6 March 2008

Legislative Council Electoral Boundaries Redistribution Committee 2nd Floor, Telstra Centre 70 Collins Street Hobart TAS 7000

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TASMANIAN
ELECTORAL COMMISSIONS

I request that you consider the following points in support of my submission to return the Electoral Division of Paterson in Tasmania to its original name of "Launceston".

- This Electoral Division of the Legislative Council of Tasmania was originally named Launceston. However, it was changed to Paterson in 1999. The area encompassed by this division is basically situated in Launceston. The reason given at that time by the Chairman of the Committee, Mr R Nettlefold Said it was to be renamed in honour of Paterson Street. This I and many others found incredible, almost unbelievable an electoral division named because of a street, not even a major street, albeit an important one.
- Lieutenant Colonel Paterson, for whom Paterson Street was named, never actually lived in Launceston - he didn't like the place!
- Launceston and Hobart are two major cities which have no Electoral Division, whilst very nearly all other Australian cities do.
- Paterson is a city in the state of New Jersey, USA, situated on the Passaic River, north of NEWARK, Paterson was founded in 1791; was incorporated as a town in 1831 and in 1851 was chartered as a city. Paterson is the third largest city of New Jersey, some ¼ million people.
- Quote from: Tasmania Life March/April'08 Edition.
 "The Tasmanian Launceston, first settled by Europeans in the 18th Century, was named in honour of Philip Gidley-King, the then Governor of the region. Gidley-King was born in 1785 at No.5 Southgate Street, in the Cornish Launceston. Today both Launcestons are noted for their agriculture, tourism and very fine architecture. Launceston, Cornwall was the countty's ancient Capital". Part of our history has been renounced.

- As a proud and long time resident of this city and a past Alderman of Launceston for 15 years - I ask that you seriously consider restoring this electoral division to its rightful name - Launceston. The name Paterson means little to the people of this city/area, and indeed is not even a geographical feature.
- Now with the redistribution of some boundaries, this presents an ideal opportunity to reverse the earlier (1999) decision.

(Mrs) Margot Smart, O.A.M.