



The Randall Report

ISSUE 3 • AUGUST 2002

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

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Don Randall brings Prime Minister to Fairbridge and Halls Head



■ *The Prime Minister meets members of the Halls Head Bowling and Sports Club at the community leaders' afternoon tea in Halls Head.*

Federal Member for Canning Don Randall was delighted the Prime Minister, the Hon John Howard, had responded to an invitation to visit both Fairbridge Village and Halls Head in July.

The wet weather did not dampen the occasion on which the Prime Minister officially 'opened' the Fairbridge Wind Turbine which is expected to deliver significant cost benefits to the village. Both Mr Randall and the Prime Minister also enjoyed the opportunity to meet young people working on the Work for the Dole program at the village and discuss their project.

Later at a community afternoon tea at the Halls Head Bowling and Recreation Centre, more than 200 community leaders and residents met the Prime Minister.

Mr Howard also officially launched Mr Randall's mobile electorate office. "I am pleased the Prime Minister had an opportunity to see the electorate of Canning and meet people to discuss individual matters of concern and listen to their points of view. It is also pleasing to know my mobile office is now up and running. I will be informing residents when I will be in their area and look forward to meeting them to discuss any outstanding issues they may have."

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

Armadale, Banksiadale, Barragup, Bedforddale, Birchmont, Blythewood, Bouvard, Bridgewater, Brookdale, Brookland Greens, Byford, Canning Vale, Carcoola, Cardup, Castle Glen, Challis, Clifton Hills, Coolup, Crestwood, Darling Downs, Dawesville, Dwellingup, Erskine, Etmilyn, 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, Marrinup, Meelon, Miami, Mount Nasura, Mundijong, Murray Lakes, Myara, Nambeelup, 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

Since my last newsletter to the Canning electorate in May this year, issues at the Federal level have been moving rapidly.

However, there is one constant. That is the general support of Australian people for the Howard Government on its strong stance on illegal arrivals. It is now more than 10 months since the last arrival of illegal migrants by way of boats. This must be a clear illustration that the Government's policy is working.

There are only 4 illegal migrants being held in detention centres who have not had their applications for asylum processed. The majority who are held in detention are either appealing their primary decisions or are waiting to be deported to their country of origin. The total population in detention is 1129. 851 of these people have exhausted all avenues of appeal and are awaiting removal. In fact, every detainee could leave today if they indicated to authorities they were willing to return home.

For those who ask why it takes so long to process illegal arrivals, the answer is simply twofold.



Craig Ackerly, Watten Entsch - Parliamentary Secretary for Industry, Science and Resources, Don Randall and Glenn Fewster discuss issues affecting Southland Furniture Company.

1. Many destroy their papers before arrival. As a result it is difficult to verify their identity. For example, many say they are Afghan citizens when it is later established they are from Pakistan.
2. The appeal process would be much shorter if legislation to achieve this had passed through the Senate. However, with the combined support of Labor, Democrats and the Greens the legislation was defeated. Hence the lengthy appeal process remains. It may surprise some to know that the procedure of the United Nations in processing for refugee status is far simpler and quicker than our own.

What is the alternative for voters? **The Labor Party continues its soft policy on illegal immigration.**

To demonstrate this you only need to recall that Labor and the minor parties have, in the Senate, blocked the excision of parts of Australia's migration zone.

Now Labor, again with the minor parties intend to introduce legislation to remove children from the detention system. This move will further split families and dislocate the process. Furthermore, the experience in Europe is that when those released into the community are finally deemed not to be refugees almost 95% disappear and are unable to be located for removal.

Finally, on this matter, it is interesting to note that of the 433 illegal arrivals on the Tampa and another vessel, 302 were transferred to Nauru. 57 were deemed to be genuine refugees leaving 245 who were not. 131 were taken to New Zealand. Australia has not yet accepted any of those who were deemed to be genuine refugees, however we are more than willing to accept our fair share to help alleviate what is a worldwide concern.

The Howard Government is determined to run an orderly and fair immigration program and no amount of international criticism will deter us from maintaining our sovereignty and securing our borders.

THE COALITION'S \$7,000 FIRST HOME OWNERS GRANT.

