

STOP POPULATION GROWTH NOW

Party of Australia

Newsletter

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Stable Population Party

Annual General Meeting

This will be held in the Glandore Community Centre, 25 Naldera St, Glandore on Sunday 13th October at 2pm (Rugby Room). Note, there is plenty of parking in the surrounding streets, or alternatively the tram stop (Stop 8 – Winifred Ave) is close by.

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of last AGM for approval
3. Convenors Report (including financial report)
4. Committee Members Reports
5. Auditor's Report
6. Election of Committee

In accordance with the Constitution:-

- * The term of appointments of G Goland and M Lardelli expire. Both offer themselves for re election. R Couch, J Tons, and J Coulter continue in office until next year.
- * Nominations for vacancies on the Committee (President, Secretary, Treasurer, plus 5 committee members) signed and seconded by 2 current members, need be received by the Convenor (Box 134, Brighton SA 5048) by 6th September, 2013).

7. Appointment of Auditor
8. Setting of Subscriptions
9. Endorsement of candidates for SA election in March 2014 (Any persons seeking endorsement need to advise the Convenor by 6th October).
10. Close

Tea and coffee

Please note – all members of the party are welcome to attend. However, in accordance with the Constitution, only Ordinary Members who are financial are entitled to vote. Unfinancial members will be given the opportunity before the meeting to bring their subscriptions up to date.

Billboard

In the last Newsletter, we requested donations to erect a billboard to publicise our party. As the money raised was insufficient to fund a billboard of the required size, we used the funds to purchase 75 corflutes (plastic signs) with the following design.█



We erected these around the Adelaide metro area and the Adelaide Hills to coincide with the Federal election campaign in order to gain some publicity for our party. We have (so far) 6 new members from those that have seen these.

Thank you to those who donated towards this project, and to those members who erected them.

Call for Candidates

We hereby issue another call for persons to indicate their interest in contesting the next SA election in March 2014 as endorsed SPGN candidates for both the House of Assembly, and the Legislative Council.

It is important to note that the Management Committee firmly believes selection of candidates must be done by a general meeting of members, not by the Management Committee. Such selection is planned to be done at the Annual General Meeting, which will be held on the 13th October. **In the meantime , intending candidates are invited to express their interest by contacting the Convenor by 6th October,2013.**

The role of the Management Committee will be to advise intending candidates of the type of information members are likely to require in order to make their choices, to ensure that each intending candidate is afforded a proper opportunity to present their case, and to devise an orderly

process for the selection to take place. Members of the Management Committee reserve the right to comment and vote, as individuals, on particular candidate applications.

Intending candidates need to note that they will need to sign an agreement (this is not particularly onerous) with SPGN before being endorsed. This would need to be completed before the Annual General Meeting. A copy can be supplied to intending candidates on request.

Intending candidates are advised that some limited financial support may be available, and of course, as many of our 300+ members will be mobilised as possible to assist with the campaign.

Finally, please do not be discouraged from nominating because you think you cannot win. I know from many communications with the public, that there is a very big proportion of electors who support what we are trying to achieve. They may not want to join our party, or openly support our cause for fear of alienating someone, but when it comes to the privacy of the ballot box, many of them will give us their vote, especially in view of the widespread disillusionment with the major parties.

Please consider.

SPGN Dinner

On Saturday evening 13th July 2013, a dinner for members and supporters was held at the German Club.

Over dinner and drinks, attendees were briefly addressed by the Convenor and SPGN committee members on progress and plans. A pleasant evening was enjoyed by all.

Letters to the Editor

These letters were written by Committee Member John Tons and Convenor Bob Couch and published by the Advertiser recently.

Do the maths

NICK Xenophon, like so many others, has fallen for the ageing myth.

Bringing in migrants to counteract the imagined problems with ageing only makes the problem worse not better.

In the 1950s and 1960s we were facing a severe labour shortage and so migration was a solution.

The situation we face today is radically different - we have 20 per cent of youth unemployment.

This basically means that the real problem demographic is the youth as they stay longer and longer on the taxpayers teat.

We also need to recognise that at 65 people do not magically lose all their skills and talents.

