



Senator Claire Moore

WEEKLY UPDATE: 29TH March, 2019

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THIS WEEK:

I can find nothing better to offer you this week than some of the words spoken by New Zealand Prime Minister, Jacinta Adern to thousands today (Friday) who gathered in Christchurch for a memorial service to honour those killed, injured and bereaved in the shooting massacre 14 days ago.

"E papaki tū ana ngā tai o maumahara ki runga o Ōtautahi. (The tides of remembrance flow over Christchurch today.)

Haere mai tātou me te aroha, me te rangimārie, ki te whānau nei, e ora mārire ai anō rātau, e ora mārire ai anō, tātou katoa.

(So let us gather with love, in peace, for this family, so that they may truly live again, so that we all may truly live again.)

Our challenge now is to make the very best of us, a daily reality, because we are not immune to the viruses of hate, of fear, of other.

We never have been. But we can be the nation that discovers the cure.

And so to each of us as we go from here, we have work to do, but do not leave the job of combatting hate to the government alone.

We each hold the power, in our words and in our actions, in our daily acts of kindness. Let that be the legacy of the 15th of March. To be the nation we believe ourselves to be.

To the global community who have joined us today, who reached out to embrace New Zealand, and our Muslim community, to all of those who have gathered here today, we say thank you.

And we also ask that the condemnation of violence and terrorism turns now to a collective response. The world has been stuck in a vicious cycle of extremism breeding extremism and it must end.

We cannot confront these issues alone, none of us can. But the answer to them lies in a simple concept that is not bound by domestic borders, that isn't based on ethnicity, power base or even forms of governance. The answer lies in our humanity."

Jacinta Adern

Don't forget next week, is Budget week but the days following will be of most interest as the Government are finally expected to call an election.

SENATOR CLAIRE MOORE, LABOR SENATOR FOR QUEENSLAND

Senator Claire Moore
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CLAIRE'S WEEKLY UPDATE NEWSLETTER

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WHAT'S BEING SAID ...

ONE NATION - WATTS – ABC - 774 RADIO – MELBOURNE

"These people are extremists who hate modern Australia. They are trying to destroy the diverse, strong, confident country that Australia has become and take us back to a fearful insular past. If you are not doing everything possible to keep One Nation out of our parliament, you are hurting Australia."

ONE NATION - SHORTEN - SYDNEY

"I think that the shocking video footage of One Nation operatives travelling to America and conspiring with the National Rifle Association to raise money to undermine Australia's gun laws, I think that is shocking."

ONE NATION - LEIGH SURFERS PARADISE

"The notion that One Nation would connive with the National Rifle Association to water down Australia's strong gun laws ought to outrage every Australian."

ONE NATION - SHORTEN - SYDNEY

"One Nation is a circus. They were dangerous circus and they've been caught out."

"What I think is really interesting is that neither Mr Dixon nor Pauline Hanson's disgraced chief of staff Mr Ashby has denied it happened." - Penny Wong

ONE NATION - ALBANESE – RADIO 5AA – ADELAIDE

"People can laugh a bit about James Ashby and his various behaviours in helping to bring down a Speaker by stealing his diary and engaging in all sorts of activities. He's been banned of course from Parliament House for his behaviour by the President of the Senate. But the serious point here is that this should be the end of One Nation because it's a matter now of which nation."

ONE NATION - SHORTEN- MELBOURNE

"One Nation is a circus and anyone who watched that video footage last night, you almost had to have your fingers over your eyes but you're peeking through still to watch the train crash which is extreme right wing politics in this country."

ONE NATION - LEIGH - ABC 'NEWS TONIGHT'

"I think people are increasingly seeing through One Nation, recognising that their trick of division and fear and smear is part of a playbook that ought to be thrown out the window."

ONE NATION - SHORTEN- MELBOURNE

"On a racing term they'd be called colourful identities, colourful racing identities - they've travelled to America, showing values and views when they thought that no one could see them which are really not the values and views of Australian politics"



FITTED WITH A SILENCER...

HANSON'S PORT ARTHUR COMMENTS - LEIGH – ABC NEWS RADIO

"So it's frankly just disgusting to me that anyone would suggest that this is some kind of a hoax. It was an awful, awful tragedy in which wonderful Australians died."

HANSON'S PORT ARTHUR COMMENTS - BURKE ABC RN DRIVE

"It's another layer of conspiracy theories. The Al Jazeera conspiracy theory. The Port Arthur conspiracy theory. Takes us back to when we had the vaccination conspiracy theory. Its what Pauline Hanson trades in."

HANSON'S PORT ARTHUR COMMENTS - DREYFUS – DOORSTOP MELBOURNE

"To think that an elected Senator subscribes to a theory that this was all made up for political ends is simply disgusting. But that's what it took for the Prime Minister of Australia to realise that it was vital for the Liberal Party to put One Nation below Labor in their preferences."

HANSON'S PORT ARTHUR COMMENTS - LEIGH – ABC NEWS RADIO

"I don't know which is worse, believing in conspiracy theory or pretending to believe a conspiracy theory for political convenience."

ONE NATION PREFERENCES - SHORTEN - SYDNEY

"After that video, let's be clear: sometimes in politics you have no choices. There is the right thing to do and you just have to do it."

ONE NATION PREFERENCES - SHORTEN - SYDNEY

"Mr Morrison needs to cut off the umbilical cord of legitimacy which the Liberal-Nationals are giving One Nation. They are extremists. They've been caught out being extremists. Mr Morrison now needs to sever the ties. And if he doesn't do that, well then, what is the difference?"

ONE NATION PREFERENCES - JONES – ABC RADIO NATIONAL

I am pleased that the Prime Minister is telling the Liberal Party to put One Nation last. After exhausting just about every other option he's finally arrived at the right position, but what we can clearly see is there's more evidence of disunity and division within the Coalition parties when they can't even agree on a ballot paper. How can they run the country?

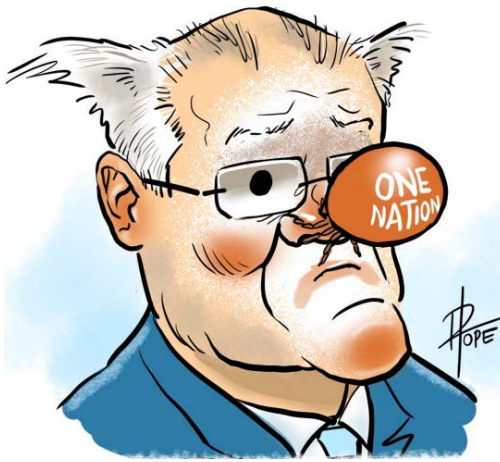
ONE NATION PREFERENCES - BOWEN – CAIRNS

"Now talking of messes, what an absolute abrogation of responsibility and leadership from the so-called Prime Minister of Australia, dragged kicking and screaming after days of revelations to finally show a little bit of leadership and put One Nation last on his how to vote cards and he even buggers that up."

ONE NATION PREFERENCES - BURNEY – SYDNEY

"If he truly believed that One Nation should be last, why didn't he say it several days ago? Why did it have to be today, and still giving the Nationals in Queensland a leave pass to do what they want? Cynical, unacceptable, political politics."

THE PARALYSIS TICK



Queensland Parliament purely because the LNP decided to give them preferences. This is a real outcome."

ELECTION FINANCING REFORM - SHORTEN - SYDNEY

"I think we need a lot more transparency. Here is three changes; they've got to be made in real time, any amount over \$1,000, the identity of the donor must be disclosed and we need a national anti-corruption commission. This government could do that next week."

GOVT FLOATS TOUGH LAWS ON SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS-- SHORTEN - SYDNEY

"They've been running a witness protection racket for the government since the start of this year. The fact that they're going to race to an election two days after the budget's brought down to avoid scrutiny. This government hasn't got time to do anything. They've run out of governing."

"Hate speech is antithetical to democracy and to social cohesion and history shows us where hate speech leaves us." - Penny Wong

SOCIAL MEDIA - DREYFUS – DOORSTOP MELBOURNE

"We've said for a long time that it should be possible for all of these technology giants to develop technology, to develop algorithms that weed out, that filter out this kind of material after they've been doing so in respect of extremist Islamist violent ideology and extremist Islamist violent material. We very much hope that white supremacist material is weeded out as well."

SOCIAL MEDIA - SHORTEN - SYDNEY

First thing I'm going to do is sit down and talk to the big social media companies and explain to them the sense of outrage and powerlessness and some frustration that many Australians feel when I see some of the anonymous vile spewed out on social media, with seemingly no accountability and protection for everyday citizens."

NDIS FUNDING - CHALMERS – CAIRNS

"The Government's incompetence when it comes to the National Disability Insurance Scheme will mean that billions of dollars, which should have been flowing to people with a disability, will instead prop up the Government's bottom line. Any surplus which is built on the back of vulnerable Australians not getting the services they need is not worth the paper it's written on."

NDIS FUNDING - BURNEY – SYDNEY

"This Government has dropped the ball on the rollout of the NDIS. Five ministers in five years and the fact that they are going to use this underspend to prop up the budget saying that they've got a surplus budget is just a disgrace. It is a disgrace for every Australian, but it is especially a disgrace for people with disability."

NDIS FUNDING - SHORTEN- MELBOURNE

"This is a government who hasn't done enough on disability. They're hoping that carers of people with disability forget the last five and a half years in the next five and a half weeks."

A FAIR WAGE - O'CONNOR – SYDNEY

"In fact it's the lowest wage growth on record and we see no redress, no response by the government other than to support the ongoing cuts to penalty rates, and the Finance Minister I think made admissions recently to say that the low wages was a deliberate design feature of the economic architecture, which effectively means that the government likes to see wages low - well Labor doesn't."

A FAIR WAGE - SHORTEN - SYDNEY

"We're very committed also to ensuring the people get the same pay for doing the same job. Casualisation, labour hire, it's a big issue in Australia. Nearly four million people work casual. Nearly a million Australians hold down two jobs. The problem is that labour hire workers can do work with the same skill and capacity as in-house workers, But because the legal identity of the employer's different they get paid far lower. This is unfair on them and it also undermines the job security of the permanent workforce."

A FAIR WAGE - O'CONNOR – RADIO 2GB – SYDNEY

"In Britain, under a conservative government, have over the last few years been increasing the minimum wage. And in fact in their case have increased it better than we would even consider. And it hasn't had the adverse effect on employment growth that some thought it might."

A FAIR WAGE - SHORTEN - SYDNEY

"We're also going to clamp down on the visa rorts to make sure that when guest workers come in from overseas they're not being exploited, not working at bottom dollar- ripping them off but also undermining the job security of other permanent workers."

A FAIR WAGE - O'CONNOR – RADIO 2GB – SYDNEY

"In the case of Australia, we still have the Commission indicating there are people working full time but still receiving income below the poverty line. So we want to address that in a sensible but fair way and that's why we've announced the living wage and the way in which it will be conducted."

FAIR WAGE - O'CONNOR – ABC DRIVE

"What Labor is looking to do if we are elected is to set the parameters for the Fair Work Commission to focus on a living wage, therefore the Commission will call for submissions from employers, employer groups, unions, academics and community organisations, firstly about establishing the living wage, finding a definition for it and listening to the arguments, the competing arguments. And then the second step, moving towards introducing that in a way with regard to employment, the effect on the economy, and the affordability for business. So really taking into account those things and I think that will be a very important thing for low wage workers in this country."

MEDICARE FREEZE – SHORTEN - SYDNEY

"I'm really pleased to announce that if a Labor Government is elected in six or seven weeks' time, within our first 50 days we will reverse the freeze to Medicare items, we'll make sure that the out-of-pocket costs - which have been going up under the current government - that that stops now because we're going to start the indexation of 100 Medicare items on the 1st of July this year."

THE 4TH REVOLUTION - CARR – SPEECH - SYDNEY

"The OECD suggests to us that if we want to engage effectively around the issues of economic prosperity and genuine social equality then we have got to engage around the knowledge based industries. And that is why we need a vibrant innovation system. That, to me, is the big argument in favour of science."

NEGATIVE GEARING REFORM - - O'CONNOR – SYDNEY

"There are no economists suggesting that there will be increases to rent because of our policies to tackle negative gearing. Why we're tackling negative gearing is to make sure that someone is able to get their first home, instead of competing with someone who wants to buy their tenth investment."

ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENDERS - PLIBERSEK – SYDNEY

"Labor, if elected, would restore \$14 million of funding to Environmental Defenders Offices nationally. These organisations ensure that ordinary Australians have proper access to the law. We know that big corporations have deep pockets and their able to employ expensive legal teams but ordinary Australians - farmers, indigenous communities, ordinary citizens - should have just the same access to the law as anybody with the most expensive lawyers in the country."

MORRISON GOVERNMENT - SHORTEN - SYDNEY

"They are so divided. This government is addicted to disunity. They cannot kick the habit. And the problem is the nation's being put last and their own interests and their fighting each other first."

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"It exposes One Nation for the hypocrites that they are and indeed the dangerous representatives that they are."
Anthony Albanese

"One Nation is a dangerous circus ... they are extremists, they've been caught out being extremists." - Bill Shorten

"Pauline Hanson is not fit to represent the Australian public in the Senate, in the Parliament or anywhere. She's a disgrace, she's an absolute disgrace, she's hypocrite to everything that she says she stands for and I would urge every Australian, young and old, to make sure One Nation's put last on every ballot paper around the country." - Brian Mitchell Labor Tasmania (His parliamentary seat includes Port Arthur)

"It is beyond the pale. We now have One Nation questioning both 9/11 and the terrorist attack on New York and Port Arthur massacre. This is, it is so bad it is honestly pathos, it is ridiculous. I mean what is next for them? Are they going to question the man on the moon?" - Barnaby Joyce

"Frankly, being drunk is no excuse for trading away Australia's gun laws to foreign bidders, that's the conduct of One Nation officials. These are not parties of Government. They are parties of grievance." - Scott Morrison (Finally finding some moral backbone at least in Victoria)

"Pauline Hanson's One Nation's attempt to get \$10-20 million from the despicable US National Rifle Association to help them water down our gun laws is just obscene." - Derryn Hinch

"When you see the hypocrisy, when you see on December 20, 2017 a One Nation post saying they are against foreign donations to political parties, then you have got to ask some questions — please explain?" - David Littleproud (Agriculture Minister and Queensland Nationals MP.)

