



The Randall Report

ISSUE 1 • APRIL 2002

A community newsletter from Don Randall JP MP, Federal Member for CANNING.

What's Inside

Page 3
Public Liability Insurance

Page 4
Brookdale Win

Page 5
Law & Order

Page 6
Baby Bonus

Page 7
Novara Boat Ramp

Page 8
Have Your Say

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Federal Government acts to give residents 24-hour GP care



■ Don Randall, Senator Ian Campbell, CEO, Canning Division of General Practice, Ms Carolyn Lawrence and Dr Gary White.

Don Randall is pleased that Armadale and Kelmescott residents now have access to 24 hour medical care following the Federal Government's decision to provide the Canning Division of General Practice with \$205,000 over two years.

He said "the Federal Government picked up this funding because it was imperative that residents had access to this service. It was also particularly necessary given the shortage of out of hours GP services in the area.

"The former Liberal State Government provided \$60,000 a year for this service, yet the State Labor Government proceeded to cut it entirely.

This is why I am pleased that the Federal Government acted quickly to address this crisis."

Mr Randall also said that coupled with the added revenue the States collect from the GST and the 4.8% increase in Federal health funding there was no reason to cut this service.

The reduced numbers of GP's and the added waiting times for patients during business hours means this service is all the more valuable. There is no doubt the funding provided by the Federal Government is adding to existing health services and enhancing cooperative arrangements with health care providers in the area.

NEWS FLASH!

HOWARD GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO DELIVER RESPONSIBLE ECONOMIC POLICIES

LOW UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - 6.3%

Under Labor it peaked at 10.9%.

LOW INTEREST RATES - 6.05%

Lowest in 30 years.

4.1% ECONOMIC GROWTH

In 2001 Australia's economy grew at 10 times the rate of OECD countries.

You are in the electorate of Canning if you live in one of the following suburbs...

Armadale, Banksiadale, Barragup, Bedforddale, Birchmont, Blythwood, Bouvard, Bridgewater, Brookdale, Brookland Greens, Byford, Canning Vale, Carcoola, Cardup, Castle Glen, Challis, Clifton Hills, Coolup, Crestwood, Darling Downs, Dawesville, Dwellingup, Erskine, Etmylyn, Fairbridge, Falcon, Forest Lakes, Forrestdale, Furnissdale, Halls Head, Hamel, Herron, Holyoake, Hopeland, Huntingdale, Inglehope, Jarrahdale, Karragullen, Karrakup, Kelmescott, Keysbrook, Kooljerrenup, Lake Clifton, Lake Preston, Livingston, Mardella, Marinup, Meelon, Miami, Mount Nasura, Mundijong, Murray Lakes, Myara, Nambelup, Nirimba, North Dandalup, North Pinjarra, North Yunderup, Oakford, Oakley, Oldbury, Pinjarra, Point Grey, Preston Beach, Ranford, Ravenswood, Roleystone, Sanctuary Waters, Serpentine, Solus, South Yunderup, Southern River, Stake Hill, Teesdale, Thornlie, Tuart Grove, Wagerup, Wannanup, Waratah, Waroona, West Pinjarra, Westfield, Whitby, Whittaker, Wungong, Yunderup.



Don's Desk

Welcome to the first issue of the Randall Report. This will be a regular update to the Canning electorate and I would like to begin by saying how honoured I was to be elected as your Federal representative in the 40th Australian Parliament.

Much has happened since the November 10th Federal election. I will endeavour to keep you informed about matters that affect you from a Federal perspective as well as the local issues that may interest and concern you. I will also seek your feedback on a regular basis so that I am able to more effectively represent you.

The November 2001 election was fought on many issues.

The issue that took much of the focus was that of border protection and the increased flow of illegal immigrants. The majority of people from around the nation welcomed the Howard Government's tough stand on this issue. It is now a matter for the record

NEED ASSISTANCE?
Can I help?

**Aged care
Medicare and PBS
Veterans Affairs
Centrelink and
other Federal issues**

**Phone Don Randall,
Member for Canning
9390 1211**

email:
don.randall.mp@aph.gov.au

that the flow of illegal arrivals has been stemmed. In fact, in the last 6 months there have been no new arrivals. This will now allow for the resumption of our migration programme for genuine refugees as positions become available in Australia's humanitarian refugee programme.

Getting on with the job

The commencement of the 40th Parliament has seen the Crean Labor Party obsessed with petty and domestic scandals. On the other side of the House the Coalition has been doing what it was elected to do and that is maintain a strong economy and keep Australia in safe hands by supporting the fight against terrorism.

