Notes on Party History

**Election year:**

1856 - Elections was held from 8 to 22 September 1856.

1861 - Elections were held over the period from 29 May to 17 June 1861.

1862 - Elections were held over the period from 6 November to 2 December 1862.

1866 - Elections were held over the period from 3 to 26 October 1866.

1871 - Elections were held over the period from 6 to 28 September 1871.

1872 - Elections were held over the period from 5 September to 10 October 1872.

1877 - Elections were held over the period from 30 May to 29 June 1877.

1882 - Elections were held over the period from 25-31 May 1882. This was the last House of Assembly election to be held on multiple days.

1886 - Elections were held on 26 July 1886. This was the first general election for the House of Assembly on which all the polls were held on the same day.

1891 – Elections were held on 22 May 1891.

1893 – Elections were held on 19 December 1893.

1897 – Elections were held on 20 January 1897.

1900 - Elections were held on 9 March 1900.

1903 - Elections were held on 2 April 1903.

1906 - Elections were held on 29 March 1906.

1909 - Elections were held on 30 April 1909.

1912 - Elections were held on 30 April 1912.

1913 - Elections were held on 23 January 1913.

1916 - Elections were held on 25 March 1916.

1919 - Elections were held on 31 May 1919.

1922 - Elections were held on 10 June 1922.

1925 - Elections were held on 3 June 1925.

1928 - Elections were held on 30 May 1928.

1931 - Elections were held on 9 May 1931.

1934 - Elections were held on 9 June 1934.
1937 - Elections were held on 20 February 1937.
1941 - Elections were held on 13 December 1941.
1946 - Elections were held on 22 November 1946.
1948 - Elections were held on 21 August 1948.
1950 - Elections were held on 6 May 1950.
1955 - Elections were held on 19 February 1955.
1956 - Elections were held on 13 October 1956.
1959 - Elections were held on 2 May 1959.
1964 - Elections were held on 2 May 1964.
1969 - Elections were held on 10 May 1969.
1972 - Elections were held on 22 April 1972.
1976 - Elections were held on 11 December 1976.
1979 - Elections were held on 28 July 1979.
1982 - Elections were held on 15 May 1982.
1986 - Elections were held on 8 February 1986.
1989 - Elections were held on 13 May 1989.
1992 - Elections were held on 1 February 1992.
1996 - Elections were held on 24 February 1996.
1998 - Elections were held on 29 August 1998.
2002 - Elections were held on 20 July 2002.
2006 - Elections were held on 2006.
Parties

Independents (no discipline)

During the 1890s, the factional politics of previous years began to give way to political groupings and electoral organizations which foreshadowed the emergence of modern political parties. The labels Ministerialists, Opposition Party and Independents are provided by Hughes and Graham to indicate the groupings of members elected at the election and their likely support for the government. But these groupings were fluid and did not represent organized political parties of the kind which existed after 1909. As Hughes and Graham indicate, the Fysh ministry '...might be described as 'Liberal' because of its support for reform issues. However, the Southern Tasmanian Political Reform Association formed in 1885 had disappeared in 1887 after supporting five candidates in the 1886 election. There were no extra-parliamentary organisations in politics, and most candidates were fairly independent' (Colin A Hughes and B D Graham, A Handbook of Australian Government and Politics 1890-1964, (Canberra: Australian National University Press, 1968, SBN 708102700); p. 592).

Opposition Party

During the 1890s, the factional politics of previous years began to give way to political groupings and electoral organizations which foreshadowed the emergence of modern political parties. The labels Ministerialists, Opposition Party and Independents are provided by Hughes and Graham to indicate the groupings of members elected at the election and their likely support for the government. But these groupings were fluid and did not represent organized political parties of the kind which existed after 1909. As Hughes and Graham indicate, the Fysh ministry '...might be described as 'Liberal' because of its support for reform issues. However, the Southern Tasmanian Political Reform Association formed in 1885 had disappeared in 1887 after supporting five candidates in the 1886 election. There were no extra-parliamentary organisations in politics, and most candidates were fairly independent' (Colin A Hughes and B D Graham, A Handbook of Australian Government and Politics 1890-1964, (Canberra: Australian National University Press, 1968, SBN 708102700); p. 592).

