

Young Blood

The AYL Tasmania Newsletter



New Year, New Young Blood

Welcome to the latest edition of Young Blood - the AYL Tasmania newsletter. Over the coming year, Young Blood will feature different articles from AYL members with different policy ideas and perspectives on local, national and international issues. If you're an AYL member and you'd like to contribute, we'd love to hear from you!

Please send any feedback through to the AYL Executive.

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Young Blood's Guide to Recent Events

David Bartlett
Leading a Labor revival

Jodie Campbell
Fighting off detractors in style

Australian Democrats
Dead at 31

Russia and Georgia
Sort it out without tanks, eh?



Labor Governments
Here, There, Everywhere

Catyrna Bilyk
Tassie's new Senator

Parliament in Launnie
Taking it to the people

Alexander Downer
Mark Vaile
Peter Costello
Going... Going...

Tas Young Libs
Disgusting behaviour at their National Conference

2020 Vision and Beyond Required for New Royal

Rebecca White

The Tasmanian State Government has outlined its plans for the new Royal Hobart hospital. At this stage the preferred site is the Macquarie Point Railyard in Sullivans Cove.

The response from the public has been mixed, with concern that access to the proposed site will be difficult and that the area is not conducive to expansion in the future. TasPorts has criticised the proposal, raising concern that the Hospital may encroach on the port site and gradually render it ineffective.

In the New Royal Progress Project Report the Assessment Panel appointed by the Government developed 12 key areas for consideration when deciding on a new Royal Hobart site. Of these 12 it is interesting to note that the main four outlined in the Key Site Planning Features are; green spaces, views, access and other developments and hospital expansion.

Whilst the importance of green spaces and views need acknowledging it could be argued that they should not be the critical points examined when deciding upon a new Royal Hobart hospital site. The other two points mentioned, access and other developments and hospital expansion, should be the fundamental elements which need to be addressed when taking into consideration where the new Royal Hobart should be built.

From the 280 public submissions received, access and proximity were identified as the main elements to take



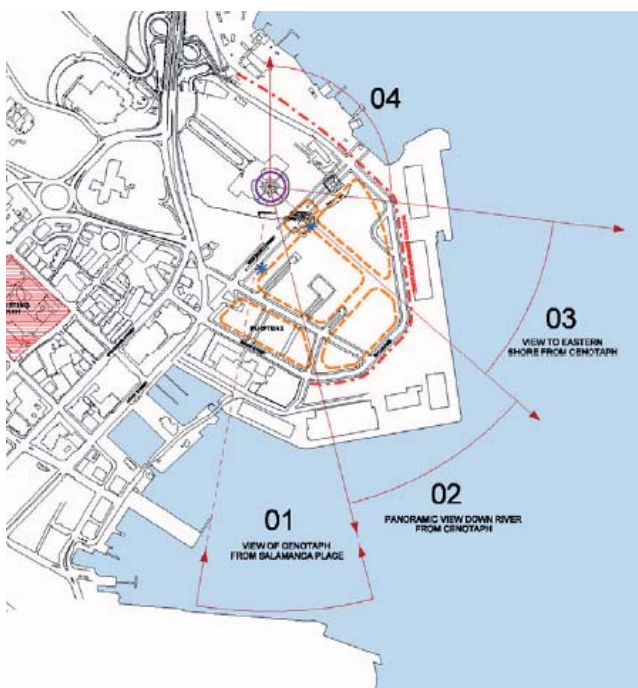
into consideration when deciding upon a new hospital site. From this the conclusion can be drawn, in keeping with the 2005 study done by health consultants Conrad-Garett , that a site near to the CBD would be well received based on its closeness to other medical services. Access is another critical factor and in the New Royal Progress Project Report it has been noted that access to the proposed site at Macquarie Point Railyard would need to be improved from the CBD and Sullivans Cove. There is also concern that the proposed site is bordered on three sides by water.

The Assessment Panel also identified the TCA ground at the Domain as a potential new site. Like the Macquarie Point Railyard site it is close to the city, has commanding views and plenty of green spaces. Unlike the Macquarie Point Railyard site it would appear to have greater scope for expansion in the future and would not pose a threat to any existing infrastructure such as a working port. Whilst it does lack public transport services it would not be difficult to extend the existing services to include this site.