"I think this the biggest 'please explain' that Pauline Hanson ever had." - Derryn Hinch

"She's political kryptonite, which isn't exactly a shock!" - James Campbell (Melbourne Sun-Herald columnist.)

"This is abominable, absolutely abominable. And it's almost treasonous, what they have done in America." - Derryn Hinch

"Mark Latham will make, from time to time, outrageous statements in order to get publicity." - Anthony Albanese

"So the ABC has seemingly been party to the targeting of One Nation in a way that is fundamentally dishonest." - Mark Latham

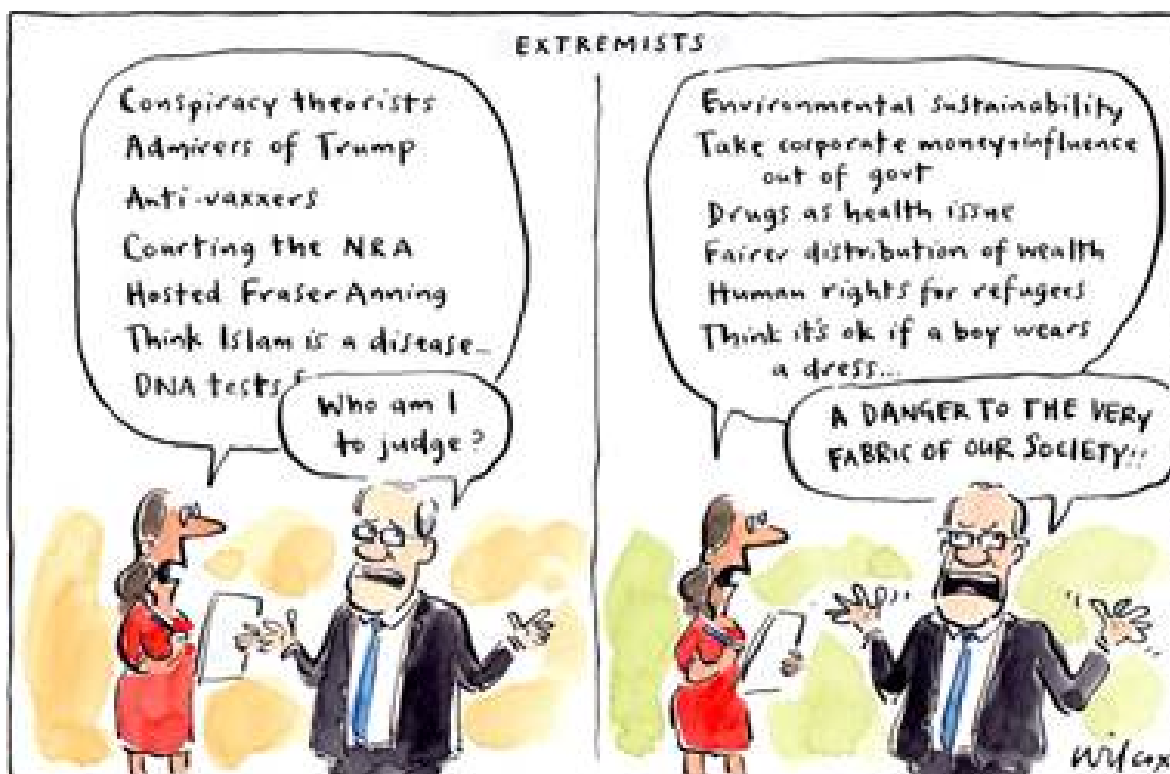
"This was a deliberate set-up by the Qatari government under Al Jazeera." - James Ashby

"This is skulduggery at its worst. This is the very first time Australia has witnessed political interference from a foreign government." - James Ashby

"This shoot the messenger stuff that's come out from Dixon and James Ashby is a disgrace. I mean they may have said they're on the sauce but they weren't all the time and they weren't all the booze were they when they decide to go there." - Derryn Hinch

"Al Jazeera approached the ABC about the documentary and we acquired the broadcast rights according to our usual procedures. The ABC judged that it was clearly in the public interest that Australians had the opportunity to see this material for themselves. The reaction of the Australian public to these revelations has supported that decision." - ABC Spokesperson

"One Nation never ceases to entertain, that's for sure. They are like Keystone Cops really." - Christopher Pyne



ANG MO – David Margan

Caught red handed, plain as day and still they lie and deny.

That's not new; it's what they have always done.

Hanson invented Trump almost before Trump did. One of Trump's mentors in his earlier life taught him this; "Never concede, never admit, deny, deny, deny till it becomes the truth."

With the lie comes the obfuscation. We were on the sauce! It's the act of terrorism, by an Arab owned media outlet. It's the Media's fault it's the ABC's fault. It's been edited. It's been taken out of context. It's been dubbed!

Enough!

It's time we edited Pauline Hanson and her malevolent, dopey nation out of existence at the ballot box.



TICKED OFF – David Margan

Pauline Hanson is "unrecognisable" after being bitten on the face by a tick, as she fights claims her party sought to water down Australia's gun laws.

You may have noted that Hanson's conspiratorial views on the Port Arthur massacre came from a book that she read. I must say I didn't know she could read but it must have been the same sort of reading matter that led to this. In 2017, a Queensland state election candidate for One Nation called Peter Rogers was disendorsed after a post from his Facebook page came to light in which it was claimed the massacre didn't happen.

Claiming she has been the victim of a set-up fuelled by the Australian media, Senator Hanson lashed out at everyone from newly appointed ABC chairwoman Ita Buttrose to Rupert Murdoch, Scott Morrison, Bill Shorten and Sunrise presenter David "Kochie" Koch.

"To the media here today, you have come here baying for my blood and I will not give it to you," Senator Hanson told reporters in Brisbane, clearly identifiable despite staff saying a tick bite had left her face "unrecognisable" on Wednesday.

She accused the ABC of being "unethical" by choosing to air the Al Jazeera documentary to Australian viewers before a full investigation had been undertaken by ASIO and the federal police. 'Ethical' coming from her, astonishing.

"This is a political attack by Al Jazeera in cooperation with the ABC," Senator Hanson said.

"If the ABC had any ethical bone in the body, they would refuse to put this unfair and unbalanced story to air tonight."

Meanwhile ...

The man now dubbed the 'Chief of Farce' Pauline Hanson's, Chief of Staff, Ashby is facing an AVO.

Senator Brian Burston has sought an apprehended violence order against him. Mr Burston's private application is listed for mention at Toronto Local Court on April 9. It follows months of public reports of bad blood between Mr Burston and the party he left in June 2018 after years as One Nation leader Pauline Hanson's loyal supporter. Mr Ashby has not yet filed any response to the application for an AVO. One Nation's public feuding includes the banning of Mr Ashby from Parliament House in Canberra on February 14, despite his role as Ms Hanson's chief of staff. Senate President Scott Ryan told Parliament he revoked Mr Ashby's parliamentary pass after reviewing security tape showing an "incident" between Mr Burston and Mr Ashby and "inappropriate behaviour by a pass holder towards a Senator". Mr Burston, who joined the United Australia Party after leaving One Nation, has advised Mr Ryan's office he will not attend Parliament in April for Budget sessions if Mr Ashby is allowed to return.

WAS IT LEGAL?

The foreign interference legislation was accompanied by new laws which banned foreign political donations of more than \$100. Under that legislation, a foreign entity includes one that is not based in Australia, meaning any money from the NRA would be deemed a foreign donation. One Nation's discussions with the NRA happened just months before Australia banned foreign donations.

Ironically, Hanson herself spoke out against foreign donations just two months after meeting the NRA. "Overseas money should not have an influence on our political scene, so I believe that foreign donations should be totally stopped," Hanson said.

The laws, passed late last year, would have stop Ashby getting his \$20 million donation.

GUN MONEY

The Australian gun lobby is as large and spends as much on political donations and campaigns, per capita, as America's powerful NRA, a new report has found.

Key points:

- *Pro-gun groups have donated \$1.7 million to Australian political parties over past eight years*
- *Bob Katter's Australian Party was the top recipient, netting more than \$800,000*
- *A major lobby group says it just represents the "moderate centre" of sporting shooters, and is very different to the NRA*

Australia's pro-gun groups were also mimicking the NRA's political strategies in a "concerted and secretive" effort to undermine Australia's strict gun laws, according to the report by progressive think tank, The Australia Institute.

Pro-gun groups donated \$1.7 million to political parties since 2011, according to Point Blank: The covert lobbying of Australia's gun lobby. The gun lobby spends even more on funding election campaigns, it said.

The report found the Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (SSAA) had almost as many members, per capita, as the National Rifle Association (NRA).

The SSAA, the peak member organisation for sporting shooters, has almost 200,000 members — or about 0.8 per cent of the population. By comparison, the NRA has about 4 million members, or somewhere between 1.1 and 1.5 per cent of the population.

The SSAA has an estimated combined income of \$18 million per year.



The other big player in the Australian gun lobby is the Shooting Industry Foundation of Australia (SIFA).

Established in 2014, SIFA is the peak body for the firearms industry.

According to the report, it received \$1.2 million from its corporate members between 2014 and late 2018.

One of its directors is Robert Nioa, Queensland firearms wholesaler and son-in-law of Bob Katter, leader of the Australian Party.

"The results are similar enough for the two cultures to be shocking to most Australians, who are likely to imagine that the United States' gun lobby is significantly larger and better-resourced than its Australian equivalent," the report said.

on available data, covering the period 2011 to 2018, the report found Katter's Australian Party received the largest amount of \$808,000.

Most of these donations came from Mr Nioa and SSAA Qld.

The Shooters Party's state and federal branches received the second-most disclosed

political donations, totalling almost \$700,000.

For more go to: [Katter's Australian Party received the most disclosed donations.](#)

MORRISON WANTED MASS DETENTION

According to multiple sources, Scott Morrison proposed a multibillion-dollar program to build new mass detention facilities for asylum seekers while he was Australian immigration minister attempting to "stop the boats" in early 2014.

According to [The Sydney Morning Herald](#), former and current ministers and officials say Morrison asked the Abbott government's expenditure review committee for \$9-10 billion to finance the proposal, which could have seen up to 30,000 people living in Australia on community bridging visas detained. It was rebuffed by then-treasurer Joe Hockey who "hit the roof" over humanitarian concerns. A spokesman for Morrison says he has no recollection of the proposal.

ONE DAY THE TRUTH WILL BE TOLD

Julie Bishop and Malcolm Turnbull have declined to endorse Scott Morrison's account that he never sought to capitalise on anti-Muslim sentiment, citing shadow cabinet confidentiality.

ANNING SPENDS YOUR TAXES

Senator Fraser Anning used taxpayer funds to fly to a private business meeting in Adelaide last year in a bid to avert bankruptcy proceedings that could have ended his parliamentary career.

The use of public funds raises further concerns about Senator Anning's conduct, which has been under scrutiny since he claimed flights to attend a far-right rally in the Melbourne beachside suburb of St Kilda in January this year.

The 69-year-old senator billed taxpayers \$1005 to fly from Canberra to Adelaide on November 30 last year, before claiming a further \$1,343.32 to fly to Brisbane on the same day. The trip also included \$335 for a government car and driver in Canberra, Adelaide and Brisbane.

Senator Anning's spokesman did not respond to questions about the private meeting in Adelaide, but insisted the purpose of the visit was to meet victims of unconscionable banking conduct and members of a pro-life organisation.

[Yeah, like the doctor going to Vegas for a holiday and spends 5 minutes at a bar talking to a local GP then claims the whole trip as a 'work tax deduction'. Ed]

ANOTHER GOVERNMENT FAILURE

A landmark report highlighting the "stark over-representation" of Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander Australians in prison has been met with "deafening" silence by the federal government, the peak body for the nation's lawyers has said. In a scathing assessment, the Law Council of Australia said the federal government's "apparent indifference" to the Australian Law Reform Commission's Pathways to Justice report, released a year ago today, was "troubling" and "an affront". "The fact is that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians are the most incarcerated people on Earth, which is a national disgrace and international embarrassment," the council's president, Arthur Moses, SC, said. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults make up just 2 per cent of the national population but constitute 27 per cent of the prison population, the ALRC said in its report. Over-representation of Indigenous Australians in prison was "persistent and a growing problem". Mr Moses said the report "painted a grim picture of the national tragedy ... but it also offered practical law reform processes that can help us turn the tide".

For the full report go to: <https://www.alrc.gov.au/news-media/media-release/pathways-justice-indigenous-incarceration>



THE MEMBER FOR MANILA

It's been revealed that George Christensen, the Queensland MP, has spent over the last four years more days in than the Philippines than he has in Parliament House.

The high-profile backbencher insists he's the victim of a "smear campaign" after reports he spent 294 days in the Philippines in a four-year period.

When the story broke earlier this year, it was revealed that the federal police had briefed the government about concerns Mr Christensen's constant travel overseas could expose him to blackmail risks. Now I wonder ... what could be used as blackmail material in these circumstances?

