

1996 ANNUAL CONFERENCE EDITION





HONOUR ROLL.



HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Paul Everingham Aileen Kilgariff Mina Sitzler Kath Wyatt

Noel Buntine (deceased) Cherry Perron

Denise Everingham Len Kittle Cheryl Walker Peter Sitzler (deceased) Patty Buntine

Roger Vale

Harry Giese Phylis Kittle Hermann Weber Lorraine Sitzler John Hare

Nancy Giese Charlotte Mohring Ruth Weber Charlie Taylor Gary Nairn

Bernie Kilgariff Paul Sitzler Barry Wyatt Baldey Morris Marshall Perron

FINANCIAL LIFE MEMBERS

Nathanael Christopher Zlotkowski Paul Nowell David Webb Wendy Stone Shane Builder Ian Weber Herman Lim Sharon Vlamos Smallis Grice John Reed Anne Coulter Barry Webb Marralyn Lam Julie Heenan Brendan Robertson Ross Kennedy Edmund Grice Philip King Kevin Dyer Val Dick Gregory Chisholm Janet Cavanagh Greg

Nathanael Pam Zlotkowski Sue Nowell Guilaiana Casev Geoff Stone Josie Barker Francois Weber Ruth Coombe Peter Vlamos Nomiko Grice Jan Severin Peter Galton Helen Townsend Henry Poole Eric Freyling Keran Standing Barry Rowland Graeme Grice Trisha Leigh Terence Kennedy Bob Lines Maxwell Bayly David Lyons Margaret Paroulakis Harley Finch Fred & Lyn Diano Dino Reid Jeff & Florence Casey Terry Burlinson Kingsley Nelson Alex Thomas Wayne Tuzewski Nicolakis John Cavanagh Suzanne Sticca Pap Iliou Savas Griffiths Dick Markham Tony Hanzel Michael Anthony Michael Stephenson Ray Grice Glenda Calder Sam Poole Libby Lines Jacqueline Bayly Penny Rau Peter Paroulakis Phynea

Ostermeyer Berndt Diano Diane Browse Barry Fitzgerald Colin Gomatos Lillian Sutton, Jeff Thomas Margaret Tuzewski David Perron Marshall Thomson Tim Maschke Harry Forster Norm Lumsden Ian Platt Les Hanzel Vicki Holding Simon Blake Jeffery Houdek Siggy McKerrow Shirley Harris Peter Hoffman Annette Holt Donald Tambling Grant John Mousellis

Brenton Jeffery Rousos Michael Webb Tom Fitzgerald Deborah Jordan Mary Sutton Kay Lim Richard Anictomatis John Perron Cherry Reed Mike Waudby Bill McBean Ian Lam Frank Keeler David Nairn Gary Ryall Tony Fogarty Lloyd Houdek Doris Dyer John Glynn Paul Chisholm Roy McCarthy Terry Heenan Beverley Tambling Sandra

PAST EXECUTIVE ELECTED 1974

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Hughes Yvonne

Elected 13/10/75

President Vice President General Secretary Treasurer

Elected 7/5/76

President Vice Presidents General Secretary Treasurer

Eric Manuell Alf Hooper Rex Jettner Michael Doyle

Alf Hooper

Len Kittle

Rex Jettner

Eric Manuell R. Dickinson & Reg Harris Rex Jettner Graeme Lewis **Elected 27/5/77**

President Vice Presidents General Secretary Treasurer

Elected 20/5/78

President Vice Presidents General Secretary Treasurer

Elected 3/6/79

President Vice Presidents General Secretary Treasurer

Rex Jettner Mery Elliot & P. Tiffin Anne Amos Graeme Lewis

Rex Jettner Merv Elliot & Reg Harris Anne Amos

Graeme Lewis

Barry Wyatt Merv Elliot & Anne Amos Graeme Lewis

Tony Ryall



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President Barry Wyatt
Vice Presidents Hermann Weber & Anne Amos
General Secretary Kath Neilson
Treasurer Graeme Lewis

Elected 21.6.81

President Barry Wyatt
Vice Presidents Hermann Weber & Graeme Lewis
General Secretary Kath Neilson
Treasurer Grant Heaslip

Elected 14.2.82

President Graeme Lewis
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General Secretary Liz Andrews (Deceased)
Treasurer Grant Heaslip

