

Raw transcript of interview:

05-03-2024 Graham and John speak with Ella Leach...

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G'day

everyone, and Tuesday the 5th of March 2024, and we're recording another interview with a nurse who's been on our program before. Johnny, it's great to have Ella Leach back on, isn't it? She's got three weeks to go until she gives birth, and this lady is on fire. She's fighting for the nurses. She's fighting for the country.

Thanks, John. So good to be back. Good on ya. Yeah, she's been doing a wonderful job, Woody. She has, and, uh, she's got lots to unpack. But before we do that, ah, Johnny, it appears our little friend is back in Sydney. Alan Joyce, yes, to be sure, to be sure. He's back in Sydney. And there's a photo of him on the internet, you know.

And the photo says it all because he's sitting on a park bench with his, with his dainty little shorts on and he's looking at his mobile phone and he's got a little puppy dog that's stretched out as far on the leash as it can to get away from him. Oh, yes. Poor Alan. What more can we say, but welcome home, Alan.

Welcome home. It's good to have you back again. And you're inspiring us all to do another Club Grubbery Snippets as we interview you once more. So it's great to have you back, to be sure, to be sure. And Qantas is still struggling with the mess you left it in, so don't worry. If ever they put you back in that spot, you'll fit right in, you know.

Alan, Alan, Alan. Oh, he's not listening, John. What a shame. No, I don't think he would be listening, Hoody. I think, uh, he's probably, probably they're very thankful that he's not over in Perth, where they Don't seem to be able to park the aeroplanes too well. Yes, uh, sadly, the, the captain of that aeroplane I knew and it was a sad mistake and, uh, they've done some weird things with the tarmac over there to accommodate all these E190s and there's a whole lot of things being unpacked there so I feel for the guy.

Look, I'll tell you what, if that had happened to me, and it could have easily. Look, you've been on a long flight, you just pulled into Perth. That's one of those things that could happen and he would be feeling terrible. Absolutely terrible. So I hope the non punitive for the once non punitive safety culture at Qantas is applied and everybody learns from this and moves on like the country should be with the COVID pandemic.

We should be having an inquiry so we can all learn and move on. But it appears we're not doing that. Also, the other thing worthy of note around Qantas is that the network aviation pilots in WA are striking, and boy, they are tough. Those guys have got a backbone, and they are being well supported. A lot of Qantas pilots in the mainline are actually donating money to their fight.

I know, uh, several pilots who've been asked to take roster changes to go over there to be strike breakers, and they're not doing it. Qantas, you've just got to pay your staff, and you've got to treat them with respect. It might be something you haven't done for a long time since Alan Joyce joined, but it's time to get back there.

Or you face the consequences. It's your choice. Now, if anyone has ever wondered what it looks like when a government sticks its head in a place where the sun doesn't shine, I'm about to show you a video clip. I advise you all to take your blood pressure medication beforehand, if you haven't already. Sit down with a box of tissues and a glass of water.

And let me share screen with you. This goes for about five minutes, but you will be flabbergasted. Thank you, President. My question is to the Minister representing the Prime Minister, Senator Gallagher. This week, the Queensland Supreme Court found that measures relating to COVID were mandated on a number of Queensland

workers, in this case, police officers and ambulance workers, without adequate consideration of their human rights.

As required under the Queensland Human Rights Act. Clearly this failure is not isolated to Queensland given the Queensland government's approach was applied through the National Cabinet of which the Commonwealth is a member and chair. Minister, does the Prime Minister accept vaccine mandates with the National Cabinet's mistake?

Uh, Minister Gallagher. Uh, thank you, President. I thank Senator Roberts, uh, for the question. And I am aware of that, uh, court case, which has been recently handed down in relation to vaccination for police and ambulance workers in Queensland. Um, this is a decision of a Queensland court that relates to a vaccine mandate that was a decision of the Queensland Government.

Um, Government's position on COVID 19 vaccinations is that it is voluntary as are all vaccinations in Australia. Although we do encourage and aim to have as many people vaccinated as possible. And I would say, um, that the vaccination program, there is no doubt the success of the vaccination program in Australia and the number of Australians who got vaccinated.

particularly in those early waves, protected hundreds of thousands of vulnerable Australians, millions of vulnerable Australians, Australians in aged care, Australians who had a disability, immunocompromised Australians, um, who were protected, uh, by, by, um, the fact that we were able to manage. Senator Rennick, I've called you to order and you continue to shout out, this is not your question.

It's Senator Robertson's question and the Minister has the right, has the right to be heard in silence. Minister, please continue. Uh, Minister, please resume your seat. Senator Rennick, I have just called you to order and you continue to completely disrespect me and not follow my direction. Minister Gallagher, please continue.

Uh, thank you. The public health advice on vaccinations, um, remains very clear that vaccinations prevent, uh, prevent, um, seriousness of disease. So the, um, the level of illness that you get, it prevents hospitalizations, which allows our health system, uh, to deal with other. you know, health issues as it's always meant to, uh, and it protects people, uh, from serious disease and death.

