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FEDERAL MEMBER FOR FLINDERS

SHADOW MINISTER FOR CLIMATE ACTION, ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE



*Working for
our Community*

Flinders Community News

Winter 2013

Clean Ocean Dive



It was a pleasure to join the Clean Ocean Foundation on its inaugural marine survey of the area near the desalination plant at **Kilcunda**.

There is significant community concern about marine pollution including the potential impact of the plant on this pristine stretch of coastline.

This ongoing project will raise awareness of issues related to pollution and its cost to the marine environment.

▶ arriving back at **San Remo** from the Clean Ocean Foundation dive

San Remo School Rally

More than 120 people attended my recent public meeting to discuss the need for a state secondary college for **Phillip Island, San Remo** and the **waterline communities**. With enrolments at local primary schools growing fast, there is a strong case for the creation of a new state secondary college in the area.

As a result of the meeting, local residents headed by Natasha Crestani have set up the State Secondary School for Phillip Island and Waterline Regions Advisory Board.

The board has gathered a petition of more than 2150 signatures, calling for a new school.

▼ with parents at the **San Remo** school meeting



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▲ nominate your favourite tree

Plus

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Community Campaigns

Supported Accommodation

The plight of ageing parents desperate to find suitable accommodation for their adult intellectually disabled children is a growing issue in our community.

I have worked closely for a number of years with local parents from the Frankston-Peninsula Carers Inc, who have been successful in securing funding for a supported accommodation project now underway at **Hastings**.

I have also given my full support to Marie Hell and her group, Community Lifestyle Association, who are working on plans for supported accommodation at **Rosebud**.

Recently I met with Casey Mayor Amanda Stapledon and Cr Geoff Ablett to discuss support for a similar concept at Blairlogie in **Pearcedale**.

I will continue to do all that I can to ensure that local carers get the support they need.



▲ with Blairlogie clients Zade Norris and Lance Landers and Casey councillors Amanda Stapledon and Geoff Ablett

▼ inspecting plans for the Mt Martha Life Saving Club with President John Harvey



Mt Martha Sporting Facilities

Plans to re-build the **Mt Martha** Life Saving Club are progressing fast, with the club recently securing crucial planning permits for the project.

The next step is to secure funding for the re-build. The project will provide one of the biggest life saving clubs on the Bay with a much-needed new headquarters.

Meanwhile plans are underway for an upgrade of the Mt Martha Football/Cricket Club pavilion and grounds.

I have recently met with both club representatives and nearby residents to discuss the need for better facilities at the ground and concerns regarding the impact of any upgrade on local residents and the environment.

▼ discussing the campaign for a hospital with Jim West and Jock McKechnie at Cowes



Phillip Island Hospital

I am 100 per cent committed to securing hospital facilities for **Phillip Island**.

I believe a four-stage approach will give us the best chance at success, starting with round-the-clock GP services and followed by services such as allied health, palliative care and acute hospital care.

Should the Coalition win the next Federal election, \$2.5 million will be made available for health and hospital facilities on Phillip Island. I am committed to working with the Victorian Government to find a way forward on this issue.

Spotlight on Rosebud

Flinders Seniors Awards at Rosebud

It was an absolute pleasure to welcome more than 100 family members and friends of local seniors to the **Rosebud** Memorial Hall for the Flinders Seniors Awards earlier this year.

The volunteer work of 16 local seniors was recognised at the special ceremony.

The calibre of the nominations we received was outstanding, a testament to the true wealth we have here on the Peninsula in terms of human capital.

Flinders Seniors Awards were awarded to:

Mavis Peet	Norm Uniacke	Patricia Griffin
Dorothy Sullivan	Dorothy Townshend	Shirley Naylor
Ken Lacey	Ray Barnard-Brown	Joan Cockerell
Malcolm Hedges	Judy Walsh	June King
Jim Brown	John Ord	Jonathan and Jenny Mayne



Packing hampers at Rosebud with Food for All ▼



Tootgarook Swamp Protected

Some of the most environmentally significant private land on the Mornington Peninsula has been permanently preserved.

In one of the largest environmental projects the Peninsula has seen, a large part of the **Tootgarook** swamp has been protected by a covenant with Trust for Nature.

