

File Ref

fad2297

Contact Officer

K Mitchell

Phone Fax

02 6271 4413 02 6271 4555

Senator Brett Mason Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600



West Block Offices Parkes ACT 2600

PO Box E201 Kingston ACT 2604

Telephone (02) 6271 4411 Facsimile (02) 6271 4556 www.aec.gov.au ABN 21 133 285 851



Dear Senator

At Estimates Committee hearings on 4 November 2003 the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) took a number of questions on notice and agreed to provide the Committee with certain documents. Committee members indicated that provision of the documents as a matter of priority was preferred.

Senator Brandis asked questions about the content of disclosure returns lodged by the Fair Go Alliance. In responding, Ms Mitchell indicated that it might be more effective if she provided copies of the relevant returns, which are publicly available documents, to the Committee. Copies of the returns are attached.

Senator Faulkner requested that the Committee be provided with copies of the letters the AEC sent to Mr Abbott in September 1998 and June 1999 concerning the Australians for Honest Politics trust fund. Whilst the AEC would normally prefer not to provide the Committee with documents relating to a matter under current consideration in case it prejudiced the AEC's action in such matters, the letters have already been made publicly available by someone other than the AEC. As such, it would seem unlikely that provision of the letters to the Committee would further prejudice the AEC's ability to proceed with this matter. A copy of each of the letters is attached.

Yours sincerely

Paul Dacey

Deputy Electoral Commissioner

November 2003



AUSTRALIAN ELECTORAL COMMISSION

QUEEN VICTORIA TERRACE ACT 2600

(06) 271 4411

PO BOX E201

Telephone: (06) 271 4416

4/2-09-03:16:28

Third Party Return of Donations made for the Election held on 1998

Please refer to the Funding and Disclosure Handbook for Third Parties when completing this form.

| Third Party Details | |
|--|--|
| Name of person or organisation | |
| FAIR GO ALLIANCE | |
| Postal Address | |
| 377-383 SUSSEX STRE | ET SYDNEY NSU |
| 3//- 303 303E/ 3.20 | Postcode 2000 |
| | |
| Details of Person completing the Return | |
| Name | |
| JEFFLEY C. PRIESTLY | |
| (Write "as above" if you are completing your own return.) | |
| | |
| Capacity/Position FINANCIAL CONTROLLER | |
| (A return for an organisation should be completed by an appropriate of | ficer such as the company secretary or finance manager.) |
| William of Saminament alleste and dark product of an appropriate and | |
| Postal Address | |
| 377-383 SUSSEX STREET | T, SYDNEY. NSW |
| | Postcode 2000 |
| Telephone number (BH) Facsimile | number |
| | 72834563 |
| I certify that the information contained in this return and | |
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| Signature | |
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| The due date for lodging this return is Mont | iay, |
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| Enquiries and returns should be addressed to: | |
| THE RETURNS OFFICER | |
| FUNDING AND DISCLOSURE SECTION | Office Use Only |

Date Received:

Registration No:

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DONATIONS MADE

Period covered by this return is

The disclosure period for donations made to candidates and persons or organisations specified by notice in the Gazette commences from 31 days after the previous Federal election and concludes 30 days after polling day.

Details of donations made to candidates and others

Where donations, including gifts-in-kind (as defined in the Handbook), total:

- . \$200 or more to an individual candidate; or
- · \$1000 or more to a person or organisation specified by notice in the Gazette;

list in the table below the name and address of each person or organisation to whom those donations were made, along with the date and value of each donation.

| Name | Address | Date of donation | Value of donation |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------|--|
| GRENNHY FEC | SUITES | 1. 10.98 | 1000-00 |
| | 15-17 KILDARE ROAD | | |
| | BLACKTOWN 2148 | | |
| MACQUARIE A.L.P. | P.O. BOX 172 | 1.6.98 | 500 00 |
| CAMPAIGN | SPRINGHOOD 2777 | | |
| BANKS FEC | 6 BLANEY STREET | 1. 10.98 | 1000.00 |
| | REVESSY 2212 | | |
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Third Party Return of Donations made for the Election held on 10 November 2001

Please refer to the Funding and Disclosure Handbook for Third Parties when completing this form. Giving false or misleading information is a serious offence.

| Third Party Detail | Ş |
|--------------------|---|
|--------------------|---|

| | | | | | al Address |
|------|-------------------|---------|--------|-----|------------|
| NSW. | SIDNEY. | STREET | SUSSEX | 383 | 377- |
| _ | SYD NE7. Postcode | STREET. | SUSSEX | 383 | 377- |

| SYDNEY: NSW. Postcode 2000 |
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| Postcode 2000 |
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| as the company secretary or finance manager.) |
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| |
| SYDNEY NSW |
| Postcode 2009 |
| |
| Email |
| i Mesty Clabor.09.00. |
| |

| Telephone number (BH) | Facsimile number | Email |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| (02)92861620 | (02)92834663 | i. Mestre @labor.09.00. |
| | } | |

I certify that the information contained in this return and its attachments is true and complete.