Malcolm Turnbull and Peter Dutton were so concerned they allegedly hatched plans to dump frequent-flyer George Christensen as the LNP-endorsed candidate for his seat of Dawson at the height of their concerns over his constant travel. The former Prime Minister and Home



Affairs Minister, who were both briefed by the Australian Federal Police over Mr Christensen's large number of trips to the Philippines, are understood to have agreed the marginal seat MP should not be the party's candidate at the next election. Dutton was put in charge of managing the pre-selection process to have George dumped.

In another great 'Shoot the Messenger' moment Queensland-based Resources Minister Matt Canavan yesterday hit out strongly at "Melbourne-based media" for "doing a job on" Mr Christensen.

AUSTRALIA FAIR

Respected pollster and researcher Dr Rebecca Huntley, in her recent Quarterly Essay, [Australia Fair, Listening to the Nation](#), says that the average Australian is much more progressive than their political representative.

"Thanks to compulsory voting, there is no silent majority in Australia. There is an un-silent majority, whose views are plain to discern," she said. Her decades-long, qualitative research shows that Australians support same-sex marriage (as evidenced by the postal survey), immediate action on climate change, more funding for the ABC and reform of electoral donations, along with many other "progressive" issues.

ENCRYPTED

The President of technology giant Microsoft has warned that the Morrison government's encryption piercing laws are harming Australia's reputation as a trusted destination for data storage and investment. Brad Smith, also the company's chief legal officer, said foreign companies and governments were "no longer comfortable" sending their data to Australia after the Assistance and Access Bill, which gives security agencies power to access the data of suspects, was rushed through Parliament and enshrined into law late last year.

CATASTROPHIC LOSSES

Insurance losses for the three catastrophes declared by the Insurance Council of Australia (ICA) over the 2018-19 summer have passed \$2.2 billion. Latest figures collated by the ICA show more than 25,770 claims have now been received following February's monsoonal deluge, which caused disastrous inundation in and around Townsville and parts of Central Queensland. Losses stand at \$1.041 billion. Insurance losses for the December 20 NSW hail storm have reached \$1.189 billion from 130,000 claims. More than 30,000 hail-related claims have already been closed. And insurance losses from the Bunyip bushfires in eastern Victoria in late February have reached \$20 million from 365 claims.

GOOD ADVICE

Australians are turning their backs on the scandal-ridden big four banks in search of better home loan deals, new analysis shows.

The number of Australians considering applying for a loan through an online lender, rather than a traditional bank or credit union, has jumped to 85 per cent of all, up from 48 per cent two years ago, figures from financial comparison site [Mozo.com.au](#) show.

When asked specifically about the behaviour of the big banks, 36 per cent of the 1001 respondents said it would see them shift to an online lender, with a further 49 per cent open to the prospect of moving their money.

Cost was the key concern for those taking out a loan, with 75 per cent of respondents saying they chose an online lender because interest rates are cheaper.

"Now, for the typical \$400,000 home loan people could be saving up to \$2800 a year by switching," Ms Lamont said.

"It's a substantial amount of money – you're talking over \$70,000 over 25 years. That's a new car, or renovations or a lot of very nice overseas holidays."

HOSPITALS FULL



The Federal Government owes the State Government \$300 million in health funding, Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk has claimed. Speaking in Parliament yesterday amid questions over the hospital saga, the Premier (pictured) said Queensland had a record health budget. "At last count, the Federal Government owed us \$300 million," she said. "In fact, the Health Minister (Steven Miles) and I have written numerous letters to the Prime Minister demanding the money."

POISONED

A **Queensland** man has become the first person in Australia to settle a claim with the Commonwealth after PFAS groundwater contaminated his Darling Downs property. Eric Donaldson's family property lies along Oakey Creek adjacent to an airfield where firefighting foam that contained the toxic substance had been used since the 1970s. PFAS

contamination and associated health concerns have led to a number of class actions against the Federal Government across the country. Mr Donaldson didn't join a class action and his settlement contains no acknowledgement by the Commonwealth of their responsibility for any contamination! That's lawyers for you!

on 1 July, which means millions of Australians will lose their cover, potentially not knowing they've lost that cover, overnight.

OUT OF STOCK

NASA has been forced to cancel history's first all-female spacewalk because it was unable to provide two properly fitting spacesuits for the astronauts.

Christina Koch and Anne McClain were scheduled to conduct the walk at the International Space Station on March 29, but because only one suitable spacesuit is available, Ms Koch will now be joined by Nick Hague.



QUEENSLAND

CAIRNS HOSPITAL CUTS - BOWEN – CAIRNS

"It's clear that the Liberals Canberra cuts are having their impact here in Cairns and right through Queensland on the health system. \$7 million cut from the emergency department here at Cairns Hospital. Well a Labor Government will fix it, A Shorten Labor Government will invest \$15 million in the emergency department in addition to the other commitments we've made in relation to teaching in hospitals here in Cairns and of course other commitments for Cairns."

CAIRNS STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT - MARLES RADIO 4CA CAIRNS

"In terms of the strategic significance of Cairns in Australia's outlook to our region and to the Pacific, as I've been describing, it is immense, and the opportunity then to use Cairns as a base of activity for what we're doing within the region obviously presents itself. HMAS Cairns is

the only naval base we have in Queensland, so it is really important in that regard and we would want to have a very good look at HMAS Cairns and what more can be done from it.

Obviously that all equals jobs for the region, but I think what we actually need to start doing now is seeing the maritime industry here in Cairns as a national asset, because that's what it is. Certainly that would be our view if we were elected and we'd want to do everything we could to support it."

SEQ CONGESTION – ALBANESE – BRISBANE

"We think that there should be genuine city partnerships, not a one-off deal with no funding attached, which is what we've actually got at the moment, but an ongoing partnership between the different levels of government about planning, about funding, about making sure that South-East Queensland can function as well as it should."

MEMBER FOR MANILA- SHORTEN- MELBOURNE

"I am concerned that an Australian politician, a member of the government from North Queensland spends 42 weeks in the last four years overseas. Like the Australian worker gets four weeks

\$2 M AUTOMATION UPGRADE - EAGLE FARM TAFE – Cameron/Dr Paul Newbury -Brisbane Candidate

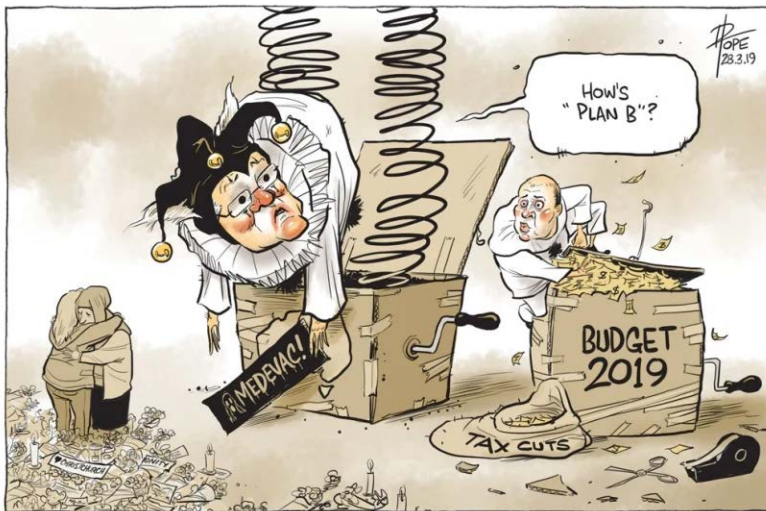
A Shorten Labor Government will upgrade electro technology and engineering workshops at Eagle Farm TAFE – ensuring Queensland students have access to high quality training for the jobs of the future.

The \$2 million Automation Technology Training upgrade will ensure TAFE Queensland's Eagle Farm campus maintains its position as a lead provider of advanced manufacturing training.

Electrical, engineering and mechanical apprentices will be among those to benefit from the investment.

The Eagle Farm campus will become a centre of excellence in automation, robotics and mechatronics.

Cutting edge equipment such as programmable logic controllers and microprocessor equipped devices will be installed as part of the upgrade.



Located 15 minutes north of Brisbane's CBD near the Trades Coast industrial area, the campus is in close proximity to key employment and population areas, as well as Brisbane Airport.

This investment will provide TAFE with the infrastructure needed to meet growing demand from industry for higher level skills in the automation sector.

Labor is committed to rebuilding TAFE and investing in apprenticeships to ensure Australian students have the skills they need to get jobs in new industries and with new technologies.

Queensland State Labor is investing more than \$85 million to redevelop TAFE campuses across the State. This includes more than \$2 million for state-of-the-art simulated welding systems and they have provided free TAFE for year 12 graduates on 160 high priority courses including at Eagle Farm.

Federal Labor's candidate for Brisbane, Dr Paul Newbury, said large Queensland-based manufacturers will be among

those to benefit from having highly trained electrical, instrumentation and automation tradespeople.

Mr Newbury said Labor's plan will also give TAFE Queensland the capability to respond to the requirements of a broader range of industries including those requiring automation robotics and mechatronics.

The Eagle Farm upgrade is part of Federal Labor's \$100 million Building TAFE for the Future Fund aimed at revitalising TAFE campuses across Australia.

Labor's plans to restore TAFE as the foundation skills and training provider across the country and is committed to ensuring at least two thirds of all government funding for vocational education will go to TAFE.

A Shorten Labor Government will also waive upfront fees for 100,000 students to attend TAFE and conduct a once in a generation national inquiry into the post-secondary education system within the first 100 days of being elected.

LABOR IS COMMITTED TO EARLY LEARNING IN QUEENSLAND – Rishworth

Labor has cemented its commitment to early learning in Queensland this week, talking with parents and providers about our National Preschool and Kindy program and announcing our plans to support local community groups to expand their early learning resources.

Labor's National Preschool and Kindy Program will see around 130,000 three and four year olds in Queensland have access to early education in the two years before school.

Labor's commitment will guarantee kids across Brisbane and wider Queensland communities have access to quality early education for the best start in school and life.

But we know so much of a child's learning starts in their local community.

That is why, if elected, a Shorten Labor Government will expand community based playgroups and toy libraries with a \$6.1 million grassroots grants program.

Labor has announced this week that those communities across Petrie and Lilley will benefit under Labor's program for community Playgroups and Toy Libraries.

Just some of the community groups which received commitments from Labor included Koobara Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Kindergarten & Preschool and the combined Embrace Life and Sesame Lane Happy Health Playgroup at Woodside Community Centre.

If elected, these commitments across Queensland will reflect Labor's priority to giving every child the best start in life.

From North Lakes to Northgate, parents across the Petrie and Lilley electorates can make friends in a welcoming, safe environment and give their children access to a range of educational toys and developmental experiences at low or no cost.

Labor's commitment to these Playgroups will help local communities to expand their early learning resources and facilities.

If elected, this funding towards community Playgroups and Toy Libraries will see greater support from the Commonwealth and is a long overdue recognition of the important place they have in our local communities.

Labor is committed to doing more to promote early childhood development.

Labor has announced the biggest ever investment in early childhood education in Australia with the \$1.75 billion National Preschool and Kindy Program.

Labor's plan will see around 700,000 three and four year olds in Australia who will have access to kindy every year. This will also help parents balance work and family and help reduce the child care bill for families with children already in early education.

LABOR WILL BACK OUR SUBBIES IN FORDE – O'Connor/Leigh/Watt/Hardman Candidate Forde
On Tuesday night, Andrew Leigh, Murray Watt and Des Hardman met with sub-contractors in Forde to discuss the benefits of Labor's Tradie Pay Guarantee and Tradie Litigation Fund.

We heard stories of subbies losing their homes and their savings, being unable to pay their own debts, and spending weeks of their life in court chasing money they're owed. Electricians, tilers and builders told us about being burned by dodgy phoenix directors, who flaunted their ill-gotten gains, and managed to escape the reach of the law.

Tradies across Queensland faced losses when the Cullen Group collapsed owing 500 subcontractors a total of \$30 million. More than 500 unsecured creditors were left out of pocket when Ostwald Bros went into administration, a collapse which also saw 260 staff made redundant with another \$4 million in entitlements owed.

Labor has a plan to look after subcontractors.

Subbies working on federal government projects will be protected from being left unpaid when dodgy businesses go bust through the implementation of Labor's Tradie Pay Guarantee. A Shorten Labor Government will address this by requiring large Commonwealth construction projects to establish a specially structured account – using a cascading statutory trust - that ensures all businesses down the supply chain get paid on time.

In addition, we will create a \$7 million *Tradie Litigation Fund* for subbies to access justice and see regulators take dodgy bosses to court and win.

Labor will also:

- set up an efficient process for handling disputes
- establish a federal security of payments legislative regime based on the recommendations of the Murray Review
- work with the states and territories to harmonise schemes across the country where possible.

Only a Shorten Labor Government will protect the livelihoods of small businesses, workers and subcontractors who fall victim to dodgy building bosses and ensure perpetrators face their day in court.

The practice of so-called "phoenix activity" – where dodgy directors deliberately burn companies in an attempt to avoid their obligations to employees, government and honest businesses – is estimated to cost the Australian economy more than \$5 billion per year. People who deliberately burn their companies should be subject to the full consequences of failing directors' duties, including being liable for compensation, fines of up to \$200,000 or five years behind bars.

If elected to government, Labor will also work with states and territories to cancel the building licenses of companies which have been caught phoenixing, a practise where dodgy directors deliberately burn companies in an attempt to avoid their obligations to employees, government, home owners and honest businesses.

These measures - along with previous commitments such as [naming and shaming phoenix directors](#), a Director Identification Number, and increasing penalties associated with phoenix activity – will help protect Australian jobs and the economy.

It's time the Morrison Government stopped going soft on corporate crooks, and adopted Labor's plans to crack down on dodgy phoenix activity.