Ministerialists

During the 1890s, the factional politics of previous years began to give way to political groupings and electoral organizations which foreshadowed the emergence of modern political parties. The labels Ministerialists, Opposition Party and Independents are provided by Hughes and Graham to indicate the groupings of members elected at the election and their likely support for the government. But these groupings were fluid and did not represent organized political parties of the kind which existed after 1909. As Hughes and Graham indicate, the Fysh ministry '...might be described as 'Liberal' because of its support for reform issues. However, the Southern Tasmanian Political Reform Association formed in 1885 had disappeared in 1887 after supporting five candidates in the 1886 election. There were no extra-parliamentary organisations in politics, and most candidates were fairly independent' (Colin A Hughes and B D Graham, A Handbook of Australian Government and Politics 1890-1964, (Canberra: Australian National University Press, 1968, SBN 708102700); p. 592).
Independents

1912  Votes are shown for Independents. Bennett and Bennett (Scott Bennett and Barbara Bennett, *Tasmanian Electoral Handbook, 1851-1982*, (Kensington, NSW: Reference Section of History Project Incorporated, University of New South Wales, 1983) show four candidates who ran for office without any party affiliation, none of whom was elected (Bennett and Bennett pp 168-170). Hughes and Graham, (Colin A Hughes and B D Graham, *A Handbook of Australian Government and Politics 1890-1964*, (Canberra: Australian National University Press, 1968, SBN 708102700) and the official election report show the same number of votes for the Australian Labor Party as Bennett and Bennett, but assign all other candidates and first preference votes to the Liberal Party; this gives the Liberal Party 40,252 first preference votes (54.5 percent). The difference between the sources reflects different approaches to deciding what amounts to a candidate being affiliated with a political party.

1913  The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by a single candidate who ran for election without any stated party affiliation.

1916  The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by three candidates who ran for election without any stated party affiliation, one of whom, J T H Whitsitt, was elected.

1919  The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by two candidates who ran for election without any stated party affiliation, one of whom, J T H Whitsitt, was elected.

1922  The vote shown for Independents in the table above is the vote gained by eleven candidates who ran for election without any stated party affiliation, one of whom, J A Jensen, was elected.

1925  The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by six candidates who ran for election without any stated party affiliation, three of whom, D N Cameron, P Murdoch and J P Piggott were elected.

1928  The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by eleven candidates who ran for election without any stated party affiliation, one of whom, B J Pearsall, was elected.

1931  The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by eleven candidates who ran for election without any stated party affiliation, one of whom, B Watkins, was elected.

1934  The vote shown for Independents in the table above is the vote gained by eight candidates who ran for election without any stated party affiliation, two of whom, G S Carruthers, and B J Pearsall, were elected. Townsley states that Carruthers ran on a Social Credit platform; W A Townsley, *Tasmania From Colony to Statehood 1803-1945* (Hobart: St David’s Park Publishing, 1991, ISBN 0724625753), p. 350.

1937  The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by eight candidates who ran for election without any stated party affiliation, none of whom was elected.

1941  The vote shown for Independents in the table above is the vote gained by two candidates who ran for election without any stated party affiliation, neither of whom was elected.
Changes to the Electoral Act in 1941 meant that Independents could run with another Independent as a 'group' on the ballot paper, or be listed with all other Independent candidates in that electoral district in an 'ungrouped' list.

The vote shown for Independents in the table above is the vote gained by the combination of both sets of Independent candidates. Eight candidates who ran for election without any stated party affiliation ran as members of groups of Independents and gained 5,414 first preference votes, with one candidate, G H Gray, being elected. In addition, eight 'ungrouped' Independent candidates gained 13,690 first preference votes, with one, R C Townley, being elected.

The vote shown for Independents in the table above is the vote gained by the combination of both sets of Independent candidates. Twelve candidates ran as members of groups of Independents and gained 16,947 first preference votes, with three candidates, G H Gray, R C Townley and W G Wedd being elected. In addition, five 'ungrouped' Independent candidates gained 1,289 first preference votes, none of whom was elected.


The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by two candidates who ran as members of a group of Independents and gained 2,603 first preference votes, one of whom, W G Wedd being elected; and three 'ungrouped' Independent candidates who gained 1,289 first preference votes, none of whom was elected.

