

OP GRAND 5

Gold Coast Sun, Edition 1 - GC Sun North WED 09 JUN 2004, Page
**Record run bankrolled
by developers**

By MURRAY HUBBARD

EXHIBIT No. 111
.....
..... CLERK

FORMER headmaster Brian Rowe took more than \$83,000 in industry to run his council election campaign against Peter Young. The donations are revealed in a council register of campaign gifts. The gifts include \$35,000 from the 'Common Sense Trust' - also known as the Lionel Barden Trust - distributed by Hickey Lawyers. Mr Rowe's register declares a total of \$87,100 to run his unsuccessful campaign - believed to be the most expensive in the history of Gold Coast local government outside mayoral campaigns. The register shows that Mr Rowe accepted \$7500 from the Lionel Barden Trust Fund on January 5 and again on January 30. A further \$20,000 was accepted on February 20. In a Gold Coast Sun article on January 18, both Mr Rowe and his campaign manager, John Lang, denied receiving any money from the development industry. On Monday, Mr Rowe said he was at the time unaware of the Lionel Barden Trust. Mr Rowe said at the time that his campaign was being funded by 'family, friends and businesses.' Mr Lang said no money had been paid into a specific account from Mr Rowe from developers. Mr Rowe said on Monday his friends included Lang, John Fish and Brett Currey. Others to contribute to Mr Rowe's campaign included four companies associated with surveyor/developer Brett Currey - Wongawallan Holdings Pty Ltd, Coomglen Pty Ltd, Minuet Pty Ltd and Cresthill Pastoral Pty that each gave \$1500. Fish Developments, run by John Fish, gave \$24,000 on March 10 and a week later \$5000 was given by developer Edwin Yu. Both Mr Fish and Mr Yu have large developments on Hope Island. Mr Fish and Mr Yu have joint plans to redevelop the Surfers Paradise golf course into a residential development. Craig Gore's Aurora Developments Pty Ltd, also a major development player on Hope Island, contributed \$10,000 to the campaign. John Lang's Lang Realty Pty Ltd gave \$3500. After the election, on April 18, Mr Rowe admitted receiving \$20,000 from the Lionel Barden Trust consisting of money raised from the development industry. Roxanne Scott admitted receiving \$5000 from a fund controlled by Mal Chalmers solicitor, and a further \$10,000 from the Lionel Barden Trust Fund. She also accepted \$18,673 in services from advertising consultants, Quadrant, accounts believed to have been paid by the Lionel Barden Trust Fund. Those unsuccessful candidates yet to submit returns are John Wayne, David Childs, Jill Pead, Stephen Cameron, Peter Drake and David Dunk.

Caption: Peter Young
Brian Rowe
Illus: Photo
GCS-20040609-1-013-4007849V15

Gold Coast Sun, Edition 1 - GC Sun North WED 14 APR 2004, Page 009
Roxanne hits back on funds

By MERILYN MacKENZIE

FAILED Gold Coast City Council candidate Roxanne Scott says she saw nothing wrong with dipping into alleged 'developer' funds from solicitors' trust accounts set up by entrepreneur Lionel Barden to run a slick \$30,000 campaign. Mrs Scott, a Liberal Party member, also admitted gaining support from both Liberals and Labor as well as sitting councillors in her bid to overthrow veteran Southport campaigner Councillor Dawn Crichlow at the March 27 elections.

"I had support from both Liberal and Labor local members and Dawn said it was a conspiracy, or words to that effect," she said.

An angry Mrs Scott has come clean on donations in a bid to clear her name after what she labelled a dirty and childish campaign aimed at muddying her reputation. The Department of Employment senior adviser said that even though she accepted funding from two solicitors' trust accounts no one ever asked whether she was 'pro-development'.

"I went around a number of people who had previously had issues with Dawn.

"I went to Bob La Castra and he sought some funds for me . . . and later on more funds became available. I was never asked at any time whether I was pro-development, whether I was green, whether I was anything else."

However Cr La Castra denied he sought funding for Mrs Scott saying he 'gave her an idea of the people who might want to help' including the chambers of commerce and that funding may have come 'indirectly' from his advice.

Mrs Scott said she would never have taken money if there had been conditions attached. The money was accessed from a trust fund set up by Lionel Barden through the Chambers of Commerce.

Mr Barden reportedly also helped Mrs Scott and fellow candidates who were accessing the funds with advice on how to run campaigns.

Mrs Scott also denied any knowledge of who had contributed to the solicitors' trust accounts.

"I just received a cheque from a solicitor Tony Hickey (Hickey Lawyers) and another from solicitor **Mal Chalmers**," she said.

"It was set up that way was so that both the people giving the funds and the people receiving the funds didn't know each other. The reason that they gave the funds, I felt, was they thought that the current council was dysfunctional"

Mrs Scott admitted her decision to run was part of a 'mid-life crisis' but she had not been willing to risk her own funds on an ego trip.

"it has never been mentioned that Dawn declared funds from Meriton (developers of the Sundale site).

"If that is not pro-development I don't know what is."

Message protected by MailGuard: e-mail anti-virus, anti-spam and content filtering.
<http://www.mailguard.com.au>