The due date for lodging this return is Monday, 25 February 2002

Enquiries and returns should be addressed to:

THE RETURNS OFFICER FUNDING AND DISCLOSURE SECTION AUSTRALIAN ELECTORAL COMMISSION PO BOX E201 KINGSTON ACT 2604

Telephone: (02) 6271 4416 Email: fad@aec.gov.au

(02) 6271 4411

Office Use Only

2.9.2003 Date Received:

Registration No:

DONATIONS MADE

Period covered by this return is 3 November 1998 to 10 December 2001 1.

The disclosure period for donations made to candidates and persons or organisations specified by notice in the Gazette commences from 31 days after the previous Federal election and concludes 30 days after polling day.

Details of donations made to candidates and others 2.

Where donations, including gifts-in-kind (as defined in the Handbook), total:

- \$200 or more to an individual candidate; or
- \$1000 or more to a person or organisation specified by notice in the Gazette;

list in the table below the name and address of each person or organisation to whom those donations were ade, along with the date and value of each donation

| Name | 1) . | Address | Date of donation | Value o donation |
|--|---|--|------------------|---------------------|
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Please provide an estimate of the time taken to complete this form

FAIR GO ALLIANCE PAYMENTS 3.11.98 - 10.12.01

| 7.2.01 | Macquarie Fec Campaign | \$ 5,000.00 |
|----------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 20.2.01 | Jenny George - Throsby FEC Ca. | 5,000.00 |
| | Jenny McAlistair - Richmond FEC | 5,000.00 |
| | Caroline Nielson - Wentworth FEC | 2,000.00 |
| | David Borger - Parramatta FEC | 2,000.00 |
| | Darryl Melham - Banks FEC | 2,000.00 |
| Š | Frank Mossfield - Greenway FEC | 2,000.00 |
| 1.3.01 | Jan Merriman - Hume FEC | 2,000.00 |
| 21.5.01 | Steve Martin Campaign | 250.00 |
| | Jenny George Campaign | 250.00 |
| | Jann Merriman Campaign | 250.00 |
| 6.6.01 | Christine Hawkins Campaign | 2,000.00 |
| 14.6.01 | Peter Primrose Function Account | 1,000.00 |
| 15.6.01 | Fran Tierney Campaign | 1,000.00 |
| 22.6.01 | David Borger Campaign | 325.00 |
| 24.7.01 | Carolyn Nielson Campaign | 2,000.00 |
| 19.9.01 | Pat Dixon Campaign | 1,000.00 |
| | Fran Tierney Campaign | 1,000.00 |
| | Christine Hawkins Campaign | 1,000.00 |
| 26.9.01 | Pery Young Campaign | 1,000.00 |
| 9.10.01 | Jan Merriman - Hume Campaign | 1,000.00 |
| | John Murphy - Lowe Campaign | 1,000.00 |
| 12,10.01 | Adam Searle Campaign | 900.00 |
| | Adam Searle Campaign | 1,000.00 |
| | Peter Macdonald Campaign | 1,000.00 |

| | Daryl Melham Campaign | 1,000.00 |
|----------|---------------------------|-----------|
| | Carolyn Neilson Campaign | 1,000.00 |
| 19.10.01 | Gilmore Election Campaign | 1,000.00 |
| | Trish Moran Campaign | 1,000.00 |
| 25.10.01 | Bass Campaign Fund | 2,000.00 |
| | Lowe Campaign Fund | 400.00 |
| 31.10.01 | Mitchell Campaign Fund | 1,000.00 |
| | Julie Heraghty Campaign | 1,000.00 |
| | Peter Macdonald Campaign | 1,000.00 |
| | John Murphy Campaign | 500.00 |
| 5.11.01 | Democrats Campaign | 1,000.00 |
| | Greens Campaign | 1,000.00 |
| 6.11.01 | David Borger Campaign | 1,000.00 |
| | Fran Tierney Campaign | 500.00 |
| • | | 54,375.00 |



Third Party Return of Donations received for the Election held on 10 November 2001

Please refer to the Funding and Disclosure Handbook for Third Parties when completing this form. Giving false or misleading information is a serious offence.

| Third | Party | Deta | ils |
|-------|-------|------|-----|
|-------|-------|------|-----|

Email: fad@aec.gov.au

| Name of person or organisation | |
|---|---|
| FAIR GO ALLIANCE | |
| Postal Address | |
| 377-383 SUSSEX STREE | T, SYDNEY. NEW |
| | Postcode 2 000 |
| D. C. | |
| Details of Person completing the Return | |
| JEFREY C. PRIESTLY | |
| (Write "as above" if you are completing your own return.) | - |
| (vind do dos il yar are perpenny yar em ration) | |
| Capacity/Position | |
| FINANCIAL CONTROLLER | |
| (A return for an organisation should be completed by an appropriate officer s | uch as the company secretary or finance manager.) |
| Postal Address | |
| 377-383 SUSSEX STREET | EYDNEY NSW |
| | Postcode 2000 |
| Telephone number (BH) Facsimile number | Email |
| 02 9260 1620 (02) 926344 | 63 j. Mezty@lobororg.av |
| | |
| I certify that the information contained in this return and its at | tachments is true and complete. |
| Signature | |
| 219 | 103. |
| | |
| | 25 Enhances 2002 |
| The due date for lodging this return is Monday, | 25 February 2002 |
| Enquiries and returns should be addressed to: | |
| | Office Head Only |
| THE RETURNS OFFICER FUNDING AND DISCLOSURE SECTION | Office Use Only |
| AUSTRALIAN ELECTORAL COMMISSION | Date Received: |
| PO BOX E201 KINGSTON ACT 2604 | Registration No: |
| Telephone: (02) 6271 4416 (02) 6271 4411 | |

