



JONATHAN O'DEA M.P.

STATE MEMBER FOR DAVIDSON

Davidson >>>
BUILDING FOR TOMORROW

Dear Resident,

This Davidson Newsletter highlights some of the events, challenges and behind-the-scenes news from across the Davidson electorate.

I continue to work hard for our local community, and for NSW as part of Barry O'Farrell's Liberal Team. I also formally record my appreciation for Brendan Nelson's enormous contribution to our local and broader communities over many years. Thank you Brendan.

An exciting project is underway to develop a new inter-active element to my website (www.jonathanodea.com.au). It will initially focus on planning issues and NSW Government waste.

Please check it out next month.

Wishing everyone in the Davidson Electorate a very happy and safe Christmas season as well as a wonderful 2010.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan O'Dea



PLANNING BATTLE CONTINUES

Since my 2007 election as the Member for Davidson, I have consistently called for fairer planning outcomes and remain committed to the fight for better planning in the Ku-ring-gai Council area.

The recent "Death of Democracy" protest outside NSW Parliament House highlighted the depth of community feeling over local planning matters.

It is clear that we need more balanced planning policy, empowered local communities and improved supporting infrastructure.

To further these needs, I have arranged visits from various relevant portfolio representatives. These most recently include the Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Planning, Rob Stokes, pictured on the right with Mayor Ian Cross and Deputy Mayor Jennifer Anderson.

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» GLENROSE REDEVELOPMENT

The Glenrose Shopping Centre demolition and redevelopment proposal earlier this year involved all shop owners other than Woolworths vacating the complex.

However, following our public meeting with over 500 people, and through negotiations with Stockland, we have been able to secure ongoing trading for an additional eight retail shops.

We trust Stockland will remediate and redevelop the site in a timely manner that respects local community expectations and needs.

» MASTERS GAMES

I recently attended the Opening Ceremony of the Masters Games in Sydney and congratulate all those who participated.

Among the winners was Davidson constituent, Ralph Schubert, who competed in the 75–79 age group in various events, winning a Bronze Medal in the 1500 metres. Ralph also had the honour of leading athletics competitors onto the field at the Opening.



Ralph Schubert with wife Lillian and family

» COMMUNITY WIN



I have worked closely with local residents (including Phyllis Morris, Mary Armstrong and Paul Couvret pictured) to secure protection of environmentally sensitive land as well as better delivery and funding for community recreational facilities as part of the WSN Belrose Landfill site.

» POLLIES FOR SMALL BUSINESS

Each year I participate in the Pollies for Small Business program, which provides politicians an opportunity to serve in local shops, meet customers, and discuss the challenges facing small business.



This year I worked with Lindfield's Bruno the Hair Stylist (see picture) and The Lindfield Studio.

Small business is the biggest employer in our economy. Policy-makers must be in touch with the challenges they face.

» NEW CARES BUILDING, ST IVES



The Community And Road Education Scheme (CARES) is a police-based road safety education program, which focuses on primary school children in years 5 and 6. It seeks to introduce the notion of road rules and to develop a road sense.

I was delighted to be invited by CARES founder, John Watts (middle of picture) and the St Ives Progress Association to speak at the handover ceremony for a new CARES building. On behalf of the local community, congratulations to John and all concerned with this excellent initiative.

CYBER-BULLYING



Cyber-bullying is becoming an increasing problem, particularly among school students. It has prompted a short film titled "Best Enemies", written and directed by Ross Bark and produced by Darren Bark, a Davidson constituent (pictured with me and the film stars). Last month I hosted a special screening of the film at NSW Parliament House.

It is a proactive film, aimed at preventing negative behaviour by showing the consequences of certain actions. While modern technology enhances life in many ways, the anonymous elements of links such as mobile phones and computers, leave people vulnerable to being exploited and bullied.

Anyone feeling bullied is encouraged to report it to parents, teachers or other appropriate authorities.

ST IVES FOOTBALL CLUB WINS AWARD

Early Childhood Intervention Australia (ECIA) has recognised St Ives Football (Soccer) Club for their work with children with disabilities in this year's community awards.

President of St Ives Football Club, David Howard said it was "a wonderful acknowledgement of the efforts of all our volunteers."

The special needs soccer program created in St Ives is now the model for similar programs across Sydney. If you know of a child with special needs who would benefit from participating in the program you can find further information at www.stivessoccer.com.au



Putting Hot Air to Good Use

MACE'S 35TH ANNIVERSARY



I recently attended the 35th Anniversary of the presentation of the Mace to the Legislative Assembly by the NSW Jewish Board of Deputies.

The mace is ushered into the NSW Legislative Assembly by the Sergeant-at-Arms at the beginning of each sitting day. It is a symbol of the authority of the Speaker and an important reminder of the long struggle for parliamentary freedom.

Its presentation demonstrated the Jewish community's commitment to and identification with New South Wales.



Jonathan with Sophie Caplan, OAM,
President of the
Australian Jewish Historical Society

WHITE BALLOON DAY

White Balloon Day recently took place during National Child Protection Week. It has prompted an increase in the number of child sexual assault disclosures and continues to raise awareness with the aim of increasing protection of children against sexual assault across the nation.

White balloons were displayed at the front of Parliament House and in my Lindfield office carrying the slogan, "It's all white to say no!"

» BUSHFIRE SEASON



On a recent visit to Warringah-Pittwater Rural Fire Service Headquarters at Terrey Hills, Inspector George Sheppard showed me a map of recent bushfires and controlled burns.

There are a number of local areas that still need to be addressed. Dangerous fuel loads across NSW will continue to accumulate and the potential ferocity of fires will not be addressed, unless sufficient hazard reduction is completed.

Sincere thanks to all employees and volunteers involved in hazard reduction works for your great efforts in keeping our community safe.



MEN'S SHED

The "Men's Shed" movement provides excellent workshop facilities, especially for retirees with extra time on their hands. It has the support of many community groups.

It provides people with an opportunity to try their hand at a variety of hobbies and learn from others, while facilitating great social interchange.

Having seen the success of the Belrose Shed, I have recently been supporting a strong community push for another Shed project at St Ives, seeking State Government funding.

» SCHOOL LEADERS TOUR

This month I hosted tours of Parliament House for all the Captains and Vice Captains of Primary Schools in the Davidson electorate. The photo shows one school group in the Legislative Assembly Chamber.



MORNING TEA – MY SHOUT

On Monday, 30 November at 10.30am I am hosting a morning tea at the Belrose Bowling Club for constituents over 65 years, from Frenchs Forest, Forestville, Belrose, Davidson and Oxford Falls. There's no cost, but bookings are essential for catering. Please call my office on **9880 7400** or email davidson@parliament.nsw.gov.au if you can make it. There will be morning teas on the Ku-ring-gai side of the electorate in 2010.



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» QUESTIONS AND SPEECHES

As your local MP, I have been working hard to keep the NSW Government accountable.

My 478 written Ministerial questions on a broad range of issues can be viewed through a link on my website, www.jonathanodea.com.au

There is also a link to my speeches, which have recently covered Cyber Bullying, Life Education Australia, Special Needs Student Services, Infrastructure Investment, Belrose Landfill, Small Business, Ku-ring-gai Planning, and the Roseville Shepherd Centre. While visiting the website, also check out my media releases, the latest WasteWatch Newsletter and other information. I welcome your feedback.

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