

Speak Up: Are you worried about the El Niño affecting this year's build-up?

NO The build-up's the weather does what it does.



LIONEL WYLIE, DARWIN

NO Because I'm not across the subject to be worried.



JASON DAVIS, CBD

NO Because it's a cycle.



DAVE JOHNSON, VIRGINIA

YES I don't want a long build-up. I don't think anyone wants a long build-up.



CHRISTINA CHRISTOU, DARWIN

YES Because it's going to affect our climate.



MARIA BUCHANAN, DARWIN

YOUR VOICE IN THE TERRITORY

Letters

LETTER OF THE DAY

Elferink's plan has its pluses

ATTORNEY-General John Elferink's announcement of a hybrid ICAC structure for the Territory should be cautiously welcomed.

As members of the proposed "integrity group", the Ombudsman and Public Interest Disclosure Commissioner are not ordinary public servants; they are independent statutory office holders.

They are not "answerable to the people who hired them". The Police Commissioner is arguably an appropriate member of the integrity group, as long as he stands aside when police are under investigation.

Moreover, the integrity group should have the power to refer investigations to an independent interstate agency in

appropriate cases, as occurred recently with the McRobert's investigation.

If all these steps are taken, this is potentially a good solution for a tiny jurisdiction like the NT. We certainly need an independent body with the full powers of a corruption commission but we can't afford the large cost of a NSW-style ICAC with its very own extensive investigative staff.

Mr Elferink does not deserve criticism just because his proposed corruption commission solution does not precisely mirror that of NSW. It is a state with a population of 7.5 million whereas the NT has just 250,000.

Ken Parish, Lecturer in Law, CDU

PICK OF THE PICS



It's going to be a long, hot build up before the wet comes due to an El Nino, and Tom Hugard is suffering with the heat

Picture: ELISE DERWIN

online comments www.ntnews.com.au

ON JAMES HIRD

■ Yes. About time. He's as arrogant as Malthouse. I hope the Bombers can regroup and play some decent footy for their supporters for the remaining few games this year. **Andrew Webber**

■ Nobody ever blames the million dollar players ... only the coaches. **Leonard Duffy**

■ Walks away with \$750,000 - laughing all the way to the bank. **Maggie Good**

ON MMA MUM-TO-BE

■ Does that count as a tag team match? **Shaun Dean**

■ How can people watch this? **David Johnson**

ON AUSTRALIA'S MOST WANTED FUGITIVES

■ Wrong people. They should be going after the people running this country. Biggest crooks of all time. **Greg Martin**

■ Yup every Friday and Satur-

■ After five kids of my own, I have no issue at all with telling these mums off if they try to re-educate me on 'proper' parenting. - SEE BELOW

day on Mitchell St. **Panos Karakitsos**

ON DIGITAL DETOX

■ It feels ironic reading this at 5am when I couldn't sleep. I'm outta here. **Caitlin Stachowski**

■ Good dose of camping with

no reception works for me. **Justin Pendergast**

ON WOMAN DUMPED HOUR BEFORE WEDDING

■ My daughter's wedding was called off three weeks before - everything is meant for a reason - she is much happier now. **Mary Makrylos**

■ Wow, I thought six weeks before my wedding day was rough. One hour before ... that's brutal. **Stephanie Heazlewood**

■ Be grateful the universe was looking out for you while you were too consumed by 'love'. **Nicole Sheppard**

■ You are extremely lucky. Think what it would have been like for you going forward, and how hard your life would have been. **Barbara Thomas**

ON SANCTO-MUMMIES

■ They should honestly just shut up and raise their own kids. After five kids of my own, I have no issue at all with telling these mums off if they try to re-educate me on 'proper' parenting. I have two daughters who loved their dummy. They were both four or five when they gave it up. My child, my choice. **Mikala Westlake**

■ Have respect for good fathers and mothers ... honestly. **Mark Epworth**

txt the editor 0428 NTNEWS (686 397)

ON OPEN SPEED LIMITS

■ The trouble with open speed limits is lack of driver skills despite blind faith in their ability & many Territory cars aren't up to the mark either. **Live Gerl**

■ I recently did a driving trip to Cairns & back, 130 is fast enough. Only wish Queensland would increase their limit to match ours, way too slow, makes you sleepy!

■ Steve of Nightcliff if you need boundaries set for yourself, then you really are the

one that knows best. Most drivers in modern vehicles covering the distances in NT, have no trouble maintaining a speed they are comfortable with. The law has many ways to keep the fools in check at any speed. **Lance Dasey, Noonamah**

ON SAME SEX MARRIAGE

■ I am a supporter of marriage equality between a man & woman, husband & wife that's just natural. Same sex unions are equal already that's it done move on. **The V.**

■ Stories of Crocs & UFOs in the NT News, God's in his heaven & all must be right with the world. Ain't the Territory marvellous. **AGreville, Darwin.**

■ This marriage debate seems one sided with the media mainly focused on the homosexual argument. Does this indicate a good sprinkling of homosexuals or their supporters in the media? **Col. Hwd Springs**

■ Same sex marriage is based on legal rights. The paramount

issue is the effect of same sex parenting and the future of those children. As yet I've heard nothing now we have a visiting adult advocate willing to share her life being raised under same sex parenting and the outcomes to her (those children) are the highest priority to consider. **The Virginian**

■ Has anybody stopped to think how messed up same sex divorce will end up and same sex custody battles who's most favoured?

ON OTHER THINGS

■ Adam Giles cannot call a spade a spade it's always a skinny shovel! **Noonyman**

■ The NT News could run "Minister Chandler's blunders" column. He daily demonstrates his incompetence. Today it's the police numbers which were promised but are only

coming because the CLP smell an election. Education suffers too as he reneged on a three-month consultation, then backflips the day before.

■ No phone & internet service at Marrakai since last Thursday! Rang Telstra, may as well talk to a robot!! x-(

■ Nice to see the numbers of Territory coppers is up by 84.83. (NT News, 18/08). Something is missing though. Constable 0.83 is not all there. **El Vergil.**