The Howard Government makes it easier for Australians to buy their first home. The First Home Owners Grant has helped over 334,000 Australians so far. And by governing in the national interest, the Howard Government is keeping home mortgage rates at 30 year lows. Practical, positive benefits.

New online career study website introduced at Armadale Senior High School

Federal Member for Canning, Don Randall was pleased Minister for Education, Science and Resources, the Hon Dr Brendan Nelson participated in the first ever demonstration with students of a world standard online career exploration and information system launched by the Federal Government. Students and teachers attended the demonstration, held at the Armadale Senior High School.

Mr Randall said: "This website, *myfuture* is designed for all Australians wishing to explore career options with their skills and interests and identify possible career paths. It is fantastic that the Minister was able to introduce the website to students and teachers at Armadale Senior High School."



Armadale Senior High School students, Don Randall and Minister Nelson launch the "myfuture" careers website.

Mr Randall said: "The website is unique in many ways because it is a 'one-stop-shop' and combines easy to follow information about the labour market, education, training and jobs in Australia. It also allows users to create an individual profile so they can match their interests, values, skills and aspirations to possible occupations. They can then re-enter the site at any time to access and update their profiles as their skills develop or their interests change."

"It will be a useful tool for young people like those at Armadale Senior High School who are making decisions about subject

choice and employment options after school and I encourage them and other students to use this facility. I'm sure teachers and parents will also find this new initiative invaluable," Mr Randall said.

The Commonwealth has spent about \$4.5 million building this system and together with the State and Territory Governments will continue to provide recurrent costs for its maintenance.

To access the website go to www.myfuture.edu.au.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Australian Sports Foundation (ASF)

The Australian Sports Foundation (ASF) helps non-profit sporting organisations, schools, councils and community organisations raise money for valid sport related projects. These projects might include building new clubrooms, upgrading oval lighting, buying sporting equipment or funding team travel to national championships. For more information fax the ASF on (02) 6214 7865 or email: info@asf.org.au

2002 Yellow Pages® Business Ideas Grant

If you have an innovative idea for business but need some help to begin, the *Yellow Pages® Business Ideas Grants* might be the right start. This is an annual awards program which encourages, recognises and rewards good business ideas from the small business sector. The 2002 Yellow Pages® Business Ideas Grants will award more than \$150,000 in cash grants to winners from three categories - National, e-Business and State. For an application form and further information, visit the Yellow Pages website at www.yellowpages.com.au/big or phone 1800 606 050.

Unfair dismissal law changes

On August 30, 2001 the Federal Government introduced changes to Commonwealth unfair dismissal laws in an attempt to better balance the rights of employers and employees. Some changes include:

- new employees have to be employed for 3 months before they can use Commonwealth unfair dismissal claims, however this period can be increased or decreased by written agreement in advance of employment.
- the Australian Industrial Relations Commission must take into account the different size of businesses when assessing whether their dismissal procedures were reasonable.
- greater scope for costs to be awarded against parties who act unreasonably in pursuing or defending claims.
- lawyers and advisors who encourage parties to make or defend unfair dismissal claims where there is no

reasonable prospect of the claim or defence being successful can be penalised (up to \$10,000 for a company and \$2,000 for an individual).

- tighter rules about claims by demoted employees.
- lawyers must disclose whether they are operating on a 'no win no pay' or contingency fee basis.

For more information contact the Commonwealth Department of Employment and Workplace Relations by visiting their website at <http://www.dewr.gov.au>. Please visit www.donrandallmp.com to view features Mr Randall has made on Industrial Relations legislation.

For small businesses affected by State Government changes, please contact my office for information on how to change from State to Federal jurisdiction.

Survey results

WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU

Clamping down on welfare rorting13.37%

Work for the Dole13.26%

Keeping interest rates low.....12.91%

30% Private health Insurance rebate12.11%

Do you support Ernie Bridge's water vision?

Yes94%

No6%



Don Randall meets local Clontarf students, Eddie Brown of Gosnells and Wayne Ninnette from Kelmscott.

Mr Randall recently asked Minister for Indigenous Affairs, the Hon Phillip Ruddock to visit the Clontarf Football Academy to witness the success of the Youth Football Program, introduced by former Dockers' coach, Gerard Neesham. Don is hopeful on-going funding can be secured to help local Aboriginal boys.

