

The **NORTHSIDE** COMMUNITY News

Wayne Swan – Your Federal Member for Lilley

Edition 3, 2009

Building the Education Revolution



Stafford State School Captains Celeste Dickens, Jayde Roxborough, Chelsea Fenwick and Allison Bastiancig show me their current library. The school has received \$2million under the Primary Schools for the 21st Century program and plan to build a brand new state-of-the-art resource centre.

Welcome to this edition of the Northside Community News. The recent winter break from parliament has given me a fantastic chance to get around the electorate and visit many festivals, fetes, schools and community organisations. I've enjoyed being home in this beautiful Brisbane winter weather and catching up with locals at the Zillmere and Einbunpin Festivals and many school fetes.

On the economy front - over the past month we've been heartened to see the positive impact our stimulus is making domestically. However, we are still living with the impact of the global recession and the tough times aren't over yet. I think it's pretty fair to say that there's still a very rocky road ahead and that's why this government is focussed on putting in place the right response, at the right time so that we continue on the road to recovery.

Lilley constituents can keep up to date with what's happening locally with my new E-Newsletter – to sign up visit my website at www.swanmp.org. To keep up to date with what's happening in the Australian economy I encourage you to read my weekly economic note at www.treasurer.gov.au

Since my last newsletter we have more tradies in our 45 schools and more projects hitting the ground thanks to the Rudd Government's historic school modernisation program.

It has been fantastic over the winter break to get around to plenty of schools to see how their plans for a new hall, library or classroom are progressing and to see how excited all the students are about these important investments.

I've seen the plans for Boondall State School's new \$3million hall, St Kevin's \$2.5 million hall and library refurbishments and the site for Earnshaw College's new \$2.5million resource centre.

Shorncliffe State School's new hall is well underway with local tradies on site and I was at Padua College recently as their new lift was being installed in their refurbished library thanks to the Primary Schools for the 21st

Century funding.

The third component of the BER – Science and Language Centres for the 21st Century – has delivered a big win to Sandgate and Kedron High Schools with each receiving a brand new \$2 million science or language centre.

Congratulations to both schools for securing the funding under the competitive component of the \$14.7 billion BER.

This is also fantastic news for jobs in our community and it is great to see not just our schools but also our broader local community benefit from the Rudd Government's historic investment in much needed new school buildings.

Visit our interactive Nation Building website at www.economicstimulusplan.gov.au to see what else is happening in Lilley.

Welcoming the Babies 10th Anniversary

This year's Welcoming the Babies Ceremony is set to be bigger than ever as we celebrate our 10th anniversary of this fantastic community event.

The ceremony will be held on Sunday, October 11th at Kidspace, Seventh Brigade Park, Chermside.

Welcoming the Babies is designed to publicly recognise and welcome those babies between 0-18 months to our local community.

AEC changes Lilley

For the first time in more than 90 years the suburbs of Sandgate, Brighton and Deagon will no longer be in the Lilley electorate.

On Friday July 24th the Australian Electoral Commission released its draft proposal for the redistribution of federal electorates. For Lilley these proposed changes mean the loss of the northern suburbs of Sandgate, Deagon and Brighton and the southern suburbs of Ascot, Hamilton, Clayfield and Woolloowin. They also mean Lilley will gain the Western suburbs of Bridgeman Downs, Everton Park, McDowell and Carseldine. I note that these are not final boundaries and there is still a period of public consultation to be undertaken, but I am disappointed that many people I have had the honour of representing for a long period of time look as though they may no longer be in Lilley. However, people of Lilley can rest assured they can expect the same tireless



local representation from me no matter where they may live in the electorate. To view the new proposed boundaries or to make a submission visit www.aec.gov.au/Electorates/Redistributions/2009/qld

See back page for Welcoming the Babies registration form

Also in this issue:

- Pricewatch survey 2
- Meals on Wheels 2
- Zillmere Festival..... 2
- Local Jobs Boost..... 3
- Zillmere PCYC 3

Working together to keep Meals on Wheels rolling across Queensland

I welcome the announcement for continued funding of more than \$5 million for Meals on Wheels services throughout Queensland recently.

Each day Meals on Wheels delivers 10,000 healthy, balanced meals to Queenslanders who are frail, aged or who have a disability.

The \$5.2 million jointly funded initiative includes a \$3.4 million contribution from the Rudd Government and a further \$1.8 million from the Bligh Government.

