



# Unley Outlook

*A strong voice for our community*

MARCH 2008

VOL 1 ISSUE 4

*Welcome to the first Unley Outlook for 2008. Its aim is to cover social and political issues at both the local and state level which I hope will be of interest to you. It is also designed to keep you abreast of my activities as your representative in Parliament as well as those of the many individuals and organizations actively contributing to the vibrancy and welfare of the Unley community.*



ABOVE: David taking calls in the 'Chatroom' at Fresh FM in his role as shadow Minister for Youth



RIGHT: Opening Mark William's *The Art of Nature* exhibition at Fullarton

## Unley 'Way to Go Fair' Listening Post

Last year I had a stall at the Unley 'Way to Go Fair' which proved to be a great opportunity to meet with many of you in an informal atmosphere and to discuss local and state issues of interest or concern.

I will be having my 'listening post' at the fair again this year on **Sunday 30 March** and would encourage you to attend this marvellous annual Unley event and to call past my stand to say hello.

Last year we offered desalinated water tasting and there were certainly many positive responses both to the water and the policy concept of desalination plants for our state. It is gratifying that the State Government have at last taken note of the Liberal opposition's desalination initiative, but a desalination plant alone is not the answer.

The Liberal Party is proposing a total water plan for South Australia including stormwater recycling, sewer mining for non-drinking water and a comprehensive review of water pricing structures.

For full details of the Liberal plan for Water Proofing South Australia visit the [www.martin2010.com.au](http://www.martin2010.com.au) website or contact the Unley Electorate Office.

I would also like to thank the Unley Shopping centre for their generosity in allowing me to use their facility for listening posts at various times during the year.

## Unley Salvation Army Engages the Local Community

The Unley Corps of the Salvation Army is active, innovative and an inspiration to all. Under the guidance of Major Reno Elms and his wife Major Rosslyn Elms the public are always encouraged to take part in their initiatives or to take on the role of volunteer in their programmes including **Coffee 2 Connect**, **Mainly Music**, the **Community Shed**, **carpet bowls club** and their **thrift shop**.

**Coffee 2 Connect** offers free coffee, tea and lunch on Mondays when members of the public are invited to join church administrators and other locals to socialise in the corps foyer at **70 Marion Street, Unley**.

Also on Mondays is **Mainly Music** social music group. Sessions are run from 9.30am to 10.45am by Major Rosslyn Elms for children up to junior primary and their parents. It features singing and games to teach children social skills, co-ordination and about music generally.

The **Community Shed** was an idea which evolved from Major Reno Elms' work with **Coffee 2 Connect**. Many regular attendees were keen to help the corps with their work as volunteers, but lived in flats and lacked sheds and equipment. The Unley Salvos had a spare storage shed which was subsequently cleaned up for a new role and volunteers now use it for various projects such as artwork, carpentry and mechanics. A recent grant from the Unley Council has helped with the purchase of equipment. A current project is to refurbish old furniture to sell and raise money for charity.

The Unley Corps charity **thrift shop** has been operational since November 2007 selling clothes, furniture, books, toys and other household goods. It is open on Mondays from 10am to 3pm but shop manager Wendy Marshall hopes to extend its opening times.

The **carpet bowls** is held on Tuesdays from 10.30am to 1.30pm. The cost is \$3 and newcomers are always welcome.

For details of the above or to support the Unley Salvation Army at any time call 8271 2839.

## Environment Watch

### Home Wind Power – the 'Turby'

With alternative energy sources recognised as a necessity for a sustainable future and 'microgeneration' by individuals increasingly possible, there are some amazing innovations appearing around the world.

The *Turby* is a compact wind turbine with a scaled down design suited for the urban environment. It uses an innovative vertical axis and can be mounted on a roof or the side of a building. The compromise between vertical and horizontal bladed turbines makes it ideal for use in cities, notoriously bad for wind power generation because wind tends to come from all directions. *Turby* maximises use of updrafts funnelled by taller buildings and for this reason 800 have been proposed for 'Freedom Tower', the new World Trade Centre in New York.

The Dutch designed *Turby* will allow for permanent connection to the grid, excess generation being fed back in and home owners receiving a credit on their bill. Predictions of up to a two thirds reduction in home electric costs have been made.

The Rann Government has installed 5 less effective mini turbines in inappropriate locations on Adelaide city roofs in what SA Branch President of the Alternative Energy Association has referred to as '... a political exercise that wasn't properly thought out.' Turning the corner on climate change and making best use of alternative energy will require governments to have clear objectives, achievable targets and use the best available technology. The spin should be confined to wind turbines not slick media pitches.

As Professor Peter Droege, Asia Pacific chair of the World Council for Renewable Energy said recently in Adelaide and in relation to high profile talkfests on climate change and renewables, there is no real benefit if we just *paint the town green while business as usual continues*.



## Save Glenside Rally

The Rann Government's planned redevelopment of the Glenside Hospital campus, including the sale of 42 % of the available open space, has been the cause of much concern for local residents and other stakeholders. As a result of electoral redistribution since the last state election Glenside will fall within the seat of Unley at the 2010 poll. Currently Unley has a mere 2% available open space.

I have been working closely with Vickie Chapman MP, local member for the seat of Bragg and Liberal Shadow Health Minister to represent the views of all affected by this 'Masterplan' and to make the State Government accountable for a process in which they have thus far shown an appalling lack of consultation.

