



Unley Outlook

A strong voice for our community

SEPTEMBER 2009

VOL 1 ISSUE 5

Welcome to the Unley Outlook newsletter which I hope will assist in keeping you up to date with my recent activities as your representative in the State Parliament as well as promoting issues, organisations and individuals of interest locally and around our state.



George Street Redevelopment Forum

As a result of doorknocking in Parkside and a number of calls to my office I was made aware that the redevelopment of George Street was an issue of concern for many constituents. I subsequently circulated a survey to residents of George Street and adjacent streets canvassing their views. Due to the overwhelming response to this survey I decided to co-ordinate a public meeting on Thursday 6 August 2009.

Approximately 50 residents attended the meeting held at Parkside Baptist Church, as did three representatives from Unley Council, including CEO Mr Ray Pincombe. Mr Charles Mountain, Traffic and Transport Manager answered questions from the floor and provided a current update. It was very pleasing to see residents have their say on the redevelopment and Council listening to their concerns.

The Council have advised that as a result of the meeting and the feedback received, they will review the following:

- The junction treatments at Leicester, Robsart and Young Streets;
- The loss of parking on the eastern and western sides of George Street due to the installation of the planted areas; and
- Investigate traffic speed and access issues on George Street.

It is my hope that this successful public forum and the review by Council of issues raised will assist in bringing about a conclusion to the George Street works agreeable to all those involved or affected.

ABOVE & RIGHT: David discusses the George Street redevelopment with Forum attendees

Welcome to Glenside Residents

As a result of the Electoral Districts Boundary Commission 2007 redistribution the suburb of Glenside, currently represented by Vickie Chapman in the seat of Bragg, will become part of the seat of Unley at the 2010 state election.

I would like to take this opportunity of welcoming Glenside residents to Unley in advance of this change and I look forward to meeting more of you and being your representative in the State Parliament.

As a local MP I have found doorknocking a valuable method of staying in touch with local issues and concerns. As such I have a regular doorknocking schedule which sees me out and about talking to constituents on most Saturdays. To welcome residents of Glenside to Unley I will be concentrating my doorknocking there in October and November.

I hope to see you then!



Fern Avenue Community Garden, Fullarton

Glenside Redevelopment Update

Residents say the Premier has chosen Movies over Mental Health and local residents

Residents of Glenside and surrounding suburbs have expressed disappointment that the Rann Government has chosen to reject both expert opinion and the wishes of local residents by rezoning the Glenside site. Those affected by the sell off and redevelopment whether they be the Burnside Council, local residents or health professionals have consistently been disregarded.

For 2 years the State Government and successive Ministers have used a thin façade of public consultation as a smokescreen for their pre-determined agenda of selling off Glenside open space to developers for a supermarket, offices and high density housing.

The Liberal Opposition have opposed plans to sell off and inappropriately redevelop the Glenside site. Along with Bragg MP Vickie Chapman I have lobbied hard through public meetings, the Parliament and in media to represent local residents and the interests of Mental Health against a stone wall of State Government intransigence.

Expert evidence submitted to a Parliamentary Select Committee that the entire site should be kept for Mental Health purposes was rejected by the Rann Government.

Before the ink was even dry on the Glenside rezoning, patients and staff had been emptied from the site and building work was underway on the Premier's pet film hub project. Already, damage to the integrity of heritage buildings has occurred.

Doctors, nurses, patients and local residents are unhappy that Mental Health will now have to wait another 2 years for the construction of badly needed facilities while the Premier spends \$43 million from the sale of health land assets to build a film studio that he sees as a higher priority!

Environment Watch

Stormwater and Diversity in Water Supply

The continuing problems of drought and an ailing Murray River have highlighted the importance of effective water capture as a key component of any plan to secure South Australia's water future.

Stormwater has been largely ignored by a State Government which has been as slow to diversify in water supply as it was quick to abandon the promised Mt Bold reservoir expansion.

In the Adelaide Metropolitan area an average 160 GL of stormwater flows from our rooves and down stormwater drains to the gulf every year. By way of context in the same average year Adelaide's total consumption is 220 GL with 80 GL being drawn from the Murray.

The potential for much more effective capture, treatment, aquifer storage and stormwater reuse exists for Adelaide and is already being carried out here using proven technology on a limited scale, most notably by the City of Salisbury in Adelaide's north.

In terms of reducing Adelaide's reliance on the River Murray, stormwater harvesting is a relatively simple, low cost solution, even when compared with the options of desalination and reservoir expansion.

Water security is a major concern for our state and leadership on this issue and the reduction of stormwater waste needs to be made a priority in the diversification of water options.

The Liberal Opposition announced a commitment to a desalination plant in January 2007 and a detailed strategy to harvest stormwater in May 2008. For an alternative water policy for South Australia visit:

Link to liberal policies <http://www.saliberal.org.au.php/policies>

Parkside Primary Student Awarded Maths Prize

Each year over 2.4 million primary and secondary students from across Australia, NZ, the Pacific, Asia and South Africa are able to participate in not-for-profit testing in the core curriculum subjects conducted by the University of New South Wales' ICAS (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools) tests. The top performing students in each year level are awarded a University Gold Medal.

Parkside Primary student Stuart Nicholls was awarded a Gold Medal for achieving the top score in Mathematics in South Australia and the Northern Territory. Stuart accepted his medal from local Member of Parliament David Pisoni at a presentation ceremony at the school.

Education Assessment Australia's tests aim to not only gather data for use by public and private education providers but to give students valuable practice at sitting formal examinations of the type used in compulsory state-based assessments. It also allows them to become more comfortable in answering questions and managing their time effectively under exam conditions.

Congratulations to Stuart on his wonderful achievement and to all students who took part in this assessment program.



Winner of a University Gold Medal for Mathematics, Stuart Nicholls of Parkside Primary School



Public meeting to prevent inappropriate development on Commercial Road, Hyde Park.



The Cancer Council's Australia's Biggest Morning Tea fundraiser



Visit to Concordia College with New Zealand Education Minister, Anne Tolley MP. Pictured also Principal Lester Saegenschnitter and Steven Griffiths MP, Deputy Leader of the Opposition.



Unley Salvation Army 'Stop The Traffik' Wall with Major Reno Elms and volunteers, Matt, Ev & Pat. Raising awareness for the ongoing tragedy of slavery around the world.



David & Liberal Leader Isobel Redmond MP with local businesswoman Sylvia from Bunches For You. 'Listening Post' at Unley Shopping Centre.

DAVID PISONI MP STATE MEMBER FOR UNLEY

Since the last Unley Outlook my Shadow Portfolio responsibilities have changed slightly. While retaining the Education Portfolio, I am now also the Opposition spokesperson for Employment, Training and Further Education and Early Childhood Development.

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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 Electorate Office is able to help to get started – or you may wish to visit www.davidpisoni.com for more information and handy links to State and Federal websites.



David with the dedicated volunteers of Unley MENSA who provide lunch and activities for Unley's Italian Senior Citizens.



Schools tours of Parliament House are a big hit with Unley students.



Presenting a grant cheque to the Unley Park Sports Club.

For more information on articles contained in this newsletter go to www.davidpisoni.com
We look forward to your feedback

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