

Vanessa Fowler, Alison Baden-Clay's sister and Allison's parents Priscilla and Geoff Dickie.

Senator Claire Moore

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THIS WEEK:

I have no idea why the media has dubbed tomorrow, 'Super Saturday', but across the five electorates it will be the final day of intensive campaigning. Thank you to all the committed hard working volunteers who have been supporting our Labor candidates to ensure that every voter has a clear understanding of our policies and will have information when they each make their decision.

The media coverage, particularly in Longman and Braddon, has been extensive and I know that the local communities as well as our candidates and their teams will be relieved when the results are concluded.

It is not too late to send messages of support as it is important that our candidates know that their Labor family is there with them.

One of the key issues in both Braddon and Longman has been reflected in many calls to my office by people from across Queensland about inordinate delays in receiving advice and basic entitlements from Centrelink. Many people who are making a simple claim for an aged pension are waiting six to seven months for payments to which they are properly entitled forcing many to dip into their savings or rely on the generosity of friends and family.

A survey, just conducted of more than 4,500 people by National Seniors Australia found more than 60% of respondents were either dissatisfied or ambivalent about Centrelink's processing of their Pension applications.

One of the reasons this is happening is the deliberate under- resourcing of the Department of Human Resources by the Turnbull Government. CPSU Queensland said: "There are thousands of pensioners in Longman who've worked hard, paid taxes and contributed to the community for their whole lives. They need and deserve decent Centrelink services, but this survey shows the Turnbull Government's cuts have made that impossible."

When many of our seniors approach Centrelink about these delays they are just told to go, online.

For many this is not so easy, nor is it straight forward but is usually endlessly frustrating.

The current situation is a clear indication that customer service is no longer a priority.

I was very pleased to hear therefore that Bill Shorten has given undertakings to both the electorates of Longman and Braddon that a Labor Government would ensure adequate funding of front line social services and the adoption of local services employing local people to provide timely delivery of advice and entitlements.

Today, Friday July 27, is 'Strive to Be Kind Day'. It was created to educate people on how to recognise and deal with unhealthy relationships and has also become a commemoration of the birthday of Allison Baden-Clay, brutally murdered by her husband.

Now in its seventh year, Brisbane's Story and Victoria bridges will be lit up in yellow lights. Kids, schools and businesses will be encouraged to bake and share their "Kindness Cookie" recipes, wear a splash of yellow, and post on social media with the hashtag #FillYourselfWithKindness.

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 ...



MY HEALTH RECORD – ROWLAND -TOWNSVILLE

"This is a government that has botched just about every big digital call that it's made under Malcolm Turnbull. The so-called "innovation Prime Minister" can't get an online census to work properly, let alone the MyGov portal, let alone the ATO portal and everything else that goes with it. They've had appalling incidents of medical data that has ended up going on the dark web."

MY HEALTH RECORD - KING – SKY NEWS

"We think the government has mucked this implementation up, if it is to succeed as a health reform it actually needs the Australian public to have faith in it and to want to participate and be a part of it."

NBN DISASTER - JONES – SKY NEWS

"What we have here in the S&P report is the first authoritative, independent report which is a damning indictment on what Malcolm Turnbull did to the NBN project. He told people he could do it faster, better and cheaper by relying on the old copper technology. Here we have Standard and Poor's saying not only were you wrong but that is fundamentally damaging the capacity of the NBN to make money into the future, particularly when you look at competition coming from 5G."

THE NEG – BUTLER- ABC 24

"We've seen modelling, last week; indicate that under Malcolm Turnbull's pathetic emissions reduction target of just 2 per cent over the course of the next decade, wholesale power prices will be 25 per cent more expensive than they would be under Labor's more ambitious target. So yes there can be savings, but they are not coming from this policy. The design of this policy is a design that will see jobs and investment in renewable energy smashed, it will see no cuts in unhealthy pollution from our power plants, and it will see wholesale power prices 25 per cent higher than they should be."

DROUGHT RELIEF – THISTLETHWAITE-SKY NEWS

"There are funds that are available, there's concessional loans and there are emergency funds but I think but the problem has been the details and the complications the people have to go through in terms of filling out the form and applying, it's so complicated that people don't even bother and that's something that the government really does need to look at because some of these funds have been available but there's been very low take up rates and the government say they've been listening but there's been no action, it's all talk and no action at the moment."



95% of NSW is drought declared, 57% of QLD is drought declared

AGED CARE – POLLEY - TOWNSVILLE

"Now we know at the last count that there are 105,000 people across Australia waiting for home care." "It's very distressing for the families. I've spoken endlessly in the Senate about a certain gentleman in my home state who is 92 was assessed for a level 4 package and told he would have to wait 18 months. Well the reality is that he probably won't be here in 18 months. It's unacceptable. Absolutely unacceptable in a rich country like Australia. We're an ageing population and we're all living much longer."

HUSSAR- PLIBERSEK – CABOOLTURE

"Everybody deserves natural justice, everybody deserves due process. We've got a responsibility to be fair to Emma; we've got a responsibility to be fair to the staff who've made complaints. It's in everybody's interests that we're fair to both parties."

HUSSAR--SWAN –ABC AM

"It's actually about testing the allegations, giving Emma some natural justice. I know that should be something that everyone's entitled to, but apparently not Emma. Well she is entitled to it and she's going to get it from the Labor Party."

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

The Health Minister's assertions that no one's data can be used to 'criminalise' them and that 'the Digital Health Agency has again reaffirmed today that material ... can only be accessed with a court order' seems at odds with the legislation which only requires a reasonable belief that disclosure of a person's data is reasonably necessary to prevent, detect, investigate or prosecute a criminal offence. – The Federal Parliamentary Library

"The Parliamentary Library has humiliated Health Minister Greg Hunt, with a new paper from the independent body within parliament demolishing his claim that health records created under the My Health Record system can't be obtained by police and other agencies without a 'court order'." - Bernard Keane (Crikey)

"Australia's best policy minds are working really hard to design this policy that does nothing."

— Simon Holmes à Court - The energy transition specialist finishes breaking down the National Energy Guarantee for The Drum

"It's clear the Turnbull government will pay the highest price for misjudging the market and the impact of fast-moving technology. Turnbull must take responsibility for approving the current approach of NBN and continuing the fantasy it's possible for the project to make enough of a return on the government's \$29.5 billion "investment" to keep it off budget."

- Jennifer Hewett - AFR

"We had a flag that we've had for a long time, copied by Australia, and they should actually change their flag and honour the fact that we got there first with this design" — Winston Peters

"What you're seeing and what you're reading is not what's happening." — Donald J Trump - channelling '1984'

"Channel Nine had "never other than displayed the opportunism and ethics of an alley cat. Through various changes of ownership, no-one has lanced the carbuncle at the centre of Nine's approach to news management. And, as sure as night follows day, that pus will inevitably leak into Fairfax." — Ex Bankstown boy and Prime Minister, Paul Keating with a typically excoriating analysis of Channel Nine's takeover of Fairfax

LONGMAN HUSTINGS

Breaking News - A visit to a Queensland pub today, Friday, has backfired on Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull after voters turned on him over penalty rates and the ABC one day before crucial by-elections that will decide the government's majority in Parliament.

Mr Turnbull was campaigning in the Queensland seat of Longman when his attempt to meet voters at a Bribie Island hotel turned into policy disagreements that highlighted potential weaknesses for the government when voters go to the polls on Saturday

LONGMAN - LAMB – CABOOLTURE

"The reality is we've got a government that doesn't prioritise people, doesn't prioritise our health care or education. They've cut \$2.9 million from our Caboolture Hospital, millions of dollars from our schools. This is unacceptable. We should be prioritising people and our health care and our education over the big banks."

LONGMAN - PLIBERSEK – CABOOLTURE

"I was the Health Minister when Campbell Newman was in government up here, when Trevor Ruthenberg last had the opportunity of having an influence on health policy. And I saw the devastation that Campbell Newman's cuts caused across the Queensland health system. I saw the thousands of people who lost their jobs - doctors, nurses, people who were doing diagnostic imaging, and people who were looking at blood pathology. Even the people who were cleaning our hospitals and providing meals to patients - absolutely widespread devastation across the health care system up here, having a huge impact on patient's right across Queensland."

"When Trevor Ruthenberg last had the chance of influencing health policy, he voted to sack more than 700 nurses from this local area alone. Why would anyone trust this guy to go to Canberra and have a say about health policy?"

LONGMAN - PLIBERSEK – ABC RN BREAKFAST

"Well they're both very difficult seats for us. They're both very close. We've only held Longman once in about the past twenty years before Susan won it against expectations last time, and Braddon is a seat that has changed hands about seven times since it was established in 1955, so they're tough seats but we are confident that we've got the best candidates and we're confident that we've got the best policies. The response we're getting on the ground is very, very good because we're talking about health and education, jobs with decent pay and conditions, the things that matter in peoples' lives not tax cuts for big business and multi-millionaires."

THE BATTLER'S FRIEND One Nation leader Pauline Hanson has run out of time to sway thousands of Australians in the Queensland seat of Longman, with up to 34,000 votes already decided while she has been on a luxury cruise in the British Isles. In another wild card of the "super Saturday" by-elections this weekend, almost one in five voters have cast a pre-poll vote or applied for a postal vote across the five contests. The trend has fuelled speculation that the results in Longman and another tight race, Braddon in Tasmania, may not be known until long after Saturday night, when postal votes are tallied. The ship boasts fine dining, with both British and French cuisine. It also offers guests elegant balls, the royal spa, steam rooms with an ocean view, where the room rate is more than \$600 a night.



From the Courier-Mail

"One Nation has printed 50 Pauline Hanson life-size cardboard cut-outs to stand in for the absent leader ahead of Longman's knife-edge by-election, as the campaign is rocked by an alleged extortion attempt. The Hanson Army, dressed in black with trademark red lipstick and matching scarlet-coloured hair, will man the 30-plus booths on polling day, while the real deal will be on her own version of the Love Boat in European waters."



"The One Nation leader would rather visit Dublin and Belfast than spend more time in Caboolture and Bribie Island, no matter how high the stakes this Saturday." "One Nation's critics have argued for years that the whole operation is merely a way to raise cash for its leader, courtesy of funding from the Australian Electoral Commission. The past few weeks have sent another message that the voters are only there to pay for the vacations. Thank you, battlers. Hanson's decision to stay away tells Australians something about her values, too." — David Crowe-(Chief political correspondent –SMH)

EVERYONE'S HEALTH RECORD

Hackers have breached the Singapore government's health database with a "deliberate, targeted and well-planned" cyberattack, accessing the data of about 1.5 million patients, including Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, for almost a week.