Elected 5.6.83

President Graeme Lewis
Vice Presidents Hermann Weber & Bob Oaten
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Treasurer Steve Hatton

Elected 19.8.84

President Graeme Lewis
Vice Presidents Hermann Weber & Rick Setter
General Secretary Barry Wyatt
Treasurer Christopher Nathanael

Elected 10.8.85

President Graeme Lewis
Vice Presidents Hermann Weber & Bill Forwood
General Secretary Barry Wyatt
Treasurer Christopher Nathanael

Elected 10.8.86

President Graeme Lewis
Acting President 8.12.1986 Shane Stone
Vice Presidents Shane Stone & Bill Forwood
General Secretary Barry Wyatt
Treasurer Christopher Nathanael

Elected 31.1.87

President Grant Heaslip
Vice Presidents Shane Stone & Christopher Nathanael
General Secretary John Hare
Treasurer Bill Forwood
Treasurer 7.11.1987 Bob Brough

Elected 15.5.88

President Shane Stone
Acting President 4.6.1988 Shane Stone
Vice President Richard Lim
Vice President 6.8.1988 Charlie Taylor
General Secretary John Hare
Treasurer Bob Brough

Elected 19.8.89

President Shane Stone
Vice Presidents Richard Lim & Helen Galton
General Secretary Charlie Taylor
Treasurer Bob Brough

Elected 11.8.90

President Gary Nairn
Vice Presidents Richard Lim & Charlie Taylor
General Secretary Suzanne Cavanagh
Treasurer Des O'Toole

Elected 31.8.91

President Gary Nairn
Vice Presidents John Hare & Bob Kennedy
General Secretary Suzanne Cavanagh
Treasurer Andrew Macrides

Elected 28.8.92

President Gary Nairn
Vice Presidents John Hare & Richard Lim
Vice President 1.5.1993 Chris Lugg
General Secretary Suzanne Cavanagh
Treasurer Andrew Macrides

Elected 7.8.93

President Gary Nairn
Vice Presidents Richard Lim & Chris Lugg
General Secretary Suzanne Cavanagh
Treasurer Andrew Macrides

Elected 20.8.94

President Suzanne Cavanagh
Vice Presidents Chris Lugg & Linda Fazldeen
General Secretary Charlie Taylor
Treasurer Andrew Macrides

Elected 26.8.95

President Suzanne Cavanagh
Vice Presidents Linda Fazldeen & Kevin Eastburn
General Secretary Charlie Taylor
Treasurer Andrew Macrides

HONOR ROLE (continued).



Member Of The Year. Commenced 1988 Paul Everingham Perpetual Trophy

1988 David Keeler Alice Springs Branch

1989 Christine Afianos Tennant Creek Branch

1990 Alex Nelson Greatorex Branch

1991 John Hare Sanderson Branch

1992 Sherry Meakin Sanderson Branch

1993 Not Awarded

1994 Not Awarded

1995 David Sanderson Nelson Branch

Branch Of The Year. Commenced 1988 Paul Everingham Perpetual Trophy

1988 Casuarina/Marrara Peter Trenchard Branch Chairman

1989 Darwin John McCormack Branch Chairman

1990 YCLP Annette Eccles Branch Chairman

1991 Sanderson Glenda Stripling Branch Chairman

1992 Katherine David Goodward Branch Chairman

1993 Alice Springs Erhard Lee Branch Chairman

1994 Nightcliff/Millner Graham Lucas Chairman

1995 Victoria River Kevin Eastburn Chairman

Special Certificates Of Merit. Commenced 1988

Awarded 1988

Sharon Lim Alice Springs Branch Helen English Alice Springs Branch Hon. Leo Connellan National Party Of Nsw Chris Nathanael Koolpinyah Branch

Awarded 1989

John Valder CBE Liberal Party Of Australia Fred Canaris Darwin Branch John Hare Sanderson Branch

David Collins Vanderlin Branch

Paul Davey National Party

Awarded 1990

Elizabeth Eustance Darwin Branch Glenda Stripling Sanderson Branch Charlie Taylor Brennan Palmerston Branch Shirley Mckerrow National Party Australia Michael Matthewson YCLP Paula Matthewson YCLP