The Conrad Gargett report identified many other important factors that need to be considered when deciding upon the most suitable site for the new Royal Hobart hospital. A summary is available to read on the Department of Health and Human Services website and it provides a good insight into the complexity of issues involved when weighing up the alternative sites for a new hospital.

Community infrastructure as important as a hospital must be made as functional and accessible as possible and this is why debate about the location for the new Royal needs to continue. It is vital that we make a smart decision about where it will be built in order to ensure its sustainability into the future.

The State Government is in the process of reviewing public feedback on the proposed site at Macquarie Point Railyard. If you would like to make a submission to this process you can visit online at http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/future_health/new_royal_project by 1 September.



AYL Tasmania Update

AYL President - Stuart Benson

Young Labor Conference held on Sunday 4 May 2008 with special guest Bill Shorten, Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities and Children's Services. The conference was well attended with many motions being debated. The motions included:

- Support for Charter of Human Rights
- Legislated Paid Maternity Leave
- Greater support for Public Education
- Student income support reform
- Review of the Anti-Terrorism laws
- Australia becoming a Republic
- Union Right to entry/Industrial relations
- Opt-out policy in relation to organ donation

After debate on these motions, all passed successfully. We also participated in 'Return of the Weekend BBQ' that celebrated the end of Workchoices. The Conference ran very smoothly with people from around the State attending.

The motions were are taking to the Labor Party State conference are the Opt-out policy for Organ Donation and the Charter of Human Rights. Many Young Labor members were elected to as delegates and will be speaking on these motions. I congratulate all the Young Labor members who were elected as members.

In May, Tom Middleton, Ben McKay and myself travelled to Canberra to the National Young Labor Conference. The conference was held over two days with AYL members attending from all around the country, in which we debated a variety motions and had guest speakers address the conference. Bill Shorten MP and ALP National Secretary Tim Gartrell addressed the conference. Both talked about their times in Young Labor and how the organisation was important for the future of the party. The three motions that Tasmania took to the conference was, Review to Anit-Terrosim laws, Paid Maternity Leave and Student income support. All three motions were passed and adopted by National Young Labor. Tasmanian Young Labor member, Richard Dowling was also elected as Young Labor's National Secretary, which will see him travel to Amsterdam to the International Union of Socialist Youth conference.

AYL has also met with Senator Catryna Bilyk to discuss her upcoming plans as she becomes Tasmania's newest Senator.

The executive has also met and we have agreed to change a few things. We are moving to sending out all info via email, so to keep getting info on meetings, events etc as well as the newsletter, please send your email to ben.mckay@aph.gov.au.

Upcoming Events

- Sept 5 Launceston Drinks, 4pm - Irish Murphy's
- Sept 6-7 ALP State Conference
- Sept 23-25 Tasmanian Parliament in Burnie

October 2 @ University of Tasmania Young Labor v Young Liberal Debates

"That the State Liberals are not ready to govern"
"That the Rudd Government is more style over substance"

Stay tuned for more information as Young Labor look to retain their debating crown for another year!

- Nov AYL Quiz Night

AYL member Stephen Reid is also updating the website and all policy and dates for events will be posted on there.

I have just finished negotaitons with the Young Liberals about the Young Labor v Young Lib debates, which we are making an annual event. See above for more information on the two topics.

Tom Middleton has also designed AYL Polo Shirts which are now available for sale. If you wish to purchase one please email me at stuart.benson@aph.gov.au. They are \$33 each.

A group of AYL members are also arranging a trip up to the North West Coast to establish a regional committee up there. We plan to visit Hellyer College and Don College. If you wish to travel and help us please email Kacee Johnston at kacee.johnston@aph.gov.au.

Rebecca White, President of Southern Regional Committee, is also organising a quiz night in November to help raise funds for AYL. If AYL members want to help, email Bec at Rebecca.White@aph.gov.au.

Finally, next Friday we are having Young Labor drinks in Launceston, 4pm at Irish Murphys just before the state conference. So I urge all northern members and those travelling up from the south to come along so everybody can met each other.

So there are plenty event coming up for AYL. We will keep you updated through email of all the exact dates for each events. This is an exciting time for Young Labor and if you have any questions do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours in Unity, Stuart Benson

State Secretary Report

ALP State Secretary - John Dowling

Tasmania is moving ahead under the leadership of new Premier David Bartlett and despite the efforts of our political opponents I believe we can look to our future with a high degree of optimism.

