

Rivals in poll lay the blame

PETA FULLER

FORMERLY a Labor safe haven, now an electorate teetering on a knife-edge, the final two candidates for the seat of Brisbane have differing explanations for the shift.

Labor's Arch Bevis has held the seat for more than 20 years and said the redistribution had hurt his vote.

Mr Bevis said new additions to the electorate like Ascot, Hamilton and Clayfield were Liberal stalwarts. "They are amongst the strongest Liberal areas in the entire state," he said.

"The people of Ascot and Hamilton and Clayfield vote 60, 70 and 80 per cent Liberal and they do it no matter what the issues."

The LNP's Teresa Gambaro said the demise of Kevin Rudd plus Anna Bligh's unpopularity explained part of the swing towards her.

"The redistribution may have helped marginally but I think it was more those other issues that played out," Ms Gambaro said.

"There's a lot of anger with Anna Bligh, there's the Kevin Rudd factor but also too the cost of living; people are struggling," she said.

"It (Brisbane) was a jewel in the Labor crown."

LNP member for the state seat of Clayfield Tim Nicholls said Queensland issues had influenced the poll.



Bevis



Gambaro

"Quite clearly people thought that voting for Julia Gillard would bring the same result as voting for Anna Bligh," he said.

Mr Bevis said there were several issues that might have changed voter's minds but the boundary changes were crucial.

He said he had not contemplated switching electorates despite the challenge.

"I have always regarded myself as very much from this part of Brisbane," he said.

"The thought did not cross my mind to do a Peter Dutton."

This week has been a tense wait for the candidates, who have both experienced this before.

Ms Gambaro said she had been in a similar situation when she represented Petrie.

"You've got your head on the chopping block and you just want it to end," she said. "You either want to win or lose, being in limbo is terrible."

Visit www.citynorthnews.com.au to stay up-to-date on who wins the seat of Brisbane.



CM199200

Designer do-gooder: Model Cassandra Robinson prepares for the luncheon.

Femmes fatale fundraiser

FINE food, fabulous fashion and the chance to raise funds for leukemia patients.

That's the theme of the Leukaemia Foundation's fifth Springtime Ladies Luncheon on September 3.

Guests will be treated to a fabulous afternoon at the exclusive Mirra Private

Dining and Events which includes a sumptuous two-course lunch, three-hour drinks package, canapés, a complimentary gift and the chance to win prizes.

Brisbane designer Leona Edmiston will showcase her spring summer-collection and the fashion parade will

be complimented by stunning jewellery from McKinney's Jewellers.

Guests can share in \$6000 worth of gift certificates donated by Edmiston and McKinney's.

Tickets cost \$125. Phone 3318 4436.

BRIEFLY

BUSINESS GONGS

THE *City North News* Business Achiever Awards will be held at The Strand at Eagle St tonight. The best and brightest small businesses of the inner-north will be recognised at the gala event. Don't miss next week's edition of the *City North News* for all the excitement of the awards.

WHARVES PLAN

THE company charged with transforming the derelict Howard Smith Wharves into a riverside parkland will be announced by early-2011. Brisbane City Council on Monday asked five firms to submit formal development proposals within 15 weeks. About 80 per cent of the 3.52ha must remain public open space.

ARMED ROBBERY

POLICE are investigating an armed robbery at a Clayfield shop on August 22. A man entered the shop at the intersection of Junction and Sandgate roads wielding a knife about 1.25am and demanded cash. He was given a sum of money and fled the store. The man is described as being of caucasian appearance, about 180cm and of average build.

RECORD FLYERS

BRISBANE Airport has broken its monthly passenger record with 1,792,000 passing through the domestic and international terminals during July. The figure broke the previous record established in June by 30,000. Domestic passengers at 1,387,717 were up 6.9 per cent for the same month on the previous year, while the international terminal saw 404,284 people, for 9.4 per cent growth.

RICHER EYES

TEN residents are \$100 richer after telling Brisbane City Council about problems in their suburb. Locals who report issues such as potholes, graffiti or cracked footpaths go into a monthly prize draw under the council's new Eyes in the Suburbs initiative. Report problems by phoning 34038888, or via the www.brisbanecity.mobi phone application.



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