Only Labor will stand up for tradies in Forde and stop dodgy firms ripping off their subbie

LABOR COMMITS \$73 MILLION TO FIX COOPERS PLAINS CROSSING – Albanese/Perrett
A Shorten Labor Government would contribute \$73 million to help eliminate one of South-East Queensland's worst traffic black spots – the Boundary Road level crossing at Coopers Plains.

The road overpass will significantly boost productivity by reducing traffic congestion, while also improving road safety for local residents. Federal Labor's \$73 million investment will be contingent upon matching funding from both the State Government and the Brisbane City Council.

The Coopers Plains level crossing traverses three separate rail tracks on the Beenleigh and Gold Coast lines. The boom gates are lowered 138 times each day, causing frustration for motorists who must wait for the trains to pass.

With as many as 1,000 cars and trucks passing the level-crossing each hour, there have been numerous accidents, including 28 cases of cars hitting the boom gates over the past seven years.



That's too many close calls.

We know that the number of passenger and freight trains using these lines will increase in coming years. Inaction will lead to more congestion, a reduction in productivity and even more frustration for motorists.

The Palaszczuk Labor Government is preparing the business case for this important project.

To this point the Brisbane City Council has committed to contribute 15 per cent of the cost – well short of the 50 per cent contribution it has made to similar projects on Brisbane's north side.

It is time for the three levels of government to join forces and fix this black spot once and for all.

A Shorten Labor Government would focus heavily on tackling traffic congestion, not only with significant investment in better public transport, but also by improving roads through practical projects such as the elimination of the Coopers Plains Crossing. Federal Labor has a strong record of delivering for Brisbane's south side.

For example, it was the former Federal Labor Government that fully-funded the \$280 million upgrade of the intersection between Mains Road and Kessels Road.

Completed in mid-2014, this project has greatly improved safety and reduced congestion along the corridor that connects the busy Ipswich, Pacific and Gateway motorways.

GLADSTONE BANKING FORUM WANTS ACTION ON ROYAL COMMISSION –

Leigh/Ketter/Zac Beers Flynn

Last night we met with Gladstone locals to discuss the findings of the Banking Royal Commission.

While people right across Australia have been affected by the behaviour of the banks, Gladstone in particular has felt the brunt of a dodgy finance sector taking advantage of people struggling to make ends meet as the local economy slows down.

We heard stories from people who turned to their banks after the end of Gladstone's last construction boom, only to be met with callous disinterest and unscrupulous tactics that refused to put their customers first.

The human cost of the banks' behaviour was evident, with many in attendance struggling to comprehend the extent to which the sector had sought to profit from misfortune.

We also discussed Labor's plans to give bank victims a fairer chance to fight for their rights with a \$640 million Banking Fairness Fund. The fund will raise \$160m per year from Australia's biggest banks and fund measures like the doubling of the number of financial counsellors across Australia, meaning there will be 1000 people to provide advocacy, support and advice to an additional 125,000 Australians each year. One attendee told us that the Royal Commission had come too late, and we agree.

Labor has been calling for a Royal Commission since 2016. On the other side of the chamber, the Liberals voted against it 26 times in the Parliament. It took more than 600 days for them to be dragged kicking and screaming to call a Royal Commission, longer than the banks themselves.

Scott Morrison called it a "populist whinge" and then refused to allow the Parliament to sit for longer to deal with its findings and still has not committed to implementing them all.

While the Liberals stood up for the big banks, Labor stood up for banking victims.

While Ken O'Dowd and his Coalition colleagues look after the top end of town, Labor is looking after everyday workers.

Australia deserves better than this chaotic Coalition with a soft spot for the multinationals and millionaires.

\$4.1 MILLION TO ESTABLISH VETERANS HUB IN TOWNSVILLE – Rishworth/O'Toole

A Shorten Labor Government will provide \$4.1 million towards Oasis Townsville, to ensure the establishment of a veteran's hub in Townsville which provides greater support to veterans', ex-service personnel and their families.

Announced by the Queensland State Government in 2017, Oasis Townsville will be a one-stop-shop of services and support for veterans and their families in Townsville.

Our veterans and ex-service personnel have served in the ADF for all Australians, as such it is fitting that commonwealth funding be committed towards a centre which provides services to veterans and their families.

That is why, if elected, a Shorten Labor Government will commit \$4.1 million to Oasis Townsville in recognition of the contribution which our ADF personnel have made in their service.

Labor's \$4.1 million commitment towards the development of the building will release critical State Government funding, which will go towards the ongoing operating costs of Oasis Townsville, ensuring its viability into the future.

Oasis Townsville is designed to help individuals and their families by providing effective support and referrals to organisations which can assist our ex-service personnel's needs.

Having services collocated under one roof will allow veterans and their families to access of a number of support services at once, making it easier for those seeking support or assistance.

Oasis Townsville will become a unique hub in Townsville which offers veterans and their families a one-stop shop of services tailored to the veteran community.

As the largest garrison city in Australia, Townsville is home to a large military community of current and ex-service personnel and their families.

Thursday's announcement has been through a thorough consultation process with stakeholder's, including the Townsville Defence Community Reference Group, established by Member for Herbert, Cathy O'Toole.

Labor is committed to supporting our veterans, ex-service personnel and their families through tangible outcomes.

To date, Labor has announced a number of policies which focus on increased support for our service personnel as they transition into civilian life. This includes Labor's \$121 million comprehensive Veterans' Employment Policy, our commitment to signing a Military Covenant and developing a Family Engagement and Support Strategy.

LABOR'S \$3.75M BOOST TO UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND – Neumann

An elected Shorten Labor Government will inject \$3.75 million into the University of Southern Queensland (USQ) to assist in the delivery of quality health and biomedical sciences.

USQ's Ipswich campus will receive \$750,000 towards its Health and Wellbeing Centre to enhance the opportunity for student placements while enabling the university to extend its health services reach to the local community.

\$1 million will be spent on enhanced delivery of health-related programs such as midwifery, paramedicine and sport and exercise science through a Biomedical Laboratory.

The Ipswich and Toowoomba campuses will both benefit from \$2 million towards Clinical Simulation Laboratories to provide nursing and midwifery students with access to laboratories.

The Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison Governments have cut millions of dollars from Queensland Universities, effectively reintroducing caps on university places and impacting school-leavers and mature-age students from Ipswich and the Somerset Region.

A Shorten Labor Government won't rip funding from students to pay for tax cuts for multinationals and millionaires.

We can afford to invest in universities because unlike the Liberals we are not giving handouts to the top end of town.

The University of Southern Queensland is the number one university in Queensland for graduate employability.

It is paramount that young people in our region are given the best possible opportunities to enhance their education and employability, and this is achieved through funding our regional universities.

COALITION LATE TO THE PARTY ON QUEENSLAND REGIONAL ROADS - Albanese

The Morrison LNP Government is a late convert to the cause of investing in Queensland's regional road network.

After almost six years of neglect and cuts, it has taken the approach of a Federal election to provoke action from the LNP in Canberra, who have today announced a regional road funding package.

However, the proposed works mirror a comprehensive investment package Bill Shorten and I announced last September after extensive negotiations with regional communities.

Our package was carefully framed in response to the advocacy of the Inland Queensland Roads Action Project, which brings together 28 local councils, Regional Development Australia committees and the RACQ.

In delivering these projects, a Federal Labor Government would insist that local contractors have opportunities to bid for the work and that at least 10 per cent of workers involved would be apprentices.

Once again, Labor has been leading from Opposition on infrastructure.

The LNP's neglect has exacerbated traffic congestion in our cities and denied regional communities the road projects needed to boost productivity and improve road safety – and the cuts will continue if they are re-elected.

Their own Budget documents show that Federal infrastructure grants to the states will fall in each of the next few years from \$7 billion in 2017-18 to \$4.5 billion in 2021-22.

By contrast, the last time Labor was in office, we invested nearly \$9 billion into Queensland's railways and roads over six years, boosting infrastructure investment on a per-capita basis from \$143 per Queenslander to \$314.

Looking ahead, Federal Labor has already announced support for a range of projects in regional Queensland including:

- **Widening the Townsville Port Channel**
- **Extending the Bruce Highway through Cairns**
- **The Rookwood Weir**
- **The Mackay and Rockhampton ring roads.**
- **Capricornia Highway upgrade with extra passing lanes**
- **Rockhampton-Yepoon Road upgrade**
- **Gladstone Port Access Road**

MORRISON'S HOSPITAL CUTS CAUSE QUEENSLAND CHAOS – Catherine King

Scott Morrison's health and hospital cuts are causing chaos in Queensland, with every hospital in the state's South-East now running at full capacity.

This is what happens when you slash \$160 million of hospital funding from the state – doctors and nurses are forced to try and do more with less, potentially compromising safety and quality of care.

This is what happens when you force up the cost of seeing a GP with a Medicare rebate freeze – more people end up in hospital emergency departments.

And this is what happens when you let private health insurance costs spiral out of control – people ditch their cover and end up back in the public system even as private hospitals go out of business.

If the Liberals are allowed to lock in their hospital cuts for another five years we will see more of this chaos across the country.

A Shorten Labor Government on the other hand will reverse the Liberal cuts to hospitals by investing an extra \$2.8 billion.

We will take pressure off the cost of seeing a GP by ending the Government's freeze within 50 days of winning office.

And we will cap private health insurance premium increases so people stay insured and take pressure off the public system.

This is all part of our Fair Go Action Plan to fix our hospitals and strengthen Medicare.

Only Labor can be trusted to fix Queensland's – and the nation's – hospitals.

GEORGE CHRISTENSEN - THE MISSING MP – Watt



Reports have emerged [overnight](#) that the LNP Member for Dawson, George Christensen has been missing in action from his electorate for nine months of the last four years.

The Courier Mail's analysis of Mr Christensen's travel records suggests that:

- **Mr Christensen spent 294 days in the Philippines during a four year period.**
- **For two consecutive years, Mr Christensen was in Manila for more days than he was in Federal Parliament.**
- **Mr Christensen made 28 trips between April 2014 and last June, spending 42 weeks in a country which is more than 5000km away from his marginal electorate.**

Apparently Mr Christensen's constant travel has even earned him the nickname "The Member for Manila" among colleagues, who have raised concerns at his continued absences from his marginal seat.

How can Mr Christensen justify such regular and extended absences from work? Mr Christensen says he stands up for North Queensland, but how can he do that, when he's never there?

Mr Christensen's constituents have seen the LNP cut funding cut from their schools, TAFE's and hospitals, they've had their penalty rates slashed, and they've been ripped off by the unfair casualisation and labour hire practices of multinationals.

Now we know that, rather than fighting to protect North Queenslanders, Mr Christensen has been thousands of kilometres away, for over two months a year.

If Mr Christensen doesn't want the job, he should leave it to someone who does.

Only Labor will fight to protect Queenslanders from the LNP's cuts to services. Only Labor will fight for Queensland jobs

NO NATION

YET MORE REASON TO PUT ONE NATION LAST – Dreyfus/Clare O'Neil

Tuesday's shocking revelations that One Nation have courted US gun-rights lobby the National Rifle Association to help achieve their aim of watering down Australia's world-leading gun laws are yet more reason – if one were needed – to put One Nation last.

Yet just last night, federal Liberal Party Vice-President Teena McQueen on Q&A refused to rule out the Liberal Party preferencing One Nation ahead of Labor.

According to an Al-Jazeera investigation, One Nation Queensland leader Steve Dickson and Pauline Hanson staffer James Ashby travelled to the United States last year in an attempt to solicit donations from the NRA, and discussed softening the party's gun policy.

Australia's gun laws are among the best in the world. They have already come under threat once, with the Liberals and Nationals splitting in the Senate over gun control, and with the Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison government ready to trade away protections in return for votes from the Liberal Democrats. Now they are under threat again from One Nation.

One Nation's race baiting rhetoric wasn't enough for Scott Morrison to put One Nation last – surely now, a line has been crossed.

Will Scott Morrison stand up against a party that wants to water down Australia's world-leading gun laws? Or will he put self-interest first? Scott Morrison's government is hopelessly split over this important issue. Shockingly, up to 10 Liberal, National and LNP MPs have now supported preferencing One Nation above Labor.

The time is up for Scott Morrison. He cannot continue with weasel words – the Liberal Party must put One Nation at the bottom of the ticket.

No ifs, no buts – put extremists who want to water down Australia's gun laws last.

This is a test of Scott Morrison's leadership – so far, he is failing miserably.

HANSON'S GROSSLY OFFENSIVE COMMENTS ON PORT ARTHUR – Julie Collins/Mitchell

Tasmanians reject the appalling comments of Pauline Hanson and anyone who peddles false conspiracy theories about the Port Arthur massacre.

The reported comments will be heart-breaking to hear for the families of the 35 innocent victims who died on that dreadful day.

They will also be heart-breaking for the survivors, the first responders and many in the Tasmanian community who continue to experience trauma from that day's events.

Our thoughts are with those who will be hurt by Hanson's grossly ignorant comments.

Labor stands today with everyone who rightly rejects these offensive remarks. Our resolve to never let a tragedy like Port Arthur happen again remains unwavering.



TIME TO SHOW LEADERSHIP, MORRISON – SIGN THE CODE OF ETHICS – Dreyfus

Labor has invited Prime Minister Scott Morrison to make a solid bipartisan commitment to improving standards in Parliament, by putting a *Parliamentarians' Code of Race and Cultural Ethics* to the first joint party room of the sitting fortnight next week.



The past few weeks have seen political rhetoric in Australia have hit a new low. While despicable comments about the tragic Christchurch attack made by right-wing politicians have rightly been condemned by both major parties, it is time to take a more positive step.

