



# Jann Stuckey MP

State Member for Currumbin

November 2010

## EYE ON THE ELECTORATE

Some Christmas parties and end of year celebrations have already begun as 2010 starts to wind down and I write my final newsletter for the year. As the festive season draws near I urge all residents to pay particular attention to their personal and household safety.

Increasing internet crime and identity theft has caused heartaches and financial loss to a growing number of people and can be avoided by being on your guard near ATM machines and when using the internet. Let's keep an eye out for each other and share the message of goodwill, compassion and understanding.

### DESAL FINALLY HANDED OVER



Jann with LNP Leader John-Paul Langbroek viewing the washed up barge.



Tugun Desal plant

After a series of false starts and numerous defects that required fixing, the State Government has finally taken control of the beleaguered Tugun desalination plant almost two years after it originally planned to do so. In a scene befitting an episode of Mission Impossible the barge tethered to the rig off Tugun beach broke loose in a wild August storm, presenting beach goers with a spectacular sight.

No sooner had the Government accepted responsibility for the plant than the heavens opened and overflowed our dams, negating the need for desal water in the near future. One has to question the cost quoted at \$32,000 a day to run a plant that is pouring water back into the sea. The Government must convince ratepayers that it is necessary to proceed in this manner as many people believe the plant should be mothballed for a period of time until it is required.

Why should we have to foot the bill for water that costs seven times that of dam water when we don't even get to use it? **Have your say in my survey.**

### MORE POOL FENCING LAWS

Stage 2 of strict pool fencing safety laws for new and existing pools has been introduced by the State Government in an effort to reduce the number of drownings and immersions of young children.

Private residential pools, shared pools and those associated with short-term accommodation will have separate regulations under these laws. Existing council exemptions will no longer be valid, unless they are for a disability or geographical reasons. A state swimming pool register will also be implemented.

PLEASE NOTE - It will be the pool owner's responsibility to check that their pool is registered within 6 months of commencement or risk a \$2000 fine. The register is expected to be available online soon. For information call Building Codes Queensland on (07) 3239 6369 or visit [www.dip.qld.gov.au/poolsafety](http://www.dip.qld.gov.au/poolsafety)

**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](mailto:currumbin@parliament.qld.gov.au)

**Website:** [www.jannstuckey.com.au](http://www.jannstuckey.com.au)

## LAW AND ORDER UPDATE

It was an honour to present a wreath on behalf of the people of Currumbin at the **National Police Remembrance Day** ceremony on 29th September. Protecting the public's safety is becoming an ever more dangerous task with the number of Queensland Police officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty reaching 137.

**Congratulations** to our high school **Police Liason Officer**, Constable Emily Tragis who was named the most outstanding female practitioner at the Australasian Council of Women and Policing Awards in October for her work facilitating a drug, alcohol and violence education program at Elanora and Palm Beach Currumbin High.

In another initiative to help guide our youth I am pleased to welcome the arrival of Katrina Casacang as **Youth Engagement Officer** who will work closely with Constable Tragis at Elanora Police Beat.

### INJECTING ROOM FOR PALM BEACH OPPOSED

A proposal by the Queensland Intravenous AIDS Association to establish a drug injecting centre in Palm Beach similar to one in Kings Cross in Sydney has been opposed by Queensland Health.

To liken Kings Cross or Fortitude Valley to Palm Beach is insulting. Palm Beach is a residential area with families and young children, not an entertainment precinct and certainly not a place where addicts are encouraged to come to shoot up.

I will continue to monitor and fight any plans that promote this sort of drug use in our family-based community.



Jann with Police on National Police Remembrance Day

## FAREWELL TO SENIOR POLICE

Superintendent Jim Keogh and Inspector Des Lacy will be leaving us to take up positions further north. Superintendent Keogh is moving to Wynnum and Inspector Lacy has accepted a new job in Brisbane. Both gentlemen have many years police experience on the southern Gold Coast and were instrumental in several projects that benefited our community such as Southern Alliance, The Palm Beach Community Consultative Committee and several truancy operations. We wish them well in their future endeavours.

Jann with ViPs Gary Williamson and Harold Brodie at the Crime Stoppers Van

The Crime Stoppers Van was run by Volunteers in Policing (ViPs) at Coolangatta every Friday during Crime Prevention Month in October offering the latest advice on crime prevention initiatives and tips.



## New Policelink number - 131 444

Use this number to report non-urgent incidents including: wilful property damage; stealing offences; break and enters; stolen vehicles and lost property.

## TUGUN BYPASS PANELS

Unightly broken glass noise panels along the Tugun Bypass are finally to be replaced, more than 12 months after I initially called on the Minister to fix them. A contract for \$605,773 has now been awarded for replacement of approximately 70 broken glass panels with transparent acrylic panels. Installation is meant to begin in the last quarter of 2010 but nothing has started yet, and critics say the acoustics will be poor and the panels will yellow and cloud over quickly.

Since the bypass opened, eighteen smashed glass panels have been replaced at a staggering cost to taxpayers of \$370,000. The Minister was reluctant to release the costs last year and no wonder as they are unbelievably high.

Some residents are questioning why the Government don't put up solid noise panels that do not attract vandals.

**What do you think? Have your say on the survey.**

## WALK IN MY SHOES



Jann with community representatives getting behind the anti-bullying campaign

I am happy to report on the successful progress of the 'Walk in My Shoes' anti-bullying program for high schools in the Currumbin electorate.

