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NEWS

Caddy vows to reverse the trend

HANNAH KNIGHT

RISE Up Australia Party president Daniel Nalliah expressed his love for our nation during his visit to Bendigo at the weekend.

About 60 people attended a campaign meeting in Long Gully on Saturday night and Mr Nalliah also spoke at the Oasis Christian Church on Sunday.

Australian flags were placed on seats at the campaign meeting which was opened with the National Anthem.

Mr Nalliah spoke about current world events, leadership and the upcoming federal election.

"Rise Up Australia Party is a party for all Australians who love their nation and want to keep Australia Australian for generations to come," Mr Nalliah said at Saturday night's campaign meeting.

Rise Up Australia operates under the tag line 'Keep Australia Australian' and has put Sarah Caddy forward as its federal candidate for Bendigo.

"A few weeks ago we celebrated Anzac Day," Mr Nalliah said.

"When I looked at all the diggers marching through the streets of Melbourne, Sydney and different places we saw a great excitement in the hearts of every Australian.

"To think that our forefathers fought the battle so that we could be free and democratic.

"But I have a big question?

"How long will that freedom continue if we, this generation, actually do not take a stand to protect those values that our forefathers fought for?"

Ms Caddy also addressed the audience during the campaign meeting.

Ms Caddy said she was concerned about what was being taught and what was not



Sarah Caddy

being taught in our public schools.

"Sustainability, Indigenous and Asian relations are cross curriculum subjects to be taught nationally in all subjects," she said in a recent statement to the media.

"We need to be concerned about the missing content of the proposed national curriculum.

"Are we moving toward a dictatorship with the anti-discrimination laws actually eroding our right to freedom of speech, freedom of conscience and freedom of religion and should the Tasmanian Reproduction Health Bill 2013 pass in its current form even our right to protest will be eroded.

"These problems originate with government legislation and will only be reversed by government legislation.

"A vote for the Rise Up Australia party will enable us to do just that – reverse the trend."



POLITICAL CYCLE: Lachlan Slade, second from right, with Greens members.

Greens pedal for votes

GREENS candidate for Bendigo, Lachlan Slade, took to the bike lanes of Bendigo and Castlemaine on Saturday for the nationwide Greens Day of Action.

Mr Slade rode around the centres of Bendigo and Castlemaine with local Greens members to promote both his campaign and the benefits of bicycle riding. He said bicycle riding was an increasingly popular and more climate-friendly alternative to the car.

However, Mr Slade said both Bendigo and Castlemaine were not very bicycle friendly.

"Bendigo has come a long way in improving bike lanes but it still is quite difficult to get around.

"Riding around Castlemaine can be terrifying."

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Mr Slade said he was eager for an election date

to be confirmed by Prime Minister Kevin Rudd.

"It's quite an inconvenience for candidates like me who have a day job," Mr Slade said. "I would like the certainty of an election date.

"I think also there are a lot of businesses waiting to know if it will be a Coalition, Labor or hung parliament before they make decisions."

- ELOISE JOHNSTONE

