

## 2019 Presidents Report

ALP Abroad works to ensure that overseas Australians vote Labor. It has done so at every election since 1975. Formally launched by Gough Whitlam at Camden Town Hall in 1976 as ALP UK Society, and rebranded since 2004 as ALP Abroad, it has run entirely on volunteer efforts. This report highlights our activities in the Federal election and other activities in 2019.

While the result of the Federal election itself was a disappointment, the importance of the Overseas Vote to Labor in close contests was again demonstrated in Ben Chifley's former seat of Macquarie this election where the 65/35 two party advantage from overseas votes played a part in Labor's come from behind win in Macquarie. Like in Herbert in 2016 where Labor was behind until the last batch of overseas voters won the seat for Labor. We make a difference.

Membership is also great opportunity to meet likeminded Australians and for your membership you would have received free entry to our

- Tour of Parliament in November 2018
- Christmas Party
- Anthony Albanese launch of our Federal 2019 campaign
- 2019 Federal Election watch
- Discussion of Federal election review with Wayne Swan and Paul Erickson.



*Our campaign launch photo opposite Tower Bridge*

## Our Volunteer effort

Staffing the London polling station between May 7<sup>th</sup> and May 17<sup>th</sup> could not have been done without the help of the 51 people (up from 43 in 2016) who volunteered to help listed below.

1. Alex Snowball
2. Will Bibby
3. Mike Steele
4. Aman Gaur
5. Will Jenkins
6. Dean Thompson
7. Jacinta Atkins
8. Elise Atkins
9. David Power
10. Catherine West MP
11. Ben Williams
12. Amy Le Ray
13. Justin Ditton
14. Isaac Wright
15. Esther Hood
16. James Bidgood
17. Adam Joguee
18. Martin Thirlaway
19. Ken Penton
20. Ryan Turner
21. Lucy Gannon
22. Gareth Myton
23. Toby Foster
24. Kurt Hopkins
25. Phil Benjamin
26. Andrew Falconer
27. Sam Wills
28. Louise Scarce
29. Alex Logan
30. Charles Armitage
31. Shane Hill
32. Alicia Turner
33. Sophie Nyaguy
34. Vanessa Picker
35. Lachlan Richards
36. Max Freedman
37. Harinder Singh
38. Sascha Silberstein
39. Joel Northcott
40. Leopold Bryant
41. Justin Randle.
42. Eric Sheng
43. Georgia Campbell
44. Andrew Harden
45. Roz Kelly
46. Hannah Betherton
47. Andrew Whiley
48. Fiona Reynolds
49. John Spellar MP
50. Garret Bray
51. Paul Smith

We had the strongest volunteer presence of any party. While our materials were positive, the Liberals had mostly negative materials. Special thanks must be made to our booth coordinator Mike Steele who has worked on every election since 1980 Australia House, making this his 15th election and Alicia Turner who travelled down from Scotland to be booth co-ordinator in week 2.



*Volunteers Will Bibby, Alicia Turner, Vanessa Picker and Justin Ditton at Australia House*







OVER 40 PEOPLE  
ATTENDED THE ALP  
ABROAD  
CAMPAIGN LAUNCH  
AT THE HOPE  
FITZROVIA LAUNCH  
WITH ANTHONY  
ALBANESE MP, ON  
MARCH 10<sup>TH</sup>  
ANTHONY IS IN THE  
FOREGROUND WITH  
CATHERINE WEST  
MP AND PAUL SMITH

Since the election, we have elected a new Treasurer Esther Hood who has helped us set digital access to our account and a new website officer David McGregor who has been liaising with the ALP software provider Magenta lines about our website which will need to be upgraded in 2020.

A highlight post election was ALP President Wayne Swan and National Secretary Paul Erickson discussing the review of the Federal election campaign with ALP Abroad. Thanks to Louise Scarce, Justin Ditton and Kurt Hopkins for help in running the event.

We expect an election in Queensland in the second half of 2020 and will be running events in 2020 which your ideas and enthusiasm are welcome so please join in. I would like to thank all members for their contributions and for the officers elected last year who have moved and won't be standing this year including Tiiram Sunderland, Ben waters, Will Bibby and Aman Gaur. Lastly I would like to thank Angelo Sommariva for agreeing to be our returning officer again this year.



*ALP President Wayne Swan and ALP National Secretary Paul Erickson at ALP Abroad*