The 180ha parcel of land at Boneo Park, which includes 50ha of significant Moonah woodland, will now be rehabilitated over a period of 10 years as part of the native vegetation offset for the Peninsula Link freeway.

Owner Rob McNaught has shown tremendous passion and vision in pursuing his dream of preserving this ecological treasure for future generations. I was delighted to help officially launch the covenant and rehabilitation program earlier this year.



▲ with owners Rob McNaught and Kathy Curnow at Boneo Park

Meet Me at Rosebud

I am keen to meet **Rosebud** residents to listen to all concerns and help fight for better outcomes for the town.

I will be holding a mobile office outside the **Rosebud Plaza** on **Saturday, July 20 from 10.30-12pm**. Please come along and say hello.

Food For All

Last year's Food for All Christmas Appeal provided 437 hampers of food to struggling Southern Peninsula families and individuals, as well as toys to 566 local children. Volunteers also provide more than 60 food parcels a week to local families from their base at **Rosebud**. Donations of money can be sent to PO Box 440, Rosebud 3939.

Rosebud CT Scanner

Last year I had the pleasure of joining the Rotary Club of Rosebud-Rye in launching a campaign to raise funds for a CT scanner at **Rosebud Hospital**. I am pleased to report that Rotary has so far pledged \$32,000 and the All Saints Op Shop in Rosebud a further \$10,000. Fundraising continues for this vital piece of medical equipment.

News Round-Up



▲ discussing protection for shearwaters at Surf Beach

A Win for Surf Beach Residents

Local residents have rallied to protect Shearwater rookeries at **Surf Beach** on Phillip Island.

The rookeries, at Crazybirds beach, were in danger of being covered over for car parking.

I met with Surf Beach residents recently to lend my support to the campaign and to discuss long-term protection for these vulnerable rookeries.

I am pleased that the Bass Coast Shire, together with the Phillip Island Nature Park, has now erected 'no parking' and interpretive signs in the Crazybirds beach area.

FareShare for Hastings

Earlier this year I had the pleasure of launching a new local partnership between Woolworths and not-for-profit organisation FareShare that will see surplus food used to feed the hungry.

Under the partnership, FareShare volunteers will collect surplus fresh food from 18 local supermarkets on the Mornington Peninsula and outer bayside suburbs.

The food will be turned into healthy meals to feed the working poor, the homeless and the hungry. The program also saves landfill space and cuts production of the greenhouse gas methane, as well as reducing demand for new food production.

Local Woolworths Supermarkets that will participate in this new partnership include: **Rye, Rosebud Central, Rosebud West, Hastings, Somerville and Baxter.**

▼ loading groceries for FareShare at Hastings



A New Home for Crib Point Fire Brigade

The CFA has entered into negotiations to relocate the **Crib Point** Fire Brigade to larger premises.

Once the formal agreement over a suitable site has been completed, work will begin on placing Crib Point on the CFA's capital program for a new station build.

I have given my full support to this project and will continue to assist in any way that I can.



▲ with Hastings MP Neale Burgess, Crib Point Advisory Group's Rosemary Evans, CFA Regional Director Peter Schmidt, Crib Point Fire Brigade Captain Geoff Watson and operations officer Peter J Lucas



▲ with Christine Haydon and Peter Avery at Flinders

Peninsula Significant Tree Register

Community group Peninsula Speaks is working with the National Trust to compile a register of significant trees on the **Mornington Peninsula**.

I met recently with Peninsula Speaks co-founders Christine Haydon and Peter Avery to view a remarkable tree that has been put forward for the register.

The magnificent English Oak at **Flinders** was planted around 1880 and now stands about 27 metres tall. Its association with the development of the Flinders township makes it an iconic local landmark.

The Peninsula has many significant trees suitable for inclusion on the register. The register will ultimately be incorporated into the Shire's planning system and will be taken into consideration when planning decisions are made.

I urge local residents to make a submission. Application forms are available via email to info@peninsulaspeaks.org.au

Recent Success Stories

It was a great pleasure to see **Grantville's** new ambulance station officially opened late last year as a result of our very successful community campaign.

