we can to preserve the Murray River and lower lakes as we have known it so it can be enjoyed by future generations.

The RAH relocation/redevelopment is another major issue. The ALP's relocation plan was not well thought out and was rushed. It also will cost around \$1 billion more than if the current site was redeveloped under the Liberal plan. In our current economic climate, especially when our budget is running at a deficit, we cannot afford government to be throwing away taxpayer's money on poorly thought out infrastructure projects.

Job security and unemployment is a significant issue. It appears we are recovering from the global economic crisis, however, careful, sensible economic management is required going forward so we can recover as quickly as possible.

The Adelaide Oval sports stadium redevelopment is also a significant issue. Many believe the ALP's proposed development will ruin what is commonly referred to as one of the world's best cricket grounds. South Australia deserves a new, world-class multi-purpose sports stadium, and not to have one of its icons degraded.



support the Party.

What advice would you give to people aspiring to be a candidate?

If one day you wish to be a candidate then be careful of what you broadcast about yourself, especially via the internet. This means monitoring your Facebook/Twitter/My Space activity, even if you have high privacy settings assume someone may leak your information. Apart from that, I would recommend building up your political CV by offering whatever support you can to your local branch, as well as being part of community and

What issues do you see to be important in the seat of in Elder?

Water I believe is the biggest issue in most electorates. It has a great impact on our daily lives. Water restrictions mean that we have had to change our way of life. Our gardens are dying, the cost of water is increasing. I think we need to work towards using our water in a much smarter way than we have been in the past. Other local issues include the future zoning of residential and industrial land and safer streets.



THE SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME (CONTROL) ACT 2008: EVEN UGLY CHILDREN HAVE MOTHERS

By Simon Le POIDEVIN

State Young Liberal Development Director



The purpose of this article is to outline the political arguments that resulted in The Serious and Organised Crime (Control) Act 2008, discuss its application and the subsequent legal challenges regards its validity.

Background/parliamentary readings/public opinion

Few people outside Parliament care or even notice when a new law is passed, receives Assent and comes into effect. How often do you hear about planning ordinance being changed to allow a façade of 3.67 metres (from 3.5 metres) on detached office premises of less than 200 square metres? Apart from the reduction in speed limits on non-arterial metropolitan roads from 60 kilometres per hour to 50 kilometres per hour, no one really seems to care.

However when it comes to “law and order” everyone seems to care. As a result of everyone caring, politicians care to be seen to care. In the case of the ‘anti-bikie legislation’ this could not be more correct. The Act was an initiative of the current South Australian Government and received support from the Opposition in both Houses of Parliament. The Serious and Organised Crime (Control) Act vests power in the Attorney General to ‘declare’ an organisation to be an ‘outlaw organisation’ and in turn have its members and associates subject to ‘control orders’. The legislative intent is to remove the organisation and control behind criminal operations which will disrupt and reduce the scale and level of criminal operations. Whilst the principle is sound, the devil was in the detail. It was left to the minor parties to oppose the far-reaching implications but to no avail.

Declaring an organisation

The Attorney General is empowered to declare an organisation, or make a control order if he is satisfied an association exists whose members engage in criminal activity and pose a risk to public safety and order. This assessment is made following a request by the Commissioner of Police based upon police intelligence (section 8). The intelligence can take a number of forms, and is not required to be sworn, or cross-examined. Prior to the declaration taking effect, the public is given 28 days to respond (section 9). Following due consideration of all submissions, the Attorney General may then ‘declare’ the organisation to be an ‘outlaw organisation’. If the organisation is ‘declared’ the court must then make control orders in relation to members of the organisation and may make orders in relation to any associates of the organisation.

Control orders may prohibit an individual from;

1. Associating or communicating with other people
2. Entering or being on premises
3. Possessing specified articles.

Too broad?

The Act fails to define ‘criminal organisation’ other than to the satisfaction of the Attorney General that “members associate for organising, planning, facilitating, supporting or engaging in serious criminal activity and the organisation represents a risk to public safety and order.” Further the term ‘membership’ is broadly defined in The Act (section 3) and includes people who are associates of a ‘declared’ organisation.

