



Jann Stuckey MP

State Member for Currumbin

November 2008

EYE ON THE ELECTORATE

Much has occurred in our electorate since the last edition of this newsletter as we played host to our popular SWELL, In the Bin and Springfest festivals.

Over three thousand residents responded to my local issues survey which was an overwhelming response. Thank you to everyone who participated and sent in their opinions and detailed comments. I read every

single sheet that came through my office and, where possible, I have forwarded your concerns onto relevant departments, police or elected representatives so they can deal with them in an appropriate manner.

Residents listed law and order as their highest priority which was not surprising considering the number of calls my office regularly receives about hooning, vandalism and disturbances that

interfere with citizens' privacy and lifestyle. Also high on the list were hospital beds and waiting lists, and better public transport.

I am pleased to advise residents that since the successful merger of the Liberal and National parties I am now the LNP member for Currumbin.

UNDERGROUND POWERLINES FIGHT CONTINUES

News that the State Government has directed Energex to find a route and construct an overhead 110kV powerline along the alignment of the Pacific Motorway from Mudgeeraba to Tugun continues to create enormous anxiety and uproar in affected suburbs. Numerous public meetings and information booths have been organised by the S.T.O.P. (Stop The Overhead Powerlines) group which is to be commended for its ongoing efforts as advocates for their community. It's hard to miss their red and white streamers around the neighbourhood.

At my request, Energex have formed a Community Reference Group which meets on a regular basis to discuss and monitor this project. An Initial Assessment Report (IAR) has been released, resulting in more than 1000 submissions being received.

The final assessment is due for completion early next year and



is to be handed to the Minister in February, 2009.

The campaign is building momentum as more local action groups and individuals lend their support.

Preliminary costings have now been provided to place powerlines underground and

further submissions on this issue close on November 21.

I shall continue to fight on your behalf to ensure that established communities are not subjected to overhead lines.

For more information visit:
<http://www.gecko.org.au/index.php?powerlines>

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Focus on Law and Order

As I mentioned in my opening statement, law and order rated highest in my survey as a matter of concern for residents. Unfortunately we are not alone in our thoughts as many other Gold Coast suburbs have similar problems, nor are we the worst area for crime or anti-social behaviour. And we certainly do not want to be, which is why I'd like to inform you of some initiatives in the past few months I have helped instigate to make our community safer.



Senior Constable Rawson Armitage, Shadow Police Minister, Vaughan Johnson MP, Jann and Sgt Lars Roberts at Palm Beach Police Station.

Truancy

Since calling a truancy stakeholder meeting in April as a result of residents and shopkeepers calling my office to complain about youth loitering during school hours, our police have undertaken a dedicated campaign to seek out kids who

wag school. Using creative methods such as mounted police and quad bikes to enter parks and difficult to access areas, their efforts have seen the number of teenagers skipping school drop. I urge all parents to warn their children of the dangers of wagging school, as well as falling behind on all important education.

Trail Bikes

Disturbance by trail bike riders in our suburbs is another common complaint call to my office. To their credit our police are using their own 4WDs and trail bikes to track and catch rogue motorcycle riders. Hundreds of survey comments that have detailed 'hot spots' in various suburbs have been forwarded to police who are following up this information with patrols every weekend until they get on top of the problem.

24 Hour operational Police Station at Palm Beach

Whilst visiting last month Vaughan Johnson also announced that an LNP Government would upgrade the

Hoon Watch

With three of our suburbs rating in the top 25 spots where hoons live in Queensland and countless complaints to my office and police, I decided to start a "Hoon Watch" initiative as another measure to reduce undesirable activities that spoil our lifestyle and properties.

LNP spokesperson for Police, Vaughan Johnson, launched Currumbin "Hoon Watch", modelled on a successful program in Tweed. By filling in a form that provides details of car street-racing, burn-outs, trail bikes and similar disturbing activities residents are assisting police to catch those involved. Often the information can help solve other crimes such as stolen vehicles and robberies. Forms can be downloaded from my website or collected from my electorate office.

NB This does not replace Crimestoppers or the need to report crime immediately to police.

Palm Beach Police Station to a fully operational 24 hour station. This is great news for almost 5,000 people who signed a petition in 2006 requesting this.

New cross border legislation

I fully supported legislation in September as it was passed through Queensland Parliament to help police share information on a national scale to help catch criminals. A major sticking point was an inability to compare data and these new laws that are in place elsewhere in Australia were long overdue.