The cybercriminals initially breached a front-end workstation to gain privileged account credentials to obtain privileged access into the database. Officials said they detected unusual activity on July 4, but the hack began on June 27.

The investigation found the hackers didn't tamper with the records, rather they exfiltrated the data. Officials said the attack was well-planned and wasn't the work of "casual hackers or criminal gangs."

According to the official statement, hackers targeted clinical visits between May 1, 2015 and July 4, 2018. All patients who visited SingHealth's outpatient clinics and polyclinics during that time period were included in the breach. Patient care was not disrupted during the attack.

The stolen data contained demographic information and patient identification numbers. Medical information like diagnoses and test results weren't included. However, for 160,000 patients, including the prime minister, the hackers stole data on outpatient-dispensed medications.

Greg Hunt's claims that a warrant will be required to access My [Health](#) Record has been contradicted for the second time in two days – this time by the Queensland Police Union.

After taking legal advice, the union has written to its members – the very police who could gain power to access the records – warning them that investigators of police misconduct would have access without warrants.

FIVE former AMA presidents are demanding the government change the My Health Records legislation so police need a court order before they can access individual records

The union also openly discussed "the advantages this type of access may have" for police investigating other crimes.

From Crikey

"Hunt was either lying or has been misled by his staff



and the Australian Digital Health Agency (ADHA), which has presided over the My Health Record debacle. The Parliamentary Library, which independently produces information papers on issues or legislation before Parliament, was clear in a [paper released on Monday](#)

"At a media conference, Hunt was persisting in the fiction that the records couldn't be released in the absence of judicial direction, suggesting it isn't merely a mistake on his part or poor advice from bureaucrats.

The library also points out that the legislation is a major weakening of existing protections around health records:

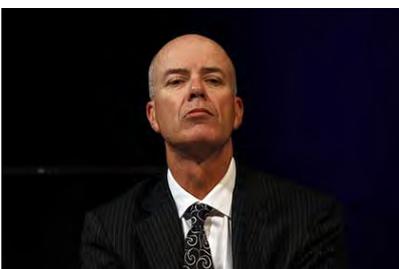
It also raises further questions about the government's (mis)communication strategy around My Health Record, which has involved:

- making the system opt-out but running no widespread information campaign beyond flyers in post offices and doctors' surgeries;
- Hunt and his office pressuring [key stakeholders to retract critical comments](#);
- the ADHA [personally attacking journalists](#) for accurately reporting on the debacle; and
- repeatedly and falsely claiming records could not be handed over.

In other words, the strategy is to hope people don't know a health record is being created for them, then mislead and attack when the media point out major flaws in the system.

[Despite the Turnbull Government earmarking \$114 Million for the marketing of 'My Health Record' its public launch this week has been quite a marketing and presentational disaster. Minister Hunt's sales pitch and claims have been contradicted by experts and the facts at almost every turn. In terms of a marketing campaigns goal of building understanding and confidence it has been an abject failure. [David Margan- ED](#)]

The head of the Australian Medical Association Tony Bartone "The reason you might think I'm actually the front man for the government on their promotion and communication campaign is because it's been done so poorly (by them). And this is a clinical tool which we believe has clinical merit."



SELL OUT

The Fairfax Chief Executive and former journalist, Greg Hywood, who drove a Maserati while culling wave after wave of journalists from the once august corridors of Fairfax will now take his own redundancy package and unlike a host of those he sacked he won't have to worry too much about how to pay the bills. It's believed he'll walk away with a \$6.3 million dollar parachute. On the conduct of he and the Fairfax board Paul Keating had this to say; "They sold out the culture, they sold out the quality, they sold out their opportunity."

NO STAR FOR JET - Crikey

We hear that the Transport Workers Union could be getting ready for a stoush with Jetstar Australia. A tipster told us the airline has engaged a foreign crew who are now flying domestic flights across Australia — we're told these crew members are not paid the relevant agreement rates and are denying work to Australian casual workers based in Adelaide.



TAX RORTS

So it is that a credulous press has been running the government's conveniently manufactured "tax gap" figures. The corporate tax gap is apparently just \$2.5 billion while individuals are responsible for a tax gap of \$8.7 billion; three times the size. This tax gap is an estimate of how much tax is missing — how much, that is, the tax office reckons it is owed by tax avoiders.

Tax dodging is, of course, rife across all demographics and the tax gap figure for individuals — small-time tax dodgers, this \$8.7 billion — may be close to the mark. Not the \$2.5 billion though ascribed to large companies, not by any stretch of the imagination.

Last time we looked, American Express had paid no net tax in nine years despite revenues of \$10 billion. It actually paid its record amount of income tax in 2017, \$2.4 million, and has now paid a princely \$1.5 million in net tax on \$10.9 billion in revenues over 10 years.

Booking.com, Australia's dominant online travel agency, is no better now than it has been in past years, declaring only related-party "service" revenue and whisking all its cash flow made in Australia straight offshore. Same deal for eBay — profits straight to Switzerland. As for IBM: nada. They even got an \$11 million refund.

STONEY

The company building the embattled National Broadband Network is refusing to supply information to a parliamentary committee revealing the extent of delays, missed appointments and cost blowouts plaguing the project. In some cases, NBN Co has stopped responding to questions, despite providing the same data in previous years. The government-owned company has this year failed to directly answer 11 questions on notice from the Senate committee charged with overseeing the \$49 billion project.

OOPS!



A man living with a disability who featured in ads across the country for the National Disability Insurance Scheme when it launched has had his own NDIS application rejected.

Jeremy Hawkes, 46, from Goonellabah in northern New South Wales, lives with Parkinsonism and chronic pain from a work-related spinal injury. In 2013, he was cast in a nationwide NDIS ad campaign.

Mr Hawkes said when he received a letter this year informing him that his application was rejected, he was devastated.

"I was quite shocked, really quite shocked," he said.

"Everyone I'd spoken to assured me I'd have no issue, and I'd sent them such detailed medical reports — like 11 years of medical records describing my various issues." Mr Hawkes said he understood his involvement in the campaign did not automatically qualify him for the scheme. "I don't want this to be all about me saying 'I was on the ad therefore I deserve NDIS funding', a line needs to be drawn somewhere," he said.

"But the biggest issue for me is the complexity of the paperwork that is required, and you don't get any assistance in doing that and it's not something that can be done in a day or a week.

"It takes months and months and months." Disability advocate lawyer Dona Graham said she was shocked someone who featured in NDIS' launch campaign would be denied its services. She said Mr Hawkes was led to believe he was eligible.

"To find out in fact he wasn't eligible, that's incredibly insensitive. When the NDIS was first envisioned, it was acknowledged you needed 30,000 staff across the nation to implement. The government funded less than 10,000 so from day one this has been compromised. It's why we've had all the problems. The minister needs to step up and take responsibility for it and adequately fund it."

A spokesperson for Social Services Minister Dan Tehan said the minister did not comment on individual cases. A statement by the National Disability Insurance Agency said it could not comment on Mr Hawkes' case for privacy reasons.

[What rot — privacy — he's talking so should they — hiding behind alleged concerns for his privacy is just a gutless way of ducking their responsibility for what has happened and avoiding their greater public duty to act in and answer to the public interest. David Margan - ED]

PRIORITIES

A fraud squad to crack down on criminals trying to rort the taxpayer-funded National Disability Insurance Scheme for cash will be announced today by the Turnbull government. The fraud taskforce, involving the AFP, the Department of Human Services and the National Disability Insurance Agency, will have a team of 100 people working full time to stop criminals from dishonestly ripping off the \$8 billion-a year NDIS scheme, designed to help Australians with a disability.



INDEFENSIBLE

Multiple health checks are being forced on mentally ill veterans, delaying their compensation claims for more than a year, while others are struggling to find medical providers who accept scheduled fees, the Commonwealth Ombudsman has warned.

The government watchdog's criticisms have been endorsed by veterans' advocates and relatives such as Connie Boglis, whose Afghan veteran boyfriend Jesse Bird, 32, committed suicide last year after battling for two years to get financial assistance. "It was only after Jesse's death that the payments arrived. The government needs to acknowledge it happens," Ms Boglis said yesterday. The ombudsman's office raised the criticisms in a June submission to the Productivity Commission Inquiry

into Compensation and Rehabilitation for Veterans, established in response to concerns about the effectiveness of the government services and assistance. Based on 710 complaints received over the past five years, the office said the most common concerns related to pensions, access to healthcare services, incapacity benefits, offsetting of payments and pensions, and service delivery issues. It reserved its strongest criticism for the government's handling of claims, revealing wait times of more than 12 months while medical assessments can take even longer.

GET IT WRONG, THEN LIE ABOUT IT

Veterans advocates have accused the Department of Veterans Affairs of "cooking the books" after an external audit found that the agency's method of reporting mishandled compensation claims massively understated the proportion of cases affected.

The Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) last month revealed that the proportion of claims botched by the DVA in 2016-2017 far exceeded reported error rates due to the agency's practice of subdividing cases into "work elements".

By measuring errors against individual stages, the DVA was able to report error rates several times lower than would be recorded if cases were assessed as a whole.

Under one compensation scheme for veterans with a permanent impairment, the official error rate was reported as 3.8 per cent despite mistakes being identified in 16.7 per cent of cases.

Errors were identified in 31.7 per cent of cases in another compensation scheme, compared with a reported error rate of 16.4 per cent.

Vietnam veteran and advocate Alan Ashmore said the DVA had been caught out trying to deceive veterans and the public about its effectiveness as an organisation.

NEG MESS

The Turnbull government's National Energy Guarantee is "terrifically complex", and its problems will become "more significant" if its emissions reduction goal is increased, according to the first report by the Victorian government's new energy policy hub. The report by Bruce Mountain, director of the Victoria Energy Policy Centre, argues thorough economic analysis of the impact of the two arms of the policy – to reduce emissions and to improve reliability – has yet to be done even though state and energy ministers are being asked to approve it by August 10. The emissions component of the scheme, which obliges retailers to contract with generators according to the carbon pollution associated with the electricity production, is particularly complicated because transactions won't be public but stored instead in a registry. Mr Mountain said market participants would have to buy a combination of electricity volume and emissions intensity without knowing the alternatives, nor penalties if they buy too much or too little.