We are moving into a knowledge economy where people can work for much longer. Providing incentives to employ older workers and for workers to stay in the workforce is a better solution.

SA's population is currently growing at a rate of 1.2 per cent a year. So in the last 12 months our population increased by about 20,000.

Nothing to worry about. That is until you start doing some basic arithmetic.

Each new resident requires an infrastructure expenditure of \$200,000 to cover the costs needed to support that person. So government has to find billions of dollars to cover those costs.

How did they do this when money is tight?

The solution is simple – you simply require that essential services such as education, police and health have to cater for more people without a significant increase in their budgets.

Also, you transfer money that has been set aside for the maintenance of services like gas, water and electricity to spend it on providing services to the new developments.

Next you authorise the privatised utilities to increase their fees to cover some of the additional costs required.

Finally you just simply do not spend the money required on items like roads – people will just have to put up with more traffic congestion.

Put simply, the government's policy of promoting population increase is paid for by reducing the quality of life for all South Australians; population growth is making most of us poorer.

It does benefit a few developers but is it really the job of government policy to make property developers richer?

JOHN TÖNS, Lenswood.

Desperate

It is perhaps an indication of how desperate the SA Labour Party has become that the Deputy Premier, Mr Rau, finds it necessary to insult Adelaide citizens such as myself.

I refer to his assertion (Advertiser 4th July) that advocates of stopping population growth in South Australia are "obsessives".

Well permit me to remind Mr Rau of a few facts.

If resisting further population growth because we are concerned about good farmland (at Mount Barker and elsewhere) being destroyed by spreading suburbia, then we are obsessive (there are many scientists around the world concerned about the security of future food supplies) .

If supporting zero population growth because we are concerned about the future of our fisheries, which are quickly becoming depleted because there are too many people chasing too few fish, we are obsessive. (Ask why it has become necessary to create more marine reserves).

If our concern for present residents whose houses are to be overshadowed by high rise buildings required to cram more people into Adelaide is deemed obsessive, we are guilty as charged.

If recognising that further population growth in SA is making each existing resident poorer, then we are obsessive (it costs about \$200,000 in infrastructure (roads, hospitals, schools etc) to provide for each new citizen - money that governments do not currently have) .

If being concerned that inflows of people make it harder for existing South Australians to get a job, we are obsessive (for each of the last 4 months, the already bad unemployment rate has gone up).

If worrying about existing residents - young people in particular, having to compete with immigrants to purchase or rent housing, yes, we are obsessive (ask young people trying to break into the housing market whether they agree with this).

If being concerned about our jammed roads being made worse day by day, yes, we are obsessive (travelled on almost any main road in peak hour lately, Mr Rau?).

If we are described as obsessive because we wonder why we have to accept water restrictions, and paying for an outrageously expensive desalinisation plant, because the available water has to be spread among more people, yep, guilty again.

The fact is that Deputy Premier Rau and his fellow travellers are so fixated on to the view that we must grow our population in order to prosper, that they are blind to the undisputable fact that we cannot grow forever, and every day they refuse to face this reality, makes the problem worse. One only has to look at Denmark (a prosperous, peaceful country with negligible population growth) to understand what has to be done.

I challenge Mr Rau to a public debate on this issue. Unlike Mr Rau, I will not find it necessary to use insults to advance my arguments.

Bob Couch
 Convenor
 Stop Population Growth Now Party of Australia

Australian Stable Population Party(ASPP)

Members will recall mentions of this Party in past Newsletters.

Briefly, ASPP was founded in NSW about the same time SPGN was started in SA.

It has essentially the same aims as SPGN. We have held meetings with their officials on 2 occasions with a view to some form of cooperation/amalgamation. However, for one reason or another these meetings were not conclusive.

The upshot is that ASPP is contesting the coming Federal election (including the Senate in SA), while SPGN is contesting the next SA election in March next year. Our efforts are therefore nicely complementary.

Your committee recommends that you support their candidates (Greg Oates and Madeleine Wearne) in the Senate in SA on 7th September.

Regards to all

Bob Couch, Convenor (on behalf of the Management Committee)