



viewpoint

Responsibilities ignored

Many of us in Murray Bridge, over the years, have been involved in the struggles and terrible anxieties of asylum seekers fleeing persecution in their own countries - simply seeking to save their own lives and those of their families.

We have known real people fleeing from real situations and going through terrible trauma to do so.

Rather than appealing to the political mileage of "protecting our borders", our leaders in Australia need to face the reality that asylum seekers in their millions are a world wide problem.

A poor country like Kenya has nearly half a million refugees.

Two-and-a-half million men, women and children have had to flee the violence in Syria.

Australia is a vast and wealthy country; we have international responsibilities which, while ignored, jeopardise our own humanity.

Michelle Madigan,
Murray Bridge

Not a wasted vote

I wish to take issue with the statements in various papers and election ads by Liberal MLC John Dawkins that a vote for an independent or minor party is a "wasted" vote.

How many times have we seen the major party "duopoly" vote together to frustrate worthwhile and popular legislation, tabled by a minor party or independent?

The latter two appear to me to be the only ones attempting to carry out the wishes of the voters, who in my view, have been largely excluded from government by the major parties as they pursue their own agendas.

Therefore I content, that it is indeed a vote for the two major parties which is in fact the wasted vote?

Alex Hodges,
Birdwood.

Disgust in fee rise

I am writing this letter to complain about the huge hike in council dog registration fees.

The majority of people do the right thing by having their dogs registered.

Why do you want to hit concession holders with such a large rise in fees?

Many people who live along have their dogs for companionship reasons and love their dogs unconditionally.

Don't you realise that by hiking the fees

up so much that there will be a huge spike of animals being dumped, thus contributing to the council's already large costs in managing the problem?

The majority of families also have a dog as part of their family and already having their hip pockets drained by government, council fees and cost of living increases.

What next?

Do we have to pay for air to breathe?

I urge all dog owners to write and express their disgust at the council's latest announcement and at the next council voting day to vote them out of office.

Kevin Davis,
Murray Bridge.

Misleading and offensive

On behalf of the State Liberal Party I wish to reassure Housing Trust residents in Hammond that a Marshall Liberal Government will not be forcibly removing tenants from their homes as claimed by the Housing Trust Tenants' Association.

A letter that has been sent from the Housing Trust Tenants' Association is nothing more than a disgraceful scare campaign designed to cause distress to Trust residents.

It is misleading and offensive.

Julie Macdonald, who is the Assistant Secretary of the Housing Trust Tenants' Association and whose name appears at the bottom of the letter, is a member of the Labor Party.

I'm really disappointed that vulnerable people are being scared.

I wish to reassure all concerned that a Marshall Liberal Government will also not support the introduction of a bedroom tax.

Shadow Minister for Housing, Duncan McFetridge MP, recently reiterated this position on radio.

"There will be no bed tax and no one will be forced out of their public housing." (5AA 13 February 2014)

I wish to reassure all concerned residents that the State Liberals' are committed to ensuring that social housing is managed well and residents are supported as we strengthen and build better local communities.

A Marshall Liberal Government will provide you and your family with a better future and put South Australia back on track.

Adrian Pederick
Member for Hammond

ONLINE COMMENT

www.murrayvalleystandard.com.au

Murray-Darling Basin Plan fight over - February 27

Great. So can we dismantle and abolish all traces of the NRM now? - Grommit

Sorry for being really cynical but how can this be when there is no water coming down the Darling they have drained the Menindee Lake scheme to the level it reverts back to NSW control and might have enough left for the district if there is another drought.

The water storage has suffered RED and GREEN algae outbreaks.

There is no running water from the Darling anymore as it is now going stagnant. - Gramps

Unhealthy future - February 27

Hope that it keeps getting funding, this is the problem with the Labor group.

A lot of community groups were hammered this financial year with cuts. - Gramps

Murray Bridge dog registration fees rise - February 28

"By achieving this, ratepayers will no longer subsidise the dog registration process," he said.

I don't use the library or the sporting facilities.

When I can I expect a rate cut so that I'm no longer subsidising those facilities?

On what criteria is it determined that it is ok for rate-payers to subsidise something?

- Mark of SA