"It's that complexity which makes it a nightmare and it's unavoidable as long as you are seeking to hide the underlying emissions price," Mr Mountain said.

The Queensland government warns it may block the Turnbull government's signature energy plan, saying that it won't sign any deal that undermines the state's ambitious renewable energy target.

Anthony Lynham, the state's energy minister, told Fairfax Media that backing for the National Energy Guarantee hinges on whether Queensland's target of making 50 per cent of its electricity renewable by 2030 will not be affected.

NEG FARMERS DROUGHT – The Australian Institute

We have calculated that the government's plan will require agriculture to reduce emissions per year by 18.7 million tonnes (Mt) of CO₂e by 2030. Between 2020 and 2030, this represents 126 Mt of CO₂e not emitted compared to business as usual, since the reduction in yearly emissions is expected to occur incrementally.

This unnecessarily high cost is a product of the government's decision that every sector should reduce emissions by 26 per cent. If those sectors that are able to most cheaply reduce emissions are allowed to do so, then sectors like electricity generation would reduce emissions by far more than 26 per cent and sectors like agriculture would reduce emissions by less than 26 per cent.

This is particularly important as the government attempts to lock in a 26 per cent reduction target for electricity generation. If the government succeeds in doing this, it will increase the cost to sectors like agriculture.



NEG OUT OF KILTER

Clean Energy Council Chief Executive Kane Thornton said most credible analysis suggests that the current 26 per cent emission reduction target would be met by the electricity sector in just a few years' time, due to the current wave of investment under the national Renewable Energy Target.

"Encouraging new investment into the next decade remains critical to reducing power prices as our old coal-fired power plants continue to close," Mr Thornton said.

"The Clean Energy Council is also calling for carbon offsets to be excluded from the scheme. Out-sourcing our emissions overseas or to other sectors means lower investment in new Australian energy projects, which would lead to both higher power prices and a missed opportunity to invest in regional jobs."



THE PLOT THICKENS- SMH

Three directors of a Great Barrier Reef charity entrusted with almost half a billion dollars in public money have refused to give evidence to a Senate inquiry scrutinising the controversial deal, raising the prospect they will be forced to appear.

Confidential Senate committee documents seen by Fairfax Media show that despite being offered five dates at which to attend the inquiry, the directors of the Great Barrier Reef Foundation say they are unavailable for questioning, variously citing overseas travel commitments, medical appointments, board meetings and other unspecified engagements.

The inquiry was launched following the Turnbull government's decision to grant the

small, business-focused charity \$443 million to help rescue the reef. The foundation has previously said it would “fully co-operate” with the probe. The grant was awarded without a tender process and the government’s own expert agencies were not invited to apply.

CHANGE THE RULES - David Uren – The Australian

“After five years of weak wage growth and four years of inflation averaging less than 2 per cent, many economists are asking whether there has been a more fundamental change in the way prices and wages are being shaped. It is this possibility that leads to concerns about whether the very real improvement in the federal budget position will be sustained, particularly given the commitments to unfunded corporate and personal income tax cuts.

Australians pay more than \$30 billion a year in super fees, almost 2 per cent of Australia’s annual gross domestic product. That’s much more than the \$23bn we spend on energy. A household nearing retirement pays average superannuation fees of \$3700 a year, about the average energy bill. Turning the heater on for longer can hit the household budget for the winter months, but super fees that cut into retirement savings have a lifelong effect on retirees’ finances

The nation’s superannuation regulator has actively worked against market transparency, prevented competition and facilitated widespread gouging in the \$2.6 trillion sector, one of the regulator’s former senior analysts has told the Productivity Commission.”

SUPER STUFF UPS – Anthony Klan – The Australian

“The Productivity Commission is overhauling its May bombshell report into superannuation and will publish a substantially improved version “hopefully by Christmas” given the extent of the revelations that have emerged regarding fee-gouging and resulting poor super fund performance. Deputy chair Karen Chester yesterday attacked the super industry, saying there was “material, entrenched underperformance” by many funds, which showed the \$2.6 trillion system was not an “across-the board success” as some “misleadingly” continued to suggest. Speaking in Melbourne at a conference run by the Financial Services Council, the lobby for “retail” or for-profit super funds, Ms Chester said these systemic problems went “beyond being an awkward truth”. She said: “This begs the question: how does a trustee board allow this to happen? Why haven’t these members been shepherded into a better performing fund?” Poorly performing super funds are operated by for-profit “retail” providers and by not-for-profit “industry” providers, which are run by boards comprised of employer and union representatives. Overall, retail funds have been by far the worst performers as a result of rampant fee-gouging. As previously revealed, five million public superannuation accounts holding \$260 billion and managed by the big four banks and financial services companies AMP and IOOF have delivered average annual returns less than the risk-free “cash” rate over the past decade and many have performed below the rate of inflation. A recent report by highly respected super industry performance researcher SuperRatings, which examined the biggest 50 super funds by number of members, found each of the top 10 was an industry fund, and eight of the bottom 10 in the list were retail funds run by the big banks and financial institutions.



Ms Chester also took aim at Wayne Byres, the chairman of the Australian Prudential Regulatory Authority, responsible for policing banks and the super industry, who earlier this month implied fund members were responsible if their super was gouged by saying: “The concept of caveat emptor remains in the system.” Caveat emptor is Latin for “let the buyer beware”. Ms Chester yesterday told the audience: “It is not a simple world of caveat emptor and nor could, or should, it be. “For it is a world where 14.8 million Australians are compelled to save by the government and over half, in doing so, are not exercising choice,” she said. Mr Byres has repeatedly declined to be interviewed by The Australian in recent weeks, and APRA has falsely claimed it is not allowed by law to comment on super funds.

[So much for the on-going campaign by the Turnbull government, the retail super funds and associated right wingers to try and kill off or restrict the operations of industry funds. Yet another example of idiotic ideology ignoring the facts- David Margan - Editor]

RENT A SURCHARGE

The ACCC has instituted proceedings in the Federal Court against CLA Trading Pty Ltd (trading as Europcar) for allegedly charging excessive credit and debit card payment surcharges, in breach of the Competition and Consumer Act 2010.

The ACCC alleges that Europcar customers who used Visa or MasterCard credit cards during July and August 2017 were charged fees above what it cost Europcar to accept those payments.

The ACCC also alleges excessive payment surcharges were imposed by Europcar on customers using Visa or MasterCard debit cards between July and 5 November 2017.

It is alleged that Europcar charged surcharges of up to 1.43 per cent, although the rates varied over time and by the type of card. The ACCC alleges that the amount overcharged ranged from at least 0.18 percentage points to as much as 0.65 percentage points for different cards and time periods.

Europcar also did not reduce its surcharges despite being notified by its bank in July 2017 of the actual cost to accept payments by these cards. Instead, it is alleged Europcar continued to charge customers in excess of this amount, in breach of the law.

“The alleged conduct by Europcar in relation to its surcharge rates is particularly concerning, given we will allege that it was well aware of its own cost of acceptance from at least July 2017, businesses must not charge customers more than it costs them to process a card payment.”

” ACCC Chair Rod Sims said.

CAN’T AFFORD A ROOF - ACTU

Updated [statistics](#) released by the ABS yesterday show that 28,600 people experiencing homelessness in Australia are working full-time. That’s 16.5 percent of all people experiencing homelessness.

The figures also show that more than one in three people aged over 15 experiencing homelessness are employed in some capacity. That’s 61,500 people in some kind of work whose wages don’t even pay enough to put a roof over their head.

Nearly half the homeless population – 45.6 percent – is either in work or looking for work. And the unemployment rate for people experiencing homelessness is 22.5 percent.



According to the 2016 census, homelessness has jumped by more than 16 percent in the 5 years from 2011 to 2016. The worst affected group is people between 19 and 34.

"We need a living wage. We need to change the rules so that working a full-time job doesn't leave you homeless. It is appalling that in a wealthy, prosperous country like Australia; nearly 30,000 can work full-time jobs but not earn enough to afford basics like housing."

ACTU Secretary Sally McManus said.

OK HATE

A group of Young LNP members were photographed alongside LNP senator James McGrath this month while campaigning in Longman, with four making the "OK" sign. The photo also was tweeted by Senator James McGrath but later taken down. Alt-right figure Milo Yiannopoulos has posed with the hand sign and Trump intern Jack Brewer came under fire when he was pictured in the White House making the sign. Queensland Labor MP Murray Watt said it was "disgraceful", and the Prime Minister needed to investigate how far extremist behaviour had infiltrated the LNP.

HOW DOES YOUR PROVIDER MEASURE UP?

Telcos ranked from best to worst for customer service

1. Virgin
2. Vodafone
3. Amaysim
4. Dodo/iPrimus
5. Skymesh
6. TPG/iiNET
7. Optus
8. Activ8me
9. Telstra
10. Belong



Source: ACCAN



RED MOON

Unlike other total lunar eclipses, this one will fall under the Earth's shadow for four hours, with its totality lasting for one hour and 43 minutes on Saturday, July 28, starting at [3.15am](#) (AEST).

Total lunar eclipses happen when the Earth moves between the sun and the moon, completely blocking direct sunlight from reaching the moon.

This time around, the moon will be at apogee, the furthest point in its orbit from the Earth. This means it will be passing through space at a point where the cone of Earth's shadow is wider, making the eclipse last longer.

According to NASA, its duration is just four minutes off its maximum possible length.

Monash University Associate Professor and astronomer Michael Brown told *The New Daily* he didn't expect the blood moon to be as red as it's being hyped up to be. "In order for the moon to be very red, the atmosphere has to be dirty, which is caused by a volcanic eruption. But we haven't had a significant event recently since the eruption of Mount Pinatubo in the Philippines in 1992," Professor Brown said. He said this lunar eclipse would still be an unmissable event.

"It's going to be the last one we'll see in Australia until 2021, so I wouldn't miss this event." The busy stargazing month of July comes to an end with a spectacular Southern Delta Aquarids meteor shower.

While meteors will be visible every night until August 20, activity will peak on July 29 with as many as 20 meteors per hour that evening.



