

Greens unwittingly give CA's image a boost

The Herald Sun and Age both report the Greens as 'accusing' Country Alliance of being right wing and linked with the Shooters Party.

Both statements are factually incorrect (we've run split tickets in 2 of the 3 country upper house seats and the Shooters Party doesn't exist in Victoria), although we make no bones about supporting shooting (as we do for other similar activities such as fishing and four wheel driving) - and nor for that matter, does the ALP, LP or NP.

The Greens material (as has been reported) is, in our view, potentially misleading or deceptive, but the reason we are not upset about it is because apart from the right wing stuff, it suits our image. Being linked with "shootin', huntin', fishin, 4WD'ing" is not a problem in country Victoria.

In fact many towns depend on these activities. We noted that much in our opinion article in the Herald Sun earlier this year (regarding rodeos), so our call to the Greens is for them to "please feel free to spend your money to promote us in this way".

Mind you, we formally wrote to the Secretary of the Greens twice this year challenging them to declare they will not ban recreational fishing. While we have received informal acknowledgement of our correspondence through one of their candidates, no formal response or position has been ascertained.

Our plea to voters is "who would you rather vote for? Someone who supports "shootin', huntin', fishing, four wheel driving", or someone who favours heroin trials?"

CA's chairperson, Russell Bate finds this even more amusing given that he was a member of the ALP. When later appointed to the board of the ABC, he was accused of being a 'Labor stooge'.

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