



Jann Stuckey MP

State Member for Currumbin

November 2009

EYE ON THE ELECTORATE

As another year draws to a close, school holidays approach and different time zones cause some of us headaches, it is fitting to remind ourselves we live in a truly picturesque spot here in Currumbin.

Our community frequently comes together to showcase our talents and also to fight for local causes.

The recent SWELL Sculpture and In the Bin film festivals were once

again resounding successes, drawing record crowds. Congratulations to Natasha Edwards and her team at SWELL and Jed Cahill for his commitment to film production.

A significant milestone took place in September when the long-awaited Currumbin Sanctuary Wildlife Hospital was officially opened.

However an increase in serious assaults, glassings and bashings

casts a dark cloud over night-time safety in some of our suburbs.

We need tougher sentences for offenders and stronger educational messages about the dangers of alcohol and substance abuse



Jann meets Yani Colleen



Senior veterinarian Dr Michael Pyne, Jann and Mr Jonathan Fisher, Chief Executive Officer, outside the new hospital.

CURRUMBIN WILDLIFE HOSPITAL OPENS

Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary has opened a new \$1.5 million community wildlife hospital for sick, injured and orphaned native wildlife. Over 4,500 injured wildlife were treated in the old run-down facility last year. The new hospital has treated an increased number of injured wildlife and I urge residents to support the **Green Guardian** program.

It will provide a base for the sanctuary's veterinary staff as well as providing an area for researchers in a number of co-operative conservation research projects.

During the Moreton Bay oil spill this year the hospital was instrumental in

treating pelicans which were returned back to the wild. After a spate of magpie poisonings, the hospital raised an alarm within the community while also treating a number of affected birds

I also threw my support behind National Koala Day at CWS when I officially named a koala joey. I was the successful bidder for the opportunity to name the joey at a corporate fundraising event earlier in the year.

The koala was named Yani Colleen. Yani is an aboriginal word for peace and Colleen, meaning young female, is the name of my late mother who passed away when I was a teenager.

FREE

BUILDING & RENOVATING SEMINAR

See Page Three

DESAL SAGA CONTINUES

The Tugun Desalination Plant saga continues with still no sign of the State Government commissioning the facility until mid-2010 due to a number of serious defects.

Local fisherman are now calling for an independent monitoring system to observe marine life and salinity levels around the output pipe.

Brad Smith of Fix Currumbin Creek Committee has started a petition following environmental concerns about brine output from the plant affecting marine habitat in the area. Local fishermen have told me that close monitoring which was being done until April this year must continue.

People may sign a petition in my office or on the internet at <http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/view/EPetitions%5FQLD/> and follow the prompts for e-petitions.



Environmental scientist Neil Lazarow, Jann and Brad Smith at Tugun

Meanwhile my office is still receiving complaints from residents who believe damage to their homes and properties has been caused by work on the pipeline through Tugun and Currumbin. Unfortunately the vast majority have been unsuccessful in obtaining any compensation. Tugun Football Club's future is still unclear after major problems developed when the nearby desal plant was constructed. They have just repaired a deck but still have more work to be completed and are not sure when they will be relocated.

MAJOR ROAD CHANGES AT TUGUN AND BILINGA

Work will start on major changes worth \$3.6 million to the intersection of Gold Coast Highway and the Tugun-Currumbin Rd (Stewart Rd), probably before the end of this year and be completed by mid-2010.

As a result there will only be one turning lane for motorists travelling north into the Tugun-Currumbin Rd but cyclists will benefit from a cycling lane. Main Roads have told me that detailed traffic modelling has shown that traffic will still flow at an acceptable level because of the adjusted traffic signal co-ordination and reduced traffic volumes.

Work includes the resurfacing of the road between Wagawn and Tooloona Sts and the upgrade of traffic lights. There will be new line marking, signage and on-road cycle lanes from Tugun to Bilinga. The speed will be reduced from 80 km to 70 km between Wagawn St and Terminal Drive with an expected increase in the number of cyclists.

Work estimated to cost \$4.4 million will be spent on a new intersection north of the Bilinga overpass which will provide northbound traffic with a right turn lane direct to Coolangatta Rd from the old Pacific Highway Tweed bypass. Design drawings will be available for public comment late 2009/early 2010.

A second access point to Gold Coast Airport is also under consideration for motorists using the Tugun Bypass which will also alleviate traffic on Gold Coast Highway.

Police Appointment Positive For Schools

The trial appointment of a police liaison officer for Elanora and Palm Beach State High Schools is already having a positive effect on the school communities.

Constable Emily Pyke is working with youth in these schools and also in our community. Students have already told me there has been a reduction in school fights and truancy rates since Emily started. For a number of years I have called on the Government to appoint a school-based police officer as these have proven to help curb bullying and truancy. Each time I have been advised there were no government funds for appointments. Congratulations to our local police for taking the current initiative.



Jann with Senior Constable Tony Unicomb and Senior Constable Kurt Foessel both of Elanora Police Beat, and Constable Emily Pyke.