Fairfax FEC fundraiser – Dennis Murphy Dinner – with Kevin Rudd, Claire and branch members

LONGMAN

LABOR WILL BOOST MEDICARE JOBS AND SUPPORT IN LONGMAN – Shorten/Burney/Lamb

The Moreton Bay region will have improved access to Medicare support, veteran payment support and Centrelink services, with a Shorten Labor Government to add an extra 50 staff to Centrelink centres in Caboolture to cut waiting times and ensure communities have the support they need.

Centrelink centres help people when they need it the most - with complex Medicare claims, veterans' payments, processing aged care pensions, child care support, disability support pensions and carers allowance payments.

Medicare and Centrelink are one of the most common touchpoints a community will have with the Government - but this Government's cuts and neglect mean that horror stories are all too common in the Moreton Bay region. People shouldn't have to fight a bureaucratic battle every time they try and get the Medicare or veteran payment support they need, that's why Labor will fund 50 additional staff at the Caboolture centre, injecting \$3.6 million into the local economy.

Labor's commitment also includes five dedicated staff to travel to areas like Bribie Island so that these communities can access support and service face-to-face.

We've heard stories of Queenslanders being placed on hold for hours on the phone and waiting months for their payments. Others have been directed to access Centrelink online, where they are finding the website difficult to navigate, or not working at all.



The truth is Centrelink is in crisis under the Turnbull Government. It's under staffed and under resourced.

And still - the Turnbull Government is cutting even further. In this year's budget, the Turnbull Government announced it would cut 1,280 jobs from Centrelink, and has outsourced a further 1,250 jobs to labour hire. The Government is privatising Centrelink by stealth.

Medicare, veteran payment and income support can be complex - that's why it's so important that Centrelink has permanent, full-time staff who are properly equipped to manage complex issues.

Mr Turnbull and Trevor Ruthenberg are more interested in giving the big banks a \$17 billion tax handout than fighting for services that our communities rely on. Trevor Ruthenberg is doing nothing to fight against Turnbull's cuts to Medicare, veteran payment and Centrelink support that will see people living in the Moreton Bay region wait longer for assistance.

Labor is investing in more Medicare, veteran payment and Centrelink jobs in Longman, in improving the services our communities rely on. And we can fund this because we won't give the big banks \$17 billion. Only Bill Shorten and Susan Lamb are fighting for a fair go for Longman.

LABOR BACKS EXPANSION OF CAR PARKING AT NARANGBA TRAIN STATION –Albanese

A Shorten Labor Government will invest \$5 million towards the expansion of Narangba Train Station's parking facility to help overcome the growing shortage of car spots.



This critical local project is part of Federal Labor's \$300 million National Park and Ride Fund for new or expanded car parks at public transport hubs, such as train stations. Each weekday an average of 559 vehicles park at Narangba Station.

But the existing car park has capacity for only 387 vehicles, meaning commuters rushing to catch their train to work are forced to park further away from the station in surrounding streets.

Expanded parking facilities will relieve pressure at the station, which serves the communities of Narangba, Deception Bay, Burpengary and North Lakes. Federal Labor's Park and Ride Fund will provide real, practical support for communities struggling with the effects of traffic congestion, which is eroding our quality of life and acting as a hand brake on productivity and economic growth.

By contrast, the Turnbull Government has no traffic congestion strategy. Indeed, it is making the problem worse by cutting public transport investment and refusing to back Brisbane's Cross River Rail project, which will expand the capacity of the rail network right across South East Queensland.

Shadow Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Cities Anthony Albanese, said Federal Labor would invest in public transport, including Cross River Rail. "We'll also work with other levels of government to deliver practical measures to help commuters get to work with a minimum of fuss, including through our new Park and Ride Fund. Public transport isn't just about the train line or bus route itself. It's also about the surrounding infrastructure that makes it work for local residents." Mr Albanese said.

Labor's candidate for Saturday's Longman by-election, Susan Lamb, said Narangba residents had made it clear to her that action was needed to improve parking facilities at the train station. "Labor is listening and acting. It's hard enough commuting to the city each day for work without having to drive around in circles trying to find a parking spot." Ms Lamb said.

The Narangba investment follows news last week that Federal Labor will provide \$4 million to improve parking facilities around the Mango Hill train station, also on Brisbane's north side.

MEDIA RELEASE

Pensioners in Longman suffer from Turnbull Government's Centrelink sell

Thursday, 26 July 2018

The CPSU says a new survey has confirmed the Turnbull Government's devastating impact on Centrelink, with Pensioners frustrated with the service they're receiving.

The survey of more than 4,500 people by National Seniors Australia found more than 60% of respondents were either dissatisfied or ambivalent about Centrelink's processing of their Pension applications.

The evidence of frustration with call wait and processing times comes as the Government appears close to putting more highly sensitive Centrelink work into the hands of a multinational company.

CPSU Queensland Assistant Regional Secretary Amy Smith said: "There are thousands of pensioners in Longman who've worked hard, paid taxes and contributed to the community for their whole lives. They need and deserve decent Centrelink services, but this survey shows the Turnbull Government's cuts have made that impossible. The responses to this survey make it clear that Centrelink has been decimated by the Turnbull Government, and that it's ordinary Australians who are paying the price. The Coalition has slashed more than 5,000 jobs in the Department of Human Services, with wait times inevitably blowing out as a result including 55 million missed calls to Centrelink last year alone."

"The Government isn't just slashing Centrelink; it's selling it off piece by piece. Centrelink calls have been farmed out for multinational company Serco to turn a profit, and we believe another multinational Stellar may soon also have its snout in the trough. The Government should be helping pensioners, not multinationals and the big banks."

"All of this means the Government has slashed quality permanent jobs and decent services and replaced them with cut-price private operations that are all about profits not people. Stellar has a poor track record of insecure work, meagre pay and shoddy conditions, much like Serco. These companies should not be profiting from essential public services."

"The only way to restore Centrelink's capacity is to stop the Turnbull Government's sell-off, and instead provide Centrelink with the staff it needs to provide decent services to pensioners and all Australians. The Labor Party and Longman candidate Susan Lamb understand this, which is why they've committed to create 50 new Centrelink jobs for Brisbane's northern suburbs. These positions will provide desperately needed quality employment opportunities and decent local services for local people."



STATEMENT ON NINE/FAIRFAX

MERGER – Rowland /Jones

Labor notes the announcement that Fairfax Media and Nine Entertainment propose to merge their print, TV, radio and online businesses to create the largest single commercial media entity in Australia.

According to reports, after nearly two centuries of writing the first draft of Australian history, the Fairfax name is about to disappear in one of the biggest media mergers in our history.

Labor pays tribute to Fairfax and our thoughts are with the dedicated workers and their families facing change and uncertainty at this time.

But what this is really about is media diversity. Australia already has one of the most concentrated media markets in the world. This proposed merger means it is about to get even more concentrated.

Last year Malcolm Turnbull repealed the 2 out of 3 cross-media control rule which prevented any one media voice from becoming too dominant.

Turnbull junked it with the help of Pauline Hanson and now there'll be further media consolidation and further job losses in the media, potentially even in regional areas.

Labor opposed the repeal of the 2 out of 3 rule in the Parliament because democracy suffers if you have too few media voices; workers suffer when mergers inevitably lead to job losses; and citizens, consumers and communities get less diversity, less coverage and less choice.

That's why we continue to be very concerned about media concentration.

But the crazy thing is this: Malcolm Turnbull junked the media diversity rule at the same time as he launched a full scale attack on the ABC and SBS.

The Turnbull Government has been working overtime to undermine media diversity and look after the top end of town at the expense of the public interest in Australia.

It is beyond belief that the Minister for Communications is out there today boasting that the Turnbull Government supports media diversity.

The Liberals cut the ABC and SBS after promising no cuts and have launched an ideological attack on public broadcasting with three bills before Parliament to meddle with the ABC and SBS Acts, a competitive neutrality inquiry and a further efficiency review - to say nothing of the barrage of complaints by the Minister.

What this proposed merger means is that public broadcasting has never been more important in Australia.

We need quality news and journalism from a range of sources, which is why protecting the ABC and SBS from Liberal cuts is critical, and why Labor will always fight for public broadcasting.



HEALTH

TURNBULL SHOULD SUSPEND MY HEALTH RECORD - King

Malcolm Turnbull should suspend the My Health Record rollout until the Government can address growing privacy concerns and restore public confidence in this reform.

The Government's failure to properly manage this rollout has seriously undermined trust in what is one of the most significant pieces of health architecture in a generation.

As a result, the My Health Record is now at a tipping point.

Unless the Government takes urgent action, the damage could prove irreversible.

Labor has already called on the Government to launch a comprehensive information campaign to educate the public about the importance of this change, and to extend the opt-out period.

Given that the legislation governing the My Health Record was designed for an opt-in system – and in light of the significant community concern around privacy - we now believe the Government should also review the legislation that underpins the My Health Record, including provisions around access by law enforcement agencies.

Labor is concerned that under the current legislation law enforcement bodies can access My Health Records without a court order or warrant. This is a clear threat to patient privacy and should be changed.

The Government has made the decision to shift to an opt-out system - it should also tighten the legislation to ensure people's rights are respected and privacy is protected. If amendments are required to properly protect people's data from improper use, then the Government needs to explain what these amendments are.

Until privacy and security concerns are addressed, rollout should be suspended.

Implemented properly, this project will deliver significant benefits to clinicians and patients alike, and save our health system billions of dollars. The Government must get this right.

ECONOMY

TREASURER FAILS TO MENTION HIS CUTS TO THE PENSION – Bowen/Collins/Burney

A cynical Scott Morrison has either forgotten or deliberately hid the Government's cuts to pensioners when addressing the Council on the Ageing today – failing to even acknowledge them in his speech.

Pensioners didn't come down in the last shower. Scott Morrison should know better than trying to pull the wool over their eyes.

The facts speak for themselves. In every budget, the Liberals have tried to cut the pension.

In 2014 they tried to **cut pension indexation** – a cut that would have meant pensioners would be forced to live on \$80 a week less within ten years and would have ripped \$23 billion from the pockets of pensioners.

The Liberals cut \$1 billion from **pensioner concessions** and tried to **reset deeming rates thresholds** – a cut that would have seen 500,000 part-pensioners made worse off.

