

COUNTRY LABOR DIALOGUE

CONNECTING COUNTRY COMMUNITIES – AUGUST 2011

NSW State Conference: Rebuilding Together



NSW State Conference was held on Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 July 2011, back at Sydney Town Hall. Delegates from across NSW took the opportunity to support a range of reforms to rebuild NSW Labor. These reforms included:

- The introduction of a series of trial community preselections;
- Simplification of eligibility for preselections;
- The introduction of the NSW Policy Forum;
- Stronger resourcing for Country Labor;
- FECs electing a delegate directly to National Conference;
- The introduction of public selection forums for candidates for public office;
- Expansion of the successful Central Policy Branch; and
- Expansion of NSW Labor training programs as part of the new Campaign Insight Training Academy.

For more information on the NSW State Conference, you can download a copy of the Conference Report from the members' section of the NSW Labor website: www.nswalp.com

You can also view Prime Minister Julia Gillard and State Parliamentary Leader John Robertson's addresses to Conference, the UnionsNSW address by Mark Lennon and Dr Jim Macken's acceptance on behalf of the Life Membership recipients on our YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/user/NSWLabor

Message from Country Organiser Courtney Roche

Thank you to all the country delegates who attended our NSW State Conference and participated in the many discussions of how to rebuild our great Party.

Delegates supported a range of measures that will ensure our Party rebuilds as an outwardly focused organisation, intent on rebuilding our community links and winning back community trust.

Don't forget to book your accommodation early for Country Conference – we will be heading to Cessnock on Friday 24 – Sunday 26 February 2012. For more information on Country Conference, visit our website: www.countrylabor.com.au/countryconference or phone me on 1800 503 035 or courtney@nswalp.com for a copy of our Country Conference information booklet.



NSW State Conference

The NSW State Conference was a great opportunity for country delegates to speak on the issues important to them and their communities. Delegates gave impassioned speeches about the future of Country Labor, indigenous issues, educational access in rural and regional NSW, the need to differentiate ourselves from the Greens, coal seam gas exploration, industrial relations and our health services in country NSW.

It also offered a chance for delegates to meet, catch up with old friends and share experiences or raise issues with Federal Ministers and NSW Shadow Ministers.



New Country Labor website

At NSW Conference, Country Labor MPs Mike Kelly and Janelle Saffin launched the new Country Labor website.

Have you checked it out yet?
Just visit www.countrylabor.com.au

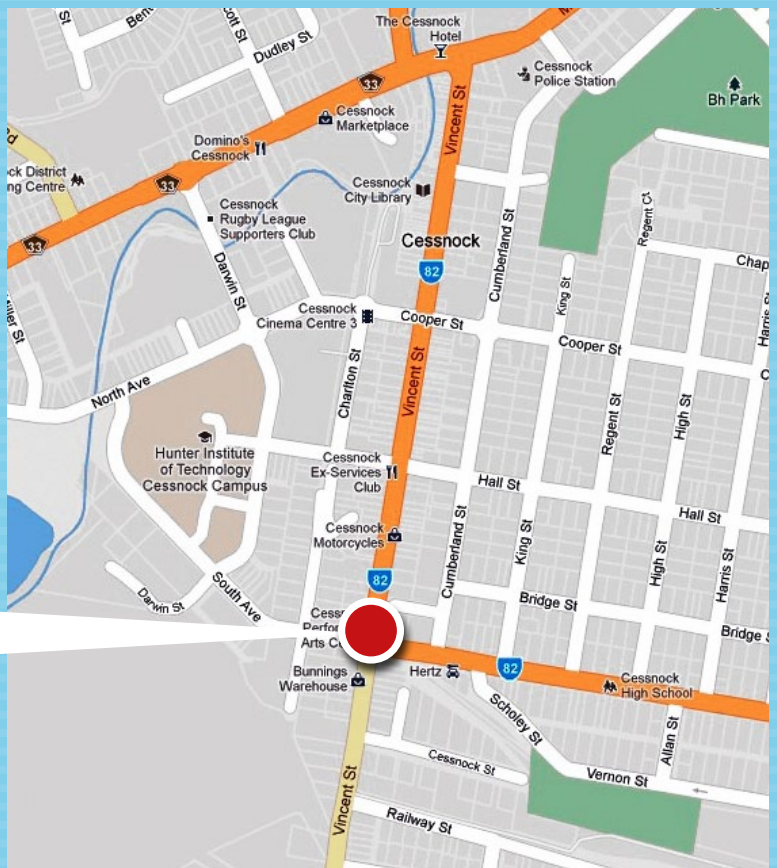
We are regularly updating it with new information – we've just added a facebook feed to the front page and the latest information on Country Conference.

Also, have you seen Country Labor's facebook page? www.facebook.com/countrylabor



Country Conference 2012

Country Conference will be held in Cessnock on Friday 24 – Sunday 26 February 2012 at the Cessnock Performing Arts Centre. The new and expanded format will have an emphasis on policy development and training. For more details, visit the new Country Labor website: www.countrylabor.com.au/countryconference or contact Courtney Roche, Country Organiser on 1800 503 035 or courtney@nswalp.com



The Annual Ben Chifley 'Light on the Hill' Memorial Address



The 27th Annual Ben Chifley 'Light on the Hill' Memorial Address will be held at the Bathurst Panthers Leagues Club, Piper Street, Bathurst at 7pm on Saturday 17 September 2011. The Hon Linda Burney MP, Deputy Leader of the Opposition, will give this year's address.

To book tickets, simply complete the form below and return it with a cheque or money order payable to Bathurst Branch ALP and sent to Bathurst Branch ALP, PO Box 437 Bathurst, 2795. Please note that tickets need to be booked and paid for by Friday 9 September.

MAIL ORDER FORM

27th Ben Chifley Memorial Dinner & Light on the Hill Address

Saturday 17 September 2011 at 7pm

Keynote Speaker: The Hon Linda Burney

Bathurst Panthers Leagues Club Auditorium – Piper Street Bathurst

Tickets must be presented at the door. Tickets: \$75 & \$55 pensioners

Please note that tickets need to be booked and paid for by Friday 9 September 2011

Enquiries: James Brann: 0418 465 957 & Fran Van Dartel: 0419 626 681

Name:

Number of Tickets Purchased

@ \$75.00/\$55.00. Total payment enclosed

Name of Ticket Holders:

1.

2.

3.

4.

Please return this form with a cheque or money order payable to Bathurst Branch ALP and sent to Bathurst Branch ALP, PO Box 437, Bathurst, 2795. Please note that tickets need to be booked and paid for by Friday the 9th of September

Do you have a story for Country Labor?

Email your story and photos to jay@nswalp.com