



# Greg Hunt MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR FLINDERS

Working for our Community



## 500km Walk for Justin

Thank you to everyone for helping to raise over \$65,000 to help find a cure for Juvenile Diabetes



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## Flinders Community News

2004 Family Budget Edition



At the start at Arthurs Seat with the Gyoto Monks and the JDRF mascot Jelly Baby



Greg with Tootgarook Primary children at Rye



Walking with children from Crib Point Primary



Greg with walkers Matthew and Gary heading towards Corinella



Greg with Justin and walkers at Coves



Crossing the 500km finish line

I would like to thank the many people who walked with me or contributed to the 500km walk for Justin to help find a cure for Juvenile diabetes.

Justin is a six year old boy from Phillip Island with Juvenile Diabetes who met with me last year to ask for help.

I am pleased to report that thanks to the dedication and hard work of many local residents and businesses we were able to raise more than \$65,000 to help find a cure for Juvenile Diabetes.

In addition we visited over 50 communities and over 50 schools throughout the electorate of Flinders to help raise awareness about diabetes.

I thank everyone involved, particularly the many school children who participated and hope that the walk helps contribute to raising awareness of and working towards a cure for this disease which affects so many Australian families.

### Budget Delivers \$600 per child for over 12,000 local families

Whilst raising a family is one of the most rewarding things in the world, I realise that it can also be one of the most challenging.

That is why I was so delighted that the 2004 Federal Budget will directly assist over 12,000 local families through new schemes such as the:

- ✓ Immediate \$600 lump sum payment per child to each family receiving Family Tax Benefit (A).
- ✓ \$3,000 Maternity Payment from July 2004, increasing to \$4,000 from July 2006 and \$5,000 in July 2008 for parents of a new born child.
- ✓ 40,000 more outside-school-hours and 4,000 more family-day-care places will be funded throughout Australia.
- ✓ 2,000 local carers will receive immediate payments of \$600 or \$1,000 in recognition of their role under the Carer Allowance or Carer Payment respectively.
- ✓ 80% of local taxpayers will pay no more than 30% tax under new tax brackets which will also deliver tax cuts to over 7,000 local wage and salary earners.

### \$9.7m for Marine Education Centre + \$15m in Trust for Pt Nepean

I am delighted that the Federal Minister for Education has confirmed \$9.7 m over 7 years in funding to the Australian Maritime College to establish a Marine Education Centre at Point Nepean.

A further \$15m in funding for the establishment of the Pt Nepean Community Trust is also guaranteed comprising \$5m in Commonwealth funding and \$10m in philanthropic funding.

This total of \$24.7m will go towards establishing a

world class National Park and Marine Education Centre for our children and protecting the land in perpetuity.

### Local family to benefit from budget

The Ross family of Crib Point is just one of over 12,000 families in Flinders that will benefit under



Greg with the Ross family which will be \$1,800 better off this year and again next year thanks to changes in Family Tax Benefit A

the \$600 per child annual bonus which follows the increase to Family Tax Benefit A. The family with 3 children under 14 years of age will receive an \$1,800 lump sum payment before 30 June 2004 and a further \$1,800 payment in the coming 12 months. If you are unsure of your entitlements please contact Centrelink on 13 61 50.

### Supporting local volunteers

Local volunteer groups will benefit from \$12,515 in funding under the Volunteer Small Equipment Grants to assist with the purchase of much needed equipment. Local groups to benefit include:

- ✓ \$2363 Hellenic Assoc of Mornington Peninsula Aged Citizens Club Tootgarook
- ✓ \$510 Kernot Brigade
- ✓ \$840 Sorrento Blairgowrie Neighbourhood Watch
- ✓ \$1480 Western Port Safety Council
- ✓ \$118 Peninsula Adult Education & Literacy
- ✓ \$951 Koo Wee Rup Primary School
- ✓ \$1926 French Island Rural Fire Brigade
- ✓ \$1818 Bayles Flora and Fauna Park
- ✓ \$515 Pearce Dale Rural Fire Brigade
- ✓ \$1154 Koo Wee Rup Community Centre Committee of Management
- ✓ \$836 Phillip Island Landcare Group

# Budget Delivers for local families and Aged Care

## \$5m+ Funding Boost for Local Aged Care Homes

Local aged care homes in Flinders will receive an immediate payment of \$3,500 per resident in Commonwealth funding to help with building upgrades, as a result of the 2004/05 Budget.