In 2015 the Liberals did a deal with the Greens to **cut the pension to around 370,000 pensioners** by as much as \$12,000 a year by changing the pension assets test.

In the 2016 Budget the Liberals tried to cut the pension to around 190,000 pensioners as part of a **plan to limit overseas travel for pensioners** to six weeks.

The Liberals still want to make pensioners born overseas wait longer to get the Age Pension by **increasing the residency requirements from 10 to 15 years**.

For five budgets, the Liberals have wanted to **increase the pension age to 70** – meaning Australia would have an older pension age than the US, UK, Canada and New Zealand. In the first four years alone around 375,000 Australians will have to wait longer before they can access the pension. This is a \$3.6 billion hit to the retirement income of Australians.

Malcolm Turnbull also wants to completely **take away the pension supplement** from pensioners who go overseas for more than six weeks, which will see around \$120 million ripped from the pockets of pensioners.

They still **refuse to adjust deeming rates** for pensioners. It's been more than three years since the Turnbull Government last lowered deeming rates, and pensioners are paying the price, with current deeming rates now significantly higher than real rates of return. Interest rates have fallen from 2.25 percent in February 2015 to 1.50 percent today, yet Turnbull has refused to do anything.

Labor will also scrap Malcolm Turnbull's planned cut to 1.5 million pensioners, protect the energy supplement and keep money in the pockets of age pensioners. Axing the energy supplement will mean a cut of **\$14.10 per fortnight to single pensioners or around \$365 a year, and a cut of \$21.20 a fortnight or around \$550 a year to couple pensioners.**

Unlike Scott Morrison, Labor isn't afraid to talk about the pension - because we don't have a plan to cut it.

LATEST CPI FIGURES REVEAL CRISIS IN WAGES GROWTH – O'Connor

This week's ABS release of the June CPI figures confirms that based on latest data available, workers in the private sector are continuing to see their wages go backwards.

From June 2017 to June 2018, the CPI rose 2.1 per cent. According to the latest ABS WPI data, wages in the private sector – which accounts for about 85 per cent of the Australian workforce - rose just 1.9 per cent.

Under Turnbull, the majority of Australian workers are seeing real wages decline, and for the whole economy, real wages have stagnated. Turnbull and his Liberals are too arrogant and out of touch to acknowledge the crisis in wages growth, which the worst in 20 years. Instead of coming up with policy initiatives, they support cuts to wages through slashing penalty rates, and advocate for a \$17 billion tax handout to the banks.

WHILE THE LNP DITHERS DODGY DIRECTORS BURN CREDITORS - O'Connor/Leigh/Watt

Here's to the Great Aussie Stayers!

No matter the impropriety
the scandal
the conflict of interest
the breach of parliamentary guidelines
the corporate malfeasance
the evidence
the damage
the victims
the actual guilty finding
They just won't step down.



- Reports this week that Longman One Nation candidate Matthew Stephen sold his company to an Irish backpacker who had left the country two years earlier are a stark reminder of the need to crack down on dodgy phoenix activity.

According to [one report](#), Matthew Stephen 'claims he is no longer responsible for the payment of a \$13,769.99 debt, imposed by the Northern Territory local court as damages for a substandard tiling job in 2014, because he sold his company in August 2016 and the new owner agreed to take on the remaining liability'.

Mr Stephen reportedly lodged documents with ASIC two months after receiving the court judgement against him. He claims that the company has been sold to a person who is now in Ireland, and has not yet been located.

Labor's phoenixing prevention package, was [announced](#) on 24 May 2017. Our proposal for mandatory director identification numbers has been backed by the Australian Institute of Company Directors, the Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman, the Productivity Commission, the Tax Justice Network, the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Master Builders Australia, the Australian Council of Trade Unions, the Australian Restructuring Insolvency and Turnaround Association, the Phoenix Project (comprising experts from Melbourne University Law School and Monash University Business School), and the Australian Institute of Credit Management.

Too many subbies and homebuyers have lost out from company collapses and alleged phoenixing activity.

Yet the Turnbull Government still fails to act. In the time since Labor announced our policy, you could have flown from Brisbane to Dublin and back 213 times.

FIO DOCS EXPOSE NEXT TRANCHE OF TREASURY POLITICISATION - Bowen

[Documents released by Treasury under FOI](#) late on Friday afternoon are the latest example of the lengths that Scott Morrison will go to politicise the Treasury.

This is what Scott Morrison sees the nation's preeminent economic policy agency as – his personal play thing, there or no other reason to trot out talking points in his latest shrill attack on Labor policy.

There is now no excuse for Scott Morrison not to release all of the Treasury advice and documents done on dividend imputation refundability.

This FOI release of documents is clear evidence that Treasury did work on dividend imputation refundability before Labor's announcement and there's a decent chance – as evidenced by the s47C exemption being sought – that the Turnbull Government has previously considered reforms in this area.

This is very similar to what Scott Morrison did on [negative gearing](#), where he commissioned Treasury work on Labor's reform to negative gearing but then flatly ignored it, preferring slogans over policy substance.

The 'distributional analysis paper' on dividend imputation paper was clearly put together by Treasury prior to Labor's announcement on 13 March this year and Scott Morrison should explain why. Treasury doesn't put together a distributional analysis for the fun of it.

That paper shows the tremendous growth of refundability over the years, *"from \$1.9 billion in 2005-06 to \$5.9 billion in 2014-15"*.

Treasury's analysis shows massive franking credit refunds going to self-managed super funds with high balances: *"more than two-thirds of*

refunds to SMSFs are to those whose fund balance per member is greater than \$1 million”.

These documents are yet more evidence of the unsuitability of Scott Morrison’s choice for Treasury Secretary.

The documents show that Mr Gaetjens was the coordination point for Mr Morrison in putting together material to attack Labor’s dividend imputation policy.

Mr Morrison thinks it’s appropriate that Mr Gaetjens is putting together the ‘Red Book’ on Labor policy an incoming Labor government is supposed to trust to implement this policy. It’s just the latest in a growing list of examples of Scott Morrison and the Liberal Party politicising and attempting to wreck Treasury’s reputation as Australia’s preeminent economic policy department.

It will inevitably fall to a future Labor Government to restore the Treasury to its rightful place as a central policy agency.

SLOMO’s AWARD WINNING BUILD-TO-RENT BACKFLIP - Bowen

Scott Morrison is becoming a real expert in dropping out bad news late in the afternoon, this time in a monumental and expected backflip on his original decision to ban the build-to-rent sector.

It was late one afternoon in 2017 that Scott Morrison’s build-to-rent debacle rent began and it was late one afternoon in 2018 that it ended. The courageous Treasurer waited until after 5pm yesterday to announce the long awaited yet humiliating back down and even then Mr Morrison tried to bury the back down in the next stage of a consultation process on stapled structures.

It wasn’t that long ago that Scott Morrison was using the front page of Sydney’s *Daily Telegraph* to attack Labor for supporting the build to rent sector. But he doesn’t want his back down and adoption of the very same position he attacked just weeks ago to be front page news.

The last 12 months has been excruciating for the property sector. This is better late than never though and this is a back down that Federal Labor welcomes.

Mr Morrison rushed out his unilateral ban on Managed Investment Schemes investing in residential build-to-rent late on afternoon in September last year – not in the 2017 Budget as Mr Morrison claimed yesterday - totally blind siding the property sector and disrupting and delaying billion dollar investment plans for Australia’s housing market.

Scott Morrison’s bad policy call has not been without costs, it has been bad for certainty and investment and has delayed new build-to-rent projects getting off the ground.

To their credit, the NSW Coalition and Victorian Labor Governments have consistently supported build-to-rent and understand the role it plays in adding to housing supply and giving renters more choice in the market.

Now the property sector can get on with attracting investment to the sector and offering more choice and adding supply to the housing market.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

MORE DELAYS TO CRACK DOWN ON DODGY FINANCIAL PRODUCTS – O’Neill

It’s bad enough that Kelly O’Dwyer has so badly mishandled this important area of pro-consumer reform that is now running years behind, and today we learn the Government plans yet another delay for the commencement of the design and distribution obligations. It’s unacceptable.

We have always known that Malcolm Turnbull is best friends of the big end of town and now we just have more evidence of this fact.

Today Minister O’Dwyer announced yet another round of exposure draft consultation, delaying the introduction of a Bill to Parliament until late this year and demonstrating that this Government can’t be trusted to defend consumers’ rights.

The Design and Distribution Obligations and Product Intervention Power legislation would mean that where products are inappropriately targeted or sold, ASIC will be empowered to intervene in the distribution of the product to prevent harm to consumers.



The Government has dragged its heels on these changes since October 2015:

- December 2014 – Financial System Inquiry (FSI) released, recommends Product Intervention Power and Design and Distribution Obligation be introduced.
- October 2015 – Government responds to FSI, agreeing to implement a Product Intervention Power and Design and Distribution Obligation.
- December 2016 – Proposals paper on Product Intervention Power and Design and Distribution Obligation released. Consultation closed in March 2017.
- December 2017 – Draft legislation finally released. Consultation closed in February 2018.
- March 2018 – Kelly O’Dwyer flags more delays at the ASIC Annual Forum.
- May 2018 – Treasury confirms at estimates that once the Minister has finished considering the submissions from the first round of consultation, the Government will send the legislation out again for another round of consultation.
- July 2018 – Government announces a second round of consultation on draft legislation.

This is the same Prime Minister and Minister that were dragged kicking and screaming to a Royal Commission into the banking and financial services sector.

Malcolm Turnbull needs to stop serving up empty rhetoric and instead get to work on delivery of laws that will help to protect consumers who are vulnerable to being ripped off by financial institutions.

BAD APPLES: PENALTY NO DETERRENT - Madeleine King

The Federal Opposition urges the Turnbull Government to heed the warnings of a Federal Court judge and act immediately to stop multinational companies from ripping off Australians.

Shadow Minister for Consumer Affairs Madeleine King says Justice Michael Lee is spot on in his assessment that the \$9 million penalty handed down to Apple for deceiving Australian consumers is “loose change” for the multinational company.



This is another example of a big, multibillion dollar company taking honest Australians for a ride, and receiving just a slap on the wrist.

Labor believes penalties for anti-consumer conduct are too low to be a deterrent, which is why we took to the last election a policy of increasing penalties for anti-consumer conduct.

Labor is happy the Government finally came to the table on this earlier this year, and will continue to support the passage of the Australian Consumer Law Review Bill through the Senate.