The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by three 'ungrouped' Independent candidates who gained 3,158 first preference votes, none of whom was elected. There were no 'grouped' Independents.

The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by two candidates who ran as members of a group of Independents and gained 2,356 first preference votes, but neither was elected; and three 'ungrouped' Independent candidates who gained 1,783 first preference votes, none of whom was elected.

Hughes and Graham (Colin A Hughes and B D Graham, *A Handbook of Australian Government and Politics 1890-1964*, (Canberra: Australian National University Press, 1968, SBN 708102700), p.608) and Bennett and Bennett, (Scott Bennett and Barbara Bennett, *Tasmanian Electoral Handbook, 1851-1982*, (Kensington, NSW: Reference Section of History Project Incorporated, University of New South Wales, 1983), p. 213) list 91 votes for a Communist Party candidate, M A Bound. The Tasmanian Parliamentary website (http://www.parliament.tas.gov.au/tpl/Elections/ahares.htm) includes these votes as votes for an 'ungrouped' Independent but, as Bound contested the subsequent 1959 election with another candidate as a Communist Party group, the votes are shown as votes for the Communist Party. The result of listing the Communist candidate separately means that the figures for the number of Independent candidates and the number of first preference votes for Independents will differ from those shown on the Tasmanian Parliamentary website for this election.
1959  The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by two candidates who ran as members of a group of Independents and gained 9,270 first preference votes, with one, R J D Turnbull, being elected; and eight 'ungrouped' Independent candidates gained who 7,490 first preference votes, one of whom, W G Wedd, was elected.

1964  The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by four candidates who ran as members of two groups of Independents and gained 2,272 first preference votes, with none being elected; and seven 'ungrouped' Independent candidates who gained 4,882 first preference votes none of whom was elected.

M A Bound ran as a candidate for the Communist Party, as he had done for the previous two Assembly elections, and his votes are shown in the table above as votes for the Communist Party; see Scott Bennett and Barbara Bennett, *Tasmanian Electoral Handbook, 1851-1982*, (Kensington, NSW: Reference Section of History Project Incorporated, University of New South Wales, 1983); p.221). The Tasmanian Parliament website [http://www.parliament.tas.gov.au/tpl/Elections/ahares.htm](http://www.parliament.tas.gov.au/tpl/Elections/ahares.htm) includes the votes for Bound with other ungrouped Independents. The result of listing this candidate separately means that the figures for the number of Independent candidates and the number of first preference votes for Independents shown in the table above differs from those shown on the Tasmanian Parliamentary website for this election.

Three sitting members of the House of Assembly ran as Independent candidates at this election after disputes with the parties to which they had previously belonged. W C Hodgman and W Jackson who had been previously elected as Liberal Party candidates, ran as Independent Liberals, and C B Aylett who had been elected as an Australian Labor Party candidate in 1959, ran as an Independent Labor candidate (Scott Bennett and Barbara Bennett, *Tasmanian Electoral Handbook, 1851-1982*, (Kensington, NSW: Reference Section of History Project Incorporated, University of New South Wales, 1983); pp 221-222). None of these candidates was elected. The votes for these candidates are included under 'Independents'. They are included with 'ungrouped' Independents as 'Others' on the Tasmanian Parliament website record for the 1964 election (See the Tasmanian Parliament website [http://www.parliament.tas.gov.au/tpl/Elections/e1964.htm](http://www.parliament.tas.gov.au/tpl/Elections/e1964.htm)).

1969  The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by two candidates who ran as members of a group of Independents and gained 726 first preference votes, with neither being elected; and three 'ungrouped' Independent candidates who gained 3,640 first preference votes, none of whom was elected.

1972  The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained two candidates who ran as members of a group of Independents and gained 325 first preference votes, with neither being elected; and ten 'ungrouped' Independent candidates who gained 2,752 first preference votes, none of whom was elected.

1976  The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by candidates who are listed as 'grouped' Independents in the Tasmanian Parliamentary Library vote summary for this election, and are shown as votes for the Workers Party or the Socialist Workers Party; and seven 'ungrouped' Independent candidates who gained 1,178 first preference votes, none of whom was elected. The result of listing votes for the Workers Party and the Socialist Workers Party separately means that the figures for the number of Independent candidates and the number of first preference votes for Independents shown in the table above differs from those shown on the Tasmanian Parliamentary website for this election (see http://www.parliament.tas.gov.au/tpl/Elections/ahares.htm).