The Sandgate, Nundah, Nudgee, Geebung, Chermside and Clayfield Meals on Wheels branches will receive more than \$500,000 to continue these invaluable services to our community.

This funding demonstrates the ongoing commitment of the Rudd and Bligh Governments to work together to care for older Queenslanders.



It was a pleasure to join State Member for Sandgate Vicky Darling and Deagon Ward Councillor Victoria Newton to present Certificates of Appreciation to Sandgate Meals on Wheels volunteers.

Pricewatch Team Surveys Facilities



The Lilley Pricewatch team recently surveyed shopping centre facilities across eight major centres in Lilley, including: Aspley Village Shopping

Centre, Aspley Hypermarket, Direct Factory Outlet Airport Drive, Centro Taigum, Centro Lutwyche, Centro Toombul, Stafford City, and Westfield Chermside.

The survey recorded: the proximity to public transport, proportion of available undercover parking for all patrons, number of available female, male and disabled toilets, ease of access to disabled toilets, number and quality of baby change facilities and the availability of wheel chair checkouts at supermarkets.

The Pricewatch team found that of the eight centres, Aspley Village and Lutwyche Centro provided complete under cover parking for all patrons. Aspley Hypermarket, Taigum Centro and Stafford City provided shade cloth coverage; two centres Toombul Centro and Chermside Westfield provided a combination of undercover and uncovered parking, while the DFO Airport provided no covered parking spaces for patrons.

The survey noted a general improvement across the centres in terms of ease of access to disabled toilets and baby change facilities due to the introduction of push button access for sliding doors and increases in the number of available facilities.

I am writing to all centre managers to suggest a range of improvements to facilities that would make the centres more user-friendly.

New Tax Relief

The start of a new financial year last month marked the start of new tax relief that will boost incentives for hard work. The new tax relief builds on both last year's tax cuts and our cash stimulus payments, which have overwhelmingly benefited low- and middle-income Australians.

One of the new tax changes is a significant increase in the Low Income Tax Offset, which will lift the effective tax-free threshold for low-income workers. Compared with their income tax liability for 2007-08 (and excluding the Medicare levy), the Rudd Government will have delivered an income tax cut by 2010-11 of around 56 per cent for a person earning \$20,000, 18 per cent for a person earning \$50,000, and 8 per cent for a person earning \$80,000.

The new financial year also brought with it indexation increases in the Child Care Benefit, the Child Care Rebate and the Baby Bonus. And for the first time, eligible families will be able to claim our 50 per cent Education Tax Refund in their 2008-09 tax return. To find out if you are eligible visit <http://www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au/> or contact my office on 3266 8244.

Cultural Diversity at Zillmere Festival



The 8th annual Zillmere Multicultural Festival was another huge day on the northside calendar. We are lucky in our community to have such a wonderful mix of cultures and people who are willing to come together and share their history, food, entertainment and culture. The Murriajuberee Dance Group was a real highlight of the day.

Secure and Sustainable Pension Reform

A reminder to all pensioners that the Rudd Government's pension increases come into effect from next month.

As your local representative, I'm acutely aware of the contributions older Australians continue to make to our great country. That's why I'm proud the Rudd Government was able to deliver on our commitment to pensioners, part self-funded retirees and fully self-funded retirees – even as Australia confronts challenging circumstances. From September 20th the government will provide an additional \$30 per week to those single pensioners on the full rate and \$10.14 per week for those couples on the full rate. As part of these reforms a new Pension Supplement will incorporate the four existing allowances- GST Supplement and the Pharmaceutical, Utilities and Telephone Allowances. This will give pensioners greater flexibility over the way they receive payments and manage their finances. For more information on these historic changes to the retirement income system phone my office on 3266 8244 or centrelink on 13 23 00.



Zillmere PCYC Open Day

Donating a bike to the Zillmere PCYC open day last month helped increase their membership. Congratulations to Zillmere resident Hayden Sellin who won the bike by signing up for a PCYC membership on the day. Jacky Hughes from the PCYC said the day was a great success with lots of fun filled entertainment, giveaways and more than 80 kids signing up to join the club!



Allsafe Company Directors: Mark Hawley, Sean Cochrane, Col Thomsen and Brian Carroll at the opening of their new headquarters in Hendra.

