Dear Editor,

I'd like to reply to the recent (28 Dec.) letter by the National Candidate for Throsby were he believed I was throwing stones and didn't have a clue. What surprises me is that a National Party Candidate, who is supposed to be looking out for the interests of farmers would attack policies that target those same farmers who are going bankrupt trying to compete in a deregulated marketplace, against imported products that can be grown with chemicals and pesticides banned in Australia. Start factoring in the labour costs and working conditions in these foreign countries and then throw in insurances and other overheads incurred by our farmers and you start to see why at one stage there was a farmer committing suicide every 4 days. I think Mr Cleary needs to speak to some of these farmers and find out what they think of the KAP policies because from what I hear, they think they are pretty bloody good. They think it's fantastic that if someone imports food into this country that they have to place a warning label on it saying that it may not have been grown to our standards. Ask the dairy farmers if they like our policy of re-regulating so they can earn more than the dole. While your talking to them about these policies, ask them what they think of a 10% duty on all imported goods so they can compete again. My question to Mr Cleary is, As a National, why don't you support them? I could be wrong but I believe that in just about every election over the past 15 years or so both Labor and Liberal have said they will pay for some election promises by cutting out duplication by government departments. Goes to show how good they are at it. I can live with being called a "Stone Thrower" as long as my stones are hitting the mark and from your letter it seems they are. As for the "Haven't got a clue" bit, I'll admit that sometimes I haven't. These are the times I call on my 2 trusty friends, Mr Google and Mr Bigpond and I soon find that I do have a clue. At least I have policies that I am putting before the people and opponents and I'm prepared to debate them anywhere and anytime. I also note that your party sold out the people of Hume for a guick \$1.something million and some uncontested seats. Amazing how something that looks good at the time comes back to bite you in the isn't it.

Thanks for your time.
Bruce Nicholson
KAP Candidate for Hume

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