1979  The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by two candidates who ran as members of a group of Independents and gained 446 first preference votes, with neither candidate being elected; and six 'ungrouped' Independent candidates who gained 3,162 first preference votes, none of whom was elected.

1982  The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by fifteen candidates who ran as members of six groups of Independents and gained 20,553 first preference votes, with one candidate -- former Labor Premier Lowe -- being elected; and seventeen 'ungrouped' Independent candidates who gained 2,537 first preference votes, none of whom was elected.

As a consequence of the separate listing of the Tasmanian Green (Independents), the total votes for Independents will differ from that shown on the Tasmanian Parliamentary website (http://www.parliament.tas.gov.au/tpl/Elections/ahares.htm).

1986  The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by two candidates who ran as members of a group of Independents and gained 1,393 first preference votes, with no candidate being elected; and four 'ungrouped' Independent candidates who gained 6,430 first preference votes, none of whom was elected.

1989  The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by six 'ungrouped' Independent candidates who gained 937 first preference votes, none of whom were elected. As a consequence of the separate listing of the Tasmanian Green (Independents) the total votes for Independents will differ from that shown on the Tasmanian Parliamentary website (http://www.parliament.tas.gov.au/tpl/Elections/ahares.htm).

No candidate ran as a member of a group of Independents other than the Greens at this election.

1992  The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by fourteen 'ungrouped' Independent candidates who gained 3,228 first preference votes; none of these candidates was elected.

No candidate ran as a member of a group of Independents at this election, other than those who ran under the umbrella of the Advance Tasmania Party, whose results have been shown separately.

1996  The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by ten candidates who ran as members of five groups of Independents and gained 6,932 first preference votes, with one candidate -- former Federal Liberal Party member of the House of Representatives, B J Goodluck -- being elected; and seven 'ungrouped' Independent candidates who gained 3,358 first preference votes; none of these candidates was elected.

1998  The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by ten candidates who ran as members of four groups of Independents and gained 1,219 first preference votes, with no candidate being elected and ten 'ungrouped' Independent candidates who gained 1,680 first preference votes; none of these candidates was elected.
The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by eleven candidates who ran as members of five groups of Independents and gained 2,667 first preference votes, with no candidate being elected; and six 'ungrouped' independent candidates who gained 1,804 first preference votes; none of these candidates was elected.

The vote shown for Independents is the vote gained by eight candidates who ran as members of four groups of Independents and gained 3,027 first preference votes, with no candidate being elected (two of these groups called the group 'Independents'); and three 'ungrouped' independent candidates who gained 1,943 first preference votes; none of these candidates was elected.

Democratic League

During the 1890s, the factional politics of previous years began to give way to political groupings and electoral organizations which foreshadowed the emergence of modern political parties. The labels Ministerialists, Opposition Party, Democratic League and Independents are provided by Hughes and Graham to indicate the groupings of members elected at the election and their likely support for the government. But these groupings were fluid and did not represent organized political parties of the kind which existed after 1909. As Hughes and Graham indicate 'There were no extra-parliamentary organisations in politics, and most candidates were fairly independent' (see Colin A Hughes and B D Graham, A Handbook of Australian Government and Politics 1890-1964, (Canberra: Australian National University Press, 1968, SBN 708102700, p. 592).


Australian Labor Party

The Australian Labor Party does not refer to a single organization, but a cluster of like minded groups and candidates whom Hughes and Graham label as 'Labor'. 'In October 1901 the Tasmanian Workers’ Political League was formed, and by the 1903 election there were Leagues on the West Coast and in Hobart to hold pre-selections', (Colin A Hughes and B D Graham, A Handbook of Australian Government and Politics 1890-1964, (Canberra: Australian National University Press, 1968, SBN 708102700); p. 597);(See Patrick Weller, 'Tasmania' in P Loveday, A W Martin and R S Parker (editors), The Emergence of the Australian Party System, pp 355-382 (Sydney: Hale & Iremonger, 1977, ISBN 0908094035), and Richard Davis, Eighty Years’ Labor: The ALP in Tasmania, 1903-1983, (Hobart: Sassafras Books and the History Department, University of Tasmania, 1983, ISBN 0859012212). The term 'Australian Labor Party' has been used for this election to indicate a political movement which had many of the characteristics of the organization which later became the Australian Labor Party.

