

PositiveMoneyNZ



Newsletter # 1 - to 19th October 2011

Welcome to our first newsletter. The events of the last week have moved so fast that it is hard to collect my thoughts.

The launch of our campaign has been months in the planning and months ago - when we decided on the 17th October - we had no idea that it would align so closely with events that is happening around the world.

Don Richards

Saturday 15th October

Sue and I attended the Occupy Wellington site on Saturday the 15th and we handed out 40 DVD's of [Money as Debt II](#). I gave a short speech on our campaign and told them that I was right behind what they were up for.

We also bumped into [Metiria Turei](#) Co-leader of the Green party and I told her about our campaign, gave her a business card and a copy of Money as Debt II.

Monday 17th October

We launched the campaign on Monday and approximately 25 hardy souls braved the elements to attend the launch at Toi Whakaari. Following is a [link to my speech](#). Unfortunately we experienced "technical difficulties" with our Skype connection – but the message did get through.

We linked through to Ben Dyson of Positive Money UK in London, who told us of the momentum that is building in the UK and he said that that the Quantitative Easing proves that the Bank of England can create money if it wants to, but in this case it's being pumped into the banking system.

Jamie Walton then joined the launch from Washington DC – where it was 1:30 in the morning. Jamie is a researcher for the American Monetary Institute and he said that a bill had been introduced into Congress called the [HR 2990 NEED Act](#) that is similar to the draft legislation on [our Positive Money website](#). The US Act proposes debt free money issued by the US Government and had been reviewed and endorsed by Professor Yamaguchi – a leading economist from Berkeley and Doshisha universities.

At the end of the Launch Laurence Boomert and I announced that we are standing for Parliament in Wellington Central and Ohariu seats respectively, on a platform of reforming the monetary system.

Approximately 15 of us then adjourned to the Office Pub in Newtown for a further couple of hours of earnest discussion.

Tuesday 18th October

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I was invited back to talk at [the Occupy Wellington site](#) and spoke to about twenty people on how the current system operates. There were a couple of people struggling with the idea of money being created out of thin air.

I was invited back on Monday to talk more about the system and was invited to set up a stand as they wanted Monday to be a day of education for everyone.

Wednesday 19th October

I have my Candidate nomination form that only requires a couple of signatures from registered voters within the Ohariu electorate and then it will be in the post.

I went back to the Occupy Wellington site and the weather was bitterly cold. I felt for the poor guys in the tents and gave them \$25 (all I had) towards some warm food.

So that completes the first newsletter. There is much to be done on both my candidacy and preparing for Monday. If any of you want to attend the Occupy Wellington education open day showcasing your campaigns, let me know and I will ask the organisers for their ok.

Cheers

Don