



BHG AGM and Seminar

Saturday 26 February 2022

GT125 Theatre, St Joseph's College
285 Gregory Terrace, Spring Hill



After a close thing in the 1969 Federal Election, Gough Whitlam led the Labor Party into government in 1972, its first time in office for over twenty years. Their election slogan was 'It's Time', and whilst there was an appetite for change at national level, how would this pan out in Queensland where Joh Bjelke Petersen was 4 years into a Premiership that lasted for 19 years? Despite his apparent popularity and approval not everyone in the local community was content to sit back and accept the status quo. Did Canberra listen, did it have any influence?

12.30 Registration and cash book sales

1.00 to 1.45pm BHG AGM

1.45pm Seminar It's Time or was it ?

4.30 Close

Free Event but bookings essential for Covid Compliance and Catering

Our presenters and their topics

Tom O'Brien *An Urban Community Coalition* Tom recalls two notable events at the end of 1972, the founding of the 'Brisbane Freeway Protest and Compensation Committee' shortly followed by the election of the Whitlam Labor Government. The Freeway struggle was part of the exciting, disruptive and necessary changes in Australian culture, society and politics. This presentation describes one experience of communities and activists resisting the power of the Queensland Government to impose unwanted and unnecessary development. Tom was 20 at the time and studying at UQ, he was the first Secretary of the BFP&CC

Selina Ward *Protecting the Reef* In the late 1960s, Joh Bjelke Peterson ruled Queensland and the Liberal Party had been in power for 20 years. Businesses were queuing up to prospect for oil/natural gas and mine coral on the Great Barrier Reef, but the marine conservation movement was picking up pace. A royal commission was established to investigate whether drilling would damage the reef. Before it reported Gough Whitlam swept to power giving the federal government overriding control, creating the GBR Marine Park to protect it. Selina is a Councillor and past president of the Australian Coral Reef Society and Senior Lecturer at UQ School of Biological Sciences

Anne Jones *Won't Get Fooled Again* Without Whitlam the radical radio station 4ZZZ-FM would never have existed. Even then it was touch-and-go as the Whitlam Government fell on 11 November 1975 before the station had even begun broadcasting. 4ZZZ-FM became a lightning rod and voice for young people who wanted to taking a wrecking ball to the status quo. Anne was 4ZZZ-FM station coordinator 1982-83 and *Cane Toad Times* editor 1983-90

Lisa Jones *Between a Rock and a Hard Place* The 1970s were a period of rapid change and great militancy. Into this potentially volatile scenario came Raymond Whitrod, appointed Commissioner of the Queensland Police in September 1971. Whitrod brought ideas of promotion on merit, an increase in policewomen numbers, and a more highly educated police officer. However, these attempts at change were resisted and thwarted at the highest levels. Whitrod reportedly remarked that his resignation on 15 November 1976, was "a victory for the forces of corruption in the State"

Booking Essential

Eventbrite: Search for 'It's Time' **Email:** brisbanehistoryevents@gmail.com

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