Votes are shown for Independents. Bennett and Bennett (Scott Bennett and Barbara Bennett, Tasmanian Electoral Handbook, 1851-1982, (Kensington, NSW: Reference Section of History Project Incorporated, University of New South Wales, 1983) show four candidates who ran for office without any party affiliation, none of whom was elected (Bennett and Bennett pp 168-
170). Hughes and Graham, (Colin A Hughes and B D Graham, *A Handbook of Australian Government and Politics 1890-1964*, (Canberra: Australian National University Press, 1968, SBN 708102700) and the official election report show the same number of votes for the Australian Labor Party as Bennett and Bennett, but assign all other candidates and first preference votes to the Liberal Party; this gives the Liberal Party 40,252 first preference votes (54.5 percent). The difference between the sources reflects different approaches to deciding what amounts to a candidate being affiliated with a political party.

1919 The split in the Australian Labor Party in 1916 prompted by disagreements over the introduction conscription to send Australian soldiers to Europe during the First World War, divided the Party in all states except Queensland with major consequences for both state and federal politics. In Tasmania, the new Nationalist Party (Nationalists) established in September 1917, was a coalition of interests supporting conscription which brought together members of the Liberal Party, members defecting from the Labor Party, and the nationalist organization, the National Association.


**Anti-Socialist Party**

1909 'The growth of the Labor Party produced a group of Anti-Socialists united only by their opposition to Labor policies, and including both supporters and opponents of the Evans ministry', (Colin A Hughes and B D Graham, *A Handbook of Australian Government and Politics 1890-1964*, (Canberra: Australian National University Press, 1968, SBN 708102700); p. 599). The Anti-Socialists were the immediate precursors of the Liberal Party.

**Independent Labor Party**


**Liberal Party**

1912 During the 1890s, the factional politics of previous years began to give way to political groupings and electoral organizations which foreshadowed the emergence of modern political parties. The resignation of Evans as Premier after the 1909 election paved the way for the fusion of anti-Labor parliamentarians to form the Liberal Party. For studies of the emergence of political parties in Tasmania, see Patrick Weller, 'Tasmania' in P Loveday, A W Martin and R S Parker (editors), *The Emergence of the Australian Party System*, pp 355-382 (Sydney: Hale & Iremonger, 1977, ISBN 0724623450).
1912 Votes are shown for Independents. Bennett and Bennett (Scott Bennett and Barbara Bennett, Tasmanian Electoral Handbook, 1851-1982, (Kensington, NSW: Reference Section of History Project Incorporated, University of New South Wales, 1983) show four candidates who ran for office without any party affiliation, none of whom was elected (Bennett and Bennett pp 168-170). Hughes and Graham, (Colin A Hughes and B D Graham, A Handbook of Australian Government and Politics 1890-1964, (Canberra: Australian National University Press, 1968, SBN 708102700) and the official election report show the same number of votes for the Australian Labor Party as Bennett and Bennett, but assign all other candidates and first preference votes to the Liberal Party; this gives the Liberal Party 40,252 first preference votes (54.5 percent). The difference between the sources reflects different approaches to deciding what amounts to a candidate being affiliated with a political party.

1919 The split in the Australian Labor Party in 1916 prompted by disagreements over the introduction conscription to send Australian soldiers to Europe during the First World War, divided the Party in all states except Queensland with major consequences for both state and federal politics. In Tasmania, the new Nationalist Party (Nationalists) established in September 1917, was a coalition of interests supporting conscription which brought together members of the Liberal Party, members defecting from the Labor Party, and the nationalist organization, the National Association.


Note that the party name 'Liberal Party', had been used by candidates for House of Assembly elections from 1912 to 1916, and was to re-emerge in 1946 with the formation of the current Liberal Party.