This week the Federal Court found Apple misled nearly 300 customers, with customers with faulty products turned away if a third party had previously worked on their device.

Australian consumers deserve to be treated with respect, and this kind of deceptive conduct surrounding faulty products, which we've seen in the automotive industry too, needs to be shut down. Currently the penalties are too low.

COMMUNICATIONS

S&P ISSUES SCATHING ASSESSMENT OF TURNBULL'S NBN MESS – Rowland/Chalmers

The Turnbull Government must today clarify its position on an NBN write-down, [following a scathing assessment](#) by Standard & Poor's of the multi-technology mix.

The S&P report questioned the long-term economics of the multi-technology mix, and the assumptions underpinning the Turnbull Government's NBN Corporate Plan, saying a write-down “appears inevitable”.

Malcolm Turnbull promised to deliver a second-rate NBN for \$29.5 billion with the rollout complete by the end of 2016. Instead he is \$20 billion over budget and 4 years behind schedule, with a rate of return that has halved.

Beyond the cost blowouts and delays, Turnbull's \$49 billion multi-technology mix costs more to maintain, generates less revenue, and is more exposed to wireless competition.

On every measure, the long-term economics of the NBN have been compromised by Turnbull to the detriment of Australian consumers and taxpayers. He fleeced a nation on the false pretence that copper and HFC would be cheaper – it wasn't. It has been slower and more expensive. Among the failures directly attributable to the Government's mismanagement are:

- A \$20 billion cost blowout;
- Rollout that is 4 years behind schedule;
- 54 per cent increase in the cost per premises for HFC;
- 1,000 per cent increase in copper remediation costs;
- Unacceptable levels of complaints by consumers;
- 3 in 4 premises on copper unable to access 100 Mbps speeds; and a
- HFC rollout halt for which the disaggregated cost remains undisclosed.

Meanwhile NZ, US and the UK slashed fibre-to-the-premises deployment costs by between 40 and 50 per cent.

The Government cannot continue to hide behind its spin. The Australian public deserves full transparency about the scale of Turnbull's self-made disaster.

LABOR REQUESTS ANAO AUDIT OF NBN CORPORATE PLAN – Rowland/Chalmers

Federal Labor has [written](#) to the Auditor-General, requesting an independent assessment of key assumptions underpinning the medium and long-term financials of the NBN.

In light of the [scathing assessment by Standard & Poor's](#) about the long-term economics of Turnbull's multi-technology mix, an independent assessment is appropriate.

Given the scale of public investment in the NBN, it is important the Parliament and public have confidence the assumptions in the Corporate Plan have been subject to genuine independent scrutiny.

The ANAO assessment should examine key financial assumptions underpinning the long-term forecasts contained in the Corporate Plan, and whether the assumptions reflect the best information available to NBNCo, including the market insights, risk assessments and analysis. We have asked the ANAO to undertake an urgent assurance review that includes a focus on several key areas:

1. Revenue forecasts out to 2040

2. Explicit and implicit market share forecasts out to 2040
3. Operating cost forecasts out to 2040
4. A comparison of how long-range assumptions have changed through successive Corporate Plans
5. The sensitivity of the business case to changes in these assumptions

“The multi-technology mix has sold Australia short. It is \$20 billion over budget, costs more to maintain, generates less revenue and is more exposed to wireless competition – all because Malcolm Turnbull abandoned the original fibre design for his own political gain,” Ms Rowland said.

“While the copper and HFC approach has blown out by \$20 billion, countries such as New Zealand, the US and UK have slashed the deployment cost of fibre to the premises by between 40 and 50 per cent.”

Mr Chalmers said: “Turnbull and his Liberals have made a mess of the Budget by racking up record and growing debt at the same time as they’re gifting \$17 billion to the big banks. “The Liberals are exposing the Budget and taxpayers to significant risk through a potential write-down of the NBN, an outcome that many in the industry consider increasingly likely.”

Given Australians already have little faith in the Liberals’ multi-technology mess; they should at least be able to see how the NBN’s finances stack up.



LABOR OUTLINES KEY PRIORITIES FOR REGIONAL MOBILES POLICY - Jones

Shadow Minister for Regional Communications, Stephen Jones MP, outlined Labor’s principles for expanding mobile coverage across regional Australia.

A Shorten Labor Government would work to address the criticism of the Mobile Black Spot Program (MBSP) made by the [Australia National Audit Office \(ANAO\)](#), [Productivity Commission](#) and [Australian Consumer and Competition Commission \(ACCC\)](#) and work with experts, community and state and local governments to deliver better community outcomes.

Labor remains committed to the role of Government in playing an active role to fund and facilitate improved mobile coverage where the market will not deliver outcomes.

In developing future policy direction it will be important to:

- Explore new technologies including small cells, repeaters, boosters and low orbit satellites to improve mobile coverage.
- Work to bring the States and Territories back into the mobile black spot program as well as developing better partnerships with local government.
- Adopt a more strategic approach by working with local communities on Regional Communications Plans that could identify opportunities to leverage public assets for improved connectivity outcomes.

With over 10,000 locations on the national mobile black spot register, there is clearly more to do. When regional Australians struggle to access 3G and 4G mobile services, the regional connectivity task is not yet done.

Australia needs a strategic view about communications for the regions - not the amateur hour constantly on display from Mitch Fifield and Bridget McKenzie. Our digital ecosystems will drive productivity growth in regional Australia over the next two decades. If our regions are not connected than, quite simply, they are not in the game.

Labor wants to see more co-investment, more co-location and more sharing of assets to deliver better mobile coverage for regional Australia and ensure a fair go for all Australians.



HOW MANY MORE WORKERS ARE AT RISK OF PENALTY RATE CUTS? – O’Connor

Claims made in the Federal Court that workers in a financial services company have had their penalty rates cuts because their employer changed the award they are paid under from the financial services award to the retail award highlight the ongoing risk of the cuts to penalty rates spreading.

Labor has consistently warned of the risk that the cuts to penalty rates under the retail, hospitality, fast food, restaurant and pharmacy awards will spread to other workers. There are applications before the Fair Work Commission right now to cut penalty rates for workers under the clubs award and hairdressing and beauty award.

How many more workers could have their pay cut by industries changing over to an award where penalty rates have been cut?

Yesterday, the Victorian Parliament Penalty Rates and Fair Pay Committee tabled its [final report](#). That report recommended that the Turnbull government legislation to restore penalty rates and prevent award variations from cutting take-home pay.

Turnbull must reverse his support for cuts to penalty rates. Turnbull and his Liberals must join Labor, vote for our private members bill, restore penalty rates and protect workers’ take home pay. Under Malcolm Turnbull and his Liberals, Australians are suffering with insecure work,

stagnant wages and skyrocketing cost of living pressures.

Turnbull and his Liberals are too arrogant and out of touch to acknowledge these challenges, let alone come up with any policy initiatives to deal with them. Instead, they support cuts to wages through slashing penalty rates, and advocate for a \$17 billion tax handout to the banks.

LABOUR HIRE DISCREPANCIES FAIL US ALL

Brendan O'Connor

What would you think if I told you that as of tomorrow, one of the following scenarios would apply to you:

- *In your day-to-day job you will now work alongside someone else who does exactly the same job, but because you are hired through a labour hire company you will be paid significantly less.*
- *Or, you will be sacked by your boss, only to be rehired by the same company for the same job through a labour hire company, with a 20 per cent pay cut.*
- *Or lastly, you've worked for the same company for more than five years in what could only be explained as a full time job, however because you work for a labour hire company, you are employed as a casual, lacking the security to take a sick day, or even a holiday.*

For Tanya, Alex, Andrew, Gustavo and Matthew — who are just a few of the labour hire workers across the country that I have spoken to over the past few months — this is their reality.

There are too many workers in Australia subject to unfair labour hire practices, often treated like second class citizens with lower wages, worse conditions and no job security. These are people with permanent families, who can only seem to find casual jobs.

Federal Labor believes that two people working side-by-side with the same skills and experiences doing the same job should be paid the same.

It's not fair to pay workers less just because they're labour hire.

As I travel the country I hear over and over again from people who can't get a permanent job, who haven't had a pay rise in years, who's bills keep going up, that they are waiting by the phone to hear if their labour hire company has found them work tomorrow.

Wages growth has been at record low levels and is going backwards in real terms.

More than half of Australian workers are in a non-standard employment relationship (including labour hire, part time work, fixed term contracts, self-employment and casual employment), and this is contributing to low wages growth and the erosion of labour's share of GDP. Australia has one of the highest rates of labour hire in the OECD and an estimated 97 per cent of labour hire employees are engaged as casuals.

The precarious nature of work makes it much harder for many workers to plan ahead – to pay the bills, to apply for a home loan, or even to secure a rental property.

Australians deserve secure jobs and decent wages.

We know that Malcolm Turnbull and his Liberal and National colleagues are out of touch. They won't listen let alone act. Labor will. A Shorten Labor Government will take action to stamp out dodgy labour hire companies and ensure workers receive a fair day's pay for a fair day's work. We will do this by implementing legislation to ensure that workers employed through a labour hire company will receive the same pay and conditions as people employed directly.

A fair labour hire industry that creates jobs by helping businesses meet their workforce needs is good for Australia. With insecure work, record low wages growth, and skyrocketing cost of living pressures, Australians are feeling the pinch. Labor will continue to lead on policies for decent jobs — and will continue to listen to workers about what they are experiencing in the workplace.

This opinion piece was first published in the [Cairns Post](#) on Tuesday, 24 July 2018.

STARTUPS SKILLS SHORTAGE DUE TO TURNBULL'S BOTCH JOB—

Neumann/Husic/Cameron/Carr

The [Startup Talent Gap report](#) shows Australian start-ups are facing critical skills shortages following a terrible combination of botched decisions and skills funding cuts by the out-of-touch Turnbull Government.

Skills shortage issues have plagued our digital economy for years without recognition or action by the Liberals, and last year's sudden skilled migration changes sent shockwaves of uncertainty through the business, innovation, and education sectors.

"There's a real need for talent especially since the abolition of the 457 visa. There are bottlenecks, if these companies don't have someone who can build a digital product and get it out there, it really stops a company from hiring additional roles."