‘Association’ is broadly defined to include associating, facilitating or supporting a group. The term encompasses meeting, coming together or communicating with a person who is known, or suspected, to be involved with a ‘criminal organisation’. It extends

to persons very loosely associated with a declared organisation. For example, The Act sets out that association includes a person who, not less than 6 times in a 12 month period, associates with a person who they know, or suspect, is involved with a group who engage in criminal activity. By doing so one commits an offence punishable by imprisonment of up to 5 years (section 35(1)(a)). Having established a membership or an association to a declared organisation, the Attorney General must determine if a risk is posed to public safety. Once again, this is not clearly defined, and does not distinguish between actual (for example preparations have been made and the threat could become a criminal action) or perceived risks (for example a weapon is possessed but there is not specific threat or indication to use it in criminal activity).

Can the organisation respond?

Yes you can respond however the response to a decision can be difficult due to the limited information provided in support of the decision. Of further concern, an individual is not entitled to have the allegations made out against them (as in a criminal proceeding) and therefore cannot provide a defence of any kind. Giving that the decision will result in the having your freedom of association curtailed, wouldn’t you like to defend yourself? Control orders

They are like entering a nightclub “Not with those sandshoes mate”. A control order must be made by the court against any ‘member’ of an organisation that is declared to be an ‘outlaw organisation’. Further, a control order may be made against any ‘associate’ of an organisation that is declared to be an ‘outlaw organisation’ (section 14).

A control order is designed to prohibit the controlled person from communicating or associating with others, visiting premises or possessing certain articles. Certain categories of associates, including medical, legal and educational professionals are exempt.

The Supreme Court Appeal

The first organisation to be declared by the Attorney-General was the Finks Motorcycle Club on the 14th of May 2009. Subsequent to the declaration, eight members were issued with control orders.

Two of those members, Sandro Totani and Donald Hudson challenged those orders in the Supreme Court on the grounds they were unconstitutional.

The judgement delivered by the Full Court of the Supreme Court held that control orders made under section 14.1 of the Act were invalid.

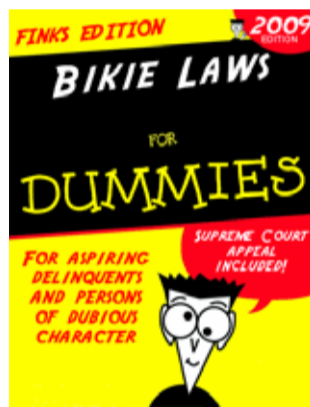
The decision was decided upon the Court being required to act without question on a declaration, which is the precondition for the making of a control order. By not allowing the subject of the order a fair hearing, the judicial function of the Magistrates Court was impaired to the extent that it was incompatible with its required and inherent integrity. In other words, the Court could not make its own decision based on evidence before it; it was required to grant a control order application in every instance.

It appears that the decision will likely be appealed by the Attorney General to the High Court of Australia.

Conclusion

The Serious and Organised Crime (Control) Act 2008 is a powerful tool in the campaign against organised crime. It creates offences and penalties which are designed to shatter the cohesion and structure of criminal groups, however these aims, whilst admirable, appear to have come at too great a cost – individual liberty and the independence of the judiciary.

It would be a brave person to stand up for a motorcycle gang, however we must bear in mind that today; gangs are being targeted but tomorrow it could be an extreme political group, and then a group with extreme views who aren’t a threat, and then we could slide down the slippery slope and try to ban the Communist Party again (see *Australian Communist Party v The Commonwealth* (1951) 83 CLR 1).





WINE TOUR



**Kate Gunn, Rebecca Rowe, Prue Dawes,
Monica O'Shea and Nathan Atterton**



Beatrix van Dissel and Alison Bishop



Michael Crosby



**The Adelaide Young Liberal Wine Tour was held
on Sunday November 22nd in the Adelaide Hills. A
great time was had by all.**



Courtney Ramsey



**Courtney Ramsey and
Michael van Dissel**



Christian Winterfield



Tom Dawkins and Rebecca Rowe



Stuart Burrows



**Kate Gunn, Sam Duluk, Brendan Clark,
Tom Dawkins**

YOUNG LIBERAL BRANCH PROFILE - HINDMARSH

President: Monica O'Shea

Vice-Presidents: Stephan Knoll, Brenton Proctor, Jasmin Weatherley and Jake Stone

Secretary: Stephan Knoll

Treasurer: Sean Zhu

Membership Director: Brenton Proctor

Communications Director: Andreas Knoll

Policy Co-ordinator: Martin Schahinger

Social Director: Peter O'Shea

The electorate of Hindmarsh, with its changing demographic along the coast, is worth keeping an eye on in the future.

