



# LIBS IN CHARGE

By **ANTHONY CAGGIANO**

REGION - The Fleurieu Peninsula seems set to be represented by Liberal members, despite the fact thousands of votes still need to be counted.

Member for Finnis Michael Pengilly had 50.5 per cent of the first preference votes as of noon Wednesday, March 19.

He was followed by Labor candidate Melanie Smart (24.4), the Greens' Moira Jenkins (13.7) and Family First's Bruce Hicks (11.5). A total of 12,905 ballot papers had been counted and 24,557 people are enrolled in the electorate. In a two-candidate preferred basis, Pengilly holds 62.4 per cent to Smart's 37.6.

"I feel profoundly humbled with the level of support (from the electorate)," Mr Pengilly said.

He told *The Times* his key infrastructure priorities are upgrading the road between Myponga and Yankalilla, and Adelaide Road from Mosquito Road to Cut Hill.

Mr Pengilly said if the Liberals don't win, the Victor Harbor and Alexandrina councils will lose \$1.5 million of state funding for the South Coast Regional Aquatic

Centre, as the Liberal Party had promised to contribute \$2 million to the project, unlike Labor's \$500,000.

He will also fight for an increased variety of TAFE courses taught at the Victor Harbor campus.

He said the current voting system where the electorate, not the individual votes, forms the government, is "flawed", but he's not sure what the resolution should be.

"It's the second or third time Libs have had the votes, but haven't won," he said.

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# Liberals hold the majority in Finniss and Hammond seats

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“My job is to do the best I can for the electorate.

“Just wait for the rest to sort itself out.”

The Hammond electorate has had a total of 16,135 votes (69 per cent) counted.

Member for Hammond Adrian Pederick had 54 per cent of the votes in his favour, compared to Labor’s Lou Bailey (26.1), Family First’s Daniel Gutteridge (8.3), Greens’ Damien Pyne (7.4) and the Nationals’ Rachel Tittley (4.2).

Mr Pengilly said he is proud of all the faith shown in him by the electorate.

He wants to address public transport, in particular having a metro card system brought to the area and improve the services between Victor Harbor and Goolwa.

Mr Pederick said he will be willing to work with Mr Pengilly on such a project.

Mr Pengilly said the Links service between Victor and Goolwa is in place and is working “reasonably well”, but more could be done.

He said creating better public-

funded transport, in particular between Victor Harbor and Adelaide, will become a bigger priority as the population grows.

Mr Pederick wants to see the quality of roads improved so the speed limits are appropriate for driving conditions external of the road surface and design.

Maintaining a healthy River Murray and Lower Lakes is another key priority for him so it can be enjoyed by irrigators, recreational users and environmental enthusiasts.

As for the voting system, he thinks pre-polling could be counted on the night, but postal votes can be treated separately.

He acknowledged the margins are very tight still and anything could happen.

“It’ll be right down to the wire,” he said.

Results in the upper house will still take several weeks to count, especially for those who individually number the candidates.

Mr Pederick said he is not bothered by the current voting system where a party is formed based on electorate wins, not individual votes.

## Word on the street: What is your opinion of the state election?



**Graeme Gepp of Hindmarsh Valley**

I am disappointed. I felt it was time for a change and when a party gets more than 50 per cent of the vote and does not get into government, there must be a problem.

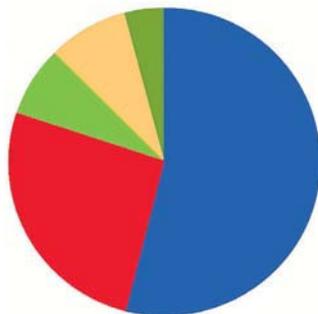
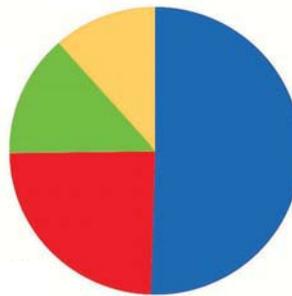


**Heather Young of Victor Harbor**

I am surprised it is as close as it is. The two Independents need to think what is important to South Australia like health, education and looking after war veterans.

### Results for Finniss

- Liberal** 50.5
- Labor** 24.4
- Greens** 13.7
- Family First** 11.5



### Results for Hammond

- Liberal** 54
- Labor** 26.1
- Greens** 7.4
- Family First** 8.3
- Nationals** 4.2



*Hammond MP Adrian Pederick*



*Finniss MP Michael Pengilly*