Awarded 1991

Jack & Joan Thomas Nelson Branch
Vic Feldman Sanderson Branch
Richard Lim Alice Springs Branch
Frank Lam Darwin Branch
Chris Lugg Brennan/Palmerston Branch
Stuart McDonald National Party

Awarded 1992

The Right Hon Ian Sinclair Robyn & Des Otoole Darwin Branch David Goodward Katherine Branch Georgie Nutton Vanderlin Branch

Awarded 1993

Graham Schmidt YCLP Alice Springs Erhard Lee Alice Springs Herman Weber Alice Springs Peter Harris Jabiru

Awarded 1994

Alex Wood Katherine Branch
Anne Reed Katherine Branch
Bonnie Stephens Katherine Branch
Joe Davis Brennan/Palm
Wendy James Darwin
George Gameson Darwin
Leslie Godwin Darwin
Linda Fazldeen Cas/Mar
Bruce Fryer Sanderson

Awarded 1995

Gary Mills Darwin Branch
Dorothy Green Darwin Branch
Grace Sivell Araluen Branch

Don Dale Memorial Trophy For Public Speaking. Commenced 1990

1990 John Mccormack Darwin Branch 1991 Chris Lugg Brennan/Palmerston Branch 1992 Not Awarded 1993 Amanda Gadsby YCLP Alice Springs 1994 Not Awarded 1995 Not Awarded

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS.





Suzanne Cavanagh, President.

Suzanne Cavanagh is married to Bob and they have four children: Mark, Danielle, Samantha and Benjamin. She has lived in the Territory since early childhood, spending the early years in Tennant Creek, followed by boarding school in Queensland and all her adult life in Darwin. Suzanne joined the Party in 1977 and has been an active member ever since, holding the positions of Branch Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer. She was elected General Secretary of the Party in 1990 and held that position for four years. In 1994 she was the

first woman to be elected President of the Country Liberal Party. Suzanne is currently employed as Development Officer at St. John's College, Darwin.



Linda Fazldeen, Vice President.

Since joining the Party six years ago, Linda has held the position of Branch Chairman of Casuarina/Marrara Branch from 1991 to 1994; is currently an Executive Member of the Branch; has served on Management Committee from 1992 to present; held the office of Vice President of the Party since 1994 and is a member of the Country Liberal Women's Standing Committee. Living in the Northern Territory for seventeen years, she is an enthusiastic champion of Constitutional Development for the Territory.



Kevin Eastburn, Vice President.

Kevin Eastburn is a 55 year old Bee Farmer—born to a farming family at Boradine NSW. He has been married to Rosemary for 34 years and they have three grown up children, Murray, Wade and Dale. Kevin joined the CLP in 1991 and has been a Central Council Delegate for much of that time. Kevin was the Chairman of Victoria River Branch in 1995.



Charlie Taylor, General Secretary.

Charlie Taylor has been in the Northern Territory for 35 years and spent 33 years as a police officer living in most areas of the Territory before retiring in 1994. He was a foundation member of Sanderson Branch and has held positions on the Executives of the Sanderson, Katherine and Berrimah/Palmerston Branches since 1983. Charlie was Chairman of the Berrimah/Palmerston Branch from 1987 to 1989, a Vice President of the Party-during 1988 and 1990 and the General Secretary in 1989. He is an Honorary Life Member of the Party

and is currently the General Secretary.



Andrew Macrides, Treasurer.

Andrew Macrides, Dip Bus (Mgt) B Bus (Acc), MBA, ASA, AAIM, CMHRM Andrew Macrides is a 36 year old NT public sector employee who is married to Christine. They now have three delightful daughters, Sarah, Lauren and Katie. Born and educated in Darwin, Andrew has been a member of the Country Liberal Party since 1983. He is a former Chairman of the Nightcliff/Millner Branch and has also served as both Chairman and Treasurer of the Darwin Young Country Liberal Party. He is currently in his fourth term as Party Treasurer.



Steve Balch.

Steve, who has lived in the Territory since 1967, has been married to wife Gwyn for 23 years and has 3 sons. The family lives in the Darwin suburb of Nakara. Steve joined the Casuarina/Marrara branch of the CLP in 1983 and in 1994 was preselected to run for the seat of Wanguri to contest the last NT General Election. In 1995 he was elected as Chairman of the Sanderson Branch, a position he still holds. Steve has also been an active Central Council and Annual Conference delegate and in 1995 was elected to Management

Committee. Among his leisure interests Steve lists his family, the garden, scuba diving and he is also an avid sports fan. Steve is currently Chief Executive of The Territory Lottery Company.