To reinforce this view, I recommend an article in the Australian Newspaper by its chief political correspondent Glenn Milne on March 25th, which is titled "Economy Rises Above The Muck." In this article Milne points out that, 'among the so-called aspirational voters who decided the last election, such crises matter not a whit compared with the fundamentals of interest rates and jobs.'

In summary, the point that Glenn Milne makes is that the electors see their well being and the future well being of their family and children as more important than the side issues that the Crean Labor Party and minority groups would like to side track us with. As former US President Bill Clinton once said when asked a similar question on Government priorities, "It's the economy, stupid."

The State Government issues that are coming across my desk that cause concern for local families and business are numerous. In particular, the issues of retrospective Payroll Tax and the blow-out of Indemnity Insurance premiums. These are a concern as they

directly affect the ability of business to employ people. In addition, the rise of the militancy of the union movement since the election of the Gallop State Government is worrying for the community at large and the workers who want jobs. My advice to those who are concerned about the alarming regression towards the industrial anarchy of the 1980s in the work place is to try and shift to Federal awards where there is far less corruption and an absence of stand over tactics that are evident under the Gallop Government. I also suggest that members of the work force who have experienced unfairness and intimidation at the hands of union heavies contact the Cole Royal Commission to give evidence. This can be given in public or in confidence.

People power

Finally, at the local level, I would like to congratulate all those who assisted either directly or indirectly in the defeat of the Brookdale Waste Treatment Plant in its endeavour to treat hazardous and toxic waste. This success should not be underestimated. This achievement, which was so decisive and swift, was a victory for people power and common sense. There are a number of environmental hot spots in Canning. Brookdale demonstrates that dedicated and concerned community members can act together to defeat an insular bureaucracy and self-interested business.

I invite you and your family to contact my office if we can assist with any matters of concern. I also invite you to share your opinion or point of view on issues of importance to you.



■ CEO of Fairbridge Western Australia Inc, Mr Mark Anderson and Don Randall at Fairbridge, Pinjarra.

Disadvantaged kids to benefit from RAP money

Fairbridge have recently received a grant of \$44,352 under the Regional Assistance Program which will help a number of severely disadvantaged young people to better integrate into the community through work experience. This project will focus on personal development and has strong support from corporate and business sectors. It is an excellent example of what can be achieved through community and business partnerships.

Visit Don at www.donrandallmp.com

State Government should stop dragging its feet on public liability insurance

Federal Member for Canning, Don Randall has called on the State Government to take seriously the concerns of the many local small businesses who have raised the issue of the crippling effects of rising public liability insurance premiums with him.

"While the Federal Government has shown positive leadership on the issue and arranged a Public Liability Insurance Conference for 27 March, the State Government alone has the jurisdiction to alter the law and ease the burden on small business," Mr Randall said.

"This is a perfect opportunity for States and Territories to come together to agree on a coordinated approach to the issue."

"The survival of many small businesses in Mandurah and around the electorate now depends on solutions before it is too late. For example, one labour hire business faces a jump from \$6,000 to \$12,000 in their annual premiums and other small businesses have already been forced to close their doors."

"These are communities whose livelihoods rely heavily on the tourism industry, so the effects are huge. It is also a fact that many of these businesses are family owned and run."

"I hope that the Gallop Government listens carefully and responds accordingly to legitimate concerns expressed by small businesses," said Mr Randall.

Looking for a 'worry free' property investment?

A new website has been introduced by Defence Housing Australia about their Sales and Leaseback Program. Find out how you can buy a

Defence Force house and lease it back to the forces for their defence personnel to live in.

It is an ideal way of investing in a rental property without the worry and costs of an unreliable tenant.

www.invest.dha.gov.au



Do you support Ernie Bridge's water vision? Please let us know

Yes No

In my maiden speech I raised the issue of the North West pipeline as proposed by Ernie Bridge to pipe water from the North West to address a long term solution to Perth's water and environmental needs. If you would like a copy of my speech please contact my office on 9390 1211 or access it on my website www.donrandallmp.com



■ Don Randall at the Brookdale "Toxic Embassy".

Brookdale win down to people power

Don Randall has congratulated those who supported the successful campaign to ensure the Brookdale waste treatment facility was not given the go-ahead to upgrade its capacity. That permission for the plant to operate outside its intended licence was also removed was an added element of the success of the community's solidarity on addressing the problem.

"This is a clear example of what can happen when people galvanise and stand strong in the face of government bureaucracy... they can win", Mr Randall said.

However, Mr Randall urged local residents to remain vigilant to ensure that the Minister and her department kept their commitments to oversee the decommissioning of the facility and its functions. The community are best placed to make sure that these commitments are delivered.