Alex Gruszka, StartupAUS Chief Operating Officer - [The Australian](#), 26 July 2018

To rub salt into the wounds, the Turnbull Government has actively cut support to education and skills development whilst clumsily handling the only pathway to access global talent – the skilled migration program.

Labor has acted on the concerns of groups affected by these changes by announcing that, in Government, we would establish a new four year SMART visa – with a pathway to permanent residency – for educators, innovators and researchers of a global standing.

Labor's SMART visa would mean the best and brightest talent overseas talent in Science, Medicine, Academia, Research and Technology would have the opportunity to develop their ideas in Australia and collaborate with their Australian counterparts.

The Startup Talent Gap report is an important snapshot of the challenges facing the digital economy and can help guide policy makers in

VETERANS

VETERANS ONCE AGAIN LET DOWN BY LIBERALS - Rishworth

The Commonwealth Ombudsman submission to the Productivity Commission inquiry into the compensation and rehabilitation for veterans highlighting the difficulty veterans are having in accessing health services is deeply concerning but not surprising.

Labor has been raising concerns about the Liberals Medicare freeze, its flow on effect to the Repatriation fee schedule, and how this is limiting access to medical services for our veterans. At every stage, the Government has arrogantly dismissed our concerns.

The Ombudsman has exposed how wrong the Government is and demonstrates what veterans, the Australian Medical Association and Labor has been saying for some time – the Government's ongoing Medicare freeze is limiting access to medical treatment for veterans.

In addition, the report highlights that multiple health checks and excessive delays have sadly become the norm for many veterans applying for assistance from DVA.

This is not the first report detailing these types of concerns and it is incumbent on the Government and the Department to step up and take action to ensure our veterans receive the services they need and are not subject to unnecessary delays.

Unfortunately, the experiences highlighted by the Ombudsman reflect many of the concerns veterans and their loved ones have been expressing for some time.

Labor urges the Government to restore remove the Medicare freeze immediately and ensure our veterans are getting all the support they need, when they need it.

SOCIAL SERVICES

GOVERNMENT SHOULD HAVE ACTED SOONER ON NDIS FRAUD RISK -Burney

The Turnbull Government should have acted sooner to protect taxpayers and people with disability who rely on the NDIS from fraud.

Clear warnings were issued to the Government over a year and a half ago, when the ANAO classified the NDIS rollout as having a "higher" risk rating, and found:

- *"reliance on third parties to provide information to support payments, making these payments more susceptible to fraud; and*
- *significant work required to implement a successful compliance program."*

[\[ANAO Audits of the Financial Statements of Australian Government Entities for the Period Ended 30 June 2016, p258\]](#)

"The Government has dropped the ball – they should have acted earlier to protect people with disability and taxpayers. There have been alarm bells for some time now, and there are no excuses for allowing fraud risk to undermine this incredibly important social reform. Every single dollar must go toward the quality services and support that people with disability need." Linda Burney said.

"This Government has spent too long treating the NDIS like a political football, instead of focusing on getting the roll-out right. A stronger focus on fraud prevention is a good thing – but it should have been done sooner."

CHILDCARE

CHILD CARE COSTS RISE, AGAIN. - Rishworth

The latest [report by the ABS](#) shows the cost of child care continues to rise under the Turnbull Government, with fees rising by 1.0 per cent during the June Quarter and 6.0 per cent over the previous twelve months.

This will not come as a surprise to families who are sadly used to being slugged with higher fees under the Turnbull Government. Under the Liberals, child care costs have steadily increased, with total child care fees growing on average by 5 per cent annually since they were elected in 2013.

Families are paying on average \$2,100 more for child care and early education under the Liberals.

Unfortunately, despite the empty assurances of the Minister, the Government's new child care system is unlikely to see any reduction in the growth in fees, as we have already seen evidence of centres hiking their fees by 10 per cent.

The reality is the new child care subsidy benchmark price is only indexed to CPI, and will erode in value as child care fees are rising at twice the inflation rate. Not only are there 279,000 families who are worse off under the Turnbull Government's unfair child care changes, many families are being forced to pay more out of pocket to access early education for their children.

What is worse, these changes are hurting those families who can least afford it.

WOMEN

UN SLAMS LIBERAL GOVERNMENT: NO NATIONAL GENDER EQUALITY POLICY- Plibersek

The UN has condemned the Liberals' lack of action on gender equality and women's rights in its review of Australia's compliance with the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

The UN criticised the Liberal Government's complete "absence of a comprehensive national gender equality policy and targeted action plan" and raised serious concerns that under the Government the Office for Women is unable to efficiently carry out and coordinate policies for gender equality.

The Committee made scathing critiques of:

- The Government's lack of gender budget analysis and cuts to health and education budgets that hurt women.
- Budget cuts limiting access to legal aid for women and girls.
- Restrictions on civil society advocacy for women's rights.
- Insufficient action to support First Nations women.

After five years of supporting policies that disadvantage women, the Liberals are still failing to take real action to achieve gender equality.

The Committee welcomed a number of policies introduced by the previous Labor Government, including: paid parental leave, the Workplace Gender Equality Act, the National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children, strengthening protections against sexual harassment in the workplace and schools, and preventing discrimination against employees based on family responsibilities.

FIRST PEOPLE

TIME FOR TURNBULL TO GET SERIOUS ON REMOTE HOUSING – Cameron/Dodson

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull admitted during his visit to Tennant Creek that remote housing is the "biggest single issue that has been described in every encounter."

Given this concession, Mr Turnbull must now explain why he has turned his back on the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing in Western Australia, South Australia, and Queensland.

The savage cuts to remote housing confirmed in this year's Budget show an appalling lack of leadership and a complete misunderstanding of the Close the Gap framework.

In 2008, under the former federal Labor government, COAG agreed to the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing. The agreement included \$5.4 billion to address significant overcrowding, poor housing conditions and severe housing shortages in remote communities.

In 2017, an [independent review](#) of the NPARIH and the Remote Housing Strategy was commissioned by the Prime Minister's own department. That review found: "Good progress has been made against the Strategy's objectives" and the program had "...resulted in many success stories around local employment, business and training."

The panel determined that by 2018 the Strategy will have successfully delivered more than 11,500 more liveable homes in remote Australia, including about 4,000 new houses and 7,500 refurbishments.

The NPARIH is also credited with leading to a significant decrease in overcrowding in remote areas, falling from 52.1 per cent in 2008 to 41.3 per cent in 2014-15. Importantly, the review also found that more needs to be done to meet future demand and to protect the existing housing stock.

The NPARIH has also been a driver of job creation and Indigenous businesses in many remote communities.

Mr Turnbull said he has been 'inspired' by his visit to Tennant Creek. Labor now calls on the PM to turn his newfound inspiration into action and use this opportunity to get serious about addressing homelessness and overcrowding among remote Indigenous communities.

We need a committed, ongoing partnership from all levels of government to meet the scale of the need in remote communities.

Instead of walking away from programs that work – the Turnbull Government should be working with Indigenous communities to ensure services are delivered as efficiently and effectively as possible.

Again Mr Turnbull's rhetoric on Aboriginal disadvantage does not match his Government's record.



MALCOLM 'S SELFIES DON'T ASSIST DROUGHT AFFECTED FARMERS - Fitzgibbon

Australian farming communities are being affected by a shocking and protracted drought and Australian farmers are suffering more today than should be necessary because of five years of policy inaction by the Abbott and Turnbull Governments.

What we have seen from the Prime Minister is a drought listening/selfie tour and a round table which have done nothing for struggling farming families.

With Malcolm Turnbull's support, Barnaby Joyce walked away from drought policy and our farmers. He abolished the CoAG committee, its processes and the policy agenda set-out in the 2013 Intergovernmental Agreement on Drought Reform.

Instead, Joyce and Turnbull relied heavily on loans. For most farmers, more debt is not a solution. They have not put in place any options for farming families coming to the end of their entitlement for Farm Household Allowance. The Government has made Farm House Allowance so difficult to access many farming families have given up trying to qualify.

Meanwhile the Turnbull Government is spending tens of millions of dollars on pork barrelling exercises like they APVMA relocation to Barnaby Joyce's electorate and the establishment of the Regional Investment Corporation in Orange. That's money that could be going to help drought affected farming families.

The foundation of good drought policy must be a focus on resilience and adapting to changing climatic conditions. We need a commitment to best-practice natural resource management. But you can't commit to adaptation if you don't believe the climate is changing.

RIP
Mary Ellis, a pioneering aviator and one of Britain's last surviving World War II female pilots, who overcame public disapproval to fly hundreds of Spitfires and heavy bombers to the front lines, died Wednesday at her home on the Isle of Wight. She was 101.



The Brisbane Feminist Festival is an annual, one-day event which aims to educate, up skill and empower people to become active in the feminist movement. In 2018 it will feature panel discussions, interactive workshops, discussion circles, stalls and activation spaces all designed to get more people involved in ending sexist oppression.

See the full schedule below or visit our Facebook page for more information on speakers, stalls and all day activities! Tickets are limited; secure yours now to avoid missing out on the best day of Feminism in the Queensland Calendar!

For questions, comments or ticketing issues please email info@onewomanproject.org.

Ticket Price- \$40.00 including Eventbrite Fee, Lunch not included

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/brisbane-feminist-festival-2018-tickets-47575052262#>(<https://www.facebook.com/events/211374336175635/>)

YOUNG, RURAL & DRIVEN?

Win the opportunity
of a lifetime!

Expand your future and become a youth ambassador by winning an all-expenses paid 'Power Trip' to Canberra! You'll win flights, leadership & public speaking training, mentorship, a behind-the-scenes tour of parliament and meet trailblazing CEOs and politicians!

Exclusively for regional, rural & remote students, at least 15 young women will win!

Q.

Just write 400 words or a 2-minute video addressing:

Life is a roadtrip with twists and turns.
How can we support one another to
navigate the road to gender equality?

Competition opens 24 July 2018,
closes 1 September 2018.
Open to Grade 10 - 12 female
rural students.

*ACT excluded. See our website for Terms
and Conditions, including 'rural' definition.

Power Trip runs from 24 to 28
November 2018.
Aboriginal & Torres Strait
Islander students and Culturally
Linguistically Diverse students
are encouraged to apply.

Learn more and submit your entry via
our website: countrytocanberra.com.au



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2018
Leadership
Competition

Come and play

PETANQUE

with us!