Harvey Fewings.

Has been a member of the Northern Territory Country Liberal Party since 1983. Firstly the North Darwin Branch, now the Nightcliff/Millner Branch, for much of that time being an active member of Central Council and the Branch Executive. An Army Officer for most of working life, now a project manager for business development in remote communities throughout the Top End. Has three children, now grown up, two graduated from Northern Territory University in Law and Economics and the third is studying Law and Business

at the same university. Likes vigorous debate, Strauss waltzes, cricket, Collingwood, bush barbeques and books about the sea. Dislikes fish soup, political correctness, and only very recently, Julian McGauran.



Brendan Heenan.

Brendan is 56 years old, born in Alice Springs, is married to Beverley and they have 6 grown up children all employed in Alice Springs. Educated in Alice Springs then barding school in Adelaide, then to Melbourne with the Burnley Horticultural College. Market gardening in Alice Springs for 18 years. Started a nursery and landscaping business, and in 1984 opened the MacDonnell Range Holiday Park in Alice Springs. Joined the Greatorex Branch in 1990 and is a financial life member. Stood for the seat of MacDonnell in 1990, became

Greatorex Chairman in 1995. Re-elected in 1996.



Fiona Darcy.

Early political interest was evident when Fiona joined the Young Conservatives when a teenager in England. After years of travelling and working in some wild places Fiona settled at Mallapunyah Springs with the Darcy family. Fiona joined the new Gulf Regional Branch of the CLP, later becoming Secretary and Treasurer. Fiona is currently Chairman of the Vanderlin Branch.



Hon Shane L Stone MLA, Chief Minister.

Shane Stone serves on Management Committee in his capacity as Chief Minister of the Northern Territory. Shane also served on Management Committee between 1986–1990 in his capacity as Vice President, then President of the CLP. Originally from Victoria, Shane was a primary school teacher and later a barrister before being elected to the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly in 1990. Shane is married to Josephine and have a son Jack and a daughter Madeleine both born in Darwin.



Hon Mike Reed MLA.

Mike Reed, 51 years of age, is married to Ann and they have three children—Steven, Megan and David. Mike arrived in the Territory in 1975, and spent 12 years in the NT Public Service as a Ranger and Katherine Regional Manager of the Conservation Commission. He won the seat of Katherine by the hair of his chinny chin chin in March 1987, and more recently by an overwhelming majority at the June 1994 election. First appointed to the Ministry in July 1988, he serves on the Management Committee following his appointment as

Deputy Chief Minister in June this year. Mike is currently Treasurer, Minister for Lands Planning and Development and Minister for Mines and Energy.



Sen The Hon Grant Tambling.

Senator the Hon. Grant Tambling, 53, is Parliamentary Secretary for Transport and Regional Development and a member of the Federal Executive Council. These appointments followed the March 1996 Federal Election and add to a political career spanning more than 20 years. Grant Tambling served on the Darwin City Council and was elected to the House of Representatives in 1980. He has been a Senator since 1987 and has held a number of Shadow Ministry positions in opposition. He has served as National Party Whip in the Senate

and Deputy Leader of the National Party in the Senate. Grant has been an active member of Darwin's commercial community with previous interest in life assurance and newsagencies. Married to Sandy, they have an adult son and daughter.



Nick Dondas AM MP.

Nick Dondas, 57 years, is married to Moira and has two children Katrina and Amelia. Nick had been in Territory politics for 20 years where he held various ministerial portfolios. He was the Speaker of the NT Assembly from 1989 until he resigned from Parliament in 1994. He was elected to the Federal Seat for the Northern Territory in March this year. He has been appointed to the Joint Standing Committee on Defence Foreign Affairs and Trade, Joint Standing Committee on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Affairs and the

Statutory Committee on Native Title and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Fund.

CENTRAL COUNCIL DELEGATES.