And so from the government's point of view, if you're due your COVID 19 booster, go and get it. Uh, but it is voluntary and obviously people will make that decision for themselves. I would also say when state governments were having to deal with this with maintaining services. Uh, and protecting employees in a pandemic, in an emergency, they made some very, very difficult decisions, uh, to protect, uh, their communities and national cabinet supported that and we support that.

Thank you, Minister. Senator Roberts, first supplementary. Thank you. Minister, do you acknowledge human rights were ignored as part of the Commonwealth's response to COVID? Do you acknowledge that human rights were ignored as part of the Commonwealth's response to COVID? Oh, thank you. Senator Roberts, Minister Galloway.

Thank you, uh, uh, President, and I thank Senator, um, Roberts for the question. I note the case, the court case, the, the decision that's being made. I think in times of emergency, uh, a pandemic, uh, one in a hundred year pandemic, decisions that state governments and the Commonwealth government took were difficult and they balanced up, as is always the case with human rights.

They balanced up a range of factors when landing on making those decisions, you know, that is always the case. Human rights are not absolute. Um, they are seen in, in, um, in balance, uh, and I think governments did what they believed was in the best interest of their communities of protecting Australia, whether it was the border closures, whether it was the vaccines, whether it was closing schools, whether it was having lockdowns.

Um, I think the benefit of hindsight, people will always argue whether those decisions were right, but I think the decisions were made in the interest of the community. Uh, thank you, Minister. Senator Roberts, second supplementary. Thank you, President. Minister, does the Prime Minister agree that only a Royal Commission has the resources and the powers to fully deal with the legal consequences from this failure to respect human rights?

Thank you, Senator Roberts. As Senator Roberts knows, we have, um, uh, independent panel that's currently undertaking the COVID 19 response inquiry, and they will bring together the knowledge from all of the existing reviews. There've been a number of reviews that have been done in the States. There've been reviews that have been done in the.

Um, and we'll make recommendations. That panel is independent. I presume Senator Rennick and others that you are making submissions to that. I'm sure you're involved, and I'm sure that the panel will consider your, uh, submission seriously, um, we believe that in the, um, because of the number of reviews that have been held and the timeframes involved, that, uh, the independent panel that has been commissioned by, Thank you.

Independent panel that has been commissioned by the Prime Minister, uh, will provide us with good recommendations going forward if there's any further areas we need to address. You just couldn't make this stuff up, could you?

The Minister needs to be reminded, the Senator needs to be reminded, that back at the beginning of this so called pandemic, while people I knew were sick with something they were told was COVID, They were told to isolate at home and stay at home and not take any other medications other than Panadol. And they were told that if their lips turned blue and they started coughing blood to go to the hospital.

In the meantime, drugs off, off patent drugs, off the shelf drugs were available, which were having great success all around the world. We're talking about hydroxychloroquine. We're talking about, uh, ivermectin and others. And this government censored and banned those drugs, but virtually from the use of people who they were saying they were trying to protect.

I also want to ask the Senator Gallaher, if the people in the aged care homes were vaccinated, why did everyone else have to be vaccinated if they were already protected? If the, if this so called inoculation work, Johnny,

well, I don't know that you can offer too much more here. What are you? I. No, it's not often I'm lost for words, but I, I can really understand why people want to reintroduce the death penalty. These people are sick, they've got no empathy. They've got no integrity. They've got no honesty. They are just dreadful.

Uh, that woman, uh, has just thrown sand in, in the faces of Australian people. She's not even prepared to acknowledge that there might be a problem. I mean, even if she disagrees with, with the circumstances, she just. Nothing to see here. I mean, it's, it's, it's unbelievable. Uh, yeah, well, look, we know her form, don't we?

Uh, she's, uh, she's not, not somebody that I would be, uh, Uh, wanting representing me in parliament, in fact, wouldn't want to representing me at anything. Uh, I, I think, uh, she's a despicable human being. Uh, and I don't even know that she's worth discussing, Hoody, I'm really, really, uh, incensed that, uh, that she responded in that way to, uh, Senator Roberts.

I'm surprised that, uh, Senator Reddick, uh, uh, didn't start going across the chamber, really. Well, he virtually did and, um, and this is what I say, people say, Oh, politicians sacked a lot, but I'll tell you what, there's some good ones in there now for our viewers, Malcolm Robertson, Craig Kelly, we'll be interviewing them on Sunday and that will be screened on Monday on Club Grubbery.

Ella Leach, you are, you heard that now, were you compulsorily mandated? To be vaccinated. It certainly didn't feel voluntary hoodie, and it still doesn't. Um, I was left. Look, they can say that it's voluntary, meaning I could choose whether I had a job or not. But I don't think that that's ever passed the pub test for anything else.

Um, so yes, I don't have. Yeah, I did. But it was a really terrible one. Dr. Nick It was one that I shouldn't. Dr. Nick Coatsworth has come out and said plainly on Channel 9 Today Show with Carl Stefanovic that the mandates are a mistake. And the cost of these mandates imparted by corporates and government agencies has been so devastating that people even like Nick Coatsworth have no idea the damage that was done.

And, um, I'd like to sit down with him and tell him what we've seen, uh, touring around and the damage that's been done. I'd love him to sit down and listen to your story, Ella.

