



The Lion

Marcus Bastiaan

Abalinx 23 March 2018 Peter Adamis

Marcus Bastiaan is one of those rare animals that comes along every so often to lord it over their animal kingdom and once they have achieved their aim, they disappear. But in his case it appears that this lion for it appears he is not going anywhere. He has staked out the size of his animal kingdom, worked out what is good for him, and surrounded himself with likewise lions and holds court whenever he feels like it. I could make a derogatory remark about the lion but then I would be accused of bullying the lion who likes nothing better than to roar and make his presence known that you are in his domain.



One way of describing him could be that he has this cold, arrogant and confident demeanour about him and carries himself as if the world was his oyster and his alone. A bloke like that, one would avoid, but then I have the life experiences not to be fooled by this young man. I must admit when I first met him, I was struck with the similarities between him and a young [Michael Kroger](#) that I had so many years ago and yet I kept my distance. Since that time, I have not change my views about him. He is confident, an excellent speaker who can also hold his own whether it is on the football field, in the company of me and women whether they are of the same age or not.

He has the same charisma less the worldly experience to bring to the same level as Michael Kroger who I can only assume is his mentor after that indomitable political warrior Ian Mence who first found him and supported him through his embryonic political stages.

I had first met young Bastiaan after a mutual friend had asked that I go and interview and see what type of character he was. We had so much of this young man's meteoric rise within the Brighton region and I wondered whether he was related to another military chap famous for placing bronze plaques around the world where Australian soldiers, sailors and airmen had perished during battle. Yes In was soon to find out that he was indeed the son of this famous man.

It did not take [Marcus Bastiaan](#) long to rise through the ranks and make a name for himself. It appeared that Michael Kroger took a liking to him and began the Ernest task of introducing him to then party faithful and taking him with him through ought his trips in Victoria. One could say that when you spoke with Michael Kroger on the hop you can bet that young Marcus Bastiaan was a passenger I the seat next to him I am of the believe that Marcus Bastiaan is another young [Michel Kroger](#) who will do well in the future. However, having said that, I am somewhat concerned about his domestic life regarding his time away from his family.

I found that now that he is now married to [Stephanie Ross](#), and they have a child, whether it is wise to leave his young family alone for long periods while he is gallivanting all over the Victorian countryside advocating and preaching to the party faithful. I am just not convinced that he should be doing that at a time when quality time at home is far more important. Still he is a master of his own destiny and I am sure that his wife Stephanie supports him. As one who has raised four sons on his own, I feel that there is a downside to all of this and although I wish him well. I am still rather concerned that he is putting so much of himself on then line for the Liberal party. It is one thing to be committed and dedicated to an ideology and another thing to be absent from loved ones. Mind you, I am not one to judge and I am thankful that someone in the Liberal is that dedicated. It gives me hope in a self-interest way.

As for his attributes, he is a successful businessman, entrepreneur, excellent organiser, great debater, and organiser and has the knack to get the best out of people and help develop their skills and knowledge to a higher level. Yes, I can say that he is being groomed for bigger and better things and I am of the belief that he is putting a lot of his energies into the Liberal party to demonstrate that he is capable of leading it into the future. I guess that he can do it. He carries no baggage, there are no skeletons that I know of in his closet and at the only thing that I can criticise him is that he does not have the life experiences necessary at this point in time. Give him another two years and that maturity to manage others will come naturally to him.



His friendship with his mate [Paul Mitchell \(alias the Wolf\)](#) is well known and yet this truly surprising because they knew not of each other until some five years ago. How they were introduced was through a mutual Liberal Party confidante who sadly is no longer a member of the Liberal party for blotting his notebook by allegedly "[Branch stacking](#)": an electorate. An act which unfortunately brought him to the office of the State Director who gave him an ultimatum, resign or be forcibly removed. Why do I know of this?

It is because I was there during the meeting and I made sure that this young lad was not railroaded or made to sign something which was not in his interest. [This young lad lost his job](#) but was promised that once the Federal Election was over he would be asked to come back. Well it is now ben two years and this young lad has not returned.

I am not sure who was responsible but I must say the incident left a sour taste in my mouth and I vowed that never again would I let a young chap or a women fall for such intimidation and implied threats. What I do know is that the young Liberals had something to do with it and that it demonstrated to me that you either fitted in with their ideology and outlook on life or you were ostracised. [Marcus Bastiaan](#) has that streak of viciousness within him and I must say that he would be someone you would want in the trenches should we go to war metaphorically speaking.

Today, should you meet with Marcus Bastiaan I would not be surprised if you came away charmed by his frank manner and jovial presentation. He dresses well, went to good schools, comes from a stable family environment, started his own business on his own, well like by his peers and feared by some of his contemporaries.

If I was at the same age, I would probably clash with him because I doubt very much that I would be able to match his manner, presentation, style, leadership qualities and his outlook on life. I would probably shun him as we would not be on the same level. But that is me only and not the opinion of then many who like being with him. As for those that despise his rise within the Party ranks, all that I can say is watch and learn from this young man, whether you like him or not he is here to stay and he has all the trappings of a future leader of the Party. He has been accused of branch stacking, selecting his own crew, demanding nothing but the best from all and expecting utter commitment to the Liberal cause.

[His detractors](#) also accuse him of being dogmatic, using divide and rule strategies and creating chaos in order to win the day. The only time that I would find myself against Marcus Bastiaan is if he fails to follow the [values of the party](#), casts asides his friends, does not support Michael Kroger and in turn [Matthew Guy](#) who is seeking to win government at the next State election. Marcus in my view may be competent but he too has his flaws and weaknesses which seasoned campaigners can identify.

Post Script. I have written a number of political article on various subjects and other matters. Since that time I have received a number of abusive telephone calls at home and on my mobile. Furthermore please note that all my calls are monitored due to inappropriate behaviour. I have also received unwarranted and inappropriate threatening emails. As I take such matters to heart, I would like to point out that I have no malice towards any individual. In fact I admire anyone who stands up or what they believe in. I am the same and will do what is right in the eyes of our society. If any reader is aggrieved by my comments, then an apology is in order on my part.

I will go even further and apologise to all and sundry if my posts have offended or upset my very dear friends, mates, ex-military, retired cobbers political, military, community and all those I have met throughout life. But having apologised does not mean that we do not have our political differences and I don't expect us as individuals to see eye to eye on many things apart from wanting as in my case Liberal Governments in power. My disagreements if any with individual are never personal.

If those who read what I have written, please be assured that it was not my intention and I am sorry if people have taken it the wrong way. I have explained in another post what has occurred to my database and in my own manner of speaking I hoped that it would make matters clearer. If not then I am sorry if readers have taken my posts the wrong way. I welcome as always constructive criticism to mattes which readers may feel need further clarification and I will endeavour to correct it. It may also mean that I may have to add a postscript to any article that I write in order that others understand that what is being written is not personal at all. Thank you to everyone for their kind support and understanding. Peter Adamis.



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