



# Greg Hunt MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR FLINDERS

*Working for our Community*



## Peninsula Region Highlights

### Gunnamatta leads to a call for a National Ocean Outfall Plan



*Greg at Gunnamatta Beach.*

It is unacceptable that over 40 percent of Melbourne's sewerage is discharged at Gunnamatta Beach. The situation at Gunnamatta Beach is not unique to Australia. It is time for action and I have called on the Federal Government to create a national ocean outfall policy.

As such I have proposed a national ocean outfall policy aimed at ending the dumping of all sewerage at sea by 2025. All sewerage would be treated to a rigorous tertiary stage with fats, solids and minerals extracted for sale and reuse. The treated water could then be used in water intensive industries, such as to irrigate golf courses and agricultural crops.

Locally I am pleased to report that Melbourne Water has recently lodged an application with the EPA to spend \$170 million upgrading the Eastern Treatment Plant.

This is an important first step but it needs to be part of a 10 year plan to end the outfall.

*If you would like to receive a copy of Greg's speech to the parliament on ocean outfall please contact the electorate office.*

### Child Care funding to help families at Somers

Recently Greg announced a grant of \$5,137 for Before and After School Care at Somers Primary School.

It is good news that families in Somers with school aged children are to benefit from over \$5,000 a year in extra Federal Government funding to support outside school hours child care services in the region.

The grant provides the funds to allow child care facilities for families trying to balance the demands of work and family life.

This means that parents now have a greater choice in the care of their children. The Somers School Community deserves this support.

### Eco-tourism aims to promote dolphin and seal awareness

Greg recently opened the new eco-tourism business of Saltwater Adventure, which intends to run in both Port Phillip and Western Port bays.



*Greg (left) with Andre Lindsay (second from left) who has started a new eco-tourism venture called Saltwater Adventures on Port Phillip & Western Port Bays.*

## Rosebud Hospital & aged care services

A key priority for Mornington Peninsula residents is upgrading of the Rosebud Emergency Department and more generally boosting the number and raising the standard of medical services on the Peninsula .



*Greg with Greek senior citizens from the electorate.  
“It is vital that we have in place adequate health services  
to meet the growing demand.”*

I am currently working with health operators to put in place a clear strategy to boost the number of services and the quality of service. I have raised this issue directly with both the Minister for Health, Senator the Hon Kay Patterson and with the Minister for Ageing, the Hon Kevin Andrews and I am exploring avenues to provide some relief to the current situation. One key outcome has been the creation of a new locum service for Mt. Martha.

---

## Announcement of Mount Martha Medical Service

It is fantastic to be able to announce that on the 28th of March the Australian Locum Medical Service will be commencing a new locum service within the Mount Martha area.

This is a the result of discussions held between my office and the Australian Locum Medical Service.

As of 28 March, Mount Martha residents will be able to access the new service. After hours they can call a number to be provided by their GP's and be able to speak directly to doctors or to staff from the Locum Medical Service, so long as their doctors have signed on.

As a result of that, they will be provided with after hours coverage and, if necessary, they will be provided with home treatment. That is a great benefit for Mt Martha residents.

## Arthur's Seat Chairlift saved

One of the Mornington Peninsula's and Victoria's major attractions, the Arthur's Seat Chairlift has been saved from closure. Earlier this year insurance companies denied the attraction public liability insurance. Public liability insurance premiums have soared in the past year and many small business operators are either on the brink of closing their businesses or have been forced out of business.

Recent premium rises have not only jeopardised the viability of local tourism operators on the Peninsula but have also had a hard-hitting effect on small businesses, community groups and local councils.

Seeing first hand the effects of rising public liability premiums in his electorate Greg outlined an action plan to the Minister for Small Business, Hon Joe Hockey MP, Minister for Revenue, Helen Coonan MP, Attorney General, Daryl Williams, MP and also raised the issue directly with the Prime Minister's Principal Private Secretary.



*Greg at the Arthurs Seat Chairlift, one of Victoria's  
premier tourist attractions, with owner / director  
Richard Hudson and Julie Heron*

In response to this and other submissions a National Summit on Public Liability Insurance has now been held. The result is a plan to decrease insurance costs through measures by both the State and Commonwealth.

Thankfully Arthur's Seat Chairlift was saved by the hard work of many. It is now time to act on the forces driving premium rises.