It is also timely as we look to the future that recognition is paid the enormous contribution made by Paul Lennon in his time as Deputy Premier and Premier.

The Tasmania that Jim Bacon and Paul Lennon inherited in 1998 was vastly different to the Tasmania of today. We were insular, facing economic despair and our young people were leaving the State in droves.

Paul Lennon can take credit for the social and economic turnaround. He has set the platform for David Bartlett to continue the momentum.

David Bartlett's vision for Tasmania is one that is characterised by creativity, innovation and original ideas.

A future underpinned by an economy that continues to grow and provides jobs for Tasmanians.

A future to be characterised by an education system that is simply the best and a health system that helps Tasmanians when they need it most.

David Bartlett believes in strong and inclusive communities, in which everybody can achieve their full potential.

Members of AYL can play their part in achieving this vision by advocating our Party's position in every forum they can.

Internally the State Branch of the Party is currently considering whether or not we field endorsed ALP candidates in Local Government elections.

A number of forums have been held with Members throughout the State with a wide range of views being expressed. Once clear consensus emerging from the forums is the need for compulsory voting in local government elections.

This issue will be debated at State Conference in September.

AYL members who were unsuccessful in being elected to Conference can still attend as observers. This year's Conference promises to be the best in many years as we celebrate our success at the Federal election and look to the future under David Bartlett.



Farewell Paul Lennon

Ben McKay

On 26 May 2008, Premier Paul Lennon announced his resignation as Premier and as the Member for Franklin from the Tasmanian Parliament.

Lennon will be remembered for the way in which he stepped into the Premiership in the most trying of circumstances. In March 2004 he took over the leadership from the late Jim Bacon who was diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer. Lennon had previously served as Bacon's Deputy since 1998 and as Member for Franklin since 1990.

While Lennon was a controversial figure and has been criticised for his adversarial approach to politics, he will also be remembered for a number of state-building projects and significant achievements including,

- Winning a majority Labor government against the odds in the 2004 election, achieving another four years of Labor government,
- Tasmania leading the nation through an apology and compensation to the stolen generations,
- Paying off net state debt,
- Building BassLink and the natural gas pipeline to the mainland, and
- Growing our renewable energy industry and setting emission reduction targets to address the threat of climate change.

He will also be remembered as a Labor Premier who did the right thing by the party and by the Tasmanian people in handing over a Government in good shape to a worthy Deputy Premier.

Tasmanian Young Labor wishes Paul all the best as he returns to the slower pace of normal Tasmanian life. Young Labor also welcomes the new Labor Member for Franklin, Ross Butler, as he takes his place in the Parliament.

Bartlett: The Interview

Two months into the top job and new Premier David Bartlett has already made quite an impression.

David has signalled his intent to tackle a number of key reforms over the coming months, including shake-ups of the health and education systems, revitalising the Hobart waterfront, compulsory voting at Local Government elections and Tasmanian action on climate change.

In pushing for a “clever, kind and connected Tasmania” he has turned around recent opinion poll results, but who is the man behind the Premiership and what makes him tick? Premier Bartlett agreed to be interviewed for Young Blood.

Why did you keep your Education portfolio as Premier?

I believe education is an economic portfolio. To improve the quality of life for all Tasmanians then Education must be a priority. That is why I have kept the Education portfolio as Premier. I am the first Premier to do so since Sir Robert Cosgrove, who held the Education portfolio as well as Premier from 1948-1958. I am determined to take action to improve educational outcomes and provide increased opportunities to Tasmanian children and families.

Growing up, who were your political idols or role models?

Roy Fagan, as the primary intellectual driver as well as the PLP’s conscience from 1946-1974. Bill Neilson, as a Premier with vision who also recognised the importance of education and arts in the modern economy. Michael Field, who held the Treasury portfolio whilst Premier and demonstrated great personal courage in the face of

financial and social turmoil. Lastly, Jim Bacon who whilst Premier oversaw the development of the largest and, importantly, the most diverse range of infrastructure projects in the State’s history.

What are your goals for Tasmania before the next state election?

A strong, vibrant and diverse economy is central to my view of where Tasmania needs to be in the next ten years. I want to see more Tasmanians employed and to see our economy growing to support families and give them security.