2002 The Liberal Party won less than 28 percent of the first preference vote, its smallest vote share for candidates running under this party name since 1925.
Nationalist Party (Nationalists)

1919  The split in the Australian Labor Party in 1916 prompted by disagreements over the introduction conscription to send Australian soldiers to Europe during the First World War, divided the Party in all states except Queensland with major consequences for both state and Federal politics. In Tasmania, the new Nationalist Party (Nationalists) established in September 1917, was a coalition of interests supporting conscription which brought together members of the Liberal Party, members defecting from the Labor Party, and the nationalist organization, the National Association.


Country Party

1922  The Nationalist Party (Nationalists) established in Tasmania in September 1917, was a coalition of interests supporting conscription which brought together members of the Liberal Party, members defecting from the Labor Party, and the nationalist organization, the National Association. By 1922, tensions within the Nationalist Party had led to the formation of a Country Party. 'Three rural groups (the Tasmanian Farmers, Stockholders and Orchardists Association, the Primary Producers Association and the Port Huon Cooperative Company) combined to run Country Party candidates. An agreement was reached whereby Nationalist and Country Party candidates undertook to exchange preferences', Hughes and Graham, (Colin A Hughes and B D Graham, *A Handbook of Australian Government and Politics 1890-1964*, (Canberra: Australian National University Press, 1968, SBN 708102700) p. 602).

1964  This was the second election at which the Country Party had contested seats for the House of Assembly.

Anti-Communist Labor Party


1959  The Democratic Labor Party was the successor to the Anti-Communist Labor Party which had contested the previous Assembly election in 1956. The Australian Labor Party and the trade union

**Communist Party**

1956 Hughes and Graham (Colin A Hughes and B D Graham, *A Handbook of Australian Government and Politics 1890-1964*, (Canberra: Australian National University Press, 1968, SBN 70810270), p.608) and Bennett and Bennett, (Scott Bennett and Barbara Bennett, *Tasmanian Electoral Handbook, 1851-1982*, (Kensington, NSW: Reference Section of History Project Incorporated, University of New South Wales, 1983), p. 213) list 91 votes for a Communist Party candidate, M A Bound. The Tasmanian Parliamentary website (http://www.parliament.tas.gov.au/tpl/Elections/ahares.htm) includes these votes as votes for an 'ungrouped' Independent but, as Bound contested the subsequent 1959 election with another candidate as a Communist Party group, the votes are shown as votes for the Communist Party. The result of listing the Communist candidate separately means that the figures for the number of Independent candidates and the number of first preference votes for Independents will differ from those shown on the Tasmanian Parliamentary website for this election.

1959 Two candidates contested this Assembly election as candidates for the Communist Party. One of the candidates, M A Bound had been the sole Communist Party candidate at the 1956 Assembly election, and would run again as the only Communist Party candidate at the 1964 Assembly election.

**Democratic Labor Party**


Centre Party

1969  The Centre Party was formed in 1966 when Kevin Lyons, a long standing member of the Liberal Party in the Assembly, resigned from the Liberal Party and sat on the cross benches as a member, and later leader, of the Centre Party. Lyons was ‘... joined by the remnants of the the Tasmanian Country Party’, Dean Jaensch and David Mathieson, A Plague on Both Your Houses: Minor Parties in Australia, p.105 (St Leonards, NSW: Allen & Unwin, 1998, ISBN 1864484217). The Centre Party ran 14 candidates in all five Assembly electoral districts, but only Lyons was elected. This was the only election contested by Centre Party candidates.


United Tasmania Group

1972 to 1979 Elections  The failure of the environmental movement to change state and federal government policy over the flooding of Lake Pedder in 1972 prompted a number of Tasmanian environmental activists to form the United Tasmania Group (UTG) as a party to contest state Assembly and Legislative Council elections between 1972 and 1979.


Workers Party

1976  In spite of its name, this party was against big government and had an ideology well to the right of the Liberal Party (see Dean Jaensch and David Mathieson, A Plague on Both Your Houses: Minor Parties in Australia, p.147 (St Leonards, NSW: Allen & Unwin, 1998, ISBN 1864484217)). The Party nominated four candidates in two groups for this election and gained 647 votes (see Scott Bennett and Barbara Bennett, Tasmanian Electoral Handbook, 1851-1982, (Kensington, NSW: Reference Section of History Project Incorporated, University of New South Wales, 1983); pp. 232, 234).

