

# The Chronicle

**HD** letters continued

**WC** 1,588 words

**PD** 26 May 2014

**SN** The Chronicle (Toowoomba)

**SC** APNCHR

**ED** Main

**PG** 11

**LA** English

**CY** Copyright 2014 APN Newspapers Pty Ltd. All Rights Reserved

**LP**

letters continued

Development

**TD**

Airport bonanza

WHAT a remarkable couple of years this has been for Toowoomba.

I think it started out with the reconstruction of the down section of the Toowoomba Range Rd after three quarters of a century and the extensive repairs to the Warrego Hwy. Then the announcement of the Wellcamp Airport was followed by the construction of the CBD ring road. Finally the last federal budget settled once and for all the Toowoomba Range Bypass and it appears that some money has been put aside to begin preparations for the long-awaited Melbourne to Brisbane rail which will also service Toowoomba.

The stage has been set for giving Toowoomba unprecedented impetus to become Australia's boom town. Indeed, the Wellcamp Airport will be a great service to enable people to fly to many destinations but it is the freight department that has even more potential. The foundations, easy access pavement and minimum preparations mean that this airport will have been completed at a real cost far less than most other airports in the world – so it will be able to offer very attractive landing fees. There are very few houses within a five-kilometre radius of Wellcamp and 24-hour operation is a distinct probability; a facility that will be the envy of any other airport in Australia.

This combined with the ease of aircraft achieving their desired bearing to fly to **China** will result in air companies being able to offer low freight rates to that huge market. They will be able to transport unlimited quantities of meat, **milk**, vegetables, fruit, flowers and other items we have forgotten. What has never been stated is that gluts of production of vegetables in the Lockyer could easily be a thing of the past as farmers will have access to a huge expanding market in **China** and, indeed, other Asian countries. As the farmers can access further water from Wivenhoe Dam, it is possible that they may find large expansion of vegetable production very profitable. We must not forget that our fruit growers up Stanthorpe way could easily find the Asian market. Undoubtedly this will make Toowoomba a very attractive tourist destination to see and also to taste our many undeveloped attractions.

Another item easily forgotten is that all these aircraft exports make it possible for aircraft companies to offer extremely attractive rates as back-loading for imports of high value electronic items from **China** and this will mean construction and operation of large warehouses to hold and distribute these goods.

The construction of the bypass will mean that access to the airport will be made very much easier for residents of Ipswich, western Brisbane and the Lockyer Valley. The eventual operation of the railway from Melbourne to Brisbane will also benefit the airport in passengers and freight. But all this simply means that there will have to be an extreme increase in numbers of workers required. It is probable that, as a result, Toowoomba's population will double in the next 15 or 20 years and again double within the next 50 years. The era when Toowoomba was a city small in comparison with coastal cities will soon be gone forever.

PETER AND BETTY SHERIDAN, Toowoomba

Politics

Leaders benefit

WHEN will politicians, especially prime ministers and Cabinet ministers be made accountable for poor management?

Australian **company** law ensures that directors and managers are accountable to ensure proper **business** management on behalf of the shareholders, and directors can be prosecuted and jailed for bad planning, lies and broken promises to shareholders, and mismanagement which costs the **company** and its shareholders substantial financial loss.

Obvious corporate examples in recent times are Alan Bond and Christopher Skase, who were both hounded by the regulator for alleged misdemeanours.

Bond of course was jailed, and Skase suffered an agonising death in exile, and trauma for his family due to unending threats, harassment and high court action from the regulator as well as ASIO.

Conversely, prime ministers and premiers resign after totally destroying the economy they are entrusted with, then travel the world in excessive first-class luxury at taxpayers' cost, with free airfares and half-**million**-dollar superannuation for life with a further drain on a fragile economy.

There are no repercussions on the blatant lies and bad management, resulting in a once-proud Australia losing its financial credibility with a debt of almost \$500billion.

Why aren't these dismal failures made to pay for their abysmal leadership?