Held by the ALP with a 5.0% margin, it was named after the first Governor of South Australia, Sir John Hindmarsh.

The Young Liberal branch is large with an active and enthusiastic membership determined to get things done.

Members were extremely involved in the 2007 Federal Election campaign and are currently assisting in the state campaigns in West Torrens, Ashford and Bright.

A number of events have been held over the past year including a policy night, pub crawl and pub night.

In both 2007 and 2008 the Hindmarsh Young Liberal branch won the Branch of the Year award at the Young Liberal Ball.

The Federal Seat of Hindmarsh was held by Liberal Chris Gallus from 1993 until her retirement in 2004 when current sitting member Steve Georganas won the seat by the narrowest of margins against paired Senator Simon Birmingham.

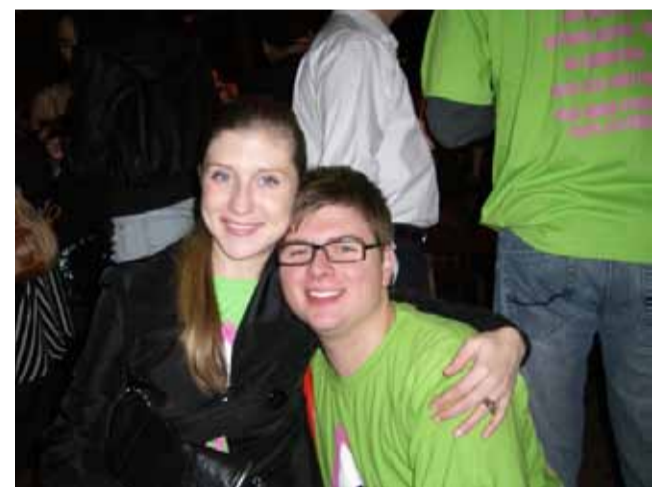
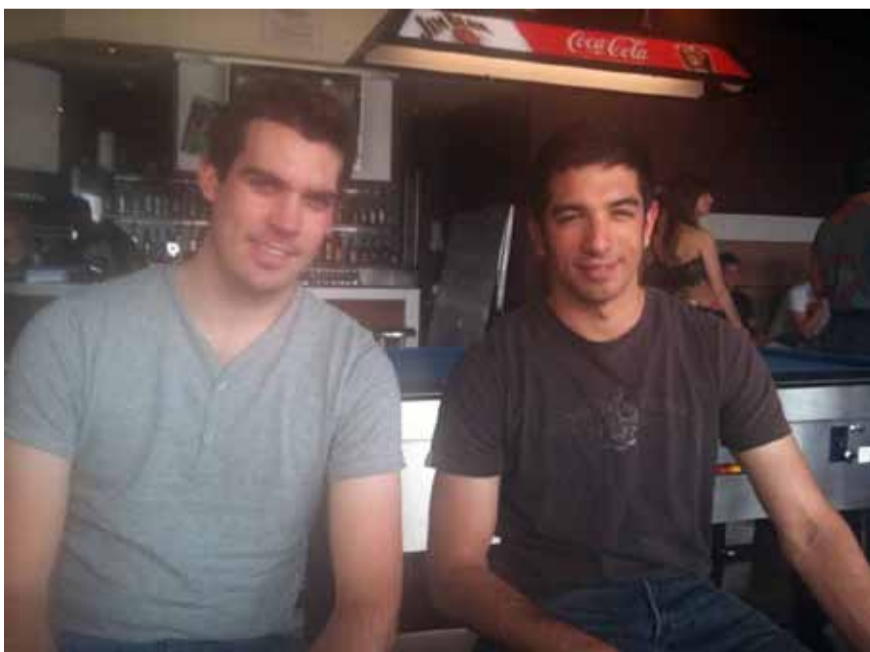
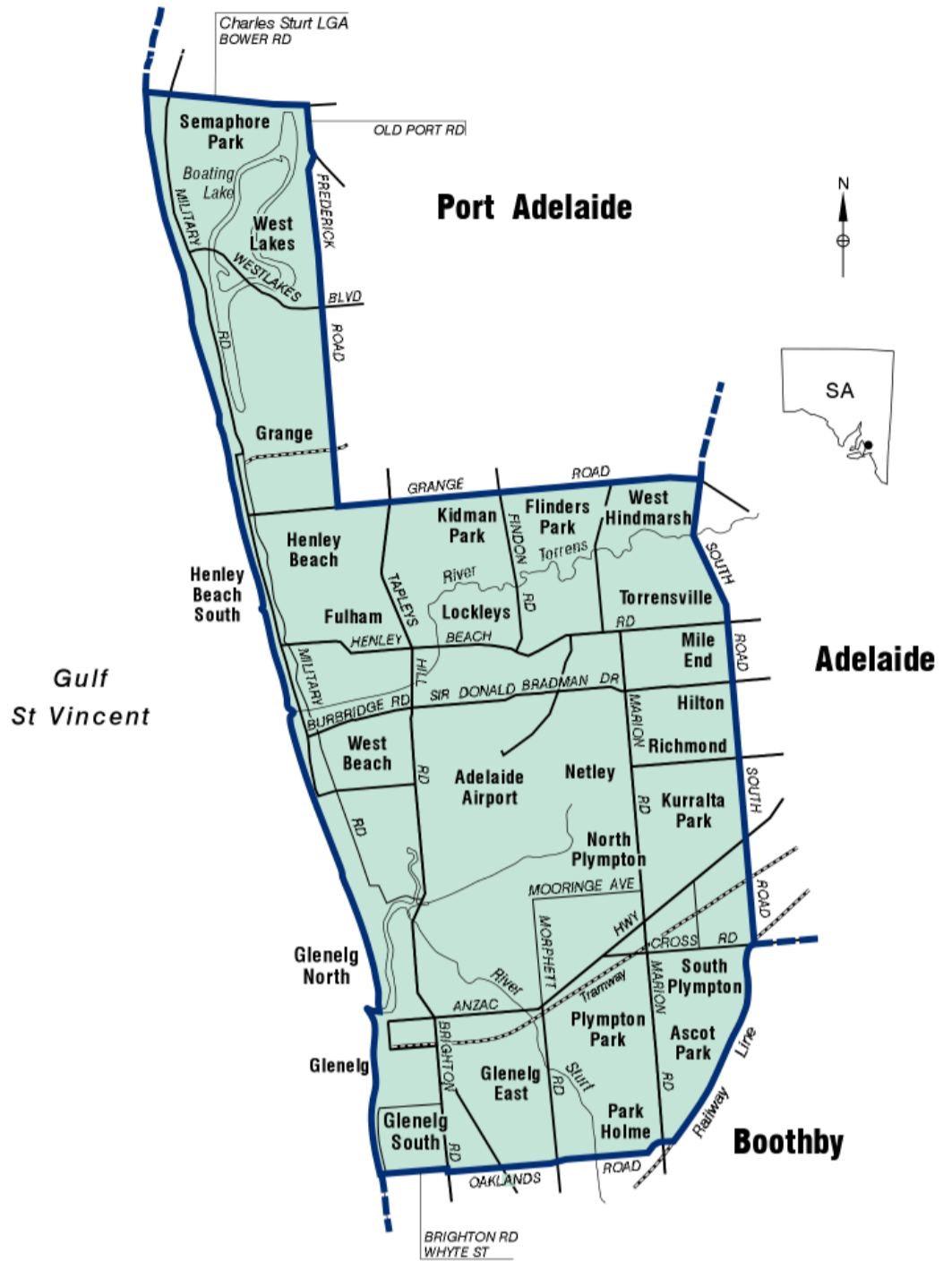
The seat was historically a Labor seat from the time of Federation. Former Labor member Norman Makin (1919-46) was speaker of the house from 1929-32, while Clyde Cameron (1949-80) was a minister in the Whitlam government.

Covering 73 sq.km in the western suburbs of Adelaide, the Hindmarsh Electorate includes the following suburbs: Semaphore Park, West Lakes, Grange, Henley Beach, Fulham, Kidman Park, Lockleys, Flinders Park, West Hindmarsh, Torrensville, Mile End, Hilton, Richmond, Kurralt Park, South Plympton, Ascot Park, Plympton Park, Park Holme, Glenelg East, Glenelg South, Glenelg, Glenelg North, North Plympton, Netley and West Beach.