Rudd Government Stimulus Supporting Local Jobs

Allsafe Energy Efficient Products opened their new headquarters at Hendra last month and I was on hand to congratulate them on the creation of 900 new 'green collar' jobs.

Allsafe is employing new staff daily and is a great example of how the Rudd Government's stimulus package and plans to tackle climate change are supporting local jobs and small businesses.

Allsafe has made it clear that its rapid growth – and the new jobs being created – are a direct result of the Rudd Government's Solar Homes & Communities Plan and the \$4.3 billion Energy Efficient Homes Package.

In the last 18 months Allsafe have rolled out six new franchises and employed 100 new staff with big plans to open another 52 franchises across Queensland, Australia and New Zealand and create 936 new green jobs.

This is a great evidence of stimulus at work – right here on the ground in Lilley.

In the face of the most severe global recession in our lifetime, it's encouraging to see local businesses like Allsafe working with the Rudd Government and investing in local jobs.

The Energy Efficient Homes Package will install ceiling insulation in up to 2.9 million Australian homes. The Homeowner Insulation Program provides assistance of up to \$1,600 to install ceiling insulation in the homes of eligible owner-occupiers.

More information and guidelines can be found at www.environment.gov.au/energyefficiency/insulation or call my office on 3266 8244.

St Joseph's School's New Learning Centre



My wife Kim attended the official opening of the Josephite Learning Centre at St Joseph's School Nundah on my behalf. The new state-of-the-art refurbished classrooms were funded with a Capital Grant of \$391,000 from the Australian Government. Here school students Claire Dix and Madelene Zimmerlie give Kim a tour of the new classrooms.

Einbunpin draws huge crowds

Out and about in Lilley



The annual Einbunpin Festival in Sandgate was once again a fantastic day with thousands of northsiders enjoying the festivities and beautiful weather. More than 140 stalls operated throughout the day while the entertainment from local schools was really enjoyable. Pictured here are members of the Sandgate Scouts Cub group Max Marson, Patrick Guy, Jacen Kyte and Jonathan Galghar preparing for their demonstration.



In July I delivered a speech to the Brisbane North Chamber of Commerce at the Kedron-Wavell Services Club. I brought the local business community up to speed on what was happening in the global economy and the impacts of this on local businesses and the nation's budget. Small businesses are the backbone of the Australian economy and I understand that many are feeling the effects of this downturn. I've put together a fact sheet for local businesses with our key initiative of helping you through these tough times. Visit my website at www.swanmp.org to access this.



Mt Alvernia College received \$200,000 National School Pride money as part of the Federal Government's Building the Education Revolution. The students at Mt Alvernia took me on a tour of the school and I got to see how this money has been spent in upgrading classrooms to help improve their learning and to meet the needs of 21st century students and teachers. I also saw the new Anthony Middle Years' Centre. With its unique learning environments and innovative technology this centre is a remarkable asset for the school and wider community.

Wayne Swan invites you to the 10th annual Welcoming the Babies to Our Community Ceremony

Kidspace, Seventh Brigade Park, Chermiside
Sunday October 11 9.00 to 11.00 am



The Welcoming the Babies to Our Community Ceremony is designed to publicly recognise and welcome babies to our local community. Children are very important to society and our local community, they provide creativity, innovation and hope.

Welcoming the Babies promises to be a fun family day with free entertainment, specialist advice, gifts, prizes and an official Welcoming Certificate for the newest members of our community. We invite all local families with babies up to 18 months old to register to take part in the ceremony. Other members of the community are invited to join in the celebrations on the day. To register please fill in the details below and post to: Reply Paid 182, Nundah Q 4012. For further information please call 3266 8244.

Stronger Families and Communities for Our Future



WELCOMING THE BABIES TO OUR COMMUNITY REGISTRATION FORM

NAME OF PARENT(S) OR GUARDIAN(S)

NAME OF BABY DATE OF BIRTH

ADDRESS POSTCODE

PHONE NO. OF OTHER CHILDREN ATTENDING

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:



The wet weather didn't put a dampener on the Holy Cross School fete at the end of June. Hundreds of students, families and locals turned out to enjoy the entertainment on offer, the rides and home-made treats. Pictured here are students Thomas Melville, Paddy Lavery, Mollie O'Brien, William Zuill and Luke Slater enjoying themselves.

produced by **Wayne Swan MP, Federal Member for Lilley**

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