They're scared. They're really scared. I mean, you, you know, as well as I do, Woody, the private emails that we get from very significant Australians, people in, in, in all sorts of areas, whether it be politics, journalism, uh, whether it be, you know, solicitors, people are in contact with us all the time. And they are relaying stories that would make your hair stand on end at a Royal commission.

Yeah. Corruption, corrupt conduct. Disgraceful conduct, uh, jailable conduct. That's why they don't want to have it because they know, they know they're going for a trip. Yeah, look, it's, um, it's unbelievable. And Ella, that lady who was speaking, uh, Senator Gallagher, she was one of the senators who voted no when the motion was put forward to have an inquiry into excess deaths in Australia.

Labor and the Greens all voted no. So, I mean, we rest our case really, but let's get on to your case, Ella, because it's important. You're doing wonderful work. You've got three weeks to go before you give birth to a beautiful baby and, and you were, you were terminated at the, at the height of your pregnancy.

Yeah. So I don't know where you want me to start. Um, it was so much that's happened in the last couple of just over a month, really. Um, so for those who don't know, I was terminated in January, um, after being stood down for, uh, over two years. So I've been out of work for this, uh, month. It'll be two and a half years that we haven't been able to work in Queensland.

Um, And yeah, it really hit the fan in a way. They did me, uh, not, I wouldn't like to say a favor, but I was not tied to Queensland Health anymore and was able to start speaking more freely about my own personal experience. And, um, I would say the thing that's been so encouraging because I was very public about it and I made my social media public so that people could share things and get in contact with me and I was prepared to have a

barrage of abuse. And I haven't had a single negative message since I have gone public with my own story. I've only had, um, people contact me encouraging me or telling me their own story about what happened to them. So I think we've finally reached a place, at least in Queensland, where people are ready to talk about this.

The public wants to see, like, they're not scared of COVID anymore. And I found that really exciting to not realize after all this time that we are actually safe to tell our stories. And it's encouraged so many more people around me to start coming out, which is really great. Yeah, exactly. And, and you're hearing stories, we're hearing stories and Senator Gallagher is still pushing this jab onto people, um, totally ignoring the evidence from many great, uh, scientists and doctors around the world who've been cancelled saying, for goodness sake, stop, stop putting this thing into people's arms.

Now, you need to stop now until we understand what this is doing. And she's still pushing it. Now, the fact that she has that kind of influence, yeah. in political and public life means that comes with a responsibility and she's, she's derelict in her responsibility. And, and we go back to your case, the reason you were terminated in your letter of termination was what?

We're not following a reasonable direction and lawful direction. And now with the Supreme Court case, that's just happened in, um, Queensland last week. Well, they've started questioning. Well, they found it unlawful for the police and the ambulance, and it certainly opened up the door for us to start asking the question for, you know, other health care workers.

So we're still trying to look into that for, say, MPAQ members. There's about 400 human rights cases that are stayed pending test cases. They've opened up a huge can of worms. I don't know how we're going to be able to get to the bottom of all of this, but Um, it was really exciting to see finally some positive outcomes and really encouraging because the amount of people, um, in our membership base who have gone to commissions, so they've gone to the QIRC or the Human Rights Commission, and then they're getting quoted a long list of cases that have failed.

And told if you, um, go above this conciliation and you have to take it to court, we will be pursuing you for court costs and you're very likely to lose. So, it's scared so many people off because they're facing 10, 15 grand worth of court costs if they pursue it and have been led to believe that they don't have a chance of winning, but now seeing this, um, Supreme Court case come out, I think people might.

Take a little more heart and start filing, but it's still, it's scary. People don't have the money to spend on this, you know, they've already lost so much. Johnny Lardy, you'd love 10, 000 or 15, 000 court cost bill applied to you instead of the nearly 200, dumped on you, wouldn't you? Mm hmm. Yeah, 15, 000, that'd be seen as a bonus, even though you had to find it from somewhere.

But um, yeah, look, it's clear to see that the narrative is shifting and the foundations under that narrative are crumbling. So where are you at now, Ella, with the various things that you've been involved in legally? Yes, so, um, legally there hasn't been a huge amount happening. So there's smaller cases like personal cases with the NPAQ.

Um, we have had people getting settlements and some compensation, but no, um, enormous wins at this stage. What I've realized is how much This needs to be fought in the media as well. This is like a trial by media now, and I feel like we've gotten, like, the court cases, that's a drawn out process and it doesn't seem to have put the same pressure on them the way that I've seen all of the media stuff.

So I was Very, uh, excited to be able to go down to Canberra and give an opening statement to the Senate inquiry in early February was really wonderful to be able to give a bit of a voice to all of the nurses that I've been speaking to, um, and in the Senator Shoebridge and Green, I don't know if you guys saw the inquiry, but she was, they just weren't She Really listening and the questions.

I mean, we're talking about should we have a royal commission and we're talking about terms of reference and they're asking where my office is and if we're in the same office as the medical professional society, I'm like, do you want to ask us some real questions about what we're here talking about?

