

STREET POLL

➔ Do you think Paul Pisasale should run for Queensland Premier?



SUZANNE DOYLE
Flinders View

Yeah, why not? I think with the floods he's done a good job. I think he'd listen to the people of Ipswich.



JASON HARTFIELD
North Ipswich

No, because Ipswich would lose a good bloke. He's done well for Ipswich.



JANELLE RAVEN
Booval

Yes I do because I have a lot of respect for the man. I think he's done a fantastic job. It would be sad to see him go.



SPEAK UP

3

Nolan faces new poll fight

FIRE UP: A NEW POLITICAL PARTY HEADED BY BUS DRIVER KEITH CARNELL IS ON TRACK TO TARGET INSURANCE COMPANIES AT THE NEXT ELECTION

BRIAN SEMMENS
semmensb@qst.news1td.com.au

TRANSPORT and post-flood insurance reform are in the sights of a new Ipswich-born political party aiming to defeat Rachel Nolan at the next state poll.

It comes as speculation grows that Premier Anna Bligh will call an early election after the elevation of Brisbane Lord Mayor Camp-

bell Newman to the LNP leadership.

Keith Carnell, who won national media exposure after the floods with US legal expert Erin Brockovich riding on the back of his Harley-Davidson, is president of the pending United Road Users Party Queensland.

The party, which expects to finalise registration within days, will face a tough battle to oust Ms Nolan, who won



FROM LEFT: Keith Carnell, Paul Pisasale and Pauline Hanson.

60 per cent of the primary vote for Labor in a four-way race at the 2009 state poll.

The new party wants to tackle rising fuel, car registration and driver licence

costs as well as get insurance companies to reform policy coverage for floods.

"The big business of insurance companies won't talk to ordinary Australians,

maybe they'll talk to us when we're politicians," said the 47-year-old east Ipswich bus driver who voiced his concerns to Prince William during the recent royal visit to Ipswich.

"We're working-class, ordinary people asking why we're paying more for everything and why services are being scrapped."

Ms Nolan had not returned calls for comment on the new

party by the time the *Ipswich News* went to print.

Ipswich Mayor Paul Pisasale has dismissed calls to run for state politics. "I've made a commitment to the people of Ipswich," he said.

Meanwhile, former Ipswich fish shop owner Pauline Hanson is in the running for a seat in the NSW Parliament upper house.

➔ Read more at questnews.com.au

Jump behind wheel for slicker drive section

SHANNON SAGAIDAK
sagaids@qst.news1td.com.au

OUR new-look Carsguide has been made for car nuts like Alan and Debbie Wallis.

Carsguide will cover almost everything on wheels as the *Ipswich News* moves to a new publication day of Wednesday from next week.

For some, a car is merely a tool for getting from point A to point B, but the Wallis couple are not most people.

The Ipswich duo share a driving passion for classic cars and motorsport, with their restored 1965 Ford Falcon XP ute taking pride of place in their garage.

Mr Wallis, who did much of the restoration work including a custom red mica paint job, said driving should be a pleasurable experience, not a chore.

He said Ipswich offered many opportunities for the motoring enthusiast thanks to facilities like Willowbank and Queensland raceways.

"We've had huge fun with it both in Ipswich and going to shows from Townsville to Melbourne," Mr Wallis said.

"One of our most enduring memories with the XP was



the Canberra Early Falcon Nationals, and it wasn't the show that particularly stood out, it was the journey there.

"We drove in convoy with five other Queensland clubbies, via Newcastle where we picked up the NSW and Newcastle Clubs, and drove with 29 Falcons to Canberra."

Mrs Wallis said one of her most humorous motorsport highlights was a trip to Mount Panorama in 2004 for the annual V8 Supercar race at Bathurst.

"As the race ended and the commentators congratulated the crowds on being so well-behaved that year, the fans picked up their gear, licked their wounds, traded statistics, shouted in elation and somebody set fire to a lounge that had just appeared on the viewing hill."

➔ The Ipswich News will feature more local automotive reports, news and reviews each week in Carsguide from April 6



UTE BEAUTY: Debbie Wallis with the 1965 Ford Falcon XP ute.

Picture: PETER CRONIN

FlexiLink reforms

TRANSPORT Minister Anastacia Palaszczuk will announce reforms to Ipswich's troubled FlexiLink service this week.

She had earlier said that the announcement would be made today.

Ms Palaszczuk, who cut a 12-month trial period into axed 505, 510 and 523 routes to three months, said the trial had ended but she would not comment on potential changes.

Ms Palaszczuk, who replaced Finance and Arts Minister Rachel Nolan as transport minister in a Cabinet reshuffle earlier this year, said she would be assessing all the feedback and would make a decision later this week.

The bus services had been replaced with subsidised taxi services that have been criticised for inefficiencies, isolating residents not in FlexiLink zones and leaving passengers stranded.

Save Our Buses campaigners had voiced their concerns and petitioned against the decision to axe those routes.

NOW OPEN FOR BUSINESS

REPAIRS TO ALL MAKES OF VEHICLES 4WD'S & ALL LIGHT COMMERCIALS

A&D MECHANICAL

WE GET THE JOB DONE

"A&D Mechanical would like to extend their thanks to all customers for their continued support."

SERVICES WE PROVIDE:

Log Book Servicing, Tune Ups, Suspension, Wheel Balancing, Lube Service, Clutch & Brake, Safety Check and lots more.....

Discounts for Seniors & Carers

EFTPOS & CREDIT PAYMENT AVAILABLE

> Unit 1/1 Turley St Ipswich QLD 4305 > Ph: 3812 9666 > Fax: 3812 8965