



**From Australian rower to Australian Senator
4 July 2006**

Senator Cory Bernardi's journey from representing Australia in rowing to representing South Australians in the Senate is a story of hard work and dedication to an ideal.

Senator Bernardi, who will speak at a public dinner meeting at the Port Lincoln yacht Club on July 13th, started his rowing career at high school.

In his second year at university studying for a degree in Business in Marketing, he was awarded a scholarship to the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra.

He was a member of the rowing team that represented Australia in the United States, England and the world championships at Bled in the former Yugoslavia.

An injury forced his retirement from competitive rowing.

His former colleagues re-crewed to become the "Oarsome Foursome" that went on to win Olympic gold for Australia.

When one door closes, another opens. Cory was invited overseas to work as a construction labourer, travelling extensively across Europe, Northern Africa and the Middle East.

He spent some years managing the Criterion Hotel in Adelaide then moved to a stockbroking firm, eventually establishing his own financial advisory practice.

When Cory was elected state president of the South Australia Liberal Party at the age of 28, he became the youngest ever person to hold that position.

His commitment to private enterprise and the Liberal Party led to his election by the party as a Senator for South Australia earlier this year.

He is a former board member of the Australian Sports Commission and the Australian Institute of Sports, and was chairman of the National Review of Disability Sport in Australia.

For catering purposes, those coming to the dinner are asked to phone 8683 0722 during work hours, or 8682 2394 after hours. ENDS