I've just told you we've got people dying in ambulances and you want to know where my office is and we've got. A limited amount of time. Um, they, it was just ridiculous the way we were, um, spoken to by them. But anyway, we got, got to do that and I believe we'll find out just before Easter if there will be that Royal Commission.

Um, that's my understanding. So we desperately need it. I know there'll be a lot of people against it happening, but the, um, Australian Nursing Midwifery Federation gave us opening statement as well, and they said that they believe that there are hundreds of nurses missing, not thousands. They would have lost thousands just in their membership base.

So I can't imagine they are that out of touch that they don't realize how many people are missing from our healthcare sector. Um, but things have definitely taken off in the last week. I've had a very exciting week. I feel I had my last technically my last day for the NPAQ on Saturday. And I feel like I went out with a bit of a bang, um, but I'll still be working on this, um, even with Bub, because I don't think I could possibly let go what's been happening.

Um, it's so important. I've got so much support with my husband. Um, but we, so there was the Supreme Court ruling and I was at a health forum with Chris Ofuli, um, our opposition leader. And, gee, it was disappointing just

to see how disinterested they are. Um, you know, they could be really hammering the Labor Party on this issue and they just haven't been.

Uh, I tried to tell him that I think public opinion has changed and it is possible for somebody, um, even though we don't agree with it, it is possible for someone to have been pro vaccine but also pro people returning to work. You can have both of those opinions and they just wouldn't touch it. So, um, I, yeah, I went to a health forum that he was at cause I got invited to it and I don't think that they knew that I would turn up and start asking some questions and the, the room was so supportive of me.

And then they kept saying they were telling their own stories of their experiences in hospital, which were heartbreaking. You know, people having their parents. Um, die in a really obscene way in front of them in hospital because nurses couldn't get their breakthrough medication to them in time. Things that just shouldn't be happening.

And then they would say afterwards, you know, these, these nurses should be allowed back at work, but Christopher Lee, when I was saying that. You know, tides change, the public are willing, ready for us to come back. Um, you know, I said I've done some mainstream media stories. I've been in Channel 9. I've been on the Daily Mail.

Um, you can't get sort of more mainstream And then that, and the comments are overwhelmingly supportive, like obviously there's always some people who say we shouldn't be allowed back, but overwhelmingly people want us back and it was so condescending. It was like, oh, you know how these algorithms work.

They only show you what you want to see. And, you know, oh, that's so sweet that you would be thinking that I was just so angry. Christopher Lee. What a good night. Yeah. Oh, it was just very disheartening. But I went away from that still feeling very determined to do what I, um, had set out to. So last time we spoke, I had set up these surveys that were going to be going out in Queensland, Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia.

So we ended up having 400, um, entries to that survey saying that they wanted to return to work. And the whole point of me doing this is to make it idiot proof for any of these health ministers when I send them this list. They can't say it's going to be too much work. They've got contact details. They've got years experience.

They have where these people have worked and where they're willing to work and what their specialties are. And all I'd have to do is look at this list and think, gee, yeah, we actually do need people in that hospital. I'll contact these people. Um, some people were very overexcited about it. So we had, it ended up being about 350 individuals, or some people filled out the survey two or three times because they really want to go back.

But, um, I sent an invitation to the rally I had on Saturday to the health minister and the shadow health minister saying, If you can't come, we'd love you to be there to show that you do support people going back to work because Shannon Fentiman has been in the media saying, please, we want you back.

We're so short staffed, but you know, reapply, reapply. And I said, you know, to In keeping with your statements, come along to our rally or publicly endorse it. I didn't hear from either of them. So LNP or Labor Party didn't have a response. Um, and then we roll around to the day I said I was sending the survey results in.

So I sent them this big list and a letter saying, I'm expecting that you will start contacting these people. I'd like an update. Um, I also said that. Because we've still got nurses being terminated. I got a, an email in the last week from someone who received their termination letter last week. So I said these disciplinary proceedings must stop and you should be giving them directions to return to work because we are aware of one hospital in Queensland Health that has sent out letters directing staff who are stood down to return to work.

So it just shows you they've got a centralized system, but it's an absolute mess. No one knows what's going on in this. Health sector at all, and they're all being treated so differently. So, um, anyway, I've invited the minister. The rally was great. It was we had a lot of media attention after the Supreme Court ruling and, um.

I had shared with the media, the invitation to Shannon, the fact that I have this list, we know we've got a shortage. And then I also had evidence of nurses applying for jobs after Shannon Fentiman has emphatically encouraged them to do, to reapply. And then they've been sent an email after they've actually secured the job.

So they haven't just gone to an interview. They have been given a start date. And then they sent an email saying, HR have said that we can't. Assess your employment offer because of your disciplinary action, and then they take the job off them. Some of them had refused jobs in the private sector because they'd finally gotten the job in the public sector.

They've been ordered uniforms. Um, you know, one girl was taken out of her orientation, I believe. She was actually there. And then our health ministers say, so they're confused. They're saying what am I supposed to do? I've been told to apply for a job and we're welcome, but it doesn't look like it. So that got a lot of, um, attention in the media as well.