At a so called 'listening event', organised by the Department of Health but not attended by Minister Gago, 300 stunned local residents were informed by department officials that the sale of land at Glenside was necessary to fund any improvement in Mental Health services at the campus and that the Masterplan was in any event 'non negotiable'.

Minister Gago's attitude is that the land is surplus to government requirements. Perhaps the Minister and the State Government should ask the people of South Australia if it is surplus to **their** requirements.

This government did not consult with anyone, not even Burnside Council, before making their decision that open space at Glenside would be sold to developers for housing and commercial use.

Mayor Greiner has written to Minister for Urban Development and Planning Minister Paul Holloway to express her disappointment that Premier Rann has refused to meet with a delegation on the redevelopment.

The redevelopment is of course under a Ministerial DPA which effectively exempts it from the usual processes of planning requirements and consultation. It appears that this sale is more about home units and supermarkets than providing adequate mental health. The bottom line is that this land is prime real estate.

On 10 February Vickie Chapman and I organized a rally to provide an opportunity for those concerned about the redevelopment to speak at the campus oval. Under the Governments plans this oval would itself be lost to a planned commercial development.

Approximately 250 people heard from local MPs, Burnside Councillors, anxious locals and other members of the public, some of whom had first hand experience of the mental health system and its need for calming surroundings.

Issues raised ranged from loss of public open space, to degrading of general facilities for the mentally ill and the destruction of significant trees, wildlife habitat and state heritage.

The message from all present was a united one. There should be no plans for redeveloping Glenside facilities without a meaningful and transparent consultation process – **and that Glenside open space is not for sale.**

The recent government announcement of a **new** plan changes nothing. Glenside Plan Mark 2 has been published before the Community Reference Group has even had a chance to contribute.

Nearly 1000 petitioners have called on the Government to abandon the sale of half the Glenside site and the Liberal Opposition are seeking a Select Committee to enquire into the sale and redevelopment.

As your local member I will continue to fight tooth and nail to ensure this State Government listens to your views on the issue of Glenside.

**LEFT: David addresses the rally**

**BELOW: David and Vickie Chapman with local residents and community stakeholders**



## DAVID PISONI MP STATE MEMBER FOR UNLEY

Since the last Unley Outlook I have taken on the Shadow Portfolio responsibility of Education and Children's services in addition to the retained portfolios of Youth and Small Business. I look forward to actively representing the South Australian community in these roles.

### Electorate Office:

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### Staff in David's Electorate Office:

Grant Ker, Pamela Burman and Amber Hardy.

### Services available at or through the Electorate Office

Tours of Parliament House for student and constituent groups/Justice of the Peace witnessing services (please ring for an appointment)/dealing with government departments/small print run photocopying for local community groups.

**Contact us on 8373 4846**

## Grants

A variety of grants become available throughout the year to assist organisations and individuals who provide services and support to the community. Funding comes from both government and private sources and amounts can range from small sums for the purchase of sporting equipment to much larger one-off grants to fund construction of building projects for sporting and community organisations.

The wide range of grants on offer means that most community organisations and many individuals may at some stage qualify for a grant. Many of our local organisations, including those involved in the support of community, arts, youth, sporting, seniors and multicultural activities, have in the past benefited from funding. The Unley Electoral Office is able to help to get started – or you may wish to visit [www.davidpisoni.com](http://www.davidpisoni.com) for more information and handy links to State and Federal websites:



David, Christopher Pyne and members of the Glenunga Tennis Club, recipients of a grant for clubroom improvements.

## Call for a More Visible Police Presence in Unley

In the wake of an increase in theft and vandalism, particularly targeting fashion boutiques, businesses and hotels I have been pressing for a more visible police presence in the Unley area.

The current situation where Unley is serviced from Sturt and Netley patrol bases with only a Police retail outlet open during shopping hours at Malvern is obviously inadequate.

The negligible deterrent effect to criminals of the Malvern Police 'shop front' was recently illustrated when 'Domino's' Pizzas suffered an armed robbery only doors away – while the station was shut.

Despite the best efforts of officers stationed at Malvern their effectiveness

is limited by staffing and resources constraints. In terms of law enforcement in the Unley area the inconspicuous Malvern station is unfortunately merely window dressing.

Inner Adelaide areas like Unley seem to have been forgotten by the Rann Government with insufficient Police services while two new stations have been opened south of the city.

With Unley taxpayers, including the small business owners who have been targeted in recent crime, paying more than their fair share in state based taxes such as Payroll tax, Land Tax and Stamp Duties better service is deserved.

SAPOL need to be adequately resourced to provide the required visible presence.

I have raised, and will continue to press these matters in the Parliament, with the Minister for Police and with SAPOL.

South Australia's budget took 170 years to reach \$8 billion but only the last 5 to increase to \$12 billion.

The mid year budget review revealed an additional windfall of \$2 billion in extra state taxes, GST revenue and Federal Government grants over the next four years.

Under these circumstances I do not accept the Rann government lacks the funds to provide SAPOL with adequate resources for policing the Unley area.

**To report an incident telephone 131444, Sturt 8207 4700, Malvern 8272 0000.**

For more information on articles contained in this newsletter go to [www.davidpisoni.com](http://www.davidpisoni.com)

**We look forward to your feedback**

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