In addition, each high care bed will receive an increase in annual funding of over \$1000 per bed from 1 July 2004 rising to almost \$5000 per high care bed by 1 July 2007. Local aged care homes to benefit from this massive funding boost will immediately receive at least the following amounts:

Killara Hostel, Koo Wee Rup	\$130,000+
Westernport Nursing Home, Koo Wee Rup	\$65,000+
Regis Sherwood Park, Cranbourne	\$285,000+
Shoreham Aged Care Facility	\$100,000+
SomerCare, Somerville	\$200,000+
Westernport Hostel, Hastings	\$100,000+
The Bays Nursing Home, Hastings	\$125,000+
Hastings Regional Nursing Home	\$100,000+
Hastings Residential Care	\$110,000+
Baptist Village Baxter Hostel	\$500,000+
Baptist Village Baxter Nursing Home	\$200,000+
Brickendon Lodge Hostel, Rosebud	\$200,000+
Dromana Private Nursing Home	\$210,000+
Lotus Lodge Hostel, Rosebud	\$260,000+
Mornington Residential Aged Care Facility, Mount Martha	\$400,000+
Mount Martha Valley Lodge Hostel	\$231,000+
Regis Grange Rosebud	\$380,000+
Sir James By the Bay, Mt Martha	\$294,000+
Sorrento Lodge	\$110,000+
Rosebud Private Nursing Home	\$200,000+
Ti Tree Gardens Aged Care Facility, Rosebud	\$200,000+
Jean Turner Nursing Home, Rosebud	\$100,000+
Warley Nursing Home, Phillip Island	\$100,000+
Griffiths Point Lodge Hostel, San Remo	\$100,000+
Melaleuca Lodge, Phillip Island	\$120,000+
Increased Annual High Care Bed Payments	\$500,000+
	Increasing to \$2.5m+ per year by 2007

## Wine Equalisation Tax

The Budget will provide a Wine Equalisation Tax Rebate for local winemakers in Flinders of up to \$290,000 per year.

## \$26 million to help overcome Australia's water challenges

Water is a precious resource that needs to be carefully managed and I would like to congratulate the CSIRO for undertaking the Water for a Healthy Country project. This project will help find ways to make better use of our water and to overcome the waste and environmental destruction experienced at places such as Gunnamatta Beach where the State Government dumps 42% of Melbourne's only partially treated sewage.

## Rosebud Medicare Office



Greg Hunt with Dot Barlow, at the Hastings Regional Nursing Home

## to open by early July

The recently announced Rosebud Medicare Centre will open by early July.

The centre will be located at Shop 15, Rosebud Village Shopping Centre, Pt Nepean Road.

I am delighted that we have secured one of only two new Medicare Offices in Victoria.

## Delivering \$2 Million in Commonwealth Funding for Somerville Secondary College

I know that Somerville is a rapidly growing community and that local families urgently need a secondary college.

That is why we fought so hard to convince the State Government to commit to completing a Somerville Secondary College by 2005.

I am pleased the Commonwealth has recommitted \$2 million towards the construction of the new school and I urge the State to begin construction now.

# More Help for Families in Flinders

\$37 billion national package



## Boosting Family Payments

### Increase in Family Assistance (12,000 local families per year)

- \$600 per year increase in Family Tax Benefit (Part A) for each dependent child
- This lump sum will be available to offset any overpayment of benefit incurred during the previous year

### Additional One-Off Payment

- (12,000 local families to immediately benefit)
- Immediate lump sum payment of \$600 per child before 30 June 2004 for all families receiving or eligible for FTB (A)

## Balancing work and Family

### Maternity Payment

#### (850 local families per year)

- \$3,000 for each new born child from July 2004
- Increased to \$4,000 in July 2006
- Maternity Payment will then increase to \$5,000 in July 2008

### Extra Child Care Places

- Additional 40,000 outside school hours child care places
- Extra 4,000 family day care places

### Additional Tax Cuts

- You will be able to earn more before paying the top marginal tax rates. 42 per cent tax rate threshold will be raised to \$58,001 in 2004 -05 and then further raised to \$63,001 in 2005 -06
- 47 per cent tax rate threshold will rise to \$70,001 in 2004 - 05 then increased to \$80,001 in 2005 - 06
- More than 80 per cent of workers to have maximum 30 per cent threshold and 7,000 local workers to receive tax cuts

## Helping Carers

### Extra Support for Carers (Over 2,000 local carers to benefit)

- Recipients of the Carer Payment will receive a \$1,000 bonus payment
- People on Carer Allowance will gain a \$600 bonus payment
- Carers who provide at least 20 hours of care per week but do not live with the care recipient will now be eligible for Carer Allowance
- Parents aged 70 or more who provide primary care for a child with a disability will receive access to four weeks of respite per year
- Up to two weeks respite per year will be available for those aged between 65 and 69 who are primary carers and need to be hospitalised
- \$27 million has been allocated for increasing access to in-home respite care, including services such as information, referral and advice services, for carers aged less than 25

## Encouraging and Boosting Retirement Savings

- More than 50,000 locals to qualify for superannuation co-contribution
- Government superannuation co-contribution increased from \$1,000 to \$1,500 to match a \$1,000 personal contribution
- Income thresholds have been increased, from \$27,500 to \$28,000 for maximum Government contribution
- Government co-contribution will phaseout between \$28,000 and \$58,000
- Superannuation surcharge rate reduced to a maximum rate of 7.5 per cent for 2006 -07