According to the latest census, 20.5% of the electorate is over 65 with the strongest Labor vote in the north of the electorate and the strongest Liberal vote in the south.

Past presidents of Hindmarsh Young Liberals include Anne Mignone, Rochelle Hill, Adam Howard, Chris Ring, Scott Cadzow, Rita Bouras and Gavin Parry.

Hindmarsh Young Liberal Ben Turner will be contesting the seat of Elder at the 2010 state election.



CLIMATE GATE AND THE ETS

By Martin Schahinger

Hindmarsh Young Liberals

On the 19th June, 2009 a treasury official named Godwin Grech testified before a Senate Committee that a member of Kevin Rudd's staff had sent him an e-mail, asking that he provide preferential treatment to a car dealer who had previously given Kevin Rudd a Ute for campaigning purposes.

The media exploded.

It ultimately turned out that the e-mail was a fake and Godwin had concocted the whole thing but "UteGate" otherwise known as the OzCar affair, delivered media coverage for days.

Five months later, on the 19th November, 2009 over 1,000 emails and 3,000 documents, including computer source code, were published online by a Russian hacker. They were from the Climatic Research Unit, one of the leading institutions concerned with the study of climate change. The documents indicated that scientists researching Climate Change – "the greatest modern threat to humanity" – may have deliberately manipulated data, deleted data and attempted to corrupt the peer review process.

The media has been awfully quiet.

The affair has been dubbed "ClimateGate" (Oh, for where would we be without Watergate?) and if you're curious you can browse the files online at www.climate-gate.org (all e-mails used below can be found there using the site's search function).

The vast majority of the e-mails talk about mostly harmless things. In and of themselves (and taken without the full context), they might raise a few eyebrows but on the whole, it's nothing more than scientists doing what scientists do best. Seeking funding to continue their work and questioning science.

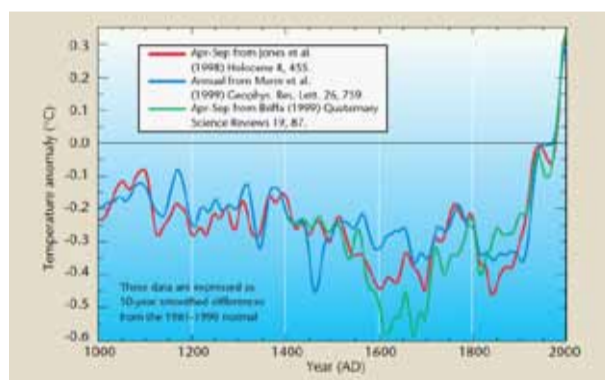
It is, after all, the results that matter... but that's where the fun stuff really begins.

Manipulation of Data?

Take Phil Jones for instance, Director of the Climatic Research Unit (CRU) who writes (16 Nov 1999):

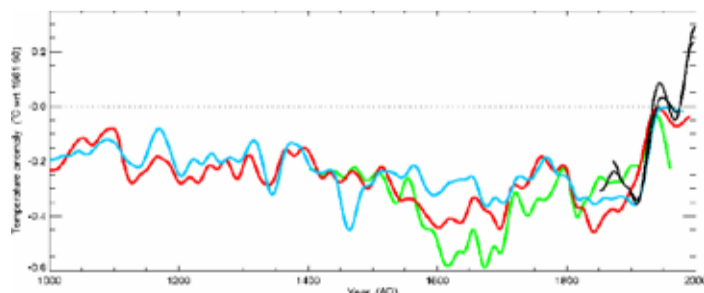
"I've just completed Mike's Nature trick of adding in the real temps to each series for the last 20 years (ie from 1981 onwards) and from 1961 for Keith's to hide the decline."

He's talking about a graph (the cover image) used in the "WMO statement on the status of the global climate in 1999" (www.wmo.ch/pages/prog/wcp/wcdmp/statemnt/wmo913.pdf)



The graph as used on the cover is above. See how the red, blue and green lines all converge to head dramatically upwards?

Now take a look at the image below (ref: www.climateaudit.org/?p=7810).



This is purportedly the same graph, except without "Mike's nature trick". Notice how suddenly the green, red and blue lines no longer converge to head upwards? Notice how they actually start going down?

