

Your Say

YOUR VOICE IN THE TERRITORY

VOTE
Should Julia Gillard resign over her botched asylum seeker plan?

To cast your vote go to www.ntnews.com.au

LAST WEEK'S VOTE



Should football brawlers be banned from the game for life?
Yes 72% No 28%

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2011

NT News

Pride a key to Top End claim

WHEN is a Territorian a Territorian?

Parliamentary Speaker Jane Aagaard has decreed Margaret Somerville is not a Territorian because she lived in the NT for "only" 19 of her 99 years.

Fair enough.

By that criteria, Tour de France winner Cadel Evans is not a Territorian.

He was born in the NT but lived here for only a few years, and yet the Territory Government has put up a sign in Katherine to honour him.

By that criteria, several Members of the Legislative Assembly – the political nursery school over which Ms Aagaard has to rule, armed only with a gavel – aren't Territorians either.

For instance, Matt Conlan and Adam Giles have lived in the NT for far fewer years than Margaret Somerville. And, some cruel people might say, have made far less impact.

Former Chief Minister Clare Martin had a rough-and-ready way of putting Territorian-ness to the test.

She used to say you were a Territorian as soon as you felt like one.

In other words, as soon as you wiped your brow and said: "Strewth! Roll on the dry season!"

Others would impose a tougher test.

Such as when you start thinking it's quite acceptable to walk into a supermarket barefooted.

Or when you fail to see that making boats out of beer cans might be sending a dubious message.

Or when you learn how to peel a mango.

Surely the true test is when someone calls you a Territorian and you feel proud.

... and another thing

SINGER Dan Sultan's management – southerners, needless to say – told the *NT News* he shouldn't be referred to as a Territorian, despite having grown up here. Sultan replied: "They can get f...ed!" Now that's a Territorian – proud and to the point.

The Fixer

WHAT: A strip of Nightcliff road is also crumbling. It follows a dead straight line, suggesting there were possibly some works of some kind underneath.

WHO'S RESPONSIBLE:

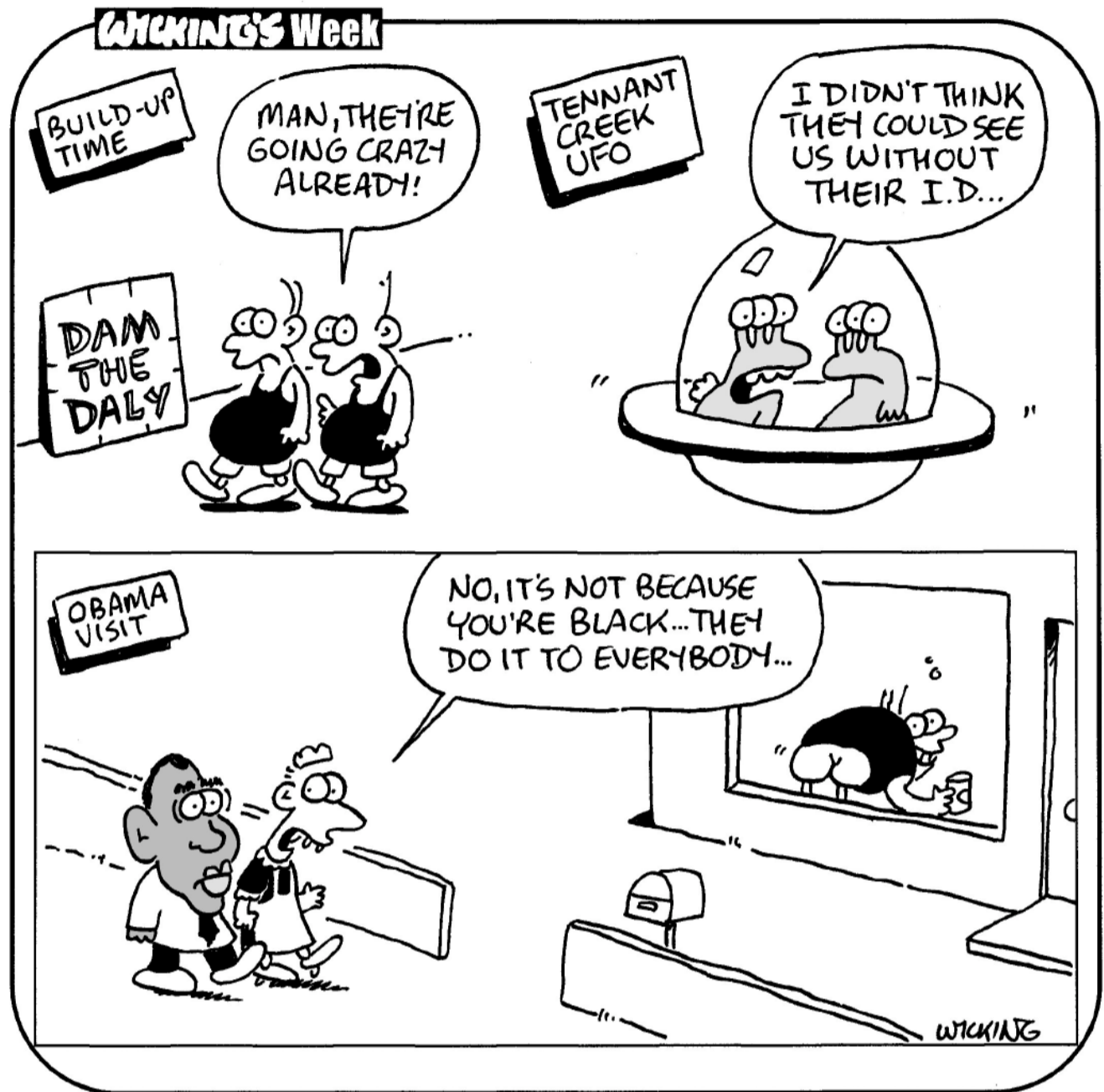
Darwin City Council general manager for infrastructure, Luccio Cercarelli.