While the fight continues to get **Lang Lang** Police Station re-opened full time, we were successful in persuading Victoria Police not to sell the station. Having the station remain in police hands gives our campaign to extend station hours a better chance of success.

The opening in December of the new Insight Education Centre for blind and vision impaired children was the culmination of years of hard work for **Pearcedale** residents Alan and Maria Lachman. I was delighted to be able to work with the Lachmans on this worthwhile community project.

Peninsula Mobile Phone Network Inadequate Over Summer

I have spoken in Parliament about the serious risk to safety caused by congestion of the **Mornington Peninsula's** mobile phone network over summer.

There were many occasions this summer when the Peninsula's mobile phone network was unable to cope with the large number of visitors trying to access it.

The Mornington Peninsula is one of the most bushfire-prone areas in Victoria. Having large numbers of people in a high fire danger area with failing telecommunications is a recipe for disaster.

The Government's priorities are all wrong. It is spending billions putting broadband into areas already well-served, yet the Mornington Peninsula doesn't even have an adequate mobile phone service.



▲ speaking in Parliament

Saver Plus

Saver plus is a matched savings program for people on low incomes.

Participants save for ten months and their savings are matched, up to \$500. The matched funds must be spent on educational expenses such as school uniforms, books, tuition, music lessons etc.

To find out more phone or sms your name and postcode to 1300 610 355 or email saverplus@bsl.org.au

Out and About: Mornington Peninsula

- ✓ Took part in the annual **Arthurs Seat** Challenge charity run
- ✓ Attended the **Dromana-Red Hill** RSL's Remembrance Day dinner
- ✓ Took part in the **Blairgowrie** Yacht Squadron Pink Day
- ✓ Spoke at the Light Up Autism movie night fundraiser at **Rosebud**
- ✓ Took part in the opening of the new **Dromana** Bay Life Saving Club
- ✓ Attended the 2013 Couta Boat Classic at **Sorrento**
- ✓ Took part in the Blessing of the Waters Greek Orthodox ceremony at **Rye**



▲ opening the Wurru-Wurru Steiner Playgroup Program at the former Uniting Church in **Red Hill**. The program offers play-based learning for children from 18 months with an emphasis on the natural world.
Details: Tania on 0439 646 655



▲ at Peninsula Hot Springs, **Fingal**, with general manager Norm Cleeland during a visit by Shadow Tourism Minister Bob Baldwin

- ✓ Attended the Rotary Club of **Sorrento** 29th Annual Art Show
- ✓ Took part in the **Blairgowrie** Summer Fair
- ✓ Attended the annual **Rye** Gift
- ✓ Competed in the **Mt Martha** Australia Day swim
- ✓ Attended the **Mt Martha** Lions flag raising ceremony on Australia Day
- ✓ Addressed the Nepean and Rye Historical Societies at **Rye**
- ✓ Competed in the Great Peninsula Paddle from **Sorrento** to **Portsea**
- ✓ Addressed the Village Glen ANZAC Day commemoration at **Rosebud West**
- ✓ Attended the Montalto Sculpture Prize at **Red Hill South**

- ✓ Addressed the Landscape Protection Society at **Mt Martha**
- ✓ Took part in the New Peninsula Church family fun day at **Mt Martha**
- ✓ Addressed Greek Independence Day celebrations at **Rye**
- ✓ Met with opponents of the proposed **Arthurs Seat** tip
- ✓ Attended the opening night of the **Rosebud** Secondary College Art Show
- ✓ Hosted a morning tea at the Veterans Welfare Centre at **Rosebud** with Shadow Veterans' Affairs Minister, Michael Ronaldson
- ✓ Visited Fort Nepean to view the **Portsea** gun restoration project with Shadow Veterans' Affairs Minister, Michael Ronaldson
- ✓ Attended ANZAC Day commemorations at **Dromana, Rosebud, Rye** and **Sorrento**
- ✓ Attended the opening of the **Red Hill** Art Show
- ✓ Addressed 30th anniversary commemorations of the former Balcombe Barracks, **Mt Martha**

▼ lending a hand with the Lions Club sausage sizzle at **Mt Martha** Primary School carnival



