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STATE MEMBER FOR DAVIDSON

Davidson 

BUILDING FOR TOMORROW

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Dear Resident,

Since being elected a year ago I have delivered 30 speeches as your representative in NSW Parliament and asked 148 written questions of Ministers on a diverse range of topics. These can be viewed through my website: www.jonathanodea.com.au

I assure you of my continued determination to represent your interests without fear or favour and to do my best to hold the government to account as part of a team led by Barry O'Farrell. There are many good people on all sides of NSW politics, but it is disheartening that some politicians act in a way that clearly contravenes community standards. While this year will no doubt continue to provide new challenges, unfortunately what will not change is a government focused on repeating announcements rather than competently acting to ensure proper service and project delivery in NSW. However, rather than merely criticise, I have endeavoured in this newsletter to identify some positive alternative approaches from the Coalition on issues where the government has fallen short.

The results of the survey contained in my previous newsletter indicated that the two biggest concerns of local residents were hospitals/health issues and overdevelopment. This newsletter addresses these issues and others of importance in our local area.

In relation to overdevelopment, I recently moved a motion in Parliament criticising



Frenchs Forest Public School group visiting NSW Parliament House

the way Minister Sartor is handling local planning issues and neglecting environmental conservation. While Northern Sydney does need to take its fair share of new development, proper processes and transparency must be respected. Mr Sartor's treatment of local government and democracy is appalling.

Please remember that ANZAC Day is on Friday 25 April and that you can visit NSW Parliament House for an hour-long tour at 1pm on the first Thursday of each month. If you let my office know you are attending, I will try to drop by to say hello. If you are interested in receiving emails regarding upcoming local events or announcements, then please email the Davidson Electorate Office.

Yours sincerely,

APRIL 2008 ISSUE





HEALTH SHORTFALLS

The Labor Government’s mismanagement of the NSW health and hospital network is accompanied by a funding shortfall. We spend less per person than any other State or Territory government in Australia. While hardworking health professionals are trying their best under difficult circumstances, the Royal North Shore Hospital inquiry indicated many problems including a shortage of nurses, beds and funding.

I have met with the Health Minister to lobby for a proper planning timetable and funding for the promised new hospital at Frenchs Forest. The Opposition wants this new hospital built as soon as possible and a proper review into the whole health system. Reform of State-Federal responsibilities is also needed.

State/Territory	Public health spend per person
NT	\$273.08
ACT	\$100.86
TAS	\$80.27
WA	\$75.10
SA	\$70.48
VIC	\$65.19
QLD	\$64.11
NSW	\$62.29

(Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare National public health expenditure report, p. 148)



PUBLIC TRANSPORT MUST IMPROVE

With higher petrol prices, more toll roads and increasing traffic congestion, more people are using public transport, but there are less public transport services.

For example, 416 daily train services were cut from the CityRail network in 2005 – the same year patronage grew from 270.3 million journeys to 273.6 million journeys. The Auditor General’s figures show remaining services are becoming increasingly over-crowded, especially in peak hours.

We need extra local services, including evening and weekend bus services for areas like Belrose and St Ives. I have been lobbying the government to improve both train and bus services and recently undertook a local transport survey to gauge commuter views (see 28 February 2008 press release on website).

Substandard public transport is also due to the Government’s failure to integrate ticketing across all modes of public transport, with the mis-managed T-Card project wasting years and almost \$100 million. The Opposition proposes streamlining the various transport authorities for improved co-ordination and tighter project delivery.



Following lobbying, Lindfield rail station is to receive an upgrade & easier access

Water Management

Recent rainfalls have been welcome and Sydney dam levels are approaching 70% capacity.

Ironically, it appears flooding rain has slowed construction of the new desalination plant. Ignoring expert advice and its own promise, Labor commenced construction before dam levels fell below 30%.

Instead of pursuing the \$2 billion plant, we should be concentrating on the more environmentally responsible and economically sensible options of stormwater harvesting and recycling. The desalination plant will only add to energy consumption and add to our carbon footprint.

While the NSW public has done well in conserving water,

we capture less than 1% of stormwater following rain. The vast majority of water simply flows out to sea – from where it can be pumped into the new desalination plant!

The Opposition wants to create a large-scale stormwater harvesting and recycling network across the Sydney basin.

Open Space

We need more and well-utilised open space in our local area, especially as residential densities increase in our local communities.

I will continue to fight for better sporting facilities, especially for junior sports.

I support community recreational activities, including protecting cricket and soccer facilities at the UTS Lindfield site; improving recreational facilities for Killara High School children; establishing new netball courts at Belrose; upgrading the running track at Bannockburn Oval in Pymble for Little Athletics; upgrading conditions at Roseville and Lindfield Bowls Clubs; enhancing St Ives' Blue Gum High Forest; and fencing dog training facilities at St Ives Showground.



A possible site for new netball courts, between Linden Ave & Wyatt Ave in Belrose



CALL FOR GST REVIEW

Last December I moved in Parliament "That this House supports the Productivity Commission undertaking an independent review of the GST agreement and removing the agreement's economic distortions." In 2006, NSW received only 87 cents in every \$ of GST NSW residents paid. Over \$2.5 billion was redirected to other states including Queensland and Western Australia.

While the NSW Labor government agreed to the current formula for GST allocation some years ago, it has more recently recognised that it is unfair and inappropriate. In the interests of NSW and fairness, the Rudd Government must revise the formula based on the proposed independent review.





SUPPORTING ST IVES SPASTIC CENTRE

Further to an article in my last newsletter, congratulations and thanks to St Ives Shopping Centre and retailer *nina ynez* for agreeing to host a "Beauty with a Purpose" fundraising event in aid of the St Ives Spastic Centre.

nina ynez has an extensive range of floral inspired beauty products and services. In early May they will display eight beautiful floral arrangements, prepared by leading Sydney floral designers Seed Flora.

Five of these floral arrangements (including their presentation bowl) will be offered in a closed auction from 6pm, 1 May 2008. Simply complete a bid form for your favourite floral setting and

place it in the special boxes located at the Village Concierge, *nina ynez* and St Ives Village Florist. The highest bidder as at 2pm Saturday 10 May will keep the (refreshed) floral arrangement and it will be delivered on Mother's Day, Sunday 11 May, to your nominated local address within 20 kms.

All funds raised from bids will go directly to the St Ives Spastic Centre in Stanley Street St Ives. Please support this great initiative and experience beauty in more ways than one.

Also, please join us at St Ives Shopping Village for light refreshments at

6pm on Thursday 1 May 2008 as the "Beauty with Purpose" event is opened by Miss World Australia 2007-08, Caroline Pemberton of St Ives. Be the first to see the beautiful floral displays and talk to the floral designers about new trends in floral design. Enjoy the flowers and light refreshments for a \$10 donation to the St Ives Spastic Centre.

Bookings and enquiries:
Centre Management Office,
St Ives Shopping Village:
phone 9488 7077
fax 9488 7359
or email:
info@stivesvillage.com.au



St Ives Spastic Centre caters for people with physical and development disabilities, supporting each person's uniqueness, creativity, and talent through the performing and visual arts.

Its long-term aim is to create a performing arts centre where people with moderate to severe disabilities can break the boundaries of perception. The majority of clients live in the areas surrounding St Ives and are predominantly adults with cerebral palsy with high physical support needs.

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