



Dear David,

During my State School days, many years ago now, we commenced writing using a slate and pencil; then progressed by advancing to pencil and paper.

These days school kids have advanced to the use of computers. Pencils would hardly be used, whilst paper is mainly used for printing out reports, letters and assignments.

The computer age has progressed so rapidly that computers are used almost solely in all facets of our livelihood.

Except for one place. **The Electoral Voting System.**

Why, in these modern times don't we have polling booths equipped with computers, using a simple software that all can understand, to both record, transmit and count votes, enabling results to be announced within a half hour of polling closing.

Items such as postal and absentee voting should be able to be easily handled.

The savings in wasted paper and printing alone would go a long way towards the cost of computers.

Voting would be quicker, and lots less computers would be needed than the present recorders of votes and booths to vote in.

An overhead projection screen would show clearly each party and candidates names, doing away with all the wasted literature which is glanced at for approximately one minute, then discarded.

Voting recounts such as we had in the recent elections would be a thing of the past.

There are many other plusses for a change to modernise our outdated current system .

I'm sure there are people clever enough to work out a much simpler, quicker, and less costly method of recording and counting our votes on election days.

I am looking forward to hearing your thoughts on this matter.

Thank you for your time.

Kindest Regards,

Barry Downs

METHOD OF VOTING AT COMPUTER DESK IN POLING BOOTH.

- 1. Supervisor asks voter his/her full name.**
- 2. Supervisor scrolls through Electoral Roll on computer till name appears**
- 3. Supervisor verifies by asking voter his/her address**
- 4. If correct, supervisor clicks voter's name and address on screen**
- 5. Voters name and address appears together with numbers 1,2,3,4,5.**

Special keyboard has large numbers 1 to 8, and "Enter" ONLY.

- 6. Voter, whilst viewing large overhead facing screen, presses number of candidate he/she wishes to vote for**

OR

**Numbers in preference order if preferential voting.
THEN PRESSES 'ENTER'.**

Vote for House of Representatives is recorded showing voters name and address (small letters), and voter's preference numbers (large numbers.)

- 7. Voter repeats 6 for Senate vote.**
- 8. Next please.**

N.B. For Senate individual voting, extra names and numbers would need to be included on screen and in computer program

(Suggest last November election results be analysed to check proportion of voters who voted using "all names" as compared to "party ONLY")

If proportion small, then scrap this method.

LARGE T.V. SCREEN ABOVE COMPUTER BOOTHS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

- 1. ARDROSSO Joe Democrats**
- 2. HANDSOME Pauline All Australia**
- 3. HAWKER David Liberal**
- 4. MOORE Archie Labour**
- 5. RYAN Peter Country**

SENATE

- 1. Democrat**
- 2. All Australia**
- 3. Liberal**
- 4. Labour**
- 5. Country**
- 6. Greens**
- 7. Anti Pollution**
- 8. Give Us a Go**