It is time to be explicit in our commitment to a set of standards that the Australian public expect their Parliamentarians to abide by on matters of race and culture. It is time for leaders to unite in condemning the hateful and divisive rhetoric of Senator Anning, Senator Hanson and those who seek to stoke racism and other forms of bigotry for political ends – not just with our words, but with our actions too.

To have members of both major political parties as signatories to this Code would send an unmistakable message that both major political parties in this country completely reject any form of division or discrimination on the grounds of race or religion. It's what the people of Australia expect us to do. Following the re-election of Pauline Hanson in 2016, all members of the Labor caucus signed the Code, modelled on an

earlier version put to the Parliament in 1998 by Labor Senator Margaret Reynolds when Ms Hanson was first elected.

Despite an invitation by Bill Shorten to then-Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull to put that same Code to his joint party room, nothing was progressed. Now is the time for the coalition to change its mind. Now is the time for Scott Morrison to show some leadership to put a stop to bigotry.

Members of the Labor caucus who have arrived since 2016 will be asked to sign the Code at its next meeting in Canberra on Monday.

A copy of the letter written by Bill Shorten and the Code is available [here](#).

WORKERS

LABOR WILL MAKE SURE THE MINIMUM WAGE IS A LIVING WAGE – Shorten/O'Connor

A Shorten Labor Government will reverse cuts to penalty rates, boost wages for workers and ensure that the minimum wage is a living wage – fixing the law so that the Fair Work Commission has the tools to deliver a living wage for Australia's low-paid workers.

A fair go for Australia means a fair wage for working people. Labor's living wage policy will directly benefit around 1.2 million Australians, or one in 10 workers.

Under the Liberals, the economy isn't working for everyday Australians. Everything is going up in Australia except people's wages.

People are finding it harder to get ahead. Households are saving less and families are forced to dip further into their pockets to pay for the essentials.

And Morrison's Liberals have made it even harder for families to make ends meet. Morrison's Liberals voted eight times to support cuts to penalty rates, cutting the take-home pay of hundreds of thousands of Australians. And the Liberals have said that low wages are a "deliberate design feature" of their economic strategy.

Boosting wages is good for workers and good for the economy. Consumer spending makes up 60 per cent of the Australian economy.

Stagnant wages have held back spending and put a handbrake on economic growth.

When low-paid workers get a pay rise, they spend it in the local shops and help small businesses. It's good for everyone.

As well as reversing the cuts to penalty rates to boost people's pay, Labor will make sure the minimum wage delivers a decent standard of living for families.

Labor wants the Fair Work Commission to have the tools to determine what wage is required to provide a decent standard of living for low-paid workers.

The problem with the current laws is that they require the minimum wage to be no more than a bare safety net – a change introduced by the Howard Government. As a safety net, the minimum wage has left some full time workers living in poverty.

Labor will legislate so that the Commission's highest priority will be making sure no person working full-time in Australia need live in poverty.

A living wage should make sure people earn enough to make ends meet, and be informed by what it costs to live in Australia today – to pay for housing, for food, for utilities, to pay for a basic phone and data plan.

Labor's will make sure that over time workers are paid a living wage, taking into account the capacity of businesses to pay, and the potential effect on employment, inflation and the broader economy.

Labor will amend the Fair Work Act to establish a two-step process to introduce a living wage:

- **The first step will be for the Fair Work Commission to determine what a living wage should be. In doing so, the Commission will consider submissions from community organisations, business representatives and unions. The Commission will also take into account Australia's social wage (the amount of tax people pay, and any family tax benefits or other transfers they receive).**
- **The second step will be for the Fair Work Commission to consider the time frame over which the increase should be phased in, taking into account the capacity of businesses to pay, and the potential impact on employment, inflation and the broader economy. Again, the Commission will take into account submissions from community organisations, business representatives and unions. It will be the Fair Work Commission's responsibility to determine a fair and responsible phasing in of a living wage.**

If Labor is elected, the first living wage case will take place as part of the next Annual Wage Review after the legislation passes the Parliament, with wage increases to be responsibly phased in from the 1 July after that Review.

The living wage will not automatically flow through to Award wages - it will only apply to those receiving the National Minimum Wage. The Annual Wage Review will still determine award wages.

Record low wages growth has been a hallmark of Morrison's Liberals. Under the Liberals, real wages have stagnated.

In the last five years, out-of-pocket costs to see a GP are up 24 per cent, private health insurance premiums are up 30 per cent, electricity prices are up 15 per cent, and long day child care costs are up 24 per cent.

But in the past year, company profits have grown five times faster than wages. Labour productivity has outstripped growth in real wages in the past two decades – meaning Australians are working harder and better, but not being fairly rewarded for their effort.

Making sure the minimum wage is a living wage is just one part of Labor's wages policy. We are also reversing the cuts to penalty rates, taking steps to close the gender pay gap, making sure labour hire workers doing the same job receive the same pay and cracking down on sham contracting, wage theft and worker exploitation.

Getting wages moving again is vital for our economy, it's essential for families battling rising living costs and it's the right thing to do for the working people who help create our national wealth.

Bill Shorten and Labor will deliver a fair go for all Australians, not just the top end of town.

REYNOLDS JUMPS INTO THE VALLEY OF DEATH WITH GUSTO – Marles

Tuesday's announcement that ASC has slated another 46 skilled workers for redundancy shows the Liberals' valley of death is as wide as ever.

In 2017, Christopher Pyne promised *"The valley of death is over and we are now seeing an upturn in employment in naval shipbuilding in our state that will only continue to increase."*

Tuesday's news brings the total number of jobs lost at ASC alone to 466 since that promise was made.

Tuesday's job cuts show the new Defence Industry Minister is just as happy to plumb the depths of the valley of death as every previous Liberal minister.

Defence officials warned earlier this year that as many as *"a couple of hundred"* more job losses would come at ASC this year.

It seems the new Defence Industry Minister cares as little about living up to Liberal promises as her predecessors.

She could have done something about this, but she didn't.

The Minister for Defence could have done something about this, but he didn't.

The Minister for Finance could have done something about this as shareholder minister, but he didn't.

The only thing filling the Liberals' valley of death is their broken promises.

SCATHING PICTURE OF GOVT'S UNDERSTANDING OF WORKER'S RIGHTS – O'Connor

Labor notes the great irony of this Government cheering on an ILO decision that will mean intensive reporting of some of the operations and conduct of the Australian Building and Construction Commission (ABCC) and its 2016 Building Code over the next three years.

No amount of spin from this Government can hide the fact that the ILO is closely watching their actions against workers who are within the remit of the ABCC.

The situation is far from positive for this Government. In fact, it's plain embarrassing for a country like Australia to be grouped with others who have shown a blatant disregard for workers and their rights under international standards.

This decision by the ILO on the ABCC and the 2016 Building Code effectively means that Australia is on a watch list for the next three years and will be required to report to the ILO on the harsh actions it takes against workers and worker representatives on commonwealth building sites.

This ILO report builds on repeated previous findings by the ILO's supervisory bodies that the ABCC legislation breaches some of the most fundamental ILO conventions and international law.

The Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison Government has been obsessed with spending millions of taxpayer's dollars on their ideological anti-union agenda.

Under the Liberals, the ABCC has been criticised by the Federal Court for baseless prosecutions, has introduced controversial powers allowing it to compel witnesses to give evidence, has tried to ban the flying of the Eureka flag on work sites, and the former ABCC Commissioner broke the very law he was charged to uphold for more than two years. On top of this, the government used hundreds of thousands of taxpayers' money to defend the indefensible in court.

It is untenable that this unfair, undemocratic and disgraced organisation continues.
Labor remains committed to abolishing the ABCC if it gets elected at the next election.

GOVT CAN'T BE TRUSTED TO LEGISLATE ON CASUAL CONVERSION – O'Connor

For five years the Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison government has denied there is a problem with casualisation and precarious work and can't be trusted to legislate on casual conversion.

This Government has never put workers first and Labor holds serious concerns about both the intent and incompetence of the government's casual conversion bill.

A Senate committee inquiry into the Fair Work Amendment (Right to Request Casual Conversion) Bill 2019 has heard significant concerns about the construction of the bill and the sloppy drafting that could lead to uncertainty and unforeseen consequences for both businesses and workers.

A key concern is that the construction of the bill will give more power to employers to designate an employee to be casual even when under common law they would not be deemed as such.

This was confirmed in evidence by Professor Andrew Stewart, who raised concerns that the requirement that the employee must be a 'designated casual' is a significant shift from the established principles of a casual worker under the common law definition.

In light of the governments record on job security, Labor is concerned that the bill intends to provide more powers to employers to designate people to be casual when they are not.

Many stakeholders ranging from employers to unions referred to the sloppy drafting of the bill that could lead to unforeseen consequences for both businesses and workers.

Instead of taking the time to consult effectively on this bill with stakeholders, the Government has tried to rush this bill through in the dying days of this Parliament.

Labor simply won't take the risk of passing this bill only to see job security undermined and uncertainty employers and workers alike.

Labor believes that a clear distinction between casual and permanent employment, which will provide certainty for both employers and employees, won't be fixed by this bill.

Instead, Labor has had a policy since 2016 to legislate an objective definition of casual to provide greater clarity and certainty for employers and employees.

We want to make sure people aren't stuck in the purgatory of permanent casualisation, with all the obligations and commitments expected of the employee, but with no guarantee of job security.

This Government has spent almost six years attacking the pay and conditions of workers and the rights of their representative organisations. Is it any wonder they can't be trusted to properly legislate for the rights of casual workers to convert to permanent employment?

DISABILITY

GOVERNMENT SET TO PROP UP BUDGET WITH NDIS UNDERSPEND – Burney/Chalmers

Scott Morrison needs to come clean on using cruel tricks to boost his budget bottom line, instead of properly delivering the NDIS.

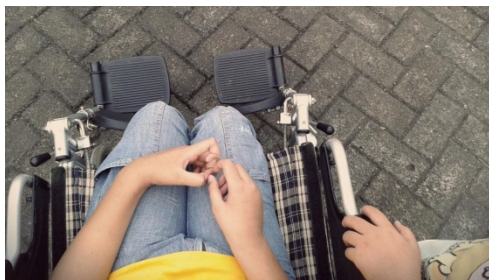
This is a disgraceful tactic and an insult to people with disability.

Reports indicate the Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison Government will use funding designated for support for people with disability to prop up its pre-election budget next week.

Already, \$6 billion from the NDIS has been returned [unspent](#) to the budget, including over \$2.5 billion in [2017-18](#) alone.

The is the culmination of years of neglect of the NDIS.

The Government's bottom line is being bolstered because of delays in the NDIS roll-out and because too many people are unable to access all the services and supports in their NDIS Plans.



We already know that next week's budget will be a fantasy document filled with promises to get them through the next six weeks and attempt to wipe away the last six years – and this is more proof of that.

If the Liberals' projected surpluses are built on massive underspends in the NDIS, they can't exactly claim its because of good economic management.

If their projected surpluses come at the expense of Australians with a disability, it would tell you all you need to know about this Government.

These are services and supports people with disability have been assessed as needing – but they are missing out.

This underspend is not an achievement. It is evidence that the Government has dropped the ball on the rollout of the NDIS.

The underspends are the culmination of thousands of people with disability waiting to enter the scheme or waiting months for their plans; their plans being underutilised because they are unable to receive the support they need; and cost pressures being placed on service providers.

The equivalent of over 77,000 people are missing out, with the [latest quarterly report](#) showing that the scheme has only reached 76% of the projected number of participants.

On top of this, almost a third of participant plans was not spent, with an underutilisation rate of 31% in the 2017-18 fiscal year, meaning that participants are simply not receiving all of the support that they need.

It will be difficult and it will take time to get the scheme back on track. But Labor is determined to ensure the scheme, services and support are made available to eligible participants, no matter where they live.

Labor will abolish the Liberal's arbitrary staffing cap on the National Disability Insurance Agency, which will free the agency to address the backlog in plans and create a more interactive planning process which more comprehensively considers the unique and individual needs of participants and their families.

STEPHANIE GOTLIB –

Shorten/Plibersek/Burney/Rishworth/Brown/Macklin/Ellis

Today [Sat 23 March] we recognise Stephanie Gotlib's incredible dedication and service to the disability community, as she prepares to step down as the CEO of Children and Young People with Disability Australia (CYDA).

For more than 10 years at CYDA, Stephanie has been a fierce and consistent advocate for children and young people.

She campaigned for the creation of the NDIS – and along with thousands of parents and children across the country, has continued to work just as hard to get the Scheme back on track.

Whether it is fighting against unfair changes to child care, or arguing the case for better funding and support for school students with disability, Stephanie has contributed intelligently, passionately and honestly to the policy debate.

She calls it as she sees it – always putting children and young people with disability first.

Stephanie has changed minds and hearts on the importance of inclusive education and the right of every child to be treated as a learner.

She has also exposed terrible injustices and highlighted to the whole community just how much more Australia needs to do – in our schools and more broadly – in order to be a genuinely inclusive country.

For years, Stephanie has argued for the establishment of a Royal Commission into the abuse, neglect and violence perpetrated against people with a disability.

It is a testament to her persistence and determination – in partnership with others – that this important inquiry is now supported across the Parliament.

Stephanie is a genuine leader who is respected by people across the sector and in government.

Thank you Stephanie. And all the best in your next endeavour, we know you will continue to make a difference.



HEALTH

CHEAPER BREAST CANCER SCANS - LABOR'S INVESTMENT IN MEDICARE – Shorten/King

Women with breast cancer will get affordable access to life-saving medical scans under a Shorten Labor Government plan to drive down the cost of cancer treatment.

