

Sandgate Town Hall Meeting – WE NEED A VOICE!

By Chris Simpson, 30th August 2024

Politics worldwide is at a crossroads! We are seeing a global phenomenon of a rise of populist parties with the use of misinformation and disinformation abounding. Duopolies in business and politics, coupled with generous party donations and back room deals sees less faith in the way we are governed. Of greatest concern is our young turning their backs on responsible governance. We need to call it out!

The Australian Democrats were born in 1977 on the premise of **Keeping the Ba****ds Honest**. We are not powerless when we unite and support a voice of reason; a centrist voice that will speak for our community. With your help I can be your voice!

It is for this reason; I have invited two ex-Australian Senators from the Australian Democrats and a respected senior academic from The University of Queensland to speak to this. I am humbled they have accepted this invitation and opportunity to speak to our community here in Sandgate!

Dr Michael Macklin was a student here at St Patrick's, Shorncliffe before becoming a founding member of the Australian Democrats in 1977 and first Australian Democrat Senator for Queensland in 1980. Dr Macklin is now busy writing a wide range of local histories. We will be proud to welcome him back to Sandgate!



Dr Frank Mols is a senior lecturer in Political Science at the University of Queensland with a particular interest in Political Psychology and speaks knowledgeably to the community on "NOT being powerless" and evidence-based policy. His research on the remarkable appeal of populist radical-right parties in times of economic prosperity featured in an article in the Australian edition of The Guardian. We look forward to welcoming Dr Mols to Sandgate!



Lyn Allison is the current national president of the Australian Democrats. Lyn first represented as an independent councillor for the City of Melbourne and was elected to the Australian Senate in 1996. Lyn remained the federal leader of the Australian Democrats in the Senate until June 2008. In 2019, Lyn became the 12th President of the Australian Democrats, resuming an active role within the party.



The wealth of knowledge and experience from these speakers will be humbling and a hard act to follow. However, they will explain such things as the use of 'micro targeting' and planting disinformation through to why the history of the Australian Democrats from as far back as 1977 will be essential to our Sandgate Town Hall meeting.

As a member of the executive of the **Australian Democrats – QLD** I will be seeking your support by way of attendance and donation to our campaign. I welcome you to confirm your seat by contacting me personally via phone **0461 454 977** or PO Box 44, Sandgate, QLD 4017 **contact@chrissimpsonqld.com.au** **www.chrissimpsonqld.com.au**