Out and About: Western Port



▲ at the Dolphin Research Institute's Walk for Western Port along the Hastings foreshore

▼ presenting leadership badges with Hastings Westpark Principal Mark Watters and school captains Brittany Harding and James Hogan-Keogh



adjudicating at the Western Port community's successful Guinness World Record attempt at the world's longest toy snake at Hastings Community House



- ✓ Took part in **Balnarring** Picnic Racing Club's 150-year celebration
- ✓ Attended the Western Port Yacht Club's 50th anniversary celebration at **Balnarring Beach**
- ✓ Officially opened a new small business at **Hastings**: ACE Oven Repairs
- ✓ Attended ANZAC Day commemorations at **Crib Point** and **Hastings**
- ✓ Met with **Hastings Westpark** Primary School staff to talk about support for students

- ✓ Took part in **Somerville** Bowling Club's charity fundraising event
- ✓ Officially co-opened the new **Somerville** Health Consulting Suites
- ✓ Volunteered for the Dunking Tank at the Western Port Festival at **Hastings**
- ✓ Presented awards at the **Somerville** Fire Brigade's 70th anniversary dinner
- ✓ Met with St Mary's Principal Richard Mucha and Hastings Rotary Club's Geoff Harvey to discuss support for early learning programs at **Hastings**

- ✓ Met at **Shoreham** to discuss local issues with representatives of communities between **Somers** and **Flinders**
- ✓ Attended mass at St Joseph's Primary School, **Crib Point**
- ✓ Took part in BlueScope Steel's 40th anniversary celebrations at **Hastings**
- ✓ Held a mobile office at **Somerville** to discuss local issues with residents
- ✓ Attended the Carols at **Flinders** concert
- ✓ Addressed the Lord Somers Camp & Powerhouse Breakfast at **Somers**
- ✓ Took part in the Lord Somers Camp cross country run at **Somers**
- ✓ Met with **Somerville** Community House President Marion Harriden about the campaign for better facilities
- ✓ Volunteered with the Mornington Peninsula Disabled Surfers Association event at **Point Leo**

Out and About: Casey, Cardinia & Bass Coast



▲ discussing threats to the Australian apiary industry with David Severino of Phillip Island Honey



▲ with Captain Pat Russell of Kernot-Grantville Fire Brigade at the brigade's annual awards night



▲ at the opening of a new Priceline Pharmacy at Cowes

- ✓ Met with the **Bass Valley** Friends of the RSL
- ✓ Presented Remembrance Day certificates to local children at **Koo Wee Rup**
- ✓ Discussed health issues on **Phillip Island** with Bass Coast Regional Health CEO Lea Pope
- ✓ Took part in the **Newhaven** Yacht Squadron's season opening
- ✓ Met with Casey Mayor Amanda Stapledon and Cr Geoff Ablett to discuss supported accommodation at **Pearcedale**
- ✓ Visited the Vietnam Veterans' Museum at **Newhaven**
- ✓ Presented ribbons at the **Lang Lang** Agricultural Show
- ✓ Took part in the **San Remo** Channel Challenge swim
- ✓ Met with the community and Chair of the Victorian Institute of Teaching to discuss the need for a secondary college at **San Remo**
- ✓ Attended a memorial service for John Coleman at **Koo Wee Rup**
- ✓ Took part in Pink Stumps Day at **Devon Meadows** Cricket Club for breast cancer research
- ✓ Discussed local eco-tourism opportunities at Moonlit Sanctuary in **Pearcedale** with Shadow Tourism Minister Bob Baldwin
- ✓ Met with residents at **Surf Beach** to discuss the protection of shearwater rookeries
- ✓ Discussed ongoing support for the nurse-practitioner clinic at **Grantville**
- ✓ Met **Phillip Island** Nature Park CEO Matthew Jackson to discuss progress with its magnetic particle technology
- ✓ Officially opened a new medical clinic at **Cowes**
- ✓ Met with members of the newly-formed **Cowes** Community Committee
- ✓ Attended the dawn ANZAC Day service at **Koo Wee Rup**
- ✓ Addressed a meeting of the **Cranbourne** Rotary Club at Settlers Run