Socialist Workers Party

1976  This was a derivative of the Communist Party (see Dean Jaensch and David Mathieson, A Plague on Both Your Houses: Minor Parties in Australia, p.138 (St Leonards, NSW: Allen & Unwin, 1998, ISBN 1864484217)). The Party nominated two candidates who ran as a group in one electoral district for this election and won 123 votes (see Scott Bennett and Barbara Bennett, Tasmanian
Australian Democrats

The Australian Democrats emerged as a centre party immediately preceding the 1977 federal election to capture the support of voters who were dissatisfied with both the Labor and Liberal parties (see John Warhurst (editor), Keeping the Bastards Honest: The Australian Democrats’ First Twenty Years, (St. Leonards, NSW: Allen & Unwin, 1997, ISBN 1864484209)). The Australian Democrats contested seats at Tasmanian House of Assembly elections from 1979.

Tasmanian Greens (Independents)

In January 1983, R J (Bob) Brown became an Independent member of the House of Assembly after a recount of N K Sanders’s ballots won at the 1982 Assembly election prompted by Sanders’s resignation from his seat in the Assembly (see note on casual vacancies, above). Brown had succeeded Sanders as Director of the Tasmanian Wilderness Society and was to become a major figure in the formation of the Tasmanian Greens Party after the 1989 Assembly election. At the 1986 Assembly election Brown was one of four candidates who ran as grouped Independents on a platform stressing conservationist issues and parliamentary accountability. Brown and his conservationist colleague Gerry Bates were elected.

To assist with the comparative presentation of votes for environmental parties in Australia, the votes won by these four candidates at this election are assigned to ‘Tasmanian Greens (Independents)’ even though this label was not used at the election and the Tasmanian Greens were not formally constituted as a party which contested Assembly elections until 1996.

1989 Sixteen Independent candidates ran in five groups -- one group in each of the five electoral districts -- on a platform stressing similar concerns with environmental issues and parliamentary accountability. One Independent candidate from each of these groups was elected and the five members -- often referred to as Green Independents -- participated in the Accord with the Labor Party to support the Field Australian Labor Party minority government. The five members were; L J E Armstrong, G M Bates, R J Brown, Dianne L Hollister, and Christine A Milne.

1992 At the 1992 election, 35 candidates ran under the party label of Green Independents in groups of 7 candidates in each of the five Assembly electoral districts. Five of these candidates were elected, one from each electoral district; L J E Armstrong, G M Bates, R J Brown, Dianne L Hollister, and Christine A Milne. These candidates had been elected at the previous Assembly election in 1989 as grouped Independents on a platform stressing similar concerns with environmental issues and parliamentary accountability. To assist with the comparative presentation of votes for environmental parties in Australia, the votes won by these candidates were assigned to ‘Tasmanian Greens (Independents)’ for the 1989 and 1992 elections, even though this label was not used at the election and the Tasmanian Greens were not formally constituted as a party which contested Assembly elections until 1996.
Advance Tasmania Party

1992 Thirteen candidates ran as groups in each of the five Assembly electoral districts under the umbrella of the Advance Tasmania Party.

More Jobs Party

1992 Two candidates ran as a party group with this party label.

Tasmanian Greens

1996 At the 1996 Assembly election (this election), the Tasmanian Greens were a formally recognized party providing this name as a party label for its candidates; this transition is regarded as a change of party name in this database so that no figures for 'Change from previous election %' are shown in the table above. At the 1992 Assembly, the Tasmanian Greens (Independents) vote share was 13.23 percent; the Tasmanian Greens vote share for 1996 was 11.14 percent, a decline of 2.09 percent.

National Party


Extremely Greedy 40% Extra Party

1996 As the party name suggests, this party ran candidates to protest against the large pay rise that Tasmanian parliamentarians had voted themselves under the Groom government; note Stephen Tanner, 'Tasmania', *Australian Journal of Politics and History*, Australian Political Chronicle, July-December 1994, 41 (2) August 1995: 310-315 at 311-312.

Tasmania First Party


Socialist Alliance Party

2002 This was the first time for more than twenty-five years that a socialist party had contested seats at a House of Assembly election; the Workers Party, and the Socialist Workers Party had each fielded candidates for the 1976 House of Assembly election.