I want to see increasing participation, productivity and population grow our economy. I want to continue creating an environment attractive to private investment, with an eye to new and emerging industries that can benefit Tasmanians.



Your catch cry is “clever, kind and connected” - what will it take for Tasmania to achieve this?

I am driven by a belief in the future of this State and a determination to see it reach its full potential. I am committed to Tasmania taking on the big challenges of our times – from climate change to demographic change, while building a strong economy and a connected community.

We need to refine planning processes to encourage beneficial development in the State. As Planning Minister and Premier, I recognise that our planning system needs to function effectively for developers and for the broader community. I want to enable growth by having a consistent approach to regional planning.

What do you think are the key long term challenges and what are you doing about them?

If the last ten years was about getting the fundamentals right, the next ten needs to be about connecting Tasmania to a modern 21st Century global economy.

Such an economy requires, first and foremost, much higher standards of educational attainment than Tasmania has historically been able to achieve. Central also to our plans

Our New Premier: Fast Facts

Full Name	David John Bartlett
Age	40
Star Sign	Capricorn (19 January)
Education	UTas - Bachelor of Science (Computer Sci) and Diploma of Business
Union	LHMU
Fave Band	Coldplay
Fave Teams	North Melbourne Kangaroos North Hobart Demons Manchester Utd (glory hunter -ed)
Hobbies	Mountain bike riding, road bike riding, listening to music, playing with my Iphone, following the American elections, camping with the family, following trends in technology and boring my staff with details about the latest gadgets, buying bright ties.

Why Tasmania needs a Human Rights Charter

Ben McKay

Young Labor has been a strong supporter of a Human Rights Charter over the past years, and is taking a motion in support of a Tasmanian Charter to State Conference on 6-7 September.

Young Labor believes that, in line with community sentiment as expressed during the Tasmanian Law Reform Institute's 2007 community consultations, Tasmania needs a Charter of Rights to adequately protect the rights of all Tasmanians.

Our support for a Charter is built on our principled belief that the bedrock of our society is equality between all people: in human rights. We should enrich our democracy by building in support for human rights - providing a mechanism to assess legislation against agreed standards of human rights, including a Human Rights Commission.

A charter is important for a number of reasons. Operationally, a charter would reinforce protection in existing laws and provides clear protection of 'new' rights (such as freedom of expression, freedom from forced work, and protection against cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment).

As with Victoria, the focus of the charter is about getting things right at a planning and policy stage - anticipating and preventing human rights infringements.

A charter would also ensure transparency and accountability in government and set human rights as a priority for government, making sure government takes human rights into account when making laws and delivering services.

A charter would go hand in hand with our Premier's current push to energise our democracy and reinstate trust in government amongst Tasmanians. It would also be of immense educational value to Tasmanians.

Young Labor believes that the best way to systemic protection and enhancement of human rights in Tasmania is through a legislated charter of rights, coupled with an independent Human Rights Commission in line with the Victorian model.

We look forward to reporting back to AYL members with a positive outcome from state conference.

Bartlett continued *from page 5*

for the future must be a clear and considered debate about energy security and opportunity for Tasmania.

In a carbon-constrained world, we must consider carefully not only the opportunities that we can access with our largely renewable energy resources but also the opportunity cost of continuing doing things in the same way we always have.

Finally, What advice do you have to Young Labor members who are just starting out in politics or just starting to become politically active?

Get involved in your local community. Join organisations and participate in forums etc. Get to know your local members and start listening to a range of people. It is about really understanding the complexity of issues and the diversity of the Tasmanian community. Understand Labor values and question your own position and view of the world. Be active in your local branch and encourage other young people to become involved.

Rapid Response

Of the following choices, who do you like best?

Keating or Hawke? Hawke. I recently met him and really enjoyed his company.

Rudd or Gillard? I'd like to see Gillard as the first female Prime Minister some time in the future.

Obama or McCain? Obama – roll on November.

Hodgman Jr or Hodgman Snr? Both are gentlemen.

Howard or Costello? Impossible to even contemplate an answer.

Downer or Ruddock? As above.

Bartlet or Bartlett? Bartlett (Hudson, my son)

B1 or B2? B1 – he appears more compassionate, in a silent sort of way.

Thanks to David Bartlett for agreeing to take part in our interview and wishes him all the best in coming months.