If elected, Labor will invest an extra \$47 million in Medicare to subsidise breast cancer MRIs to ensure Australian women get the care they need when they need it.

Doctors say one in five women with breast cancer will need an MRI, which can pick up cancers not detectable in some women by mammogram or ultrasound.



Medicare already subsidises similar MRI scans for men with prostate cancer – but not for women with breast cancer, except in extremely limited circumstances.

As a result, thousands of women are being charged up to \$1500 in out-of-pocket costs for the scans used to diagnose their cancer, decide on treatment and ensure cancer does not return.

Many cancer patients will require multiple, regular scans as part of their treatment – meaning costs can accumulate to many thousands of dollars. For women already going through the trauma of a cancer diagnosis these costs can add significantly to their stress. In the worst-case scenario, some women may forego these scans altogether because they simply cannot afford to pay the high out-of-pocket costs.

This is unacceptable. It's time we supported these women and their families.

Under Labor's proposal, we will work with experts to finalise the design of the new Medicare items that will give thousands of women access to subsidised scans for the first time. We will pay for this new investment in Medicare by making multinationals pay their fair share and closing tax loopholes used by the top end of town.

Scott Morrison should immediately match this commitment in next week's Budget.

When everything is going up except people's wages, the soaring out-of-pocket costs of health care are putting too much pressure on family budgets. Those out-of-pocket costs have spiralled out of control under the Liberals as a result of their six-year Medicare freeze. A Labor government will end this freeze in its first 50 days.

Labor believes access to health care should depend on your Medicare card, not your credit card.

That's why Labor will invest in more beds, doctors and nurses with our Better Hospitals Fund, deliver new Medicare MRI licences, cap private health insurance premiums for two years, and end Morrison's Medicare freeze.

We will have even more to say about our plans to invest in Medicare and primary care before the election. Labor created Medicare and we will always protect and strengthen it.

ENVIRONMENT

LABOR TO RESTORING THE MURRAY-DARLING BASIN TO HEALTH - Burke

A Shorten Labor Government will reverse the Coalition's harmful changes to the Murray Darling Basin Plan.

Two changes made under the Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison Government have weakened the original plan, which risks doing damage to the Basin that cannot be undone.

The first is a cap on water buybacks and the second is a change to the socio-economic definition for delivering the 450GL of water for the environment. Labor has already committed to introducing a Bill to repeal the 1500GL cap on buybacks.

A Shorten Labor Government will also restore the original socio-economic definition for delivering the 450GL to the system.

The Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison Government sought to make the changes in an agreement with water ministers, including South Australian Water Minister David Speirs.

The Murray Darling Basin Royal Commission found the agreement was a "capitulation" which was "contrary to the interest of South Australians".

In addition to restoring these two measures, Labor has committed to:

- Restoring the integrity of the Murray-Darling Basin Authority by moving its compliance functions to the Environmental Protection Agency and ordering a formal review of claims public servants acted unlawfully
- An urgent review of climate change impacts on the Basin now and into the future to determine any change in inflows and evaporation rates
- Urgently renegotiating the Menindee agreement, which determines how the lakes are managed and is now decades out of date

For the last six years the Government has not taken action to implement the Basin Plan. The environment and surrounding communities are suffering as a result of this inaction. Labor will act urgently to restore the Basin to health.

GOVT DROUGHT ENVOY WANTS WATER STRIPPED FROM THE ENVIRONMENT - Burke

Reports that the Prime Minister's drought envoy, Barnaby Joyce, wants to take water away from the environment shows he doesn't understand water policy and is willing to let the rivers suffer if it's in his political interest.

It beggars belief that anyone could look at the fish kills over summer and propose to take water away from the environment.

As Water Minister Barnaby Joyce did his best to destroy the Basin Plan. He wrote to the then South Australian Water Minister to undermine the 450GL of additional water for the environment, even though the water would be recovered from on-farm infrastructure projects. He said the water didn't "*have a hope in hades*" of being delivered. He also made bold claims in the pub that he took the water portfolio for the Nationals.

Today he says Adelaide has too much water, all because he thinks National Party seats are more important than seats in Adelaide.

The Basin Plan is about saving the rivers – and not about Mr Joyce's mates winning seats.

The Plan is there to deliver a healthy working Basin. There are no jobs on a dead river.

Barnaby Joyce wants to see the Basin Plan delivered in full, including the additional 450GL of water that the environment needs, the Plan allows, and Barnaby Joyce tries to prevent.

LABOR WILL RESTORE FUNDING TO EDOs – Burke/Dreyfus

A Labor government will deliver \$14 million for Environmental Defenders Offices around the country, ensuring they can continue to carry out their important work following devastating cuts inflicted by the Liberal-National government.

EDOs provide free legal services with a specific expertise in environmental law. They have helped farmers, Indigenous people and community groups bring forward important legal challenges with the aim of protecting Australia's precious natural environment. They

provide access to justice to individuals and groups who wish to take on large organisations with deep pockets, ensuring Australia's environmental laws are upheld. The ability of EDOs to continue doing their important work was brought into real doubt when the Abbott government cut off all Commonwealth government funding in 2013, making claims about "activist lawfare" which were never justified.

EDOs were established in 1985, and were funded by successive Commonwealth governments – including the Howard government. But thanks to the Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison government's ideological obsession with climate change denial and its close ties with big business, all Commonwealth funding was cruelly terminated within a few months of Tony Abbott taking office.

Thanks to donations, community support and some state government funding, EDOs have managed to survive – but only just. A Labor government will ensure their ongoing existence is secure.

The \$14 million funding package over four years will go to the nine EDOs around the country, including the re-badged Environmental Justice Australia in Victoria.

Labor recognises that Australians are becoming increasingly concerned about the destruction of our natural environment under the Liberal-National government. Properly-funded EDOs can make sure the environment has a voice in the courts, assisting all kinds of Australians to protect their natural surroundings. That includes farmers, who make up a significant proportion of EDO clients.

Labor's commitment to legal assistance services goes beyond just EDOs. We believe, as a matter of principle, that access to justice is one of the most important parts of our democracy. The rule of law does not just apply to some, it applies to all – and the ability to enforce rights in court should not only be available to those with the deepest pockets.



Labor's announcement today shows how highly we value the protection of our precious environment. EDOs have an important role to play, and we will ensure they can continue to provide their services to communities around Australia, including in our regions

ENERGY

LIBERALS PLAN FOR MORE NEW COAL AFTER ELECTION – Mark Butler

The [AFR](#) have confirmed if the Liberals win the election a list of new coal-fired power plants, in Victoria and New South Wales, will be under consideration.

Scott Morrison wants to give away billions in taxpayer funded subsidies for new coal, instead of investing in renewable energy – and Victoria and NSW will be next on their list:

"Mr St Baker's controversial multibillion-dollar proposals for new high-efficiency, low-emissions coal plants in Victoria and NSW didn't make the cut, but are understood to only have been shelved to the next stage in the UNGI process, subject to the Coalition winning the federal election." [AFR, 27 MARCH 2019]

The industry has refused to fund these coal-fired power stations with their own money because they are too expensive and are not consistent with Australia's energy future.

As a result of the Liberal attacks on renewable energy power bills have skyrocketed and thousands of jobs in renewables are at risk.

It's clear that the Prime Minister is signing up to anything just to try and paper over the massive division in his party on energy and coal. Last year the Prime Minister dismissed the very idea he is now proposing:

"Let's not think that there's cheap new coal, there's not. "And [HELE] takes seven years to turn up, so if we think that is all of a sudden going to make your power bills cheaper next month, it won't. "Whether it's a part of the system in the future, I think the rules will define that, but new cheap coal is a bit of a myth." [SCOTT MORRISON, AFR, 13 AUG 2018]

Bill Shorten and Labor are committed to cheaper, cleaner power through renewable energy. Scott Morrison and the Liberals are committed to power privatisation, more coal and higher power bills.

We need investment in cheaper, cleaner renewable energy, not handouts for multinational energy companies.

LIBERALS' COAL CHAOS WILL DRIVE POWER BILLS UP – Mark Butler

The chaotic and divided Morrison Government continues to show just how out of touch they are when it comes to Australia's energy future – leaving Australians picking up the pieces with higher energy bills.

The Prime Minister today confirmed the Liberals are proposing to spend taxpayers' dollars on new coal-fired power stations, a decision backed by Barnaby Joyce and Resources Minister Matt Canavan.



The Liberals will also use taxpayers' money to prop up ageing, increasingly unreliable coal-fired power stations.

This whole exercise in underwriting from the Liberals has been a shambles from the get go.

Confirming that after almost six years in government, the Liberals are still making up energy policy on the run, reaching their 13th energy policy in six years – and power bills will continue to soar as a result.

Renewable energy is the cheapest form of new energy, but the Liberals/Nationals attacks is one reason why power prices will keep going up and up under Scott Morrison.

As a result power bills have skyrocketed and thousands of jobs in renewables are at risk.

Now he wants to give away millions in taxpayer funded subsidies for new coal, instead of investing in renewable energy.

We need investment in cheaper, cleaner renewable energy, not more handouts for multinational energy companies.

Bill Shorten and Labor are committed to cheaper, cleaner power through renewable energy.

Scott Morrison is committed to power privatisation, more coal and higher power bills.

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

LABOR TO PROVIDE TIMELY BOOST TO HOUSING MARKET - Bowen/Cameron

A vote for a Shorten Labor Government is the only way to guarantee Australians have a government that prioritises housing affordability, puts first home buyers on more of a level playing field with property investors, and reforms an overly generous property tax system in a way that is fair, more sustainable and boosts housing supply.

Labor is announcing the next part of our housing plan – getting more houses built and available for rent by encouraging institutional investors

into the housing market. Labor will revamp the *Build to Rent* scheme – giving institutional investors better tax concessions, encouraging more construction and stimulating the housing market.

We will cut the managed investment trust withholding rate in half, on tax distributions attributable to investments in build-to-rent housing. The rate will be lowered from 30 per cent to 15 per cent - encouraging new housing supply.

Build to Rent provides more stable long term tenancies and more housing in desired locations close to public transport and close to employment opportunities. This is good for families who want to spend more time with each other, and less time travelling to and from work.

Many families around Australia have faced the situation where they've tried to create a comfortable home, but unexpectedly have been forced to move after their landlord decides to sell their investment and move on.

Boosting affordable and stable rental accommodation has a double dividend - it is critical for Australia's 2.7 million renters that can't afford to buy a home or are saving to do so, and it boosts construction jobs and economic activity.

This builds on Labor's existing reforms to encourage new housing growth, including:

- Retaining and putting negative gearing to work by focusing it on new properties;
- Providing incentives to build 250,000 affordable houses over the next decade.

Labor is also making sensible and overdue changes to negative gearing to put young first home buyers on more of a level playing field with property investors seeking their 6th or 7th property.



These changes to negative gearing and the capital gains tax discount will commence from 1 January 2020, including:

- Retaining negative for new investment properties to help boost housing supply and jobs;
- all existing negative geared investment properties made prior to the 1 January 2020 fully grandfathered; and
- the capital gains tax discount halved for investments entered into after 1 January 2020.

If you already use negative gearing, nothing changes. It's not retrospective. And you can still use it for new houses.

Federal Labor's reforms to negative gearing enjoy the support of many independent economists and think tanks like the Grattan Institute and Saul Eslake as well as international economic agencies like the International Monetary Fund.

The fact is, the benefits of both negative gearing and the capital gains tax discount (CGTD) are skewed towards the wealthy, with the Grattan Institute estimating almost 70 per cent of the benefit of the CGTD accrues to the top 10 per cent of income earners.

The Morrison Government has no policies, no plans and no leadership to encourage new housing investment. Scott Morrison personally mishandled and stunted the growth of Build to Rent in Australia – by unilaterally and without notice banning managed investment in the scheme on Friday 14 September 2017, before partially back flipping on this in July of last year.

Federal Labor's plan is good for the budget, good for housing construction jobs and fair for first home buyers.

At the next election there's a choice: the Liberals' plan to stand up for banks and top end of town, or Labor's plan to fix our schools and hospitals.

The independent Parliamentary Budget Office has costed our policy to reform negative gearing and the capital gains tax discount. It will raise \$2.9 billion over the forward estimates (to 2022-23) and \$35.1 billion over the medium-term (to 2029-30). The PBO has also advised that the Build-to-rent policy would have an unquantifiable financial impact.

For more information, visit https://www.alp.org.au/media/1657/190328_factsheet_housing.pdf.

FIRST PEOPLE

LABOR WELCOMES CLOSING THE GAP PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT- Shorten/Dodson

Labor welcomes the Closing the Gap Partnership Agreement announced by the Coalition Government and the Coalition of Peaks, made up of some 40 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander national and state/ territory peaks and other organisations across Australia.

A formal agreement with First Nations organisations and providers to work together to Close the Gap is long overdue.

This announcement comes after years of delay, dysfunction and poor communication due to the failure in leadership of this government. It has been two years since the government announced a 'refresh' of the Close the Gap Framework, and only now do we have an agreed framework for negotiating that refresh. First Nations peoples deserve better than this.

Labor will support ongoing efforts, should we win government, to maintain shared decision-making from a refreshed

Closing the Gap framework, underpinned by a review of the National Indigenous Reform Agreement, as well as the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the Closing the Gap Framework.

Labor also supports the establishment of the Joint Council on Closing the Gap which will meet at least twice a year with Ministerial representation from each government and twelve Coalition of Peaks representatives chosen by them.

Senator Dodson said, *"I recognise the good work done by peak bodies and representatives in dragging the Government to this National Partnership Agreement. The peak representative bodies have an important role to play assisting front-line organisations to deliver their services and collate national data. This kind of national leadership is required."*

“Should we be successful at the next election, we will work closely with First Nations groups to co-design a revitalised framework for closing the gap and overcoming Indigenous disadvantage”.