And then Shannon Fentiman was saying she didn't know that this was happening. Um, which either way is bad. She's either lying. Or she doesn't know what's happening. And either way, it's bad. There's no good option there. And the Director General also then sent out a letter, an email to all the health services saying There's no stopping these people returning to work.

Um, they shouldn't be turned away because of their vaccination history, um, and the misconduct allegations. But we're still seeing people not successful and where more stories have come out of the woodwork. So it's definitely not an isolated incident. But what had happened that day is, the journalist I was talking to actually contacted Shannon Fentiman's office to ask her, Well, you've been saying this in the media, um, are they actually welcome back?

Yes, they can reapply. Please have them reapply. And then she sent her office the emails that I had, and she got absolutely abused by this media person, saying these are fake emails, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah. And then, next thing, they get the Director General's calling to say, we'd like to apologize. So, they were caught.

You know, we, that, that's unfortunately where we're at now. Where we have to be shaming our health minister in the media. To get her to do anything. We have to trap her. They can't, they won't do anything proactive to help people and it's just devastating to see that this is where we're at now. Um, but that fed very nicely into our rally then and we had the media attention for that.

But, um, obviously the health minister did not turn up or respond, but I was talking to one of the media girls and she said, Shannon Fentiman's office is saying that they never received an invitation to today. Okay. And my heart dropped. I thought, gee whiz, I've heard dropped the ball and not sent it properly.

And they confirmed twice. Nope, no invitation, but we did receive the list of healthcare workers last night. So, I don't know. I can't make too many assumptions, but maybe her office manager or whoever looks after her inbox saw, oh, a rally with these healthcare workers. Shannon wouldn't want to go to that and deleted it or didn't pass it on.

Um, so once again, either way, not great. But I went through my emails and found the automatic response that says thank you for contacting the minister's office. So, sent that through to the media and they had her cornered then, like, you were invited. And I got after two, that was two weeks before the rally nearly, and I got a response from the health minister's office on a Saturday after the rally, um, had finished saying, apologies, the health minister has prior engagements.

So, I knew we definitely had a little bit panicked there. She made a, um, statement then saying that everybody on the list would be contacted. And, um, case managed individually by the Director General. Well, the email went out today from the Health Minister and I got a letter from her at 6pm last night.

Guess what it says and what, uh, individual case management means. We hear you've got, it doesn't even address the person individually, it just says good afternoon. We hear you have skills that might be, you know, wanted in Queensland health. Uh, please look up smart jobs. That's what we've got after all of us, this effort of putting this list together.

But I tell you what, the media have been really wonderful in that they're outraged that this is happening because this is no longer a public safety thing that they can hide behind. This is vindictive. This is costing Queenslanders their lives and safety. And they're making it political. I don't know if it's because they don't want to be seen negotiating with NPAQ.

But we didn't play party politics. We invited both the Liberal National Party and the ALP because we just want someone who's going to do something about this. We don't care which side of politics you're on, just fix it. And yeah, she's just totally ignoring it all, backpedaling. I don't understand what makes these people want to go into these positions.

Do they want to actually look after people or is it all about them? What's the point? I think there will be some follow up stories in the media about this and putting more pressure on Shannon, which definitely needs to happen, because they can't keep getting away with it, but I think that, what a silly woman, because it's so obvious that she's going back on something she said, or she's just doing nothing, and she has the power to do something.

It's really terrible. Or she's just an idiot. Johnny. Yeah. Well, Hoodie, what can you say to all that? I mean, they're, they're lying. Uh, it's, it's, it's, it's a disgrace really. It's It's cover up. There's no, no two questions about this. It's a very, very sad that they, they're playing with people's lives. I mean, they've, they've got a, uh, a direction now from the Supreme Court of Queensland in relation to police and the.

Paramedics. Now, surely you will just automatically apply that, uh, across to the, uh, health staff because end of the day, that's, that's what they are. I mean, APRA seems to have lost interest in all this. They're not chasing people now for speaking out. Uh, they haven't been in contact with me. And I know from past experience, they, uh, they watch everything because when we went to court last time on the suspension, I had about four, four, um, folders.

Uh, and I think I showed you, you couldn't believe it. There was in excess of a thousand pages, uh, of stuff in there from, from what we'd been saying. So they are watching, uh, and they'll be watching this, uh, but they've lost interest because they know they're not on the winning side. It's just mind boggling.

It is absolutely mind boggling. Now the political class in this country is stuffed. It is, it is so corrupted, either corrupted for personal gain, or it's corrupted because of the stupidity of the people who are running the organization. That the tail is wagging the dog. The bureaucrats have more say than the elected representatives.

This whole system is collapsing. And as, and as Rome burns, the prime minister's playing the fiddle. Oh, he's going to pink concerts. Uh, he's going to Taylor Swift concerts and attending billionaire, uh, Anthony Pratt's private parties with Katy Perry, uh, all, all at the expense of the taxpayer running around in the, uh, AAF.

business jet with the, uh, Italian carpet and the marble, uh, bathrooms and the, uh, very, very expensive French wine. Look at the end of the day, Johnny, um, elbows, elbows on the nose. I mean, all the, uh, the media is starting to lean into him now. His popularity is waning. Peter Dutton is looking more like he's going to be the next prime minister, but for goodness sake, Mr.

