

CANDIDATES FOR BALMAIN HAVE THEIR SAY* ...

Verity Firth, Labor

The saving of Callan Park is testament to the passionate campaign waged by our local community.

The outcome of this campaign, the Callan Park Act, guarantees public ownership and access to the site, including its wonderful foreshore land. It also limits future uses of the site to education, health and community facilities.

I am 100% committed to ensuring that the Act is followed in its entirety.

We need to urgently act to save the heritage buildings on the site from demolition by neglect. I support the provision of leases to community service providers who can use these beautiful buildings to provide health and other related services to those in need. I would also like to see principles of sustainability adopted at the park, and support the concept of a Callan Park Trust.

This land is public land and its future must be determined by open consultation with the community – including any plans for the continued use of the site as a psychiatric hospital. Over the next couple of months I want to hear from residents, community groups and mental health experts about their aspirations for the site.

Ultimately, we need a community-driven Master Plan so that everyone can be involved in determining the future of our park.

Rochelle Porteous, Greens

The Greens have been campaigning to save Callan Park from the beginning. It was the Greens' bill - in the Upper House - that pushed the government to stop the sale before the 2003 state election.

In August this year, Greens MP Lee Rhiannon, gave notice of the State Property Authority Amendment (Protect Callan Park) Bill 2006 to ensure that Callan Park was not put at risk by the developer-friendly Authority recently created by Labor to sell off public land.

We are also focusing on saving Rozelle Psychiatric Hospital. Unlike Labor, we say the Inner West cannot afford to lose Rozelle Hospital's 250 psychiatric beds and that the NSW government must significantly increase funding of mental health. Unlike the Liberals, we say the hospital must remain in public hands.

The Greens want a Callan Park Masterplan to ensure that the site is fully protected; we want it developed in full consultation with the community and we want guarantees that the hospital will remain an integral part of the park.

If elected I will immediately introduce a bill to retain Rozelle Psychiatric Hospital and develop the Callan Park Masterplan. I will use my electorate office to support an ongoing campaign, lobby tirelessly in parliament on Callan Park and ensure that Callan Park is always on the government's agenda.

Peter Shmigel, Liberal

The position of the NSW Liberals, Peter Debnam and myself with regard to Callan Park and Rozelle Hospital is very clear:

1. Never allow Callan Park to be sold.
2. Uphold the Callan Park Act in full.
3. Rebuild Rozelle Hospital for mental health services and with public beds.
4. Develop an inclusive and innovative Master Plan for the site within 9 months of election.
5. Deliver on-going community involvement in Callan Park's management and administration into the future.
6. Build Callan Park's community and social capital through permissible uses outlined in the Act, including educational and community facilities, and passive and active recreation.

The NSW Liberals will stand up and take responsibility for Callan Park and Rozelle Hospital – a responsibility that the Carr/Emma Labor Government has shirked despite the on-going rhetoric of their local representatives. The practical and political reality is that the NSW Liberals are the only party that can tangibly deliver for Callan Park and Rozelle Hospital.

I am personally passionate about making Callan Park of the people and for the people – both those in need and our local community. I look forward to working with our community – which is so committed to Callan Park – to make sure it is protected and prospers in the future.

Note candidates listed alphabetically

CALLAN PARK TOO OLD?

Callan Park is a beautiful and historic site that has been the home of the NSW Government for over 100 years. It is a place of great significance and should be preserved for future generations.

The NSW Government has a duty to protect and preserve Callan Park for the benefit of all NSW residents. We must ensure that the site is used in a way that respects its heritage and provides a high quality environment for all.

It is time to stop the sale of Callan Park and to ensure that the site is protected and preserved for future generations. We must stand up for the people of NSW and ensure that Callan Park remains a place of great significance.

HELP SAVE THE HOSPITAL AND ACHIEVE A MASTERPLAN FOR CALLAN PARK

Join the Friends of Callan Park – just \$20: additional donations also welcome

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Send to:
Friends of Callan Park
17 Norff Avenue,
Leichhardt NSW 2040

Authorised by Hall Greenland for Friends of Callan Park. More information
0408 643 786 or 9810 2511. Also see our website www.callanpark.com