

**WIN ANCIENT TREASURES VIKING CRUISE**  **SCAN TO ENTER**  **YOUR MONEY: READER QUESTIONS ANSWERED**  
**NOEL WHITTAKER - INSIDE**

**The EXAMINER** **First in Tasmania**  **LOCAL. STRONG. BY AFL.**



**Anti-stadium cause still alive and kicking**

Politicians and ordinary Tasmanians took to Launceston's Civic Square to voice their continued opposition to the proposed stadium at Macquarie Point.

**JOE COLBROOK** reports, **Page 3**

Craig Garland, Lara Alexander, Ruth Forrest, Meg Webb and Rosalie Woodruff lent their voices to the "Yes AFL Team, No Stadium" cause.  
 Picture by Joe Colbrook

**\$2.50 INC GST**

# HEALTH AN URGENT MATTER

As pressure continues to mount on emergency departments, Tasmanians are being urged to familiarise themselves with the range of non-emergency services available, like the Launceston Urgent Care Centre. **DUNCAN BAILEY** reports, **Page 5**

**Book early for the musical of a lifetime!**

**THE BOY FROM OZ**

20 OCTOBER - 4 NOVEMBER  
 PRINCESS THEATRE

**3.500 Tickets already booked!**

**TICKETS 6331 0052**  
 ONLINE **THEATRENORTH.COM.AU**

Original Production by Ben Gannon and Robert Erik Music and Lyrics by Peter Allen Book by Nick Enright  
 Presented by arrangement with David Spicer Productions



**FIGHTING WORDS** Battle against stadium at Macquarie Point far from over

# 'It can't be a team at all costs': rally told

Joe Colbrook

POLITICIANS and aggrieved voters say they will fight the proposed stadium at Macquarie Point to the bitter end.

About 100 people gathered in Launceston's Civic Square for a "Yes AFL Team, No Stadium" rally, where they heard from speakers including politicians Jacqui Lambie, Rosalie Woodruff, Ruth Forrest, Meg Webb and Lara Alexander.

The Jacqui Lambie Network senator played to the northern audience, claiming Launceston was the state's football capital and the franchise deal amounted to "blackmail".

"Since when did the southerners become experts on AFL?" Ms Lambie said.

"It's always been said the capital of AFL in Tasmania is bloody Launceston.

"If you want to spend money on a stadium, there is absolutely nothing wrong with the one you've got over there, perfectly positioned."

Ms Lambie said it was highly likely the \$715 million price tag would balloon to beyond \$1 billion, and the money would be better-spent on health or education.

The Tasmanian Greens leader said the rally was a "middle finger" to the state government, and called on her parliamentary colleagues in the Labor party to block any stadium-related bill.

"The premier has thrown his whole energy behind building baubles for the AFL," Dr Woodruff said.

"We are going to make sure that stadium is never built.

"The premier never asked Tasmanians what our views were. It's the biggest infrastructure investment project in the history of Tasmania and they didn't even get Treasury advice."



Senator Jacqui Lambie got the crowd fired up. Picture by Joe Colbrook

Ms Webb said there was an "utter lack of credibility" to the stadium's business case, while Ms Alexander said it was important to scrutinise every aspect of the AFL deal and hold the government to account.

Ms Forrest urged those in attendance to continue to "make their voices heard" and attempt to sway their local representatives, as stadium-relevant legislation had to pass both houses of parliament.

Rally organiser Lindsay Hickam said those in attendance were not against the stadium in all circumstances, rather there were more pressing issues that needed funding.

Mr Hickam said the state "deserved" an AFL team.

but that should not be contingent on the stadium deal particularly when UTAS Stadium and Bellerive Oval had served the state's sporting needs to date.

"The government forgot its core responsibility, which is its people," he said.

"It's all well and good to build shiny new stadiums, but not when you've got a health crisis or homelessness crisis or housing crisis.

The rally organiser said although it had been presented as a fait accompli, the fight against the stadium was far from finished.

"I don't think [Jeremy Rockliff] is listening, and that's at his own peril," Mr Hickam said.

"It can't be a team at all costs."



West Tamar residents Brenda and Gerry Hofman would rather see accommodation for Royal Hobart Hospital patients at Macquarie Point. Picture by Joe Colbrook

**collette**  
**EARLYBIRD**  
**UP TO 15% OFF\***  
**EUROPE & 10% OFF NORTH AMERICA**  
\*CONDITIONS APPLY

**Shades of Ireland**  
**SAVE \$554**  
**TWIN SHARE \$3,144pp\***  
**9 DAYS • 13 MEALS**  
\* Price based on 1 Nov 2024 departure

**America's Music Cities**  
**SAVE \$449**  
**TWIN SHARE \$4,049pp\***  
**8 DAYS • 10 MEALS**  
\* Price based on 21 Apr 2024 departure

**Southern Italy & Sicily**  
**SAVE \$712**  
**TWIN SHARE \$4,036pp\***  
**11 DAYS • 16 MEALS**  
\* Price based on 2 Nov 2024 departure

**ASK YOUR TRAVEL AGENT FOR COLLETTE**  
**collette.com.au • 1300 792 195 • Use Code: VOYAGE23**

\*Prices are per person land only based on two travellers sharing and include relevant savings. Offer valid on new retail bookings only made to Europe and North America between AUG 21, 2023 - SEPT 11, 2023 for travel JAN 1, 2024 - MAY 31, 2025. Offer code VOYAGE23 must be used at time of booking for savings. Offers can expire earlier due to space or inventory availability. Space is on a first come, first served basis. Offers are not valid on group or existing bookings. Offers are combinable with member benefits only and are not combinable with any other offers. Discount level and availability varies by destination and month of travel. Other conditions may apply. The Collette Cancellation Waiver allows you to cancel up to 24 hours before your tour date for a full refund of your Collette tour less deposit. See more at collette.com.au/waiver. Collette Pty Ltd. ABN: 32 600 161 671