The Queensland Labor government with Peter Beattie and Anna Bligh totally destroyed the economy, but now revel in huge superannuation payments and high-profile jobs earning more **millions**. To inflame old wounds, Beattie was presented with an undeserved Order Of Australia, which makes an absolute farce of these awards.

This system of political impunity makes me sick and, until all of the politicians creating these massive losses are brought to justice for their incompetency, nothing will change and Australia will still continue to be governed by fools, liars and imbeciles.

BRIAN J H SAYERS, Millmerran

Council

Pollution pit

COULD TRC confirm why they are allowing a small commercial waste depot to operate on a rural residential block on the Gore Hwy at Westbrook please? Rubbish is brought onto the site then dumped and burnt. We residents then have to suffer the stink and smoke for days after.

Machinery is working all day moving dirt and we get the dust and noise.

Plus what are the legalities of that massive pit so close to the road. According to TRC website that land is not for commercial use. We, the residents, have spent more than \$300,000 to **buy** here, only to have the pollution across the highway. This has been happening for quite some time so I don't think TRC can keep burying their heads in the sand.

Also a note to the new neighbours: to have your motorbikes start up at 4pm on a Sunday afternoon, not happy Jan.

Councillors please step out of the CBD and see what is happening on the outside of Toowoomba. If you can't drive yourself to Westbrook, just look on the satellite. You do have access.

S. WALKER, Westbrook

Pension

Out of touch

HOW absolutely stupid is Joe Hockey and his "hangers on"...how can a man of 69 do the same work as a man aged 30. A lot of that age have trouble climbing ladders and carrying heavy weights etc, as well as having arthritis and associated complaints, and many younger than that are not fit due to ill-health.

Joe Hockey has probably never done an honest day's work in his life, the same with most politicians, and they are completely out of touch with the real world.

I wonder how long it will be before the "bubble bursts". The politicians won't be happy until Australia becomes worse than some third world countries, and it is rapidly heading that way.

Maybe they will think differently when the "bubble" does finally burst – I hope I am around when that happens, which it will. Australians are pretty easygoing, but push them too far and things will be quite different, and people will only take so much.

It's the parasites' fault the country is in such a bad way, not the people's.

MICHAEL D'ELSA, Toowoomba

Language

Husband please

LET me reverse this issue please. I have been married to my husband for 36 years. He is my husband.

I don't care what other people call themselves at all, as that is their **business**. But in my case, with three terms in local government – 11 years – I must say that I got absolutely sick of getting public invitations that were inviting me as Cr Annette Frizzell and partner.

It was quite simple, if they didn't want to know my husband's name, or couldn't be bothered to ask. I refused to go. Simple as that.

I used to get very annoyed at the time that my husband's name meant nothing as I thought these people must think I am running around with "Tom, Dick or Harry". That's the way I saw it.

Surely to God they must know my husband's name by now?

I am not meaning any insult to persons with partners. That is their **business**.

But I married a man who was given a name by his parents at birth. He deserves that name and not for me to introduce him to people as my partner – how insulting.

I flatly refused all invitations inviting "my partner". He is my husband and that's that.

ANNETTE FRIZZELL, Oakey

Finance

Divided we fall

I WAS astounded at the nonsensical decision by the Federal Government to cut \$80billion from education and health to reduce the deficit. This government does not realise that education is the powerhouse of a growing economy and this nation's future depends on a highly educated workforce if we are to remain competitive in the global community. With massive cuts to science and the CSIRO, one can clearly see that this government has absolutely no vision for this country's future. And if the government wants people to work till age 70, then people are going to need all the health care they can get. This budget has effectively created an underclass and divided the people, and divided we will fall as a nation.

DAVID FREDERICKS, Toowoomba

**NS** gcat : Political/General News

**RE** austr : Australia | brisbn : Brisbane | queensl : Queensland | apacz : Asia Pacific | ausnz : Australia/Oceania

**IPD** Community - People

**PUB** APN Newspapers Pty Ltd

**AN** Document APNCHR0020140525ea5q0002t