

News Release

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Monday 19th October 2009

Controversial author and filmmaker visits Gawler

Controversial Australian author and film maker Bob Ellis visited Gawler on Monday (19th October) for a film and talk evening at the Gawler Village Twin Cinemas.

The event billed as a “politically incorrect evening with Bob Ellis” included a special screening of the Ben Chifley documentary about the miner’s strike of 1949.

He came to Gawler to support Tony Piccolo’s re-election campaign.

Mr Ellis is well known for his social commentary and is never far from controversy. He gave the audience an insight into the Chifley Labor Government and Australia of the post world war era.

Mr Ellis answered a number of questions about Australian politics.

Mr Piccolo said Mr Ellis’s work is a must read for anybody who wants to gain an understanding of Australian society.

“His films should be shown in Australian studies classes” he said.

The author of seventeen books, including the bestselling *Goodbye Jerusalem, Goodbye Babylon* and *First Abolish the Customer*, he always attracts a great deal of attention when his works are published.

Mr Ellis co-wrote the critically acclaimed Australian film *Newsfront* and the classic films *Fatty Finn, Goodbye Paradise, My First Wife* and *Man of Flowers*.

He is the co-author of the musical play *The Legend of King O'Malley*, the television miniseries *The True Believers* and the recent Ben Chifley play *A Local Man*.

He has had a long and close involvement with politics, covering as a journalist twenty-four campaigns in Australia, the UK and the USA, and writing speeches or slogans for Kim Beazley, Bob Carr, Mike Rann, Jim Bacon, John Faulkner, Cheryl Kernot, Bob Brown and Mark Latham.