Traffic Lights

I was successful in having changes made to traffic lights at the Stewart Rd intersection near the Pacific Motorway at Currumbin after a number of accidents and near misses were reported to my office. I myself was almost involved in an accident when a four-wheel drive vehicle drove through a red light and failed to give way. Two sets of traffic lights in close proximity had been causing confusion amongst motorists heading north from Tugun.

Kirra - Stage Two On Hold

Initial sand excavation works have taken place with some 20,000 cubic metres moved between Kirra and Palm Beach. Recent storms have reduced beach width and the State Government wants to put stage two on hold. A public consultation meeting conducted by Gold Coast City Council was held on July 30. Residents want to know that the Government is serious about developing a long-term strategy for all foreshores affected by the TRESP (Tweed River Entrance Sand Bypass). Limited comments from a prolonged Freedom of Information request have not shed much light on the matter.

A Centenary Of Education

Currumbin State Primary School has marked its centenary with a day of celebrations. The school's beginnings date back to the Currumbin Lower State School opening on a hill where The Hatchery now stands. Banners made by students were also on display at The Pines Shopping Centre.



Jann and Sarah Clasen, The Pines Marketing Manager, are pictured with students.

STILL WAITING FOR ELECTION PROMISES

Despite election promises to underground powerlines through Palm Beach and Currumbin, I haven't been able to get a time for the start of construction. Residents and STOP (Stop the Overhead Powerlines Group) have fought Energex's proposal to install overhead powerlines, resulting in the Government promising to spend \$29 million to underground the lines.

Until a route has been finalised, I can't be given a date for the commencement of the project and a revised construction time-frame cannot be finalised. This is a huge disappointment after the Government promised so much during the campaign but hasn't been able to deliver.

It is more than a year since the draft initial assessment report was released on the project to install powerlines through these areas via a route between Mudgeeraba and Tugun. I am told there will be two more meetings of the Community Reference Group.

STOP's John Cooper who has been a driving force behind the campaign said it appeared to have all come to a halt and he wants some answers.

Currumbin Creek Canoe Club received a grant of \$29,465 for 12 new kayaks from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund.



Jann and club members are pictured with the new equipment after a training session.

FREE BUILDING & RENOVATING SEMINAR

Hear about choosing finance, choosing your builder, entering into contracts, BSA Home Warranty Insurance, obtaining approvals, carrying out inspections, and after care and maintenance.

Wednesday, 2nd December 2009
6:00 - 8:00pm



Queensland Government

Tugun Progress Hall, Golden Four Drive, Tugun

Register now at www.bsa.qld.gov.au – Events & Seminars
or phone **1300 272 272**

CURRUMBIN SURF CLUB WINS RESCUE BOARD



Currumbin Surf Life Saving Club has won a new surf rescue board in recognition of winning the Point Danger Branch Patrol Club of the Year Award. This is the fifth year I have donated a rescue board to the winning club.

I realise these volunteer organisations are under increasing demands from a growing population and surf lifesavers are constantly in need of additional equipment.

Club members are pictured at the Point Danger annual presentation dinner at which Currumbin Captain Mark Goodwin accepted the award.

JP LONG SERVICE RECOGNISED



Currumbin resident Mr John Szandurski has received a certificate from myself to recognise his 25 years as a Justice of the Peace. (see picture)

I believe JPs play an important role in the community, working as volunteers and performing a wide range of services from witnessing the signing of documents to hearing certain matters in court.

There is a JP in attendance at The Pines Shopping Centre on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 am to 2 pm, Thursday 6-8 pm, and Saturday 10 am to 1 pm, outside RACQ



People interested in becoming a JP can obtain an application form from my office.

IN BRIEF

New Complaints Website

The Anti-Discrimination Commission Queensland, Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian, Health Quality and Complaints Commission, Queensland Ombudsman, Crime and Misconduct Commission and Commonwealth Ombudsman have launched a joint complaints website. The site is:

www.complaints.qld.gov.au

and provides information which allows people to identify the agency best equipped to handle their complaint. As well, a brochure It's OK to complain, is available from my office which tells you how to complain.

Tugun Bypass Panels To Be Replaced

Glass noise panels destroyed by vandals on the Tugun Bypass will be replaced by transparent plastic panels. Since the bypass opened more than 60 panels have been smashed.

Transparent panels have been selected over other materials including aluminium to maintain the panoramic views for passengers. This was identified as an important feature during stakeholder consultation.

Jann In Parliament

Via the internet you can either watch or listen to Parliamentary proceedings. Go to:

www.parliament.qld.gov.au

and click on chamber broadcast. Sittings will be held on November 10, 11 and 12, and the final sitting for 2010 will be on November 24, 25 and 26.

To read what Jann has to say in the Parliament go to:

<http://parlinfo.parliament.qld.gov.au/ISYSSpkSimp.htm>

and follow the links.

“Meet me at The Pines Shopping Centre”

From 10:30 am to 12:30 pm
Saturday 14 November

LNP candidate for McPherson, Karen Andrews, John Strickland of Currumbin and Jann at The Pines

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