In addition to the questions this issue raises about the general health concerns of local residents, the cleanup of the groundwater and the surrounding environment is also another issue which requires attention.

LOCAL NEWS IN BRIEF

Byford War Memorial refurbishment grant

The Serpentine Jarrahdale Shire has received a \$4,000 grant to help relocate and refurbish the Byford War Memorial under the Federal Government's commemoration program.

Work for the Dole

Approximately 100 new Work for the Dole Places have been provided across the electorate from Mandurah to Armadale to assist young people in gaining work experience in a wide range of areas.

VIP Plus Project

The VIP Plus Project in Mt Nasura has been selected to run a Partnership Outreach Education Model Pilot (POEM). This Commonwealth Government pilot program is aimed at ensuring young people get the right help in making genuine choices about their transitions through school and from school to work, further education, and training.

\$250,000 for biotechnology project in Canning Vale

Funding totalling \$250,000 has been approved to Canning Vale based Ozgene Pty Ltd to assist their research and development with an innovative biotechnology project.

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for an application
form or access the
Defence website
listed below

www.defence.gov.au/dpe/dpe_site/honours_awards/resources/forms/ad180.pdf

McGinty's Soft Approach To Sentencing and Law and Order

The State Attorney, Jim McGinty has let the public of Western Australia down when it comes to law and order. Mr McGinty has demonstrated that he is more interested in social law reform than reform of the law, which would protect the community, and the victims of crime.

Mr McGinty's announcement that the State Labor Government is to do away with sentences that attract terms of up to 6 months jail demonstrates an economic response to law and order in this State, rather than a tougher stance against crime. This approach is doomed to backfire on the Attorney for the following reasons:

The judiciary is obliged under the McGinty system to give community work orders to those found guilty in the Courts if their crime would not have attracted a sentence of up to 6 months jail.

These work orders are a disgrace in that they offer little in the way of punishment. If the person subject to a work order doesn't turn up or is late or arrives and does nothing, then the options for enforcement are few. They may be

breached or they can just thumb their nose at the system. In any event, the resourcing and administration of this approach is short on funding for appropriate projects and there are too few people employed to ensure that this, as a punishment option, is a success.

Members of the judiciary and law professionals suggest to me that the sentences given are more than likely to be longer than 6 months jail so that they exceed the McGinty minimum. This could mean that the intention of reducing the prison population may actually have the reverse effect.

Sentencing of up to 6 months exists for crimes such as theft and non-payment of fines. After many chances, prison time is the last option for the courts after they have examined all other ranges of action to address those found guilty.

The community is justifiably outraged that the Attorney has chosen this action to gain an economic solution for his beleaguered prison system. The victims of crime are forgotten and ignored yet again.

Bungendore Park receives much needed Bushcare program funding

Bungendore Park recently received \$3,000 in Bushcare program funding to help control feral bees and assist the Bungendore Park maintenance program.

Mr Randall paid special tribute to the outstanding service the Bungendore Park Management Committee had provided over the past 20 years.



■ Don Randall presents \$3,000 to David Allen who is joined by Cnr Frank Green and Mrs Rosa Tarpin at Bungendore Park.



Miniature to large ponies available for Birthday Parties, Family Fun Days, Festivals, Fetes, Playgroups or Christmas functions.

Professional and friendly service.

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Meg on 0417 943 505 or 9390 5351



Commonwealth Carelink Centres

Commonwealth Carelink Centres offer a new way for all Australians to access information about community and other aged care services with a single phone call.

For more information call 1800 055 022

Schools in Canning benefit from more funding



■ Don Randall with students from Willandra Primary School.

13 non-government schools in the electorate continue to receive recurrent funding in 2002.

Some of the schools in Canning who will benefit from this funding include:

- **John Wollaston Anglican Community School** in Westfield who will receive \$2,906,096
- **Thornlie Christian College** in Southern River who will receive \$1,136,201
- **St Joseph's School** in Pinjarra who will receive \$507,864 and
- **Good Shepherd Primary School** in Kelmscott who will receive \$1,293,844
- **Armadale Christian College** in Bedforddale who will receive \$1,236,847
- **Carey Baptist College** in Forrestdale who will receive \$2,079,584



'Baby bonus' offers a helping hand to Canning Families

The Howard Government has again acted in the interests of Australian families by introducing an initiative that will help new parents with the cost of raising their first child.

The 'Baby Bonus' will pay up to \$2,500 each year for five years, in the form of a tax offset (generally to the mother) for the first child born on or after 1 July 2001.