That's the decline Phil was apparently trying to hide.

The graph is a reconstruction of "Northern Hemisphere temperatures for the past 1000 years using tree rings, corals, ice cores, lake sediments, along with historical and long instrumental records". The report it's used in talks about the "observed warming trend"

which I guess is harder to talk about when your graph points down at the end.

Quite simply, it appears to be a deliberate manipulation of data in order to have a graph showing an outcome that Phil wanted, rather than a graph that showed what was necessarily scientifically accurate. Phil has now stepped down as Director of the CRU while an investigation is underway.

Destruction of Data?

An important concept about science is that information is shared. Scientists can review each others work, test theories and question formula, data and processes. It's fundamental to the scientific process and the only way that can occur is if scientists share information. Importantly, raw data is required. Typically scientists will make raw data available and then explain their methodology for interpreting that data. Other scientists can then question and verify the interpretation with the same raw data to check the original work.

It turns out climate scientists don't like to share. This email is from Phil Jones to Michael Mann (3 Feb 2005):

"The two MMs have been after the CRU station data for years. If they ever hear there is a Freedom of Information Act now in the UK, I think I'll delete the file rather than send to anyone [...] We also have a data protection act, which I will hide behind. Tom Wigley has sent me a worried email when he heard about it - thought people could ask him for his model code. He has retired officially from UEA so he can hide behind that."

Phil Jones sure does like to hide things. He seems particularly wary of Freedom of Information requests, like in another email to Michael (29 May 2008):

"Can you delete any emails you may have had with Keith re AR4? Keith will do likewise. He's not in at the moment - minor family crisis. Can you also email Gene and get him to do the same? I don't have his new email address. We will be getting Caspar to do likewise."

Phil (1) is deleting e-mails about AR4 (the IPCC's Fourth Assessment Report), he wants Michael (2), Keith (3), Gene (4) and Caspar (5) to do the same. Michael's reply is that he would "contact Gene about this ASAP". This is five people talking about deleting information related to a Freedom of Information request.

If I talked about deleting information related to a Freedom of Information request at my job, I would be fired. Immediately. Can you imagine if an e-mail like this had come out of Kevin Rudd's office?

Corruption of the Peer Review Process?

Peer review is another important scientific process. Michael Mann it as shown in his email to Edward Cook (2 May 2001):

"I'm just a bit concerned that the result is getting used publically, by some, before it has gone through the gauntlet of peer review. Especially because it is, whether you condone it or not, being used as we speak to discredit the work of us, and Phil et al, this is dangerous." Ed was doing research into Michael's "Hockey Stick" graph (used to great effect in Al Gore's acclaimed film) and his early results didn't quite match Michael's. Michael obviously wanted to make sure due process was followed. Ed's response was "I am quite happy to work this stuff through in a careful way and am happy to discuss it all with you".

Phil Jones also values the peer review process, in his email to Michael, subject "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL" (8 Jul 2004):

"The attachment is a very good paper - I've been pushing Adrian over the last weeks

to get it submitted to JGR [Journal of Geophysical Research] or J. Climate [Journal of Climate]. The main results are great for CRU"

Fair enough, he's the Director of the CRU and he takes pride in his work. There's nothing wrong with that, except in the same e-mail:

"The other paper by MM is just garbage - as you knew. De Freitas again. Pielke is also

losing all credibility as well by replying to the mad Finn as well - frequently as I see

it. I can't see either of these papers being in the next IPCC report. Kevin and I will keep

them out somehow - even if we have to redefine what the peer-review literature is!"

Unfortunately Phil doesn't appear to value the work of others. He's talking here of Chris de Freitas, an Associate Professor in the School of Geography, Geology and Environmental Science at the University of Auckland in New Zealand. "He is known as a skeptic of anthropogenic global warming." (according to his Wikipedia article; and hey so sue me, I like Wikipedia).

The Pielke is Roger A. Pielke, a climatologist. According to his wikipedia article Roger "has a somewhat nuanced position on climate change, which is sometimes taken for skepticism, a label that he explicitly renounces".

What was that bit earlier about "impartial review"?