Dutton, you've got to do some homework too. I mean, the, the, the people of this country are fed up with the two parties dancing around the May poll together. You need to be, if you're going to be a credible opposition, you need to come out and oppose. You actually need to put another point of view across.



And the LNP in Queensland, mate, you wouldn't give them the steam off your piddle. You just wouldn't. They, I'm sorry, but those, these people are just not worth the breath. Well, and that's why, uh, Palaszczuk's had such a great, great, uh, rails run, hasn't she? Because the opposition has been pathetic and, uh, they're not showing much, uh, much pedigree now either, I've got to say, uh, this Christopher Lee just sounds like a fool.

Don't know what to say. Look, I've had, uh, I've heard several stories about the, uh, LNP opposition in Queensland and, and as I said, I wouldn't give them the steam off a cup of tea. They are just, um, they're just pathetic. And our problem is not that we've got, we have corrupted governments, we have weak and ineffective oppositions who won't call these people to account.

Accountability is everything in politics. And you've got people like Kelly and, and Roberts, you've got Antic and you've got Renick. And you've got Pauline Hanson and that crew that are, that are driving really hard. And the once shining lights of standing up and making a fist have made a mess of it. I'm talking about Jackie Lambie and Lydia Thorpe.

I mean, who are these people? Who are these people? And here we sit waiting to see the vaccine injured get justice. We're waiting to see people return to work. We're waiting to see them restored and compensated because I don't know how many people I've spoken to who have drawn on all their superannuation savings to keep their mortgage going.

And they haven't been able to keep that up and they've lost their homes and they're sleeping in their cars and they can't get a job because their letters of termination in health and frontline services says this, you have been fired for gross misconduct. And the people who, who issued those letters as in Queensland health, the HR departments who issued those letter and letters and know the reasons.

And then saying, Oh, we can't re employ you because your, your letter of termination said you were, uh, grace, grace and willful misconduct. Why do they even need to have an interview? I, they should just be tapped on the shoulder and say, come back. The money's in your bank. Well, I'm just so glad to see the media in Queensland standing up for this much, at least because that's Talking to them, Cody, has been very encouraging, like, uh, uh, there was Channel 9 and Channel 7 there on the weekend.

And they were just Horrified because you are, we are now able to talk about this without getting into the vaccination politics of it, because it's gone so far that it's nonsensical that people who might have been full blown vaccine supporters. Are thinking what on earth is happening and they can see that the government has the power to do what I'm asking them to do to put these workers back in in our workforce.

Um, I think in 2020, they got directed APRA to reactivate 40, 000 registrations. Without the consent of these people, people who had been inactive since 2017, they thought that that was a safe option, was just so that these people could return to work, putting healthcare workers who have decades of experience back in our workforce, on a, we've got robust, you know, application processes that must be followed.

I'm like, you could expedite that. You could absolutely be hurrying this up and you're not. And it's, it's so vindictive. And in my case, I mean, look, as I said last time, I'm, I'm lucky I've got a house and I've got a husband who works, but for me, like, you know, with the, um, NPAQ, I don't get maternity leave through there and that's because I've been in the position for a little bit less time, um, and.

If I wanted to go and apply for a nursing job, I'm not going to get one. I'm eight months pregnant. Like they fired me at a point in my life where I'm feasibly not going to be able to, regardless of what other work I'm doing, I'm not going to be able to get a job in nursing for a while. By which point I'll be nearly three years out of working in clinical setting.

And that's what we're seeing is nurses with, you know, so much experience being told you don't have recency of practice. Even if. ARPA standards say they do. They're saying you've been out of a clinical setting for two years.

This, one of the poor nurses I was speaking to had 30 years experience applied for a job and they said you don't have enough experience.

We're at the mercy of these people who are interviewing us to make a decision. And the only way that people can feel a little more secure about getting a job because it's just, no one likes applying for jobs. It is so draining and these people shouldn't have to do it. Look, the wards are filled and we're told, Michelle was an ex registered nurse, got a lot of friends in the industry, she was in that industry for decades.

We're being told constantly by staff working in the hospitals that the floors are manned by junior nurses who were two years in college. And they're failing because it's not their fault. They're failing because they've, they've been put into this position without the experience. Johnny, you've seen issues where, uh, we're inexperienced, uh, wet behind the ears, paramedics have been sent to work and made incredibly bad decisions.

And, and it's not their fault. They're meant to be mentored. So then to say to a nurse with 30 years experience who hasn't worked for two years, you don't have enough experience. And then to come out and say, let's open up all the registrations of all those 2017 and way back then, and get them to come back to work.

They've been out of the, out of the settings for, for what, you know, for, for years and years. I mean, none of this passes a pub test at all. So APRA's own data shows that they're expecting 6, 000 nurses. Just, just nurses, not healthcare workers, nurses to retire in Queensland this year. And then by 2029, there's a further 10, 000 nurses going to retire.

