



# Jann Stuckey MP

## State Member for Currumbin

November 2007

## EYE ON THE ELECTORATE

Over the past few months we have seen our annual Springtime burst of activity as our electorate showcases its considerable artistic and cultural capacity in the form of community events and festivals.

Swell Sculpture Festival along Currumbin's picturesque foreshore clocked up its fifth year while our much loved Springfest and Art & Craft festival provided days of fun-

filled entertainment for everyone.

The In The Bin Short Film Festival is going from strength to strength, held over four nights, with more than 1000 people attending the opening night.

Throughout the region considerable work is taking place with pipes being laid to carry desalinated water to catchments and power upgrades requiring laying of new lines. These works

do cause a degree of disruption to residents and I commend everyone for the level of patience shown to date.

For your convenience I requested an insert about the desalination project from the GCD Alliance to keep you up to date.

## Needle Syringe Program Under Review

UPON learning a Needle and Syringe Program was opening in Palm Beach residents have been opposing the location in a busy business and retail sector of Palm Beach, right behind the hotel.

Since the facility opened earlier this year it became apparent that the program was little more than a needle hand-out which prompted the Shadow Minister for Health and I to call for a review of the program state-wide. I am pleased to say the Minister listened to us and an independent review is underway.

When this program (NSP) was first introduced in Australia 20 years ago it was designed as not only a harm minimisation measure but also to provide education, counselling and prevention strategies to assist iv users to become drug free. Unfortunately Queensland Health have allowed it to become a needle supply program with a low emphasis on

needle exchange and poor or non-existent support services.

A review is long overdue. The State Government continually fails to supply adequate programs, services and accommodation to assist drug addicts to become clean.

Recent pamphlets promoting cash payments of \$110 to injectors to teach others highlights the lack of focus on intervention programs and watering down of the intent of the original program.

During October sittings of Parliament, I raised concerns about this cash for addicts as part of the Mixup Program funded by the State Government. I have been at the forefront of a campaign to have the Needle Syringe Program (NSP) reviewed in Queensland, particularly as it has diverted away from the original intent of the scheme.



Jann with John-Paul Langbroek, Shadow Minister for Health.

## NEW COMMUNITY BUS RUN

GOLD Coast Mobility Office based at Tugun has started a new community circuit bus run for a six-month trial covering the entire Gold Coast. The Monday to Friday service is available to HACC clients and also by donation for non-HACC users. This service will transport people to all hospitals including Tweed as well as shopping centres and other medical and dental appointments. People can phone 5521 0577 to make an inquiry for a pick-up from their home.

**Electorate Office:** 1045 Gold Coast Highway, Palm Beach - **Phone:** 5598 1387 - **Fax:** 5598 1861  
**Mail:** PO Box 742, PALM BEACH QLD 4221 - **Email:** currumbin@parliament.qld.gov.au  
**Website:** www.jannstuckey.com.au

## STUCKEY WELCOMES INSPIRATIONAL PILOT



Jann recently welcomed pilot Steve Byrne to Coolangatta after his six day flight to raise funds and awareness of spinal injuries during Disability Action Week.

## NEW AMBULANCE FOR COOLANGATTA

A new ambulance worth \$180,000 has been handed over to the Queensland Ambulance Service's Coolangatta station.

Jann and members of the Coolangatta-Burleigh Heads Local Ambulance Committee were on hand to witness the handover by the Minister.



# Police Blue Line Vanishing on Southern Gold Coast

TOGETHER with our community I have lobbied hard for extra counter hours for the Palm Beach Station. Last year over 5,000 residents signed a petition requesting the station actually be open 24 hours. Whilst the Minister claims it to be a 24 hour station, in reality it is only open between 8am - 4pm.

As a result of the request from residents the station is now open on weekends and I will continue to push for longer counter hours.

Police resources at both Palm Beach and Coolangatta stations have been stretched for some time. The police union went public with the true police figures for our region last month. Southern Divisions are worst off and the figures speak for themselves. With events such as Indy and schoolies our police numbers will fall to unacceptable levels and place enormous strain on our dedicated officers.

At the time Coolangatta was allocated 32 police but in reality there were only 19 operational officers. Palm Beach dropped to 30 when there were meant to be 44



Jann with Shadow Minister for Police and Corrective Services, Rob Messenger at Palm Beach Station

including 2 at the Elanora Beat.

During Indy last year some 18 officers were taken from Palm Beach station alone and a similar scenario happened this year, which means that our blue line vanishes for these periods.

For the month-long schoolies celebration police are also rotated out of our areas, leaving those who remain to cover.

The Gold Coast is one of the fastest growing and busiest policing districts in the state and at present has one of the worst police to population ratios at 1 officer to 641 people.

We certainly deserve better and so do our dedicated, hard-working police.

## TEENAGE ADVENTURE CAMPS QUEENSLAND

IN its 12th year, TACQ, based in Currumbin is completely funded by donations and run by a dedicated committee and busy team of volunteers, organised a smorgasbord of activities for young people with life-threatening illnesses. Children with illnesses such as cerebral palsy, quadriplegia, spina bifida and the rare Morquio's disease participated in the daily events with great gusto.

