



Greetings and good cheer and may 2016 be good to us all and who knows, the Government may actually do something constructive with the review of the Act, we may even see the fair balance of interest between the parties we were promised. Perhaps we are being a little too optimistic, pensioner home owners residing in residential parks are not a priority. The good news is that ARPQ is to become more “out there” this year, read on MacDuff.

INVITATIONS TO INFORMATION SESSIONS

Your committee has been very active throughout last year lobbying government, the AER (Australian Energy Regulator) and increasing our affiliation base with other pensioner and retirement groups. Numbers are important.

Members will be invited to attend these sessions Invitations will be sent out to parks in the surrounding area

We will be holding these sessions in various locations from the Gold Coast through to Hervey Bay and sessions will include round table discussion to hear members main concerns about residential park living and answering questions. Members will also be given an opportunity to suggest to your committee what issues ARPQ should also pursue to improve the lot of home owners who are the real backbone of the industry. Guest speakers may also be invited and all sessions will be videoed for distribution to the media if required and will also be shown on “YouTube and Facebook”.

The first session and area

Venue: Logan Central Community Meeting room, 26 Wilbur Street Logan Central (upstairs from the Library) and plenty of parking.

Date: Tuesday 15 March 2016

Time: 10-00 am to 12 noon (morning tea will be served)

This is to be the first meeting and numbers are limited to about 60 people so first in best dressed.

Please RSVP by 8 March 2016 and prepared questions need to be posted to:

ARPQ, PO Box 1124 Park Ridge, Qld 4124

**WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS TIME TO TELL THE TRUE STORY ABOUT
RESIDENTIAL PARK LIVING BEFORE THE INDUSTRY IS DESTROYED
BY THE BIG MONEY BOYS WHO CARE LITTLE FOR PENSIONER HOME OWNERS
AND WILL WILLINGLY PRICE US ALL OUT OF OUR HOMES IN THE NAME OF GREED.**

**UNFORTUNATELY, WHAT IS HAPPENNING IS SUPPORTED BY STATE GOVERNMENT
THIS IS WHY WE FORM ALLAINCES WITH OTHER GROUPS, WE ALL VOTE.**

Review of the QCAT Act

Here's an example of government ineptitude which to date defies logical explanation!

Back in late 2012 the LNP State Government advised interested parties that a review of the QCAT Act 2009 was to take place and we at ARPQ took advantage of the invitation to make a submission. This we did to the tune of some 25 pages all addressing the issues required for the review. We, like the Brisbane District Court of Appeal and many end users of this doubtful entity have always criticised QCAT for its very questionable decisions but we kept to script and answered all the set questions.

We submitted our submissions by the due date and nothing else happened. We based this inactivity by the Government on the fact that what it received back by way of submissions was scathingly truthful. As far as we can discern, the whole thing was best left alone. Truth is not always a good friend.

Then in a letter dated 22 April 2015 from the Attorney General and Minister for Justice Ms Yvette D'Ath MP we were invited to make a further submission because according to the letter. The Attorney General "*was committed to completion of the review*".

ARPQ was more than willing to contribute further because our research into the Tribunal system since 2012 had revealed that the Tribunal system is based heavily on the "Discretionary Powers" of tribunal members. This research displayed one of the underlying problems that contaminate the Queensland Tribunal system. Naturally, we based our 2015 submission on the use of discretionary powers of tribunal members and described where such discretion had been ignored or deliberately abused.

Again, like the original 2012 review, the whole thing seemed to fade into oblivion.

Then, surprise, surprise, we had an occasion late December 2015 to download another copy of the QCAT Act to replace our tattered and torn file and on the front of the file was the words "**Current as at 1 December 2014---revised version**".

The word *Revised* is a derivative of *Revision* meaning to *Review* according to Oxford Dictionary. So why send us a letter of invitation to make a further submission on the 22 April 2015?

We have asked the Attorney General for an explanation but to date have received no reply. Naturally the QCAT members would not like change. It's like the old Mortein ad "*when you're on a good thing stick to it*".

Issues like this should be exposed, this is only one we have picked up on. How many other dubious activities have taken place? It's also worth noting we now have a different housing minister in the name of the Hon. Michael (Mick) de Brenni MP.

You're ARPQ Committee