CONTACT: (08) 8930 0581



DO YOU know of something in the Territory that needs fixing? Give The Fixer a call on 8944 9750 or email thefixer@ntnews.com.au

Letters to the editor should be kept to 175 words or less. Send your letters to GPO Box 1300, Darwin, 0801, or email ntnmail@ntnews.com.au. You must include your name, home address or PO Box number. Name and address will be withheld on request. The *Northern Territory News* reserves the right to edit letters. Responsibility is taken by the Editor, *NT News*, GPO Box 1300, Darwin, NT, 0801



Letters

BOYCOTT COCA-COLA IN SUPPORT OF CDS

A CALL to boycott Coca-Cola Amatil products.

The container deposit scheme (CDS) is supported by all political parties and, most importantly, nearly all Territorians.

Yet the multi-national company Coca-Cola Amatil is taking the NT Government to court to put an end to the scheme. It does this out of total self-interest, and is an affront to our community.

I ask Territorians to show that rebellious, individual spirit we share, and boycott Coca-Cola Amatil products to stop their wasteful, disrespectful action.

I, and my friends, will be.
Simon Townsend
Fannie Bay

WHY NO-ONE CALLS IT 'ANSWER TIME'

LISTENING to debate in the Federal Parliamentary sit-

tings leaves me a little confused. Questions are asked and rarely answered.

I have yet to hear our Prime Minister give a direct answer to any question put to her.

Worse still are the interjections by members – the speaker seems to have no control at all.

Surely the speaker has the power to eject unruly members – after all, they are there at taxpayers' expense and wasting time in Parliament is not value for money.

Taxpayers expect more than juvenile behaviour from politicians, such as would not be tolerated in primary school.

Tony Hardwick
Humpty Doo

AUSTRALIA NEEDS SOME YINGLUCK

I AM in the great country of Thailand and have had the opportunity of watching

Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra in action.

She is articulate (in English as well), presentable, photogenic, decisive and appears to be popular.

This is in total contrast to Julia Gillard.

I wonder if Yingluck would consider looking after Australia as well. Cheers from a great country.

P Pedersen, Tiwi

IMMIGRANT OBJECTION TRACED TO RELIGION

REGARDING the comments concerning illegal immigrants. Some say that most immigrants after the war soon fitted into our community and then began making little Aussies, and many did just that, (and I know that because I was there) therefore we should let in all those who want to come now.

However I wonder if they have recorded how many Greek, Chinese, Polish,

Hungarian, Italian, Russian, German, French, etc people who have, after coming here, and then after reading their own holy book, decided that they must go out and kill as many of us they can. I suggest it would be very few.

In fact if any single one of the immigrant countries produced a number of people who, after arriving here, felt the need to take up arms against their hosts, we would have stopped any more from that country arriving.

That is the difference today. Most Aussies couldn't care less about where immigrants come from, even when they come by boat illegally, but we do care if they are Muslims. This is the elephant in the room which few are prepared to acknowledge. This is the sole reason most object to asylum seekers coming here.

The Lone Ranger
Darwin

On this day IN THE TERRITORY

10 YEARS AGO: ABS figures have revealed males outnumber females in the NT. WA is the only other state or territory in Australia where men outnumber females.

20 YEARS AGO: Aboriginal Affairs Minister Robert Tickner has secretly approved the spending of millions of taxpayers' dollars and mining royalties to buy pastoral properties in the NT.

25 YEARS AGO: The NT Government is hoping a start will be made late next year on a \$610m freight railway project between Darwin and Alice Springs.