DONATIONS RECEIVED

1. Period covered by this return is 3 November 1998 to 10 December 2001

This return covers donations received which were used to help fund expenditure incurred from 31 days after the previous Federal election and concluding 30 days after polling day, irrespective of when payment was made. Donations received are required to be disclosed irrespective of whether they were received within or outside this period.

2. Details of donations received

Where donations, including gifts-in-kind (as defined in the Handbook), totalling \$1000 or more were received from a person or organisation and those donations were used in whole or in part to incur expenditure of \$1000 or more, in relation to an election, on the following:

- publication by any means (including radio or television) of electoral matter;
- by any other means publicly expressing views on an issue in the election;
- making a donation to a political party;
- making a donation to a candidate or Senate group; or
- making a donation to a person on the understanding that that person or another person will use either the whole or part of the donation for any of the purposes listed above;

list in the table below the name and address of each person or organisation from whom those donations were received, along with the date and value of each donation.

| Name | Address | Date of donation | Value of donation |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| PUBLIC SERVICE | 160 CHARENCE ETREET | | |
| ASSOCIATION OF | SYDNEY NEH 2000. | 7. 2.01 | 5000,00 |
| NEM SOUTH WAVES | | | |
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| CO MHUNITY PUBLIC | | 26 10.01 | 17.000, 00. |
| SECTOR UNIÓN, SASE | | | |
| Glova | | | |
| " | ** | 7, 12,01 | 10.000.00 |
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| If space is insufficient please attach additional sheets | | |
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| Please provide an estimate of the time taken to complete this form | hrs | mins |
| | | |







Please quote

98/00788

Contact Officer

Chris Morris / Roger Wills

Telephone

(02) 6271 4509 / (02) 6271 4430

West Block Offices Parkes ACT 2600

PO Box E201 Kingston ACT 2604

Telephone (02) 6271 4411 Facsimile (02) 6271 4556

The Hon. Tony Abbott MP 4-10 Sydney Road ' Manly NSW 2095

Dear Mr. Abbott

ANNUAL RETURN FOR AN ASSOCIATED ENTITY

An associated entity is a term interpreted by the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918 (the Act) and used by the Australian Electoral Commission (the AEC) for an organisation which is controlled wholly or mainly for the benefit of one or more political parties. This includes organisations which are independent of, but primarily benefit, a party or parties.

A recent newspaper article (Courier Mail, 1 September 1998) reports that you have set up a trust fund with Messrs J. Wheeldon and P. Coleman. On the basis of the press report, the fund may be an associated entity. If this is the case, you are required under the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* (the Act) to lodge an associated entity return. The Act provides penalties for failure to meet your disclosure obligations.

Please find enclosed a copy of the Funding and Disclosure Handbook for Associated Entities and an annual return form. The deadline for lodgment of an associated entity annual return is close of business 20 October 1998. If after having read the handbook you consider that the trust fund does not fall within the ambit of an associated entity, please provide a written response outlining your reasons for arriving at this decision.

If you require further information regarding your disclosure responsibilities, please do not hesitate to contact an officer of the Funding and Disclosure Section on one of the numbers provided above.

Yours sincerely

Roger Wills

Funding and Disclosure

18/09/98



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Contact Officer

Brad Edgman

Telephone

(02) 6271 4413

West Block Offices Parkes ACT 2600

PO Box E201 Kingston ACT 2604

Telephone (02) 6271 4411 Facsimile (02) 6271 4556

The Hon. Tony Abbott, MP. Suite 11 Pacific Point 4-10 Sydney Road Manly NSW 2095

Dear Mr Abbott,

Thank you for your letter of 20 October 1998, responding to our inquiry as to whether the trust "Australians for Honest Politics" may fall within the ambit of an associated entity. I apologise if you have not received a response earlier.

On the basis of the information provided, I am of the opinion that the trust does not constitute an associated entity at this time and accordingly is not required to lodge a disclosure return.

I take this opportunity to note that if the activities of the Trust alter, then it may constitute an associated entity. This is a term interpreted by the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918 and used by the Australian Electoral Commission for an organisation that is controlled by, or operates wholly or mainly for the benefit of, one or more political parties.

If I can be of any further assistance, please telephone me on 02 6271 4413.

Yours sincerely,

Brad Edgman

Director

Funding and Disclosure

10/06/99