



Socialist Alliance candidate, Pip Hinman, Labor candidate, Carmel Tebbutt, Liberal candidate, Rosana Tyler and Greens candidate, Fiona Byrne.

Candidates battle it out

In the lead up to the State Election, candidates for Marrickville debate their policies

BY SARAH MILLS

Compliments were flowing as a member of the public praised Marrickville State Election candidates at a public forum, for the sheer fact that they were all women, a sight that he said, would not have been imaginable 20 years ago.

In a structured debate hosted by the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre, all four female State Election candidates battled it out for votes at St David's Church at Enmore on Wednesday night.

For almost two hours, candidates outlined their policies on a number of areas including the environment, transport, public assets, childcare, education, disability care, health and multiculturalism.

Chairing the debate was renowned activist, Eva Cox, who was firm in restricting question time, and reiterated she wasn't there to please everyone.

"It seems that the candidates are lacking creativity, instead of saying what's wrong with each other, it would be nice to think

of what society we want," Ms Cox said.

It seems the [election] candidates are lacking creativity.

- Eva Cox

Kicking off the latter half of the debate in Q&A style, Ms Cox asked the candidates what was one program they would introduce that would make life better for the people of Marrickville.

Better access to services

for the disabled and elderly was high on Liberal candidate, Rosana Tyler's list, whilst fast tracking public transport was Greens candidate, Fiona Byrne's target.

Labor member for Marrickville, Carmel Tebbutt said if she had to choose one thing she would try to make sure that every child started school on an equal footing.

Socialist Alliance candidate, Pip Hinman made a promise to make public transport free to better improve carbon pollution and improve health.