

Dear Friends

Here is the 2016 Budget Edition of the E-news.

2016 Budget Update

The 2016 Budget has seen money allocated for the completion of the Sunshine Coast University Hospital and in our area the Government has provided funding for the repurposing of the Nambour General Hospital through the new Advancing Queensland Health Infrastructure Program. This announcement should allay rumours that there are any plans to close the Nambour Hospital.

Money has been allocated to continue the work on the Woombye train stabling yards, which when completed will see the introduction of an hourly week day train service between the Sunshine Coast and Brisbane.

The balance of funding needed to complete the Nambour Railway Station public lifts and station upgrade has been provided and this project is set for completion in March next year. The shuttle bus service will continue until the station lifts are operational.

I am pleased that the Government is also reducing the price of train fares between Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast, for more info go to <https://haveyoursay.translink.com.au/SEQ-Fare-Review>

Significant money has been provided for school infrastructure upgrades throughout the electorate, with the following schools to benefit:

Bli Bli State School, Burnside State High School, Nambour Special School Nambour State College, Nambour State College - Junior School, North Arm State School and Yandina State School.

Our new Ambulance Stations at Kenilworth and Yandina are progressing with the Yandina Station having received a further \$2.15 million for the completion of the station which is located on Machinery Road Yandina. The new Kenilworth Station has received a further \$500,000 and I was pleased to hear that settlement has taken place for the purchase of land at the rear of the Kenilworth Village Units.

On Saturday 18 June 2016, I met with Hon Mark Bailey Minister for Main Roads, on the Yandina- Bli Bli Road, where we discussed new money for the following three roads.

\$500,000 has been allocated to undertake investigations into the potential design of the Obi Obi Road and in this regard I am hopeful the downhill dirt section will be abandoned and the bitumen uphill section will be upgraded to two lanes.

\$400,000 has been allocated to the Kenilworth-Eumundi Road to undertake further design work for the purpose of improving the road. The Yandina-Bli Bli Road, including the Caboolture Creek Bridge has received \$330,000 for similar design work.

Major projects including the Cooroy to Curra section of the Bruce Highway were also covered in the budget and I am pleased to see that all of this has been achieved without selling state assets such as Energex and Ergon, which I campaigned against at the last election.

For more information on the budget go to: <http://budget.qld.gov.au/>

Car Registration Reminder Update

I was pleased to see that the Government has listened to my call for a Motor Vehicle Registration renewal reminder service.

Earlier this year I contacted the Minister's office, calling for change to the registration renewal process, after receiving numerous complaints from people who claimed not to have received renewal notices and as a result were subsequently fined.

I have been advised by Minister Mark Bailey that the Department of Transport and Main Roads is currently developing a new additional electronic service to deliver Vehicle Registration Notices and reminders by email and SMS. It is hoped this new service will be up and running later in the year.

The Minister has also advised me that the Government is looking into the matter of infringement notices issued to people who had neglected to pay their registration by the due date and then drove past one of the Department's automated numberplate recognition cameras.

The Minister has advised that there is a new system to be put in place, where repeat detections will be referred to a case manager, who will check address details and then notify the vehicle owner that the vehicle is unregistered and cannot be used on the road until the registration is paid.

I thank the Minister for listening to the concerns of motorists and I believe these changes will certainly assist Queenslanders to make sure their vehicles are registered on time.

Until these new services are up and running you can continue to check your registration details through the Department of Transport and Main Roads website - www.tmr.qld.gov.au or call 13 23 80. For those who are into technology, there are also free apps available through Google Play and iTunes.

Australian of the Year

In May I had the pleasure of awarding a number of inspirational volunteers with a Nicklin Community Service Award. With this in mind if you know of an outstanding member(s) of the community and believe their contribution to society should not go unnoticed I urge you to nominate them for Australian of the Year Award. Nominations can be made across four categories; Queensland Australian of the Year, Queensland Senior Australian of the Year, Queensland Young Australian of the Year and Queensland's Local Hero.

Queensland recipients will be announced in November and they will go onto represent Queensland at the national awards ceremony held on the eve of 2017 Australia Day in Canberra.

Nominations are open for the 2017 Awards and will close on 7 August 2016.

For further details go to:

<http://www.australianoftheyear.org.au/>

Until next time

Peter Wellington