

## Key Political Events: June 2008

- (Labour announces Budget with emphasis on tax cuts – late May)
- Labour softens stance on emissions trading scheme but are criticised by the Green's for this who say they are prepared to deal with National
- Green Party holds conference where the Electoral Finance Act and a government examination of food pricing are discussed
- Green MP Mike Ward steps down from Parliament to allow Green's co-leader Russel Norman to become an MP before the election
- Election Commission ensures National and Labour receive equal airtime on TV
- John Key claims to have already released 14 policies as pressure mounts for National to give more details of intentions
- National claims higher tax cuts are possible
- Labour pamphlet found to breach Electoral Finance Act
- National eventually backs Criminal Procedures Bill after public pressure
- Three murders occur in South Auckland in the space of a week
  - Helen Clarke asks for Parliament to revisit liquor laws to cut the number of liquor outlets in the wake of South Auckland murders
  - National criticise Labour on its role in crime preventions following high-profile South Auckland deaths
- John Key says he could negotiate with minor parties even if National win enough seats to govern alone
- Sir Roger Douglas, founder of ACT, agrees to take a high position on ACT's party list
- Government campaign begins, reminding New Zealanders to save power but claim there is no fear of blackouts
- Auckland's North Shore Schools refuse to engage in Government's new School Plus initiative until existing funding issues are recognised
- The Policing Bill reduces fears of civilianisation of police force
- Labour uses taxpayer money to finance leaflets
- Changes to the Domestic Violence Act
- Government orders inquiry into Oil company pricing
- Simon Bridges selected to stand as National candidate in Tauranga
- United Future opposes Emissions Trading Scheme
- Northland National MP John Carter swears at Police Officer and then apologises
- Government plan to ban cellphones while driving
- Petrol and food prices hit peaks
- Following the Auditor-General's finding that New Zealand First overspent by \$158,000 at the last election, Winston Peter's donates this amount of money between nine undisclosed charities