



RPA Campaign Bulletin #48 of June, 2020

Oh, the Corona Virus pandemic has slowed down The Oz Republican Quest but NOT to a standstill. There's been work to do since the last RPA Campaign Bulletin (#47 indeed) which was written-UP and distributed last December. However, I am pleased to report that The Party has prepared as best it can for any contingency in the immediate period ahead. For starters, a great deal of time since the beginning of this 2020 year has been invested with the complete rebuilding of The Party's website in tandem with appointed, Blue Mountains-based Webmistress, **Tara Whitie**. Viewers will appreciate a *more colourful* and user-friendly website. A lot of painstaking work has gone in to re-writing a number of documents on the old website e.g. 'WHY a REPUBLIC?' and 'REPUBLIC DELAYED is REPUBLIC DENIED!'

In these first 6 months of 2020 The Party also attended to the following:

- UP-levelled it's Policy Program and has now a comprehensive, pragmatic 33 Plank Platform. Indeed, 33 well-considered policies comprising a Manifesto for the next federal election and for interim needs & purposes;
- made submissions to, firstly, the Commonwealth Electoral Donations Reform Inquiry and, secondly, the Commonwealth Bushfire Royal Commission reflecting in both instances – forthrightly – that The Party has “skin in the games”;
- put ALL arrangements in to place for the 15th Annual Wattle Day Luncheon which this year, ISO Times permitting, shall be held at Rozelle, Inner-Western Sydney suburb of Rozelle, NSW 2039, with Brand Manager of the Melbourne-based Social Star Digital Brand Management company, **Andrew Ford**, as Guest Speaker;
- prepared the mailing envelopes (approximately 2500) for the posting of the Annual Wattle Day Newsletter (#15) compilation;
- confirmed to the AEC The Party's contemporary Management details.

As indicated in the *very first* paragraph above, The Republic – NOT being a first-order issue pro tem – is experiencing slow but steady progress...Of course, when the monarch-in-waiting, **Prince Charles** (a.k.a. **Chukka**) was laid low with the deathly pandemic corona virus, The Quest got something of an *indirect* mention in March. The Quest itself got a fillip of sorts on New Year's Day when former Australian Liberal Treasurer, **Peter Costello**, made the statement: “An Australian Republic is dead for at least another generation and not even the end of **Her Maj's** reign will re-ignite support for a change to Australia's constitutional arrangements” ...The Writer was interviewed by respected morning announcer, **Graeme Goodings**, on Radio 5AA in Adelaide on 2 January and given the opportunity to 'pooh pooh' Costello's prediction. Meanwhile, **David Muir's** direct-electionist Republican organisation, Real Republic Australia in Brisbane, gained some local SEQ media coverage with two (2!) prescient articles viz (a) 'REPUBLIC JUST PART of the OVERHAUL AUSTRALIA NEEDS' on 25 January and (b) 'POLITICAL LEADERS MUST SHOW CONVICTION in PUSHING FOR REPUBLIC' this very day, 8 June – **Queen Elizabeth's** official birthday in most Australian States. Quite momentous too was the nationwide coverage over late May/early June afforded Monash University's (Prof) **Jenny Hocking** who – by a 6-1 majority in the High Court – has gained access to the so-called 'Palace Letters'. It is too early to tell if anything *stunningly* revealing will come of her deep perusing of the Collection once the Canberra-based National Archives have “released” the said letters after going through the 'protocol motions'. But, at least, any or all interested Australian academics and commentators may now access them. Bravo, indefatigable Jenny! Oh, and yes it would be remiss of me if I didn't report on the latest overture from the near-moribund ARM who have scored a coupla mentions this half-year courtesy of 'Speccie' columnists **Neil Brown & David Flint** who “warn” that Oz Republicans are “flirting” with the republican idea again. Goodness, Me!

Yours Patriotically, PETER CONSANDINE
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