CLIMATE GATE AND THE ETS

ensure their data was accurate and well documented to ensure the models are as correct as possible. Well, here is a selection of comments from the programmers, taken from what's known as the "Harry read me" file:

Am I the first person to attempt to get the CRU databases in working order?!!

COBAR AIRPORT AWS (data from an Australian weather station) cannot start in 1962, it didn't open until 1993!

Apply a VERY ARTIFICIAL correction for decline!!

But what are all those monthly files? DON'T KNOW, UNDOCUMENTED. Wherever I look, there are data files, no info about what they are other than their names. And that's useless.

You can't imagine what this has cost me -- to actually allow the operator to assign false WMO (World Meteorological Organization) codes!! But what else is there in such situations? Especially when dealing with a 'Master' database of dubious provenance.

OH F--- THIS. It's Sunday evening, I've worked all weekend, and just when I thought it was done, I'm hitting yet another problem that's based on the hopeless state of our databases.

This whole project is SUCH A MESS.

"The CRU claims the world's largest temperature data set, and its work and mathematical models were incorporated into the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's 2007 report. The report ... is what the Environmental Protection Agency acknowledged it 'relies on most heavily' when concluding carbon dioxide emissions endanger public health and should be regulated."

I hope they didn't rely on the data in those "hopeless" databases too much... But perhaps I'm being unfair. Perhaps this is simply someone expressing exasperation after struggling with a particularly difficult problem at work. We've certainly all done it.

The problem is, coupled with the rest of the e-mails and given the implications behind it all, doesn't it at least warrant some scrutiny? Especially before we plough head-first into a multi-Billion dollar plan to save the planet based on "hopeless" databases, "hidden declines", "deleted" information and scientists who desire to "keep them out somehow" for anyone who disagrees?

There's one final e-mail I want to leave you with before I move on: "Hi Godwin, the PM has asked if the car dealer financing vehicle is available to assist a Queensland dealership, John Grant Motors, who seems to be having trouble getting finance. If you can follow up on this asap that would be very useful. Happy to discuss. A."

It's the faked Godwin Grech e-mail. That rather innocuous e-mail consisting of a meagre 47 words generated a Senate Inquiry, police raids, calls for a Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition to resign and front page news reports for days, all over a \$500 M car scheme.

Today, we're talking about a \$120 Billion tax on CO2... And we're not even a bit interested in asking a few questions?

Caution: Warming Expected

I know, I know. How dare I question scientists? I'm a crazy denialist flat-earther who thinks the moon landing was faked and lizard people are real. "Hiding declines" is perfectly legitimate science talk and who cares if a bunch of scientists would rather delete data than release it under an FOI request?

So let's dismiss all of that for now and focus on what the science says about climate change. Starting first of all, with the IPCC's Fourth Assessment Report (<http://www.ipcc.ch/>):

World temperatures could rise by between 1.1 and 6.4 °C (2.0 and 11.5 °F) during the 21st century

A temperature rise of about 0.1 °C per decade would be expected for the next two decades, even if greenhouse gas and aerosol concentrations were kept at year 2000 levels.

To prevent these temperature increases, we recently had the Copenhagen Conference. One of its goals was to develop an agreement which would:

keep average global temperature rises to two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

This reduction in temperatures would of course be achieved by reducing CO2 levels. It's sort of like we've got a remote control to the air-conditioner that runs planet Earth and if we dial it back just a notch (by reducing CO2 emissions anywhere from 20% - 60% depending on who you listen to) we'll be able to prevent any further warming.

Except we won't. If you read the above quotes carefully you'll note two things. Firstly, the IPCC expects temperatures to increase even if we do manage to reign in CO2. Secondly, Copenhagen's 2 degree target is of course still an increase on today's temperatures.

Importantly, according to the science, not all of the temperature increase is man-made. A report "Reanalysis of Historical Climate Data for Key Atmospheric Features" published by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in 2008 (<http://www.climate-science.gov/Library/sap/sap1-3/final-report/#finalreport>) attributes "more than half" to "anthropogenic forcing" but states:



However, warming due to anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions alone is unlikely to be the main cause for regional and seasonal differences of surface temperature changes.

And Mojib Latif, a respected climate scientist published "Advancing decadal-scale climate prediction in the North Atlantic sector" (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2010/jan/11/climate-change-global-warming-mojib-latif>):

Latif said his research suggested that up to half the warming seen over the 20th century was down to this natural ocean effect, but said that was consistent with the 2007 report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. "No climate specialist would ever say that 100% of the warming we have seen is down to greenhouse gas emissions."