Party President Mrs Suzanne Cavanagh Vice Presidents Ms Linda Fazldeen Mr Kevin Eastburn Mr Charlie Taylor General Secretary Mr Andrew Macrides Treasurer Chief Minister Mr Shane Stone Mr Mike Reed Deputy Chief Minister Senator for the Northern Territory Sen. Grant Tambling Member of the House of Reps

Mr Nick Dondas Mr Bern Kilgariff Trustees Mr Don Delosa Mr Joe Davis

Special Councillors Mr Hermann Weber Mr Marshall Perron

Mrs Wendy James

Alice Springs Branch Mr John Guy Mr Rod Thomas

Mr Simon Holding Araluen Branch Mr Jack Wolstencroft

Brennan/Palmerston Branch Ms Joy Kuhl Ms Karen Wilson

Ms Toni-Marie Geddes Buchanan District Mr Rod Hollingsworth

Mrs Margaret Vigants

Casuarina/Marrara Branch

Mr Byron Wauchope Mr Wayne Keeping Mr Philip Fraser

Ms Linda Fazldeen (Alt Del)

Coomalie/Goyder Branch

Mr Tim McGuffoq Mrs Jackie Hargreaves Mr Terry McCarthy (Alt Del)

Cox Peninsula Branch Mr Skip Howard (To Be Advised)

Darwin Branch Mrs Shirley McKerrow Ms Rosemary O'Reilly-Martinez

Fannie Bay Branch Mr Michael Kilgariff Mr Frank Lam

Mrs Gwen Davey Gove Peninsula Branch Mr Noel Swan

Greatorex Branch Mr Brendan Heenan

Mrs Norma Leigh

Mr Bill Munro Gulf Regional Branch Mr Neville Andrews Mr Paul Zlotkowski

> Mr Peter Cole (Alt Del) Mr Frank Shadforth (Alt Del)

Jabiru Branch Mr Brett Funnell

Mr Tom Kairupan Mr Peter Harris (Alt Del)

Katherine Branch Mr Wolf Sievers

Mr Ted Morris

Mr Chris Lugg Nelson Branch

Ms Christine Nathanael

Mr Peter Styles Nightcliff/Millner Mr Harvey Fewings

Mrs Heather Galvin

Mr Brian Taylor (Alt Del)

Mr Steve Balch Sanderson Branch

Mr Mick Palmer

Mr Jeff Critchlow Stuart Branch

Mr Tony Bohning Mr Russell Naismith

Tennant Creek Branch Mr Rex Simpson

Mr Mark John

Mr Kym Cook (Alt Del) Mrs Natasha John (Alt Del)

Mrs Fiona Darcy Vanderlin Branch

Mr Siggy Houdek

Mrs Doris Houdek (Alt Del)

Mr Tony Oxford (Alt Del)

Victoria River Branch Mr Alex Wood

Mr Michael Whelan

ANNUAL CONFERENCE DELEGATES.

Alice Springs Branch Mr Tony Markham Mr Russell Lynch

Mr David Bottrall

To Be Advised Araluen Branch

Brennan/Palmerston Branch

Mr Terry Mills Mr Rod Hooper Ms Narelle Mackaway

Mrs Margaret Vigants Buchanan District

Casuarina/Marrara Branch

Mr Allan Whykes Mr Brian Richardson

Coomalie/Goyder Branch

Mr John Lugg Mrs Teresa Lugg

Hon Terry McCarthy (Alt Del) (To Be Advised) Cox Peninsula Branch Darwin Branch Mr Tony Field

Mr Andrew Liveris Mr Gary Mills Fannie Bay Branch

Ms Diana Stout Mr Phil Temple

Mr Noel Scarborough

(To Be Advised) Gove Peninsula Branch Greatorex Branch Mrs Shirley Brookshaw

Mrs Margaret MacCarthy Mrs Sharon Lim

Mrs Maree Miller (Alt Del)

Gulf Regional Branch Mr Les Daw Mr Frank Shadforth

> Mr Peter Cole (Alt Del) Ms Dorothy McKey (Alt Del)

> > Ms Carolyn Wilson

Mr Phillip Barrett (Alt Del)

Jabiru Branch Mrs Joy Miller Mr Joe Qualter

Katherine Branch Mrs Patty Buntine Mr Harry McNaught Nelson Branch

Mr Bob Flanagan Mr Keith Pennell

Nightcliff/Millner Mr Martin Blandy Ms Janice Johnston

Ms Christine Knox

Mrs Eileen Browne Sanderson Branch

Stuart Branch Ms Gayne Cooke (To Be Advised)

Mr Kym Cook Tennant Creek Branch Mr Tony Boulter

Ms Kay Rose (Alt Del)

Mr Glenn Bennett (Alt Del)

Mr Les Opperman Vanderlin Branch Ms Debra Aloisi Victoria River Branch Mr Shaun Coutts

Mr Ronnie Booth

EDITORIAL.