Teachers at Elanora and Palm Beach Currumbin High have begun delivering the program to students in years 8 and 9 and the results so far have been very encouraging.

My initial funding of \$2,000 was almost matched by generous donations from The Palm Beach Currumbin Lions, The Pines Shopping Centre and Tugun Central Neighbourhood Watch.

Ongoing funding is required to ensure this well-received program can continue to reach more students. Again I am calling on local businesses and organisations to dig deep and sponsor this worthy initiative that will benefit the healthy development of our school children.

## PALM BEACH YOUTH MUSIC VENTURE

On Sunday 19 September the Palm Beach Youth Music Venture held 'The Showcase' in the Sound Lounge at Currumbin RSL.

The idea of involving youth in a local music project was born a year ago. It is a huge credit to everyone who played a part in giving a group of talented young people a chance to shine. Ian Grace got things started and then mentoring by Brad Smith, Leisa Mannion and Michael McCarthy, saw these musicians aged between 10 and 23 years of age play to a packed audience.

Well done to everyone involved. No doubt we will be hearing more from these young musicians in the future.



Performers at 'The Showcase' concert

## UPDATES

### No Direct Bus Service to JF Hospital

Unfortunately, the petition tabled in Parliament in June calling for a direct bus service to John Flynn Hospital from The Pines received a negative response from the Transport Minister. I wrote to the Minister requesting her to rethink her decision based on a number of workable suggestions provided by local residents, however she refused to implement the service stating low patronage and high costs to TransLink.

### Powerlines Update

Submissions to Energex on the Initial Assessment Report have been finalised with a total of 586 received. The final IAR is being prepared and more stakeholder consultation will occur in early 2011. I attended a rally with Stop The Overhead Powerlines (S.T.O.P.) at Parliament House in October to bring the issue to the attention of the Minister.

### Currumbin Creek Dredging

Annual dredging of Currumbin Creek commenced in mid October and is expected to be completed in mid-late November. Approximately 41,000 cubic metres of sand will be dredged from the estuary and deposited between Lacey's Lane and 3rd Avenue Palm Beach. I commend the GCCC for their efforts and will continue to lobby the State Government to accept their share of responsibility to maintain a safe passage through the bar.

## JPs HONOURED AT THE PINES



Susan Gogolka, Jann, Doug Collier, Victor Burren, Member for McPherson Karen Andrews and The Pines centre manager, Stuart Breen

I had the pleasure of presenting a number of Justices of the Peace from the Currumbin electorate with special service awards at a ceremony at The Pines in August.

Hearty congratulations to Doug Collier of Currumbin Waters for 60 years service, one of only a dozen in the state to receive this prestigious award. Victor Burren of Tallebudgera Valley and Susan Gogolka of Currumbin Waters are both to be congratulated for 25 years service. JP's play an important role in our society, and I thank residents in the Currumbin electorate who volunteer their time to offer much-needed services.

Congratulations are also in order to newly elected Member for McPherson, Karen Andrews MP.

## NORTH KIRRA SLSC WINS RESCUE BOARD

This year's proud winner of the Point Danger Branch Patrol Club of the Year is North Kirra Surf Life Saving Club.

I presented club members with a new surf rescue board as I have done for the past six years to acknowledge my appreciation of the efforts of our volunteer surf life savers.

Impressively, the 11 clubs within the Point Danger Branch performed 219 rescues, 5155 preventative actions, 7661 warnings, 18 searches and 376 first aid treatments in 2009/10. These dedicated volunteers put in hundreds of patrol hours and deserve our thanks for all their hard work.



Jann with members of North Kirra SLSC

## HISTORY OF TUGUN PROJECT

Tugun Progress Association (TPA) will be celebrating 80 years next July. In honour of the Association's achievements, members are collecting information on the history of Tugun. If you have any old snapshots, postcards or other visual material that relates to the history of Tugun, please contact Garth and Glenda Threlfall on (07) 5534 4485 or email [gghthrelfall@bigpond.com](mailto:gghthrelfall@bigpond.com)

TPA is always looking for people interested in the local area to join their community organisation. Enquiries can be directed to Secretary, Peter Barrett on (07) 5598 1846

## IN BRIEF

### SMART LICENCE TO COST MORE

The State Government's introduction of smart licences will see substantial price increases for motorists in the coming years. A five year licence will cost \$96.05 by the end of the year, and will jump to \$152.50 by 2014/15. This price hike will undoubtedly increase financial pressures already taking their toll on residents, along with rising water and electricity costs.

### SIGN UP FOR SOFTWARE GRANTS

Does your charity or not-for-profit organisation qualify for software funding? Microsoft Australia runs a software donation program through Donortec. A number of groups in the Currumbin electorate have already received funding for their technology needs. For more information visit <http://www.donortec.org/donors/microsoft>

### REPORT HOONS AND GRAFFITI

Are hoons and graffiti vandals causing trouble in your area? Hoon Watch and Graffiti Watch report cards are available through my office and are an effective way to report these crimes as soon as they occur so our police can respond to this information.

Our office will be closed from 1pm on Friday 24th December to Monday 10th January 2011.

Stay safe and enjoy the festive season!

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](mailto:currumbin@parliament.qld.gov.au) Website: [www.jannstuckey.com.au](http://www.jannstuckey.com.au)

Disclaimer: The information in this newsletter is current at the time of printing.

