

Speech

Dickson Candidates forum

Samford and Districts Progress and Protection Association Inc.

Farmers' Hall, Main Street Samford

Thursday 16 June

My name is Thor and I'm the Independent Candidate for Dickson.

I believe that an elected representative should represent what the majority in the electorate want. Not what they want, not what a party wants. And especially NOT what the party donors want.

The voters of Dickson have been saying to me they don't like the behaviour of their representatives in parliament, with the name calling, the personal abuse and taking any opportunity to tear the opposition down even when they privately agree with them.

They tell me they want all members of parliament to work together for the common good of all Australians. And I have to agree with them.

You can't run a family or a business on this adversarial, tear the other person down model. So I say it is delusional to think that we can successfully run our country this way!

The adversarial two party system is NOT delivering what the Australian people want.

More than 50 years ago Arthur Chresby, the Federal Member for Griffith and a Constitutional Law Research Analyst said in his publication 'Your Will Be Done':

"If you will but pause to think deeply and seriously you will find that a political party, despite its propaganda, constitutions, fine words and phrases, eventually becomes an organisation in the form of a pyramid with final power in the apex of that pyramid. The mass at the base being subject to manipulation by those in the apex, or by those who control the apex from outside of the party organisation.

It is not an unreasonable contention that those who finally win through to the apex of the pyramid, both organisational and parliamentary, have to become manipulators of their fellows if they wish to hold their place of power at the top.

A political party, by the very nature of its pyramidal structure, is not, and cannot be, a democratic organisation, and the many years of party politics in Australia since Federation, proves that it is not democratic, despite beautifully worded constitutions, platforms, policies, and philosophies.

It is legally unchallengeable that the party system exists and operates ONLY because the Australian people have been deliberately misled into believing that, other than by a dictatorship, there is no other way that Parliament could function effectively and efficiently; that despite its many faults the party system is the only effective and efficient democratic way of governing the country. This is Constitutionally and legally false.

The sole role of a political party, like any other lawful organisation, is simply to recommend to the electors that "so and so" should be a good parliamentary representative and would faithfully carry out the judicially defined legal function and duty of a parliamentarian. Should the electors accept the party's recommendation and elect that person then the party has no further legal vested interest in that elected person.

Once the Australian people are given the opportunity to learn and grasp that their Commonwealth and State Constitutions, and judicial Interpretations thereof, provide the people with a practical legal alternative to the party system to democratically operate Australian Parliaments then, save those with a vested interest in the party system and its manipulation, the electors will cease to use the party system."

This was said 50 years ago yet we still haven't rid ourselves of the corrupting influence of political parties. I ask "Why is this so"?

Well firstly because it is devilishly difficult to determine what the majority in the electorate want. The political parties know this and at every turn use this to argue that it can't be done and that they are the only game in town. And secondly all attempts to do this have not seriously included the people on the ground in the electorate.

So why do I think I can make it work when others haven't?

Well my day job is to analyse complex systems to find their defects and short comings and then identify what needs to be done to fix or improve them. I've done this to our democracy and as a result I've developed VoteWrap to fix or improve our system of representation.

The core functionality of VoteWrap is almost complete. It is scalable from your local community all the way up to global issues with billions of people involved. My key technical collaborator on VoteWrap is Russ Blake who is the inventor of Microsoft's Windows NT Performance Monitor software and has his name on four other Microsoft patents. He says this about VoteWrap:

"Few could have anticipated the sweeping social changes that have been wrought by the Internet. As a computer scientist working in the computer industry since before the invention of the Internet, I have seen its evolution first hand.

The Internet started as a means to accelerate academic collaboration. It grew to become a method for inter-personal and intra-group collaboration. The next great step was the evolution of social networking, which enables friends and associates to collaborate.

Notice that in each case certain internet applications enable the advance. The first enabler was email, then came content management systems. The next advance was social networking sites.

The final step in the evolution of the Internet is the ability for whole communities to collaborate. This is what the VoteWrap application enables. VoteWrap provides the structure needed for communities of any size to determine the direction that should be taken on any issue. With VoteWrap we finally have a path to real democracy.

So by combining VoteWrap, with local community networks and what I'm calling Policy Party Nights I say that I have found the path to a workable direct representative democracy.

In Dickson on the 2nd of July when you step into the polling booth your choice has never been so stark or so clear.

If you Vote 1 for an ALNP/Green or other Party Puppet you will only be represented in the Australian House of Representatives when the parties and their donors interests align with yours.

But if you choose to Vote 1 Thor for Dickson you get a 100% guarantee that your voice will be heard and that I will vote in parliament as the majority in Dickson direct me to.

And lastly I promise that if there is a hung parliament then I will not side with either of the major parties until I have a clear indication what the majority of Dickson voters want me to do.

Thank you ladies and gentlemen.