MICHAEL KILGARIFF.

Editor.



hat is it that makes the Country Liberal Party one of the most successful political parties in Australia over the last 20 years?

To find the answer to that question, one must look past the Parliamentary wing, past the Management Committee and Central Council, and look at the membership of the Party.

That is the root of the success of the CLP. The CLP is a Party of Territorians, for Territorians, to serve the interests of Territorians.

The CLP does not represent, nor should it even contemplate representing, the interests of the Liberal and National Parties in the Territory. On the contrary, the CLP and our representatives in Canberra are there to put our views to them.

Without the membership of the CLP providing the grassroots support, feedback and advice to the Party and the Parliamentary Wing, the CLP would have floundered long ago.

Even in times of crisis, the membership has provided the continuity that has enabled the CLP to continue to represent Territorians.

This is why the CLP has the highest per capita membership of any party in Australia. Furthermore, the membership of our Party is probably more reflective of the demographics of the relevant constituency than any other political party.

The attendance, membership and activism of our Branches is something of which the Party can be proud.

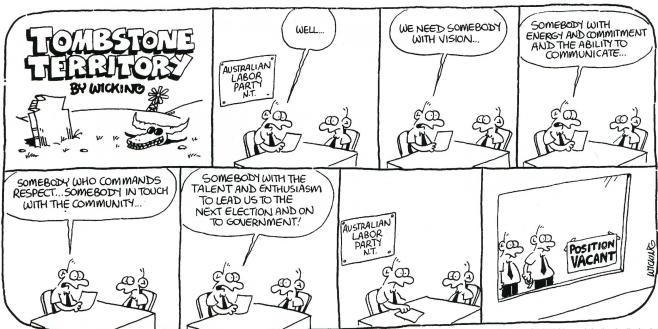
The history of the Party is bedded deep in the conviction that the Territory should have a political party that owes its allegiance to the Territory and Territorians.

The CLP also has a long tradition of pragmatism which recognises that a political party must continue to win to implement its policies. The ideological battles that our opponents indulge in has never been a feature of the CLP.

The robust debate one finds on the floor of Council and Conference is not seated in long term resentments and ongoing ideological battles, but rather emerges from questions about how benefits might be delivered to Territorians in the context of our broad policy direction.

The ongoing strength of the CLP is the loyalty that members of the CLP give to our Party and their commitment to the Territory.

The success of this magazine is also a clear illustration of the commitment of Territorians to the CLP. The advertisers have been prepared to put their name to it and you can return that commitment by supporting them.



EXCITING TIMES AHEAD.

HON. DARYL MANZIE MLA.

Minister for Mines and Energy. Minister for Power and Water.

Minister for Arts and Museums. Minister for Territory Insurance.

his is certainly an exciting time to be assuming Ministerial responsibility for Mines and Energy; there is every indication that the Northern Territory is on the brink of a new "boom" in mineral exploration and production.

The prospects for the NT's oil and gas sector, in particular, are growing almost daily. In fact, seven major discoveries in the Timor Sea recently, have confirmed what has been suspected for a long time—that we have a major offshore petroleum province to our north.

It is a sign of industry confidence in the Territory that a number of major Australian producers look set to invest about \$2 billion in the development of new offshore production fields in the Timor Sea over the next five years.

A further \$1 billion is being invested by these and other companies on further exploration and appraisal in the area.

Onshore, the Territory Government has invested in a dynamic marketing campaign to attract new industry exploration to the NT.

Already we have had encouraging responses from international companies interested in prospective inland areas such as Central Australia.

Increased exploration and production will generate significant development opportunities in the Territory's regional centres.

I am pleased to have also taken on the complementary role of Minister for Power and Water.

In this capacity, I intend to support the Power and Water Authority's commitment to establishing a reliable long-term supply of natural gas for electricity production in our regional centres.

We are fortunate in the Territory to live in a region which is universally acknowledged as being resource rich.

It is clear that mineral exploration and production will continue to play a significant role in the future development of the Territory: we are already attracting worldwide interest.