Labor will work with the Coalition of Peaks and all those who deliver services on the front line to restore the integrity of the national Close the Gap agenda.

ECONOMY

10 MILLION AUSTRALIANS BETTER OFF UNDER LABOR’S INCOME TAX CUTS – Bowen
From 1 July this year, 10 million Australians earning up to \$125,000 will be better off under Labor and its bigger, better and fairer income tax cuts.

And after 2022, Australians earning below \$95,000 will be better off under Labor’s plan.

Wednesday’s message from the Liberal Party is for Australians to vote for them two more times to get the benefits of the stage 2 and 3 income tax cuts. Nobody trusts Scott Morrison and Josh Frydenberg.

Federal Labor is offering a better tax cut right now, not in two elections’ time.

This is supported by 2016-17 data provided by the Liberal Party today which shows the numbers of those better off under Labor by the top 30 electorates:

	Electorate	State	Member	Party	Number receiving offset	Number receiving full \$530 offset
1	Sydney	NSW	Tanya PLIBERSEK	ALP	86,403	37,810
2	Lindsay	NSW	Emma HUSAR	ALP	72,199	34,619
3	Macnamara	Vic	Michael DANBY	ALP	74,370	34,503
4	Melbourne	Vic	Adam Bandt	GRN	75,806	33,989
5	Lalor	Vic	Joanne RYAN	ALP	73,623	33,880
6	Greenway	NSW	Michelle ROWLAND	ALP	71,882	33,509
7	Holt	Vic	Anthony BYRNE	ALP	72,360	33,312
8	Pearce	WA	Christian PORTER	LP	73,643	33,269
9	Brisbane	Qld	Trevor EVANS	LNP	72,936	33,206
10	Parramatta	NSW	Julie OWENS	ALP	75,636	33,148
11	Chifley	NSW	Ed HUSIC	ALP	69,180	32,830
12	Kingsford Smith	NSW	Matt THISTLETHWAITE	ALP	71,030	32,469
13	Rankin	Qld	Jim CHALMERS	ALP	70,652	32,246
14	Forde	Qld	Bert van MANEN	LNP	70,025	32,164
15	Lilley	Qld	Wayne SWAN	ALP	67,646	32,117
16	Macarthur	NSW	Mike FREELANDER	ALP	68,212	32,116
17	Reid	NSW	Craig LAUNDY	LP	73,458	31,968
18	Barton	NSW	Linda BURNEY	ALP	72,399	31,758
19	Bean	ACT	New Seat	N/A	65,187	31,637
20	Griffith	Qld	Terri BUTLER	ALP	69,003	31,622
21	Makin	SA	Tony ZAPPIA	ALP	68,785	31,579
22	Fenner	ACT	Andrew Keith LEIGH	ALP	64,533	31,571
23	Gellibrand	Vic	Tim WATTS	ALP	69,323	31,508
24	Herbert	Qld	Cathy O’TOOLE	ALP	65,586	31,499
25	Oxley	Qld	Milton DICK	ALP	67,145	31,239
26	Adelaide	SA	Kate ELLIS	ALP	70,084	31,105
27	Gorton	Vic	Brendan O’CONNOR	ALP	66,940	30,957
28	Burt	WA	Matt KEOGH	ALP	67,806	30,902
29	Sturt	SA	Christopher PYNE	LP	69,540	30,877
30	Dickson	Qld	Peter DUTTON	LNP	65,833	30,796

Mr Frydenberg’s latest tax data dodge is based on a hypothetical scenario in 2022 and 2024, as if a future Labor Government would never look to return bracket creep or provide further income tax cuts, when it is fair and sustainable to do so.

INFRASTRUCTURE

COALITION IS SIX YEARS LATE TO THE PARTY ON RAIL INVESTMENT – Albanese
The “faster rail” re-announcement by Scott Morrison simply exposes the six wasted years Australia has experienced under this Government when it comes to building the rail infrastructure this country desperately needs.

In recent days Mr Morrison has been scrambling to announce plans for new rail projects linking capital cities to regional areas to reduce traffic congestion.

But this late conversion follows years of Coalition cuts to rail investment, starting in 2013 with its cancellation of Federal support for major rail projects including the Melbourne Metro, the Parramatta to Epping rail link in Sydney and Brisbane’s Cross City Rail.

It also follows the fact that five times now I have introduced my Private Members Bill to establish a High Speed Rail Authority in the Parliament. This Authority would have included representatives from the relevant state and territory governments to set out a practical path for delivering High Speed Rail in Australia.

Yet each and every time the Coalition Government has refused to debate my Bill, let alone allow a vote on it.

On the basis of the 2013 feasibility study, an independent panel led by former Deputy Prime Minister Tim Fischer and the Business Council of Australia's Jennifer Westacott recommended the creation of a High Speed Rail Authority to advance the project and begin corridor acquisition.

Now, after nearly six years of inaction, Mr Morrison suddenly wants to create a national authority to manage his rail plans.

His sudden interest in rail should be seen for what it is – a desperate attempt to feign action on an issue the Coalition has ignored for years.

It will take a Shorten Labor Government to invest in the infrastructure Australia needs, including High Speed Rail.

A High Speed Rail link between Brisbane and Melbourne via Sydney and Canberra would revolutionise interstate travel, **allowing people to move between capitals in less than three hours.**

This would supercharge development of communities along its route such as the Gold Coast, Casino, Grafton, Coffs Harbour, Port Macquarie, Taree, Newcastle, the NSW Central Coast, the Southern Highlands, Canberra, Wagga Wagga, Albury-Wodonga and Shepparton.



SIX YEARS TO FIND ROLE FOR FARMERS & NATIVE VEGETATION – Fitzgibbon

After almost six years in office, the Morrison Government has finally discovered the need to incentivise the adoption of best-practice land management techniques in the agriculture sector.

For two years following the 2013 election we waited for an Agriculture White Paper which was silent on the biggest issue facing the sector: the state of our natural resource base. Now, five minutes before calling an election, the Morrison Government is finally showing some interest.

The so-called *Agriculture Biodiversity Stewardship Program* appears to have admirable objectives, Labor supports the concept of biodiversity certification, a model we have championed for many years, but we will await the detail.

Labor again urges the Government to support the abolition of the “**Water Rule**” both for plantations and farm forestry in relation to forestry's interaction with Carbon Farming Initiative methodologies.

Initiatives designed to help farmers earn income from carbon sequestration and biodiversity-building farming methods should ideally be market-based but the former Labor Government's *Caring for Country* and *Reef Rescue* programs delivered direct grants to worthy on-farm projects. The Coalition Government abolished both programs and cut *Landcare* funding following the 2013 election.

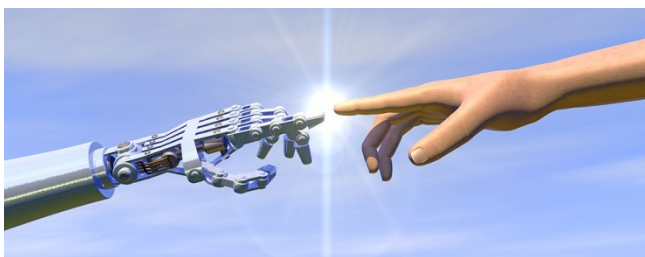
Labor is concerned to ensure the *Agriculture Biodiversity Stewardship Program* is not yet another National Party pork barrelling exercise. Methodologies must be robust, additional and grant funding should be subject to a competitive tender arrangement rather than political whim.

We cannot achieve our aspirations for Australia's agriculture sector without a deeper and more meaningful focus on our natural resource base.



UNIONS AND LABOR CALF FOR PLAN TOTACKLE TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE - Carr

On Tuesday the Australian Manufacturing Workers Union launches *Australia Rebooted*, a report that calls for engagement on the impact of new technologies that are transforming workplaces in every industrialised nation.



Rebooting Australia is an invitation to progressive manufacturers to join with the AMWU and a Shorten Labor Government in shaping the workplaces of the future.

It makes clear that we do not have to reject change to keep people in jobs. The choice facing industrial societies is about how to introduce and adapt new technologies in ways that enhance human potential.

Machines don't make sweatshops, only people do.

The catch phrases associated with Industry 4.0 – big data, the Internet of things, artificial intelligence and automation – are too often associated in

media reports with drastic disruption that threatens people's livelihoods.

Australia Rebooted, however, sets out a vision of a world in which technology serves human needs, creating new jobs that require new skills. A Shorten Labor Government will work with the union movement, using the power and resources of government to help solve the great challenges facing the nation.

Labor has already committed to invest \$3m to help establish a National Centre of AI Excellence. Which will draw on the talents of different backgrounds - business, unions, education, the civic -bringing them together with common purpose, thinking and acting on common ground. We will apply the very best in Australian science and technology to that task.

We will forge an alliance of blue collar and white coat, to rebuild the industrial system for the 21st century.

Rebuilding the industrial system will make our economy and our society stronger.

Labor will seek to work with unions and employers on the new technologies that are transforming workplaces.

GOVT'S OWN REPORT ON RESEARCH SHOWS FOLLY OF CUTS – Plibersek/Carr

The release of Wednesday's report on how highly Australian university research ranks compared to the rest of the world demonstrates the folly of the government's own continuing cuts to research, science and innovation.

The Excellence in Research Australia (ERA) 2018 report shows that Australian university research ranks highly compared to the rest of the world. In every report since 2010 Australian universities have consistently improved their performance when ranked against our international competitors delivering more research, and higher quality research.

ERA, a Labor initiative, has been a success in driving a focus within Australian universities on excellence and gives the community confidence that taxpayers investment in research is money well spent.

Australia's research enterprise, while remaining strong, remains unsupported by a government that does not get research, nor understand its contribution to national economic progress and wellbeing.

The Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison Liberal government has – in every budget since 2014 – attacked or cut back science and research funding. Whether it's the cuts in the 2014 budget that threatened to sack 1500 scientists at national research facilities. Or the jobs lost at the CSIRO in 2016, or the swinging \$328 million of cuts to university research in last December's MYEFO.

The Liberals' are damaging Australia's capacity to make exciting new discoveries, and create the industries of the future.

The Science, Research and Innovation budget tables, released in October, showed the Liberals have reduced spending on science, research and innovation by \$1.1 billion in real terms — a cut of 10 per cent over the past five years.

The Abbott/Turnbull/Morrison Government talks a big book on science and research, but the facts are very different. Bill Shorten has declared that if Labor wins the federal election, which must be held within the next six months, we will end the Coalition's war on science and research.

If elected, a Shorten Labor Government will:

- **Establish, for the first time in 20 years, a once in a generation, root-and-branch inquiry into strengthening our research capabilities across the whole of government.**
- **Develop a charter with the Australian science and research community to establish the reciprocal roles, responsibilities and expectations of government and researchers.**
- **Set a target to lift Australian spending on Research and Development from 1.8 per cent of GDP to 3 per cent and restore our international competitiveness; and**
- **Restore the integrity of the Australian Research Council, by ending political interference in the grants process and legislating a requirement that Ministers must table an explanation in Parliament within 15 sitting days of rejecting any recommendation of funding by the Chief Executive Office**

Labor understands that universities, science and research are fundamental to Australia's future.

VETERANS

LABOR WELCOMES INQUIRY INTO DFRDB – Rishworth

Labor welcomes the government's announcement to conduct an independent inquiry into the administration of the Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Scheme (DFRDB) commutation arrangements.

The issue of commutation and its impact on DFRDB recipients has been an ongoing cause of concern for a number of those in the veterans community.

An independent inquiry is an appropriate way to examine these concerns which enables members of the ex-serving community to participate in the process.

While Labor welcomes the principle of an inquiry, it is vital that the terms of reference address the concerns raised by those in the ex-serving community.

As such, we encourage the Government to engage with long term advocates to ensure this inquiry examines their concerns.

If Labor is successful at the next election, we will continue this process in consultation with the ex-serving community.

CHILDCARE

GOVERNMENT DESIGN FAIL ANOTHER SIGN OF A FAILED GOVERNMENT – Rishworth

Reports Saturday reveal the Government is forcing child care providers to act as unpaid debt collectors on parents in the latest stuff up in the government's new child care system.

The Abbott Turnbull Morrison Government's unfair Child Care Subsidy (CCS) was introduced in July 2018 with a multitude of problems.

In addition to leaving 1 in 4 families worse off, reports today have revealed that families have received payments intended for providers, leaving many with huge debts.

Under the government's complicated new system, when families change their details in MyGov, such as updating their income or activity, this is changing their CCS payment amount. Providers are unaware of this payment change and are therefore billing parents incorrectly, creating a debt. As a result, Centrelink is then issuing a debt to the providers, expecting them to seize this from families.

There are even instances where centres are still having CCS withdrawn from their accounts by the government after accounts are closed and reconciled after families leave providers.

Instead of focusing on children and providing early education, child care centres are now having to worry about chasing debts, pitting them against parents who often have no idea that Centrelink is overpaid them.

For those families accessing the Additional Child Care Subsidy, there is considerable red tape and paperwork involved to access this payment. Many providers will allow children to access care while the paperwork is processed in good faith and let accounts go into arrears - this is to ensure the children are still receiving support and care during this time.

Centrelink is then back-paying this payment directly to the families in a lump sum payment hoping they are passing this on to providers.

These families include some of our most vulnerable, at risk children, whose parents often cannot cope with the additional stress of Government imposed debt.

Compounding the problem, Minister Tehan is refusing to acknowledge the problem, meaning Centrelink isn't lifting a finger to fix their mistake, families debts are piling up and providers are going without funds.

