



ABC ATTACKS ABALINX & ASSOCIATES

Abalinx 17 April 2018 Peter Adamis

Yesterday at 3.06 pm I received a call from Richard Willingham, a young chap who describes himself as Victoria's state political reporter in Melbourne. He is apparently a young journalist who joined the ABC in 2017 after having spent some seven years covering Victorian and Federal politics with The Age.

His telephone manner was excellent, spoke well, listened carefully, made comments where necessary and was provided with a brief on alleged conspiracy within the Liberal party. In today's ABC news I read where young Richard Willingham mentions Sean Armistead and Greg Hannan. This is interesting because at no stage were their names mentioned during the telephone conversation and therefore the only conclusion that one could come to is the concept of collusion between young Richard Willingham and unknown recalcitrants' and sycophants' who are failures on a State and Federal level within the Liberal Party. They know who they are and there is no need for me to add fuel to the fire. On the other hand, I could be wrong in my analysis of young Richard Willingham's article, but it is the only conclusion I can come to.

Then young Richard Willingham goes on to write about 9000 emails being accessed. This statement of his clearly indicates that he had inside information about how many members were affected. At no stage did I mention 9000 emails being fed into my subscriber's data base. To do that requires stealth, deception, a good understanding of how my web site system operates, a reasonable knowledge beyond my capacity of data bases and WordPress machinations, how long it would take for me to identify the problem and to react to complaints.

As for me describing myself as a Journalist, I merely said that I am freelance journalist whose skills for the past ten years are nowhere near the professionalism demonstrated by journalists such as young Richard Willingham and other professionals of the quill. In fact if my memory serves me correctly I believe I complimented all professional journalist for their good work. Again, I may have made an error of judgement in thinking that all professional journalists are at the same level and of high quality. I guess each profession must have its bad apples, leakers, confidants, "cake whisperers", weasels, worms, recalcitrants and sycophants'. I must be one of them masquerading as freelance journalist for the past ten years. Gosh, how I got away with it, amazes even me. But it does not matter, each day we learn something new and with that new knowledge we move forward upwards into the night while others are asleep in bed.

As for the title: "Liberal infighting over presidency erupts amid complaints about email data leak", what can one say other than it was designed to capture our imagination, tease us into reading the article and creating an environment for further discussion. The only trouble is that there is no conspiracy, there is no release of emails to the best of my knowledge and there is certainly no deluge of complaints by members at my end. I received approximately 135 complaints from alleged Liberal party members, 75 from ex-military members who were advised that their emails were provided to me as a result of a website I was running on their behalf for free and about two from the community who no longer wanted to subscribe. All this out of a subscriber's data base that had been running for the past 14 years.

With regards to young Richard Willingham, I wish him all the best in his chosen career and my advice to him is not to believe all the bullshit he is fed by bad apples, leakers, confidants, "cake whisperers", weasels, worms, recalcitrants and sycophants'. Be a responsible journalist and craft his articles using a quill that is not broken. As always, apologies to readers for the savagery of the English language, poor grammar and punctuation. Posing as a freelance journalist does not mean we reap all the rewards. I do it for fun and to remember my mates that I have met in my life, nothing more. Have a great day.



Peter Adamis is a Journalist/Social Media Commentator and writer. He is a retired Australian military serviceman and an Industry organisational & Occupational (OHS) & Training Consultant whose interests are within the parameters of domestic and international political spectrum. He is an avid blogger and contributes to domestic and international community news media outlets as well as to local and Ethnic News. He holds a Bachelor of Adult Learning & Development (Monash), Grad Dip Occupational Health & Safety, (Monash), and Dip. Training & Assessment, Dip Public Administration, and Dip Frontline Management. Website: abalinx.com
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LIBERAL INFIGHTING OVER PRESIDENCY ERUPTS AMID COMPLAINTS ABOUT EMAIL DATA LEAK

ABC Richard Willingham 17 April 2018

PHOTO: [Mr Kroger remains the favourite to retain the Victorian Liberal Party presidency at state council.](#) (ABC News)

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The private details of thousands of Liberal Party members have been used as part of an internal fight, with officials accused of leaking the information as part of a battle for power ahead of the state council. Complaints have been lodged with the party about the alleged misuse of Liberal members' details and come as the battle to unseat party president Michael Kroger intensifies with less than two weeks before the ballot.

Mr Kroger remains the favourite to retain the presidency [but has been under pressure over the court action against the party's major benefactor, the Cormack Foundation.](#) The Victorian Liberal Party has taken the foundation to court over who controls the money in the accounts. The foundation and Mr Kroger have been at loggerheads for more than 12 months. Cormack provides vital cash to the party to run its operations. Should the party lose that action it could face millions in legal costs, which would hurt the party already tackling debt.

Greg Hannan, who is challenging for the presidency, has been campaigning on a platform to end the fight with the Cormack Foundation and a promise to keep the party headquarters in party hands. The Liberal Party has owned the building at 104 Exhibition St since the 1970s but Mr Kroger has not ruled out selling the asset to help boost the party's ailing funds ahead of two elections in the next 12 months.

Members 'aghast' that details had been accessed. Allegations about the release of private email details from branch members have raised concerns about how many people have access to sensitive voter data held by political parties, especially given the Victorian Liberals are using the data harvesting tool i360 that was successfully used by President Donald Trump and the Republicans.

Branch member Peter Adamis, who runs a blog on Liberal Party issues and describes himself as a journalist, has emailed thousands of party members attacking factional enemies, including former state and federal candidate Sean Armistead. But as a non-office bearer he should not have access to party email databases. Complaints from several members have been lodged with the party state director Nick Demiris and Mr Kroger.

Mr Adamis said the thousands of emails were added to his database by "recalcitrants" and that he was not provided with sensitive information from headquarters. He has apologised and said he had to rebuild his database of subscribers. ["Members are aghast that more than 9,000 emails were accessed by a third party unaffiliated with HQ," one complainant told the ABC.](#)

"What other confidential information has been accessed and by who?" Senior officials at the party headquarters, while aware of the complaints, said there was no evidence of anyone from the executive releasing private information. Mr Kroger did not wish to comment. The state council has already courted controversy after Mr Kroger was forced to intervene to have a motion to allow gay conversion therapy to be debated scrapped, amid public criticism. The council will be held at the end of the month.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-04-17/private-details-of-liberal-party-members-used-in-internal-fight/9663968>