In 1995, international attention to the Territory's potential was buoyed by the discovery of a gas field to our north which is believed to be the largest gas discovery in the world that year.

In fact, the gas field is quite possibly one of the largest ever in Australia and stands to rival the best of the famous Bass Strait discoveries of the '60s and '70s.



This one gas field alone has an estimated total reserve equivalent to 1.79 billion barrels of oil. At today's prices it could be worth up to \$45 billion.

Developments like this will bring to Territorians a multitude of benefits and opportunities.

For example, one of the range of options being considered for the huge Timor Sea gas discovery includes an onshore Liquefied Natural Gas plant or a pipeline to Darwin.

Increasing numbers of Territory companies are taking advantage of the growing demand for supplies and services which are generated by exploration and production activity.

The Territory Government is working collaboratively with industry with the aim of ensuring environmentally sound development and to maximise the opportunities for economic benefits flowing to Territorians.

The Territory Government has developed strategies to actively support local business participation and promote local content.

Mining activity is very much a part of our legacy here in the Territory.

Territory history provides us with many colourful accounts of the courage and resourcefulness of our early miners and fossickers who rose to the challenge of the elements and the isolation.

In my capacity as Minister for the Arts and Museums, I have the dual role of preserving our rich historical and cultural heritage, as well as fostering and showcasing Territory talent.

It will also be my Ministerial duty to oversee the continuing success of another valuable Territory institution—the Territory Insurance Office.

The future looks bright for the Territory and I look forward to meeting the challenges of my new departmental areas in a bid to further the prospects of all Territorians.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CLP.

TIM BALDWIN, MLA.

Member for Victoria River.



t the time of writing this column, the Northern Territory Country Liberal Government has just passed the half-way point in its present term of office.

During that period of two years, I have had the good fortune to participate in three election campaigns and maybe a fourth (Stuart by-election) by the time you read this article.

All of these campaigns, including my own in 1994 were, for my part, conducted in the more remote rural areas of the Northern Territory. The Arnhem by-election and the Federal election offered further opportunities to test strategies and develop ideas that can be used to enhance the CLP vote in the bush.

I have always been of the view that Aboriginal people are historically conservative voters in a general sense and as Aboriginal Territorians take more and more control of their assets they tend to favour conservative, stable policies.

Unfortunately, this view has not reflected in voting patterns within communities around the Territory, but thats not to say that it cannot be changed.

The challenge for the Country Liberal Party is to develop

strategies that, over the long term, will lead to more votes in the bush. By building on our more recent successes and I'm sure that by the time this edition of Focus is printed, the Seat of Stuart will have Tony Bohning as its Member, the CLP can claim to be as much representative of the bush as it is of the suburbs.

Successes in the bush for the Country Liberal Party in the last two years would have to include the Arnhem by-election where we managed to pull back almost 20% of the primary vote in one of the safest Labor seats in Australia.

As well, the CLP has faired reasonably in the mobile polls during Nick Dondas' and Grant Tambling's Federal campaign. Not any better than in the past, mind you, but held its own.

I'm happy to say that my own seat of Victoria River returned a very good result from its three mobile booths. While a reasonable average from mobiles across the Territory is around the 30% mark for the CLP, the average in Victoria River was 48.8%.

An opportunity to build on these figures now exists that hasn't been available to the Northern Territory Country Liberal Party for the last 13 years. We must take advantage of opportunities presented by a federal Coalition Government to provide an alternative view to people in the bush and in doing so, strengthen our vote.

Our Federal Members, Nick and Grant, along with our MLA's and our dedicated Party members, can capitalise on the window of opportunity that exists now to secure jurisdictions that have long been seen as "organised" Labor domains.

In respect to Nick's seat (the most marginal in Australia) headway made in the bush by the CLP will ensure his successful continuation, as it will Grant, but at the local level the CLP will benefit by winning and holding some of the more marginal and volatile bush electorates. Including my own, the Victoria River Electorate.



Shaun Coutes, Mike Reed and Tim Baldwin man the CLP booth in Katherine.

VOTING IN THE NT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FOCUS

THE HON TERRY McCARTHY, MLA.

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory.

rior to the consideration of the Rights of the Terminally Ill Bill 1995 by the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory, which involved the free or 'conscience' vote, there was some speculation on the possibility of an equality of votes being recorded in a Division during the consideration of the Bill.