Parents rightly expect that the Government provides a fair system that works for both families and child care centre operators.

The child care subsidy debacle is another example of the Government's incompetence in running online systems – the hall of fame now includes Michael McCormack's Census Fail, the Centrelink robodebt, and now the provider debt collectors.

This is just another failure of Scott Morrison and his dysfunctional government.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

MORE THAN \$11.5M OF TAXPAYERS' MONEY UP IN SMOKE- Clare



Australian taxpayers have been left more than \$11.5 million out of pocket following tobacco giant Phillip Morris' unsuccessful legal action against Australia's plain packaging laws.

The tobacco giant sued Australia using an Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) provision.

Phillip Morris made the ISDS claim after the Australian High Court had already ruled against it on this matter.

Despite winning the ISDS case the Australian government was only awarded half of legal costs as revealed in an FOI request released in the last 36 hours.

Labor does not support the inclusion of ISDS clauses in trade agreements.

The EU will also not sign free trade agreements with ISDS. Instead it is setting up a Multilateral Investment Court.

The New Zealand Government has also said it will not sign future trade agreements with ISDS clauses.

It also signed side letters with five countries including Australia to remove the application of the ISDS clauses in the CPTPP.

ISDS was largely removed from the updated version of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

The Productivity Commission also does not support the inclusion of ISDS clauses in trade agreements.

GOVT FINALLY MOVES ON ASBESTOS IMPORTS - O'Connor/Neumann

Labor welcomes the decision to increase penalties for importers who knowingly or recklessly import goods containing asbestos, but note this comes after nearly six years of complete inaction from the Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison Government.

Australia has one of the highest rates of asbestos-related diseases in the world and more Australians die each year from asbestos-related diseases than the number of our fellow citizens killed in road accidents.

To be frank, the Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison Government's response over the years to the repeated examples of illegal asbestos importation has been wholly inadequate and has potentially put hundreds of construction workers' lives at risk.

Labor has been calling for years for the government to better address the illegal importation of building products containing asbestos.

Despite this, in December last year Scott Morrison chose to put Australia's borders at risk by inflicting savage cuts and chaos on the Australian Border Force.

Due to Morrison's cuts, ABF staff responsible for screening cargo entering the country were reportedly taken off the job to plug gaps at Australian airports – raising concerns that contraband such as asbestos could slip through our borders undetected.

Labor is proud of its record of being at the forefront of banning asbestos and tackling the risks and hazards associated with asbestos exposure.

It is our hope and determination that asbestos related disease is eventually eradicated in Australia altogether. But, it is clear that more work needs to be done.

In 2013, Labor set up the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency. During this time the Agency has worked with State and Territory governments and stakeholders to implement the first national plan for asbestos eradication, handling and awareness. Something that was not effectively coordinated in Australia prior to this time.

Labor remains committed to ensuring that this agency continues to play a critical role in working towards the ultimate elimination of asbestos-related diseases in Australia.

WARNING - NBN Co urges Australians to be vigilant of scammers amid rise in calls

NBN Co, the company building and upgrading Australia's telecommunications and broadband network, is urging residents to be wary of scammers impersonating the wholesale network provider.

Today new information has been published on the company's website to help residents understand how to identify and avoid scammers posing as NBN Co.

The advice follows an 84 per cent increase in enquiries about suspected scams made to the wholesaler's contact centre since October 2018. Approximately 28 per cent of those calls originated from residents in NSW; 24 per cent from Victoria and 19 per cent from Queensland.

More than 8.5 million homes and businesses are now able to order an **nbn**™ service from their preferred phone and internet retailer, with the rollout scaling up in Australia's capital cities.

NBN Co's Chief Security Officer, Darren Kane, said: "With nearly three in four homes and businesses now able to connect to the **nbn**™ access network, it's vital people understand the steps involved in making the switch, including how and when NBN Co and retailers will communicate with customers.

"It's important to remember the key point of contact for Australians connecting to the **nbn**™ access network will always be their preferred phone and internet service provider. This is because NBN Co is a wholesale-only company and does not sell services directly to the public.

"In fact connecting to the **nbn**™ access network is not automatic and people need to contact their preferred phone or internet provider to make the switch.

"We urge residents and businesses to be vigilant of callers claiming to be from NBN Co requesting personal or financial information. We will never make unsolicited calls or door knock to sell broadband services to the public. We will never request remote access to a resident's computer and we will never make unsolicited requests for payment or financial information.

"Protect yourself by verifying who you are talking to. If in doubt, hang up and call your retail service provider customer service centre to check if the call is legitimate."

For more information on scams, please visit: www.nbn.com.au/scamadvice.

Change for Palestine



**SATURDAY
6TH APRIL
6:30PM**

DINNER SERVED AT 7:00PM SHARP

Venue
**ISLAMIC COLLEGE
OF BRISBANE**

**\$60 PER TICKET OR
\$550 FOR TABLE OF 10**

A fundraising dinner
(with 100% of proceeds)
to support Palestinian
advocacy in Australia &
Livelihood support of
Palestinians through
education.

Contact

David Forde 0413 874 008	Riyaad Ally 0434 984 520
Yusuf Khatree 0401 246 228	Fawzia Batty 0405 035 786

Bank Details

MCF BSB: 124 155 A/C: 2089 7392 REF: <NAME> APAN



APAN
Australia Palestine
Advocacy Network



MCF
Muslim Charitable Foundation



maa

DONATE NOW TO HELP







AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY
REDCROSS.ORG.AU/DISASTER

THE SALVATION ARMY
13 SALVOS (13 72 58)
SALVOS.ORG.AU (SELECT 'DISASTER RELIEF')

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND
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VINNIES.ORG.AU/DONATE

UNITINGCARE COMMUNITY
1800 001 953
UCCOMMUNITY.ORG.AU/DISASTER-RELIEF

WWW.GIVIT.ORG.AU

HAVE YOUR SAY ...

Tell the Government why YOUNG people shouldn't be pushed into aged care

#EveryStoryMatters

We can help tell your story to the Royal Commission into Aged Care

Are you younger than 65 years old and... live in a nursing home?

Are currently living in hospital or rehab?

Have lived in a nursing home at some stage in the past 5 years?

At some time in the past 3 years, have been told that you might have to live in a nursing home, but didn't end up having to?

Or do you have a family member or someone you care about in one of these situations?

If so, you have an important story that the Royal Commission into Aged Care needs to hear.

We can help you tell your story

We are holding half-day workshops in many places around Australia. At the workshops, we will help you work out what you want to say, and help you write it for the Royal Commission.

Workshops will be conducted in a one-to-one discussion format with places limited to 6 per workshop. At the end of the workshop, you will have finished a submission for the Royal Commission. Refreshments will be provided.

If required, we will pay your travel and support costs.

QUEENSLAND ROYAL COMMISSION HEARINGS

Toowoomba: 2 April

Brisbane: 3 April

Cairns: 5 April

MAKES SENSE.

Cent Auction Fundraiser.



Sunday 31 March 2019
Doors open 12 noon for
a 1 p.m. start.

\$5 ENTRY
FREE TEA & COFFEE
\$1 TICKET SHEETS
BRING YOUR FRIENDS

Burnie Brae Hall
60 Kuran Street, Chermside
4032

It's on again! Be Uplifted Inc is
hosting our fun and very
successful Cent Auction
fundraiser.

ORGANISER

Kim 0422 072 068

TICKETS

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/cent-auction-fundraiser-tickets-559510521032> 068



ABN 49 270 645 534



National Council of Women of Queensland Inc. 2019 Bursary Program

The NCWQ is proud to launch its 2019 program of
34 bursaries for female students.

Can you answer YES to any of these questions?

- Do you live in •Logan? •Moreton Bay? •South Burnett? •Maranoa? •regional or rural Queensland?
- Do you want to become a teacher? Or are you already studying in the fields of Special education or Early Childhood?
- Does a family member have cancer?
- Are you an Indigenous student?
- Are you keen to work in aged care?
- Are you studying journalism, a physical science, speech pathology, audiology, medicine, law, justice or a STEM course?
- Do you have a disability or mental illness?
- Do you have a passion for volunteering?
- Are you returning to work/study after a break?
- Are you enrolled in a PhD course which will lead to a direct benefit to women?
- Do you identify with the LGBTIQ community
- Are you increasing your skills in leadership and governance preparing you for board membership or are you able to demonstrate outstanding leadership qualities?

If you answered **YES** to any of these questions, you may be eligible to apply

for one of the bursaries from **\$1,000.00.**

These are just some of the bursaries on offer. Check out the specific bursary criteria which range from a Year 12 student, to TAFE, bachelor degree, to PhD levels.

Go to NCWQ website: www.ncwq.org.au/bursaries to download your application form, or email bursaries@ncwq.org.au

**Applications are open from
25 March – 20 May 2019**

Current Senate Inquiries

Community Affairs Legislation Committee

- **New** [Social Security \(Administration\) Amendment \(Income Management and Cashless Welfare\) Bill 2019](#)

Community Affairs References Committee

- [ParentsNext, including its trial and subsequent broader rollout](#)
- [Support for Australia's thalidomide survivors](#)
- [Effectiveness of the Aged Care Quality Assessment and accreditation framework for protecting residents from abuse and poor practices, and ensuring proper clinical and medical care standards are maintained and practised](#)

Economics Legislation Committee

- **New** [Australian Business Securitisation Fund Bill 2019 \[Provisions\]](#)
- **New** [Banking System Reform \(Separation of Banks\) Bill 2019](#)
- **New** [Commonwealth Registers Bill 2019 and 4 related bills \[Provisions\]](#)
- **New** [Treasury Laws Amendment \(2019 Measures No. 1\) Bill 2019 and the Excise Tariff Amendment \(Supporting Craft Brewers\) Bill 2019 \[Provisions\]](#)
- **New** [Treasury Laws Amendment \(2019 Petroleum Resource Rent Tax Reforms No. 1\) Bill 2019 \[Provisions\]](#)
- **New** [Treasury Laws Amendment \(Combating Illegal Phoenixing\) Bill 2019 \[Provisions\]](#)
- **New** [Treasury Laws Amendment \(Consumer Data Right\) Bill 2019 \[Provisions\]](#)
- [Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australia Fund Bill 2018](#)
- [Lower Tax Bill 2018](#)
- [Treasury Laws Amendment \(Prohibiting Energy Market Misconduct\) Bill 2018 \[Provisions\]](#)

Economics References Committee

- [Credit and financial services targeted at Australians at risk of financial hardship](#)
- [Regional Inequality in Australia](#)

Education and Employment Legislation Committee

- **New** [Fair Work Amendment \(Right to Request Casual Conversion\) Bill 2019 \[Provisions\]](#)

Environment and Communications Legislation Committee

- **New** [Environment Legislation Amendment \(Protecting Dugongs and Turtles\) Bill 2019](#)
- **New** [Water Amendment \(Purchase Limit Repeal\) Bill 2019](#)

Environment and Communications References Committee

- [The allegations of political interference in the Australian Broadcasting Corporation \(ABC\)](#)
- [Impact of feral deer, pigs and goats in Australia](#)
- [Australia's faunal extinction crisis](#)
- [Australian content on broadcast, radio and streaming services](#)
- [Rehabilitation of mining and resources projects as it relates to Commonwealth responsibilities](#)

Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

- [Future Drought Fund Bill 2018 and Future Drought Fund \(Consequential Amendments\) Bill 2018](#)
- [Corporations \(Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander\) Amendment \(Strengthening Governance and Transparency\) Bill 2018](#)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

- **New** [Australian Veterans' Recognition \(Putting Veterans and their Families First\) Bill 2019 \[Provisions\]](#)
- **New** [Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Amendment \(Support for Infrastructure Financing\) Bill 2019 \[Provisions\]](#)

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee

- **New** [Combatting Child Sexual Exploitation Legislation Amendment Bill 2019](#)
- [Migration Amendment \(Streamlining Visa Processing\) Bill 2018 \[Provisions\]](#)
- [National Integrity Commission Bill 2018 \[Provisions\], National Integrity \(Parliamentary Standards\) Bill 2018 \[Provisions\], and National Integrity Commission Bill 2018 \(No. 2\)](#)
- [Freedom of Speech Legislation Amendment \(Censorship\) Bill 2018, Freedom of Speech Legislation Amendment \(Insult and Offend\) Bill 2018, Freedom of Speech Legislation Amendment \(Security\) Bill 2018](#)
- [Australian Citizenship Legislation Amendment \(Strengthening the Commitments for Australian Citizenship and Other Measures\) Bill 2018](#)

Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee

- **New** [Resolution of disputes with financial service providers within the justice system](#)
- [The effectiveness of the current temporary skilled visa system in targeting genuine skills shortages](#)

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

- **New** [Performance of the Australian Maritime Safety Authority](#)
- **New** [Export Control Amendment \(Banning Cotton Exports to Ensure Water Security\) Bill 2019](#)
- [Performance of Airservices Australia](#)

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee

- **New** [The feasibility of a National Horse Traceability Register for all horses](#)
- [The provision of rescue, firefighting and emergency response at Australian airports](#)
- [The policy, regulatory, taxation, administrative and funding priorities for Australian shipping](#)
- [The operation, regulation and funding of air route service delivery to rural, regional and remote communities](#)

Select Committee into Fair Dinkum Power

- [Fair Dinkum Power](#)

Select Committee on Electric Vehicles

- [Electric Vehicles](#)

Standing Committee of Privileges

- [Development of a foreign influence transparency scheme to apply to parliamentarians](#)
- [Possible improper interference with a Senator in the free performance of his duties](#)
- [Disposition of material obtained in the execution of a search warrant](#)

Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances

- [Parliamentary Scrutiny of Delegated Legislation](#)