



2016 Federal election campaign report

Labor reduced the Conservatives to only a 1 seat majority in the House of Representatives in the 2016 Federal election. The loss of 17 Coalition MPs and Senators defeated the plan to pass the anti union ABCC bill in a joint sitting of Parliament, which was the entire point of the double dissolution election.

Every Vote Counts

Australia House in London was again the largest polling station in the Federal election with 15 463 votes cast at the London Overseas Polling station between June 20th and July 1st. Over 70,000 votes were cast at the 99 overseas voting locations.

The importance of the Overseas Vote in close contests was again demonstrated in the seat of Herbert this election where former ALP Abroad secretary Steph Naunton was campaign manager. On the final day of the counting Labor finished in front by 8 after being behind by 12 votes with only 60 Overseas votes left to count which they broke 40 20 to Labor. (The recount increased Labor's margin to 39 after 31 Labor votes were found to have been counted as One Nation votes).

ALP Abroad is a voluntary organisation that works to ensure that overseas Australians vote Labor. While we work closely with the ALP and receive some support, our success is due to the efforts of volunteers which in 2016 was again outstanding.



Our campaign launch photo on the Thames opposite Parliament House

Our Volunteer effort

Staffing the largest polling station in Australia elections June 20th and July 1st could not have been done without the help of the 43 people who volunteered to help listed below

1. Chloe Ward
2. Michael Apte
3. Mike Steele
4. Nick James
5. Kate Gurbiel
6. Andrew Falconer
7. Caitlin Barns-Jenkins
8. David Lee
9. Lachlan Richards
10. Irene Rheinberger
11. Lucy Gannon
12. Margaret Murphy
13. Noel Hadjimichael
14. Ellie Taylor
15. Sophie Rigney
16. Kara Burns
17. Adam Jogee
18. Gary Sargeant
19. Ken Penton
20. Steve Littlewood
21. Daniel Carr
22. Angelo Sommeriva
23. Steve Denyer
24. Bernadette Ross
25. Phil Benjamin
26. Andrew Harden
27. Sam Wills
28. Tim McMinn
29. David Saunderson
30. Kyrsten Perry
31. Gretel Reynolds
32. Melissa Birch
33. Ben Waters
34. Lauren Edwards
35. Gareth Myton
36. Max Freedman
37. Paul Blackmore
38. James Bidgood
39. Will Bibby
40. Ross Evans
41. Jill Hurons .
42. Anna Solar-Bassett
43. Paul Smith

Special thanks must be made to our booth coordinator Mike Steele who has worked on every election since 1980 Australia House, making this his 14th election.



Volunteers Krysten Perry, Melissa Birch and Gretel Reynolds at Australia House

People who also deserve a special mention for essential work in the campaign are,

- Irene Rheinberger for being our Treasurer and looking after our money
- Nick James for organising our election party at the North London Tavern so we could watch the results live on Saturday Morning
- Ben Waters for getting our new website live
- Elias Hallaj , who as International officer for the campaign provided the best level of support we have had for any election since the 2007.

With Elias's help we were able to ensure there was some level of ALP presence handing out How to votes at the following 20 cities.

Beijing	Manila	Nairobi
Shanghai	Jakarta	London
Guangzhou	Bangkok	Paris
Hong Kong	Wellington	Berlin
Singapore	New York City	Rome
Tokyo	Washington	Mexico City
Kuala Lumpur	Los Angeles	

What we did in London

As part of the London campaign we printed

- 25 Correx Posters for polling booths
- 50 Campaign T-shirts
- 10,000 12 page How to votes

We also placed online advertisements in Australian Times and hired a function room at a pub for our election party. Even after posting how to votes to Berlin, Paris and Rome we still had 3000 left due to improved recycling at Australia House. In future need print only 7000 How to Votes.



The queues were long the last three days



Bill Shorten facebook posting this photo with a link to voting abroad got 7200 likes and 299 shares



Until next time: Closing the booth with Jill Huron, Paul Smith, Andrew Harden, Daniel Carr and Tim McMinn