The role of Presiding Officers of the Northern Territory Parliament, in the event of there being an equality of votes, became a matter of consideration, generating public interest and comment.

Research into practice and precedent both in the Legislative Assembly and other parliaments indicated that the according of a deliberative and casting vote to both the Speaker and the Chairman of Committees in the Northern Territory parliament appeared to be inconsistent with the rules in place either by way of constitutional provision or standing orders in most other Westminster type legislatures.

Since 1 July 1978, there has been no occasion where an equality of votes has been recorded in the Legislative Assembly. Further, there is no recorded incidence of an equality of votes being recorded in the Legislative Assembly before the enactment of self-government legislation and similarly, during the existence of the Legislative Council between 1948 and 1974.

While the present provision of a deliberative and casting vote for the Speaker of the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly is provided by the Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978 of the Commonwealth, the provision of deliberative and casting votes has been provided for since the first partially-elected Legislative Council of the Northern Territory was established in 1947.

The Northern Territory parliament is yet to record any instance of the requirement for the giving of a casting vote by either the Speaker or the Chairman of Committees.

The debates in the Commonwealth Parliament at the time of the passage of both the Northern Territory (Administration) Amendment Bill in 1947 and the Northern Territory (Self-Government) Bill in 1978, do not provide any indication of the reason for the provision of both deliberative and casting votes.

Some suggestions have been made that it may have been a general rule of local government authorities and other Territories that the Presiding Officer had a deliberative and casting vote and that at the time of the establishment of the Legislative Council this was considered to be an appropriate voting mechanism.

Another suggestion is that, because at that time, the Administrator of the Territory was the ex officio Presiding Officer, the according of a deliberative and casting vote would ensure that, in the event of a 'tied' vote, the 'government' of the day would have its decisions prevail.

A further suggestion is that at the time of the Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act being enacted in 1978 the Assembly had only 19 members and it may have been considered that each member should have a deliberative vote so as not to 'disenfranchise a significant portion of the electorate'. The casting vote facility was also required to resolve deadlocks.

This is a matter under active consideration by the Sessional Committee on Constitutional Development as it proceeds to draft a constitution. One option might be for the provision of an optional deliberative vote or a casting vote, ie., if a deliberative vote is used and the Division results in an equality of votes, the question is resolved in the negative and, if the optional deliberative vote is not used and the Division results in an equality of votes, a casting vote by the Chair is mandatory so as to resolve the matter.

This option addresses the representational issue in a small Parliament such as the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly and also provides a mechanism for the resolution of deadlocks.



THE COUNTRY LIBERAL PARTY, YOUR TERRITORY TEAM.

A Declaration of Our Beliefs . . .

The Country Liberal Party is a Territory Party dedicated to the advancement of the Northern Territory. It represents Territorians who, while believing in putting the Territory first, recognise their wider responsibilities to Australia as a Nation.

The Country Liberal Party is a progressive party and works for social and economic, as well as political progress, whilst seeking to protect traditional conservative values and principles.

The Country Liberal Party believes the best way of achieving its goal is through the advancement of the Liberal values of individualism and reward for effort and productivity combined with social justice and compassion.

The Country Liberal Party believes in the inalienable right of freedom for all under the rule of law; in equality before the law; and equal access to the protection of the law.

The basis of Country Liberal Party philosophy is the recognition of the freedom, rights and responsibilities of the individual in an open society.

The Country Liberal Party believes in a just and fair society which encourages the innovative, protects the disadvantaged and accepts diversity of race and lifestyle. It is committed to the furtherance and maintenance of a harmonious, multi-cultural society.

Country Liberal Party philosophy is based on economic growth, with the emphasis on private enterprise as the central role.

The Country Liberal Party is committed to the development of the Northern Territory wealth producing industries for the social, economic and political benefit of all its citizens.

The Country Liberal Party believes in the promotion of institutions and frameworks that encourage, rather than frustrate, individual energies. It believes in effective and efficient government.

The Country Liberal Party supports the Federal system of government and the encouragement of cordial Commonwealth/Territory relations in the Territory's move towards Statehood.

The Country Liberal Party believes that these goals and ideas can only be achieved by an approach to Government which takes equal account of all Territorians, irrespective of their status within the community.