Mothers on low incomes, including those who were not in the workforce will also benefit from the measure. A minimum annual payment of \$500 will be available for those with taxable incomes of \$25,000 or less in the year that they make their claim.

The Howard Government is the first government to introduce a family friendly policy of this nature.

DID YOU KNOW?

Good news for veterans and war widows

For the first time, veterans and war widows have been officially recognised in a new category as a special needs group in the new aged care approvals round. Veterans and war widows are also up to \$293 a year better off from April 4, as their pensions rise.

Pension increases

On March 20, 2002 adult pensions and allowances increased. This benefited many families in Canning who currently receive income support. The maximum single rate of pension rose by \$11.30 to \$421.80 a fortnight and the maximum partnered pension rose by \$9.50 to \$352.10 a fortnight for each member of a couple.

Free flu vaccine for those aged 65 & over

The Federal Government has provided \$26 million to make the flu vaccine free to those aged 65 and over. Influenza and its complications lead to the deaths of about 1900 people each year in Australia, with more than 90% of victims aged in this age group.

SURVEY

Have your say

Please number (from 1 to 4) the four most important issues to you:

- Work for the Dole that has provided places for over 150,000 young Australians
- Continuing to clamp down on welfare rorting
- Keeping interest rates at low levels by responsible economic management
- Improved standards in reading, writing & arithmetic being set in our schools
- Using the Budget surplus to pay back \$58 billion of Labor's \$96 billion debt, and using the interest saved to fund vital services
- Providing an additional \$221 million over four years to fight illicit drugs
- A further \$1 billion funding for the Natural Heritage Trust to boost improvements to the environment
- Providing the 30% rebate on private health insurance premiums and providing Lifetime Health Cover
- Encouraging investment by initiatives aimed at reducing small business compliance costs and encouraging innovation and growth

If you could fix any problem in our local area, what would it be?

Please complete the following so I can respond to you.

Title (eg Mr, Ms, Mrs, Dr) _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone/Fax: _____

Email: _____

Generally, do you consider yourself:

- A committed party voter**
(please specify which party you are committed to.)
 - Labor Liberal National
 - Green Democrat Independent
 - One Nation
- An uncommitted/swinging voter**
(if uncommitted, which party do you generally prefer?)
 - Labor Liberal National
 - Green Democrat Independent
 - One Nation

Please indicate if you would like to receive the following guides:

- Pension Guide Veterans' Guide
- Deeming Guide Child Care Guide

Please return to

Don Randall JP MP
PO Box 465
Kelmscott WA 6991

Improved facilities at Novara Boat ramp



■ Don Randall and Member for Dawesville Arthur Marshall visiting the improved boat ramp facility at Novara.

Increasing population numbers has placed added pressure on boat ramps on both sides of the Peel Harvey Estuaries, and while recent government funding has enabled the City of Mandurah to revamp facilities at the Novara boat ramp, Mr Randall says that this is only the start of what is needed to enhance the waterways of the region.

He said "the Peel waterways are three and a half times the size of the Swan River, yet launching facilities are behind that of their metropolitan counterparts." Mr Randall is investigating what Federal Government funding is available to assist local Shires in improving their facilities.

Don Randall joins fight to assist local orchardists

Don Randall, has joined with local orchardist and horticulturalist representatives from the Roleystone-Karragullen and Kalamunda areas who are becoming increasingly concerned about abandoned and neglected orchards.

Mr Randall said that commercial growers are at risk of losing crops to wind-borne invasions of insect pests, particularly fruit fly, and to diseases such as brown rot.

"The high cost of extra spraying to counteract the problem is posing an economic burden. Additionally, the extra spraying does not necessarily stop the problem.

Fruit fly "sting" the skin of the fruit before coming into contact with the pesticide and dying. The skin is then marked and cannot be sold as Grade 1, or export fruit."

Mr Randall is concerned that a vital industry is at risk. He explained that an abandoned orchard is one which has fruit producing trees on the property, but no work is done to neutralise the effects of fruit fly and other insect or disease threats, or through spraying or harvesting ripe fruit, or picking up and disposing of fallen fruit.

"In Canning, large areas of commercial fruit growing areas are at risk from a few abandoned and neglected orchards, and growers are becoming increasingly angry over the lack of state government departmental action," said Mr Randall.

Mr Randall has written to the relevant State and Federal Ministers, and to the Agriculture Department, to pursue this important issue.

Centenary of Federation funding presentation



■ Ms Coral Lawrey, Mayor Lynton Reynolds, Ms Susie Vinton, Don Randall and Dr John Cummings attend a presentation of Centenary of Federation funding at the Don Simmonds Reserve.