This situation is just going to get worse. And Shannon Fentiman saying that they've rehired 37 of the, um, One's who exited the organization. So that's a very broad term. Did they resign and not to avoid the penalty? What what's happened there? But she seems to think that that's the obvious gesture of goodwill that people are welcome back that they've hired 37 back out of 1200 that they fired.

Plus, there's another 1000 that resigned. Um, and she said, Oh, we've also hired thousands of other staff. Well, cool. I don't know what her maths is like, but they lost 3, 000 from the vaccine mandate. They've got 6, 000 retiring. We've got a growing population and a sick population. It's not gonna cut it. She needs these people back and they won't even make it better.

were already so understaffed and struggling before this happened. And the ones who were retiring are all the experienced. There's a audit that was done of Queensland Health, and it shows that they did not have appropriate plans to replace the experience, that all they've been doing is pumping more people through uni.

And I know from talking to these poor new grads, that there are new grads on a wait list for up to a year to get a job. They don't, they're not graduating and able to work because the hospitals can't place them. They don't have enough senior staff to mentor these nurses. So we've got new grads just sidelined.

If you brought the experienced nurses back, we might be able to hire more of the new grads and it'll just keep feeding into something to make it better, but they're not doing it. And what's crazy is we now know from Senator Gerard Rennick that the Mater Health and a number of others, Ramsey, et cetera, are re hiring people.

They've dropped the mandates. Um, And look, it's hard for them to argue that there's a problem. ARPA itself, they've sent me twice now survey. I mean, this is like, it's, it's so psychological, psychologically damaging what they do. Uh, now they suspended me now in anyone's. You know, thoughts, you know, being suspended is quite a traumatic event, but they've sent me a personal email on two occasions now wanting me to take a survey as to why there is attrition and retention problems in paramedics in Australia.

I got sent a survey as well when I got terminated on why I was exiting the organisation. And would I recommend working there to somebody like, uh, Look, it's, it's HR. HR should be terminated for gross misconduct. Let's face it. I mean, clearly the whole system is shattered beyond words. Shattered beyond words.

I don't, I don't know. Just to me. So Ramsey Health is saying, come back to work? They are, yes. Um, only Victoria is not open for, um, Ramsey Health, but every other state that has Ramsey facilities, they've said that they will take, there was a wording, it was new employees or something. So I don't know, it's It could be one of those loophole things where if you've got disciplinary action with them, they may not, but I'm finding that the states don't speak very well to each other.

So if you've had disciplinary action in one state and you're willing to uproot your whole life and move somewhere else, you might have a chance of getting a job. Or you can just try and I really would love people to let me know how they go with that because obviously I have a lot of nurses contacting me about this and I can let people know that.

This is actually happening. And if it's not, maybe we can put some public pressure on because that's the only way I can actually get these stories out there is if I get given them. And I, you know, it's, I can go and find some things, but I need. To be sent the information, but, um, health, apparently health scope might've dropped it as well.

And the MARTA definitely has, so I really encourage people to start applying for those jobs. Like, we're not going to know if it's going to work. How does this make any sense? Who's the person at Rabsey Health that's made these decisions to, to not allow people to go back in Victoria? Is this a public health directive down there?

So apparently, I don't, I'm not. Across the, all the states enough, which is, it's hard because even in my own state, it's nonsensical. If I looked at it on paper, it looks like we're welcome back, but only because I live here and have been talking to people. Do I know what's really happening? That's where it all should be.

It all should be nationalized. It should be all under one umbrella, a federal umbrella. The States are incompetent. It's just bizarre. It's just bizarre. Listen, uh, we've got to bring this one to a close a little bit. You, um, after our first interview with you, we suggested you contact the spotlight group, the nurses.

Uh, and, uh, it was wonderful to watch the warm way that they embraced you into their chat room. And, uh, how's that going for you? So wonderful. I've had, um, you know, whether it's asking for prayers for my conciliation today or getting information from ladies who have all sorts of experience and backgrounds, they've been so wonderful and welcoming.

Um, and I feel like I, I'm always sending something to do, please fill this out or share this, but everyone's been so wonderful. And look, they have been. And for those of you who don't know who we're talking about, when we did nurses with voices back at the beginning, these are the ladies we interviewed over about three weeks.

They're absolutely incredible. And they're to this day, absolutely incredible. They are just the way they love and support one another. They, they are. They totally uphold all the values of nursing that are credible. They care, they care for each other, they have beautiful hearts. It's a real privilege, Johnny, for us to have had time with these ladies and I'm really thinking that we should get them back on and get them to talk about where they're at now, two years down the track.

They're incredible, incredible people and, uh, as are you Ella and, um, as we bring this to a close, um, we're going to have a prayer that we, we're going to be praying that your, your birth in three weeks time will be, will be a joyous occasion and that, uh, it will be an uplifting thing for you and your husband and, um, and it will glorify God, which it will, we know it will because we know you love God and, um, and you are definitely in our prayers.

Johnny, any final comments before I close with a prayer? Uh, well, just to put a, uh, I know Julie Sladden is, is running for, uh, parliament down in the, uh, the seat of Baths in Tasmania and I, I, I don't know if we've got any, uh, Followers of the down there, but certainly look out for Julie. She is a wonderful, wonderful human being.

