

Awakening Democracy

CAPaD – the Canberra Alliance for Participatory Democracy

MAY 2022

G'day members and friends

In this [Awakening Democracy](#): the federal election campaign is in full swing, #Our Democracy ACT has been active, and more to read and watch.

COMING UP

FEDERAL ELECTION

CAPaD Election Action – Contribute to good government

We received \$900 in donations which enabled us to buy two quarter page advertisements in the City News. Thank you to the very generous donors; much appreciated.

This is the advert from 28 April, which will be run again on May 12.

We have also had some response to letters in the Canberra Times, around queries for more information on candidates and voting.

Website visits and pageview data reflect that this publicity is being noticed.

The take home for voters in this election is to use all your preferences on both ballot papers.

For the House of Reps (green) ballot paper this is essential to avoid an invalid vote.

For the Senate (white ballot paper) where the AEC stipulates you number a minimum of six boxes above the line and 12 below, numbering the 7th to 12th boxes above the line and 13th to 23rd boxes below the line can tip the preferences flows toward or away from particular candidates. This is particularly the case in close contests, which is how the ACT Senate race is shaping up (see below).

Our 2022 election [webpage has been updated](#).

Importantly for those asking how does preferential voting work and how are the votes counted:

This video explains how the House of Representative [preferential voting system works and how votes are counted](#).

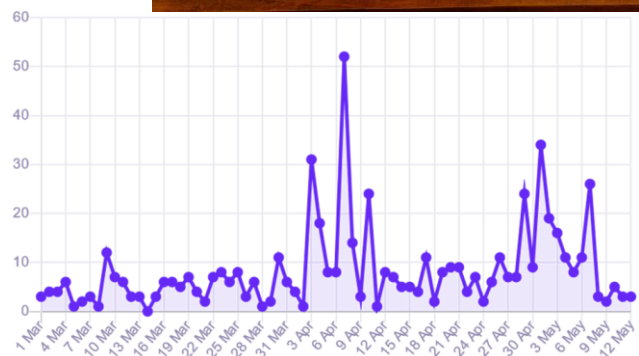
This [video from Voices of North Sydney](#) (for the recent NSW State by-election so of relevance to the Senate voting) explains the importance of using [all your preferences](#) even when optional, so that your vote is not extinguished – the key message is that candidates who may have got elected might miss out because they didn't quite get enough votes through preference flows.

ACTIVE PROJECTS

#OurDemocracy Campaign - National Integrity Survey

1 Survey Results released [and available here](#). [The report itself is here](#).

The #OurDemocracy ACT team have been delivering copies of the reports to our current sitting members and senators. We are also looking at how to distribute to other candidates.



Active Democracy ACT (ADACT) & Australia (ADAus)

The Bean group members' energy is going into the upcoming election. The group will resume meeting in June.

If you would like to be notified about Active Democracy events, please [email the Secretary](#).

OTHER ACTIVITY

At the moment our energy is going into the election.

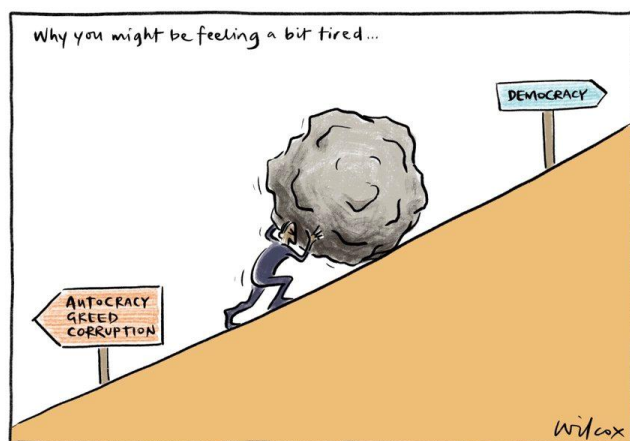
In June we will be floating new electorate level activity ideas for Canberra, looking to take the conversations from Demfest21 forward.

DEMOCRACY AS FUN 'COLLECTION'

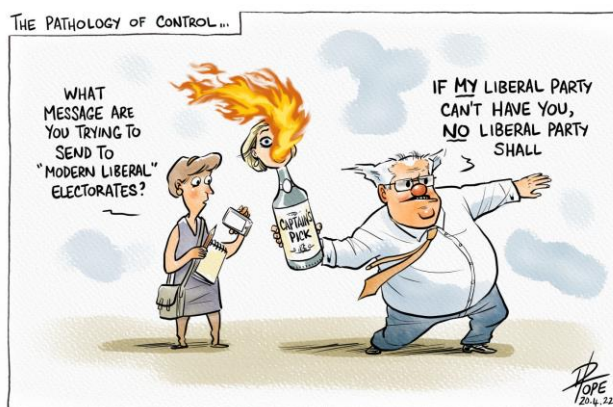
As this seemingly interminable campaign grinds towards its close,

Cathy Wilcox reminds us that the work of doing democracy is an ongoing labour,

while David Pope (Canberra Times) reflects on future directions in the Liberal Party.



[Send me something](#) - credited.



From your committee, best wishes for May 22nd and 23rd; may you receive what you hope for.

Contact us: secretary@canberra-alliance.org.au

Keep up to date: <https://canberra-alliance.org.au/>

Share ideas: Twitter @CAPADACT

Find us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1487360858250888/>

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