"However, you know, we have to accept that there are these natural fluctuations, and therefore, the temperature may not show additional warming temporarily."

The short version is that possibly as much as half of the expected global warming is natural.

What will the ETS deliver?

If half of the expected warming is natural, than obviously reducing CO2 will not prevent all future temperature increases. Even if we removed all human impacts

What's our plan to adapt to this expected change? None! The hope is only that if we reduce CO2 emissions, things won't get much more worse than they are now. But they will get worse. (Well, unless we have a mini ice-age that lasts less than 50 years or the warming is delayed for a while as Mojib suggests).

Simply put, the goal of reducing CO2 is to keep the climate to around about what it is today. What is the climate like today? We are in a drought. Our farmers are crying out for water. Our cities are under water restrictions. Some farmers make more money selling water rights than they do farming. Anything we can do to get more water should be looked at.

But that's the problem. How much additional water will an ETS deliver to the River Murray?

Not one single drop.

The ETS is estimated to cost Australia around \$120 Billion and at this stage, will only cut emissions by 5%. A target so low that it will have no impact on global temperatures. This of course, is after Kevin splashed \$50 Billion in early 2009 so he could give everyone \$900 in their pocket to stave off the economic doom and gloom. It seems that spending Billions is required whenever prophecies of doom and gloom are floating about.

But we are in a drought right now. The River Murray needs water right now. Our cities are under water restrictions right now.

And nothing is being done about it. Every year, millions of gigalitres of rain water fall on to our city streets before it gets flushed out to sea. Storm water harvesting? It's not being done on anywhere near the scale it could be. And yet every new home in Adelaide is required to have a rain water tank.

On the International Space Station, they're drinking recycled urine thanks to a \$250 Million water recycling system (<http://www.space.com/missionlaunches/090520-space-urine.html>). Yet we can't even handle some captured stormwater?

By a similar token, it was only after political pressure from the Liberals that Mike Rann capitulated and built a desalination plant.

For \$120 Billion we could easily implement storm water harvesting, desalination plants and water recycling and solve Australia's water problems for good. More to the point, such systems are easily costed and have clear, tangible and measurable results. We would know the precise impact they would have.

We can calculate to the gigalitre how much additional water each of these systems would provide and how much it would cost to deliver. They don't rely on the rest of the world meeting targets and they will provide for Australia regardless of whatever the climate turns out to be in the short or the long term.

Meanwhile, the ETS scheme isn't going to make it rain. But it'll sure cost a lot of money.



▶▶ What is Menzies House?

Menzies house is a volunteer run website dedicated to supporting and publishing centre-right, conservative and libertarian thinkers and activists.

Supporting the principles of the 'broad church' that later became Menzies' Liberal Party, Menzies House publishes a wide spectrum of views and opinions from within Australia and around the world.

▶▶ Who writes for Menzies House?

Hopefully you! Menzies House is a user driven site that publishes opinions from a wide variety of sources. So if you've got something to say, send it through to us!

▶▶ How do I submit an article?

Write a 400-600 word article on just about anything to do with politics or society, attach a small photo of yourself and a one-line bio and email it to editor@menzieshouse.com.au.

You're almost guaranteed to get published, but please note that we won't publish anything poorly written, defamatory, racist etc. We also don't publish work from socialists, marxists or people who wear 'Che' shirts. They aren't in our target market.

Make sure you spread the word! Follow us on Facebook and Twitter and of course visit our website at:

www.menzieshouse.com.au

**Authorised by Mr Michael van Dissel
President of the South Australian Young Liberal Movement**

WELL DONE!

Thank you to Steven Griffiths, Alan Ferguson, Kate Gunn, Stephan Knoll, Martin Schahinger, Steven Marshall, Ben Turner, Simon LePoidevin, Michael van Dissel, David Randall, Chris Browne, John Gardner and Craig Simms for their contributions to Ad Lib.



If you would like to write an article, share your thoughts on Ad Lib, promote an event or send in some photos, please send an email to monicaoshea21@gmail.com.

DISCLAIMER: The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the Young Liberal Movement (SA Division) or the Liberal Party of Australia