And, uh, if she was to get into parliament, she would be such an asset to, um, to, to the parliamentary system. And she would be truly a representative of the people because she, uh, she knows what it takes to, um, to, to do

the right thing. And she's got all those qualities that we, that we love in a human being, and I wish her all the best.

Look, absolutely. And she wouldn't be contacting Faith Ransom for an off the cuff, uh, photo opportunity like Jackie Lambie did, uh, because Julie Slatton has been involved in her treatment. So, um, Julie I'm sure you'll be watching this. We'd love to have you on and talk about that. And I'll contact you tomorrow and see that we can get you on because we need you in parliament.

You are an absolute angel. Um, so there it is upcoming interviews. We've already spoken about them. Yes. Tony Abbott is coming on. We're just working through that. We've got an incredible lady coming on from the States very shortly as well, who is just blowing it out of the water over there. She's a doctor and, uh, and it's, it's incredible.

We'll tell you more about that when we've locked in the date. I think Pip Spence wants to come on too, Hoody. I think she wants to run us through the wine list in the chairman's lounge. I think it would be very, very good for everyone to actually see what's actually on the wine list in there and what's actually on the menu.

So Pip, if, if you can come on. Um, I know you, I know you've, you have made some, uh, indications privately to a few people that you're interested in coming on Club Gravory. I think you, you would really enjoy the, uh, experience here and, uh, you could really just open up and tell all our viewers what goes on behind the Chairman's Lounge doors.

Be something to behold, Woody. It would be, and, and Pip looked as though she'd spent several hours in the Chairman's Lounge prior to her last appearance in front of Malcolm Roberts, where she looked like a deer in the headlights. Pip, of course, is the, uh, director of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, CASA, which is, I think, Latin for circus.

Yes, it is. Anyway, what can we say? But I give my surveys a quick plug hoodie because I feel like after, last time you put them up, we got a few people start to fill them out and the only way that I've been able to do the media here is by having that As my art, like sort of arrow really that I can shoot and say, we've got this list of people who want to go back and I guess I would just talk to people who are unsure, even if you're unsure if you want to go back, because it is traumatic to think about whether you want to or not.

It's a big decision. But even if there's a small part of you that thinks you might want to go back, I'd encourage you to fill it out. We had 350 in Queensland as it stands. Only 96 in New South Wales and 73 in South Australia filled it out, but we've had 163 in Vic. And I'm working with people in those different states to start rolling out the media coverage down there.

And I can only do it with people who, if they start sending me stuff or filling out these surveys. So if you wouldn't mind sharing the survey link again, Hoodie, when you post this, then we can just start. Um, putting that pressure on in the other states so that we can have a unified approach across the whole country where these people are still locked out of work, but we're putting pressure on these ministers to start doing something because I think the public are ready to get behind us.

And I'd love to see that pressure start building in states outside of Queensland. Look, um. By all means, please send me the link again and I'll, I'll put it straight in and also Health Minister Fentiman, um, you've got to do a whole lot better than this, my dear. You really have to do a whole lot better than this.

You are incompetent. You're either incompetent or you're corrupted and, uh, you need to, you need to take control of your department. You are the elected representative of the people and you need to take control of your department because regardless of what people think about decisions made with mandates and everything else, there's a lot of people in this state who when they arrive at an emergency department for a heart attack or a car accident or whatever, they're going to want to open their eyes and see the faces of women like this and men, uh, people like this in the health sector back at work with experience, credibility, and most of all integrity.

And, uh, this is happening on your watch. Don't be a fool like the, uh, Queensland opposition leader, Krista Foley. You are an absolute fool, my friend. And you need to wake up as well. For goodness sake. You can't have opposition without backbone and testosterone. Anyway, that's what it is. So heaven forbid. Now I'm going to pray.

I need to pray for forgiveness for what I just said. But anyway, it is what it is. Let's bow our heads. Lord Father in heaven, we thank you for courage and we thank you for integrity. And we thank you, Lord, that you are walking with the people who are standing in the light. Lord, we don't know which way is up, but we know that you do.

And, and Lord, we ask you to empower us, to fill us with your grace, mercy and wisdom so that we can do the challenges, face the challenges that are laid before us. And we ask that you continue to watch over those who are struggling day by day at the moment because of government overreach and government inaction.

Father God, we know that you have this in control and we know that you're coming soon. So we pray that you soon return to us in Jesus name. Amen. Amen. Johnny Lotta. You've often been heard to say you just couldn't make this stuff up or you couldn't make that stuff up. What a night. So, um, you stay out of the trees, everybody.

And Ella, you're an absolute angel. Give our love to the Spotlight girls, um, and, uh, tell them that we love them and the country loves them and they're behind them. And, uh, we'll have you back on as soon as you're ready to come on with some more news, because you're an angel. God bless you. Thanks. God bless, Eddie.

All right, everybody. Everybody, uh, stay out of the trees. Keep yourselves nice. Be nice to each other, live with compassion, and don't worry, we're going to get through this. It's one day at a time. God bless you and we'll see you very soon, probably tomorrow night on Club Grubbery. Bye for now.