Coolangatta Police on Beat

Police are now on the beat on foot in Coolangatta on Friday and Saturday nights, others on bicycles during the day and Southern Alliance is still operating.



Jann going through more than 3,000 returned survey forms.

HERO'S WELCOME FOR MEDALLIST



Olympic medallist Ken Wallace received a hero's welcome at Tugun Surf Life Saving Club on his return from the Beijing Olympics where he won gold and bronze medals in kayaking events. Jann (pictured with Ken) was among a large crowd who gathered at the club to give him a rousing welcome.

Ken won a gold medal in the K1 1000 event and bronze in K1 500 event. Leading up to the Olympics, Ken based himself at Budapest in Hungary to train. He has been a valued member of Tugun Surf Club since 1998.

New \$1.2m Wildlife Hospital for Currumbin Sanctuary underway

Harmonious meetings have taken place in recent months between elected representatives, community stakeholders, CWS and the National Trust to discuss suitable applicants for the position of Independent member of the new NTQ Board which will be officially elected in November. Former principal of TSS, Mr Bruce Cook is the chosen board member.

Queensland's new Governor, her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley spent a day at our sanctuary and turned the first sod of the long awaited and much needed Wildlife Hospital. She is pictured with Jann at a ceremony attended by staff and volunteers who welcomed the start of the hospital, estimated to cost \$1.2 million and to be completed by next April.

More than 4000 injured animals are treated at CWS each year.



Open day planned for Kirra Hill

Now the battle to Save Kirra Hill site is won the Gold Coast City Council is holding public meetings to explore usage ideas from the community. The well attended public meeting on 1st October heard of the restoration progress underway on the original school buildings. An open day was held on October 19 to be followed by a design workshop in November and a draft design concept review ready in mid December.

A CENTURY OF EDUCATION IN VALLEY



Winkle (left) of Brisbane and Carmen Lamos of Currumbin Waters, pictured with Jann.

Currumbin Valley State Primary School which opened its gates 100 years ago as the Upper Currumbin Provisional and State School with 15 students and one teacher, marked its centenary with many former families returning for the event. A highlight was the opening of a 20-year-old time capsule by former students, Susie

COOLANGATTA SLSC WINS AWARD

Jann presented Coolangatta SLSC with a new surf rescue board for winning the Point Danger Branch "Patrol Club of the Year" Award. She has donated a rescue board for the past four years in appreciation of the hundreds of patrol hours these dedicated individuals put into the clubs.



Jann is pictured with club supporters at the presentation.

GENEROUS COMMUNITY BACKS THE BUCK FAMILY PROJECT

A wonderful community project is taking shape at Tugun where a new home is being built for the struggling Buck family which is battling the debilitating disease Myotonic Muscular Dystrophy.

The community has got behind this family to build a new dwelling and currently the Ingles Group is constructing what will be the family's dream home, hopefully in time for Christmas.



Jann is pictured with, from left, Lion Brian Mattingley, Steve Thompson, of the Ingles Group, Lioness Lois McHenry, Danny Buck, Lioness Joy Mattingley and Matt Stone of Southern Star Community Services.

IN BRIEF

Nearing completion

There will be an opportunity to sample desalinated water at a special community event at Tugun Rugby League Club's sports field on November 30 to mark the opening of the Desalination Plant at Tugun. The day will enable the community to view the plant which is currently more than 95 percent completed. Both tunnels have been filled and water is being drawn in the plant for commissioning of pumps, pipes and processing. Reinstatement of Irene St has been completed.

Currumbin Bar Dredging

The annual campaign to clear the mouth of Currumbin Creek started in mid-October for approximately 8 weeks and is desperately needed with sand siltation choking the entrance. Jann will continue to lobby for funding for a research project to explore ways to alleviate this problem.

New Transport Office Opens

Welcome news for residents of the southern Gold Coast is the proposed opening of a new Queensland Transport customer service centre at Currumbin in November.

Q150 Icons sought

As part of Queensland's 150th celebrations in 2009, Jann has been asked to submit up to 10 nominations across 10 categories which will recognize and celebrate the people, places, stories or other aspects of Queensland's uniqueness. She welcomes any written suggestions from residents prior to the closure of nominations on January 30 next year.



"Meet me at The Pines Shopping Centre"

From 10:30 am to 12:30 pm
Saturday, 8 November

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