The Sunday evening farewell dinner was a most humbling encounter for this able-bodied local representative. There was not a dry eye in the room as these remarkably physically challenged teenagers recounted the past week's experiences and the enormous impact it had on them, the friends they had made, and teary farewells.

**Congratulations to TACQ committee and all volunteers.**



## Congratulations

Kirra Surf Life Saving Club has won an award for the Point Danger Branch Patrol Club of the Year, sponsored by Jann. The club, which is the second oldest in the branch, has received a rescue board for its fine achievements. During the last season the club amassed 729 preventative actions and treated 141 first-aid cases.



### Youth Award Winners

Michael Hamilton, Connor Grant and Jack Brock, all 13 and of the youth band Amber, have received Jann Stuckey Youth Community Spirit Monthly Awards for volunteering their time to play at the Jam for Genes Day in Palm Beach.



## UPDATES

### RAIL CORRIDOR AND M1 EXPANSION

In a recent briefing, I was briefed on the progress of design work by Queensland Rail, Department of Main Roads and Queensland Transport for the southern corridor.

The much-awaited concept design for the widening of the Pacific Motorway between Varsity Lakes and Stewart Rd will be unveiled by the end of 2007. Proposed changes to any exit or access points to the motorway and the route of the new rail-line between Varsity Lakes and Elanora will be outlined.

Public consultation is to be held early next year and displays will be at The Pines and Stocklands Shopping Centres. After the consultation preliminary design work will commence. New railway stations will be built at Tallebudgera and Elanora at The Pines Shopping Centre.

Construction is scheduled for the line from 2012 to 2015.

### TUGUN BYPASS

After a long and triumphant battle from residents it is wonderful news that completion of the Tugun Bypass is expected in mid-2008. The Boyd St overpass will be completed by the end of this year and by next June the bypass will be open to traffic, well ahead of schedule. Despite numerous requests for an interchange near John Flynn Hospital, the State Government refuses to consider building one.

The much talked about 334 metre tunnel which runs underneath the Gold Coast Airport's runway extension has a northbound and southbound extension, each of which are 6.1 metres deep and 13 metres wide. The top of the tunnel roof is two metres below ground level and the underside of the floor is 11 metres below ground level.

### TUGUN HEIGHTS NAME

The culmination of more than two years of lobbying, a petition, public comment by residents in the area and a submission of local groups and representatives resulted in a name change for the residents of Tugun Heights in September. Their area, formerly part of Currumbin Waters, has now become part of Tugun. The Department of Natural Resources received 43 written submissions in support of the move during public consultation early this year.

## AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS WEEK

Elanora State High School's Leadership and Business Week was once again hugely successful with Jann's team winning the People's choice. Rob Allan was business mentor and teacher mentor was Paul Hayward.

The overall winning team promoted a product that removed skin blemishes. The week culminated in a trade display of products designed by 15 teams in the Student Centre and a presentation dinner.



# **CURRUMBIN HAPPY GROUP TURNS 25**

CURRUMBIN Happy Group has an important place in our community, celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary at a luncheon. This group was formed in 1982 after Community Health Sister, Ellen Strachan, could see the need to address social isolation in the community. President Mary Alexander said "The group embraces the ideals of friendship and support for each other."



## **Congratulations**

**KIRRA-CURRUMBIN ROTARY CLUB** celebrated its 40th Anniversary with a dinner attended by numerous Past Presidents and also Past District Governor Alan Still OAM on 22nd October.

Small in number but giants in community service the club's history and significant achievements was relayed by several Past Presidents and accompanied by pictorial memories.

Ray Farrow, who is a current member and Charter member back in 1967, was awarded the prestigious Paul Harris Fellow award for service.

We are blessed in the Currumbin electorate with a number of service clubs. I encourage residents to consider joining one of these welcoming organisations and enjoy the gift of giving to make our community a happier place to live.

**PALM BEACH-CURRUMBIN LIONS CLUB** has recently disbursed \$36,780 to needy causes and organisations assisting with a wide range of illnesses, research programs and medical care.

The club has donated money to a deaf couple for an electronic device to enable them to care for their new baby when it awakes or cries. Without this assistance the baby would not have been allowed to leave hospital.

As well they have assisted a young boy suffering from leukaemia to realise his dream of seeing snow. He was able to spend a week at Mt Hotham with his family. Congratulations to the club and its members as they enter their 51<sup>st</sup> year of community service.

## **Congratulatory Messages**

Recently Jann was on hand to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary of Allen and Margaret Cross of Elanora, who shared their special day with family and received letters of congratulations from the Queen, Prime Minister and Premier.



Requests for congratulatory messages can be made through our electorate office.

## **Want to become a JP?**

Forms can be obtained from my office to apply to become a Justice of the Peace or Commissioner for Declarations. JPs are in attendance at the Pines Shopping Centre Management Office on Tuesday and Thursday from 10 am to 2 pm and on Saturday from 10 am to 1 pm.



**VISIT MY NEW WEBSITE**  
**[www.jannstuckey.com.au](http://www.jannstuckey.com.au)**

**Electorate Office:** 1045 Gold Coast Highway, Palm Beach - **Phone:** 5598 1387 - **Fax:** 5598 1861  
**Mail:** PO Box 742, PALM BEACH QLD 4221 - **Email:** currumbin@parliament.qld.gov.au