CHRIS WHITING

MARK RYAN and CLAIRE MOORE

**Deception Bay Petanque Ground,
Bayview Tce & Endeavour St, Deception Bay.
Starting 2.00pm, Sunday 12 August.**

**\$25 per head, \$15 unwaged. Includes BBQ!
RSVP: bancroft.campaign@gmail.com
or call 0419-796-317 by Thursday 9 August.**

**Direct Deposit: BSB 064-000, A/c no: 14853912
Please include initial & last name.**

What's this?

This is a relaxed and enjoyable fundraiser for Chris Whiting. The idea is for you to get a few people together, and come and play in a friendly competition. Petanque is very sociable - you are encouraged to eat, drink and have a chat! We will supply the balls (boules) and have members of the champion Deception Bay Petanque Club to guide and teach you.

What's petanque?

Petanque is the French version of bowls, hence the emphasis on eating drinking and sociability.

You don't have to be fit to compete, and it suits people of all ages and abilities. It's played on a gravel surface. The rules are very similar to our version of bowls, but you pitch the boule instead of rolling it. Find out more at www.petanque.org



Our Shared History Seminar

Exploring Archaeology- Adding to Australia's First Nations' stories

There are many ways to view the past. Archaeology is the study of material culture – what people left behind. This seminar will explore how archaeologists, working with First Nations' people, use many techniques to complement traditional knowledge.



Thursday 2nd August 2018,
9.00am to 2.00pm

Registration from 8.30am

Secondary Lecture Theatre,

Matthew Flinders Anglican College,

1-47 Stringybark Rd, Buderim

Welcome to Country - Aunty Bridgette Chilli Davis

Chairperson: **Dave Johnston, Director, Aboriginal Archaeologists Australia**

Session 1: **The evolution of Australian archaeology:**

Helen Cooke & Dave Johnston, archaeologists

Session 2: **Working together on First Nations' archaeology:**

Aunty Bridgette Chilli Davis, Traditional Owner, Mooloolah Kabi Kabi Lands Council Aboriginal Corporation

Kerry Jones, Traditional Owner, Bunya Bunya Country Aboriginal Corporation

Eleanor Crosby, archaeologist: *Danggan Balun Jugun: Five Rivers Country*

Tickets

Waged \$35 / Un-waged \$25

Includes morning tea & lunch

Bookings encouraged for catering purposes.

Book online

<https://exploringarchaeology.eventbrite.com.au>

Enquiries about bookings:

scrg.sharedhistory@gmail.com

Meredith Walker: 0425 257 999

Parking available in school carpark and on Stringybark Road.

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Draw Date—Tuesday 6th November, 2018

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“The Light On The Hill”

“I try to think of the Labor movement, not as putting an extra sixpence into somebody’s pocket, or making somebody Prime Minister or Premier, but as a movement bringing something better to the people, better standards of living, greater happiness to the mass of the people. We have a great objective – *the light on the hill* – which we aim to reach by working for the betterment of mankind not only here but anywhere we may give a helping hand. If it were not for that, the Labor movement would not be worth fighting for.” – Prime Minister Ben Chifley, 1949

The ALP Ninderry Branch invites you to its inaugural

“Light On The Hill” Dinner

Friday, 17th August, 2018

At the Coolum Beach Hotel

David Low Way, Coolum Beach

With Special Guest Speakers

Hon Di Farmer

Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Women
and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic
and Family Violence



Senator Anthony Chisholm

Former ALP State Secretary



Julie-Ann Campbell

ALP QLD State Secretary



\$55 per person

Time - 6.30 pm for 7 pm start

Hors D’Oeuvres on arrival

Followed by a two course dinner

Table drinks service

Lucky door prize and raffles

RSVP by 10 August to Lex at

lmcc0604@aol.com or 0409 499 905

Please mention any dietary requirements when
booking.

Payment is required at time of booking by
Direct Deposit. For alternate payment methods
please contact Lex.

Direct Deposit: BSB 064 000 A/C 14896592

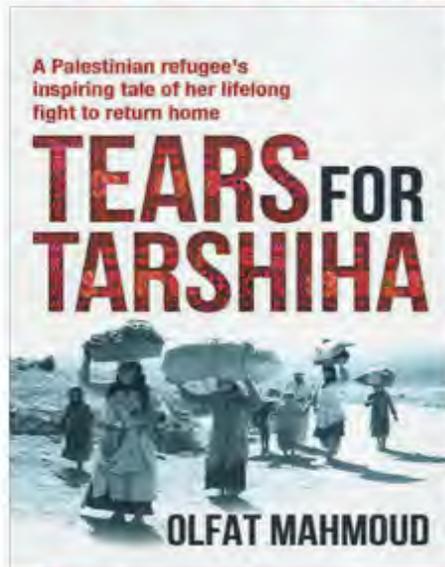
Account Name: ALP of QLD Ninderry Branch

Please use your last name as reference
and email receipt to Lex.

Booking essential - No tickets at the door.

Please note funds raised will be used for campaigning purposes.

Tears for Tarshiha Book Launch *With Senator Claire Moore*



Join Dr Olfat Mahmoud for the Brisbane launch of her autobiography Tears for Tarshiha - a Palestinian refugee's inspiring tale of her lifelong fight to return home. Tears for Tarshiha will be launched by Senator Claire Moore who will be joined on stage by Dr Mahmoud and Dr Helen McCue, co-founder of Union Aid Abroad - APHEDA.

THU 9 AUGUST 6-8PM; FREE
AVID READER BOOKSHOP
193 BOUNDARY STREET, WEST END

Dr Mahmoud will speak about her experiences of decades of war and conflict in the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon and the Palestinian Right of Return.



FREE EVENT - REGISTER ONLINE:
<http://bit.ly/TearsTarshihaBNE>

Current Senate Inquiries

Community Affairs Legislation Committee

- [Social Services Legislation Amendment \(Cashless Debit Card Trial Expansion\) Bill 2018](#)
- [Social Services Legislation Amendment \(Maintaining Income Thresholds\) Bill 2018](#)
- [Private Health Insurance Legislation Amendment Bill 2018 and related bills](#)
- [Social Services Legislation Amendment \(Encouraging Self-sufficiency for Newly Arrived Migrants\) Bill 2018](#)

Community Affairs References Committee

- [Accessibility and quality of mental health services in rural and remote Australia](#)
- [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** [Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Amendment \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Bill 2018 \[Provisions\]; and Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage \(Regulatory Levies\) Amendment Bill 2018 \[Provisions\]](#)
- [Treasury Laws Amendment \(Protecting Your Superannuation Package\) Bill 2018 \[Provisions\]](#)
- [Space Activities Amendment \(Launches and Returns\) Bill 2018 \[Provisions\]](#)

Economics References Committee

- [Financial and tax practices of for-profit aged care providers](#)
- [The Commitment to the Senate issued by the Business Council of Australia](#)
- [Regional Inequality in Australia](#)
- [Selection process for a national radioactive waste management facility in South Australia](#)
- [Governance and operation of the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility \(NAIF\)](#)
- [Consumer protection in the banking, insurance and financial sector](#)
- [Non-conforming building products](#)

Education and Employment References Committee

- [The exploitation of general and specialist cleaners working in retail chains for contracting or subcontracting cleaning companies](#)
- [The high rates of mental health conditions experienced by first responders, emergency service workers and volunteers](#)
- [The prevention, investigation and prosecution of industrial deaths in Australia](#)
- [Work health and safety of workers in the offshore petroleum industry](#)

Environment and Communications References Committee

- **New** [Gaming micro-transactions for chance-based items](#)
- **New** [Australia's faunal extinction crisis](#)
- [Great Barrier Reef 2050 Partnership Program](#)
- [Australian content on broadcast, radio and streaming services](#)
- [Water use by the extractive industry](#)
- [Current and future impacts of climate change on housing, buildings and infrastructure](#)
- [Rehabilitation of mining and resources projects as it relates to Commonwealth responsibilities](#)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

- **New** [Defence Amendment \(Sovereign Naval Shipbuilding\) Bill 2018](#)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee

- [Use of the Quinoline anti-malarial drugs Mefloquine and Tafenoquine in the Australian Defence Force](#)
- [Proposed Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership](#)
- [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals \(SDG\)](#)

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee

- **New** [Unexplained Wealth Legislation Amendment Bill 2018 \[Provisions\]](#)
- **New** [Defence Amendment \(Call Out of the Australian Defence Force\) Bill 2018](#)
- **New** [Family Law Amendment \(Family Violence and Cross-examination of Parties\) Bill 2018](#)
- **New** [Modern Slavery Bill 2018](#)
- [The Criminal Code and Other Legislation Amendment \(Removing Commonwealth Restrictions on Cannabis\) Bill 2018](#)
- [Australian Citizenship Legislation Amendment \(Strengthening the Commitments for Australian Citizenship and Other Measures\) Bill 2018](#)
- [Judiciary Amendment \(Commonwealth Model Litigant Obligations\) Bill 2017](#)

Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee

- **New** [The practice of dowry and the incidence of dowry abuse in Australia](#)

Procedure Committee

- **New** [Proposal to replace the parliamentary prayer with an invitation to prayer or reflection](#)

Red Tape Committee

- [The effect of red tape on child care](#)
- [The effect of red tape on occupational licensing](#)

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

- [Air Services Amendment Bill 2018](#)
- [Performance of Airservices Australia](#)

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee

- [Regulatory approaches to ensure the safety of pet food](#)
- [The need for regulation of mobility scooters, also known as motorised wheelchairs](#)
- [The operation, regulation and funding of air route service delivery to rural, regional and remote communities](#)
- [The integrity of the water market in the Murray-Darling Basin](#)
- [Regulatory requirements that impact on the safe use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems, Unmanned Aerial Systems and associated systems.](#)

Select Committee into the Obesity Epidemic in Australia

- [Obesity Epidemic in Australia](#)

Select Committee on Charity Fundraising in the 21st Century

- [Charity Fundraising in the 21st Century](#)

Select Committee on Electric Vehicles

- **New** [Electric Vehicles](#)

Select Committee on Stillbirth Research and Education

- [Stillbirth Research and Education](#)

Select Committee on the Future of Work and Workers

- [Senate Select Committee on the Future of Work and Workers](#)



Congratulations to the recipients of this year's National Council of Women Queensland Bursaries – all well-deserved and worthy recipients.

