



Suggestion 29

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Redistribution of Federal Victorian Electoral Boundaries

I believe that the communities of Eltham and Warrandyte North should be in Jaga Jaga and not in Menzies. Eltham and North Warrandyte are populated with people who love the character of the Australian bush and are passionate about preserving the biodiversity and habitat of Australian flora and fauna.

These communities are in the Nillumbik Green Wedge which has strict limits on urban sprawl and is designed to provide bush corridors as buffers between heavily developed areas to prevent further destruction of our unique bushland and allow free movement of remnant wildlife. Much of Nillumbik is zoned as rural conservation reflecting the importance of maintaining the protections afforded by the Green Wedge classification.

The Electoral Division of Menzies has a distinctly different character. It is intensely developed with a significantly higher and more dense population than Jaga Jaga. The dwellings in Menzies are notably larger and more numerous and the emphasis is on the man-made and built up form rather than natural surroundings.

Jaga Jaga and Menzies have their own merits and separately appeal to people with different values and offer individuals the lifestyle choices they are seeking and wish to retain. Eltham and Warrandyte North do not mesh with the heavily urbanised neighbourhoods which characterise the Menzies electoral division.

Rivers are natural boundaries between communities. People in South Warrandyte regard themselves as Manningham residents, similarly Research, Kangaroo Ground, Eltham and Warrandyte North are an integral part of the communities north of the Yarra River and should be returned to Jaga Jaga.