Community Bulletin Board

PEEL HORSE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC. Membership Application

Benefits of membership include newsletters, seminars & training, discounts at local businesses, calendar of events and advertising opportunities.

**Call Linda on
0417 300 461**

Read - Write - Now! Free tutoring for adults

The Armadale-Kelmscott group is part of a state-wide community based service which has links with Midland TAFE and the Department of Training. Students are assessed and matched with a tutor.

**For more information call
1800 018 802**

Local funding update

\$70,000 for Drug Arm in Kelmscott.

This one-off funding from the Federal Government demonstrates a serious commitment to the Tough on Drugs policy. Mr Randall said: "Prior to the election last year, I made representations to the Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator the Hon Chris Ellison and brought him to the electorate to highlight the importance of the Drug Arm Project in Kelmscott in assisting young people in the area. I am pleased the Federal Government has recognised the important work Drug Arm does in Armadale/Kelmscott. It is encouraging to see the success of such a positive program."

\$81,000 to provide practical help to people in Armadale, Serpentine and Canning Vale under the Emergency Relief Program.

Mr Randall said: "This funding will go directly to various welfare agencies in Canning, who then provide cash, food vouchers, transport fares and payments for utility and medical bills for people with urgent financial difficulties. For many people the help they receive through this program, means they can pay for heating, put food on the table, or buy essential medicines."

A Council Music Board grant of \$8,000

will assist local artist Graeme Lyall with a body of work which is scheduled for completion in March 2003 for performance by the West Australian Youth Jazz Orchestra.

An extra 10 child care places

have been allocated by the Federal Government to the Lady Forrest Family Day Care Scheme in Armadale. Mr Randall said: "This extra funding demonstrates the Government's commitment to ensuring child care places are allocated in areas where the highest need exists. This is helping to create a strong and viable child care sector."



Mr Randall presents Mr Ian Henderer with his National Service Medal at a morning tea held in his electorate office in Kelmscott.

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

Randall applauds CSIRO attack on bridal creeper



Don Randall and CSIRO's Kathryn Batchelor release the beetle.

Federal Member for Canning Don Randall recently attended the first release of the foliage-eating beetle in Western Australia at a private property in Roleystone which the CSIRO believe will be instrumental in destroying destructive bridal creeper.

"The CSIRO are to be congratulated on their efforts to protect Australia from what is one of our country's most harmful environmental pests. Bridal creeper is highly damaging in natural environments because it has the ability to crowd native

species and restrict regeneration of small plants, trees and shrubs."

Highlighting the benefits this project will bring, Mr Randall said: "If the CSIRO can stop bridal creeper from climbing by stripping its shoots then it can be stopped from spreading into unaffected areas.

This is the third in a series of attacks undertaken by the Co-operative Research Centre for Weed Management Systems, which receives funding from the Federal Government."

Further information about bridal creeper rust fungus and the leafhopper can be found at <http://www.ento.csiro.au/bridalcreeper>.

ADSL coming to Roleystone

Following numerous calls to the electorate office, Mr Randall convened a meeting between Roleystone residents and Telstra representatives to discuss concerns about telecommunications issues in the area. The meeting was well attended by residents who expressed concern about the availability of ADSL and scattered mobile phone coverage.

“I am pleased the meeting determined Roleystone residents will soon benefit from the upgrading of Telstra towers in the area which should mean improved coverage for GSM and CDMA mobile phone users. It was also a welcome acknowledgement that residents will be very soon be able to access ADSL services.”

Mr Randall said: “This is the first of a number of meetings I will be organising with Telstra for residents in areas who have to contend with these technology issues. Meetings are also being planned for Halls Head and Canning Vale residents.



Mr Randall asks Roleystone residents to explain their telecommunications concerns to Telstra representatives.

Do you want Don's mobile office to visit you?

Please call the office on 9390 1211 if you would like to express your interest in having Don's mobile office visit your part of this far reaching electorate.



Detention in Australia – the facts

Why do we detain people?

Australia's Migration Act 1958 requires that all non-Australians who are unlawfully in mainland Australia must be detained. People being held in immigration detention have broken Australian law. The law applies equally to adults and children.

Do we detain refugees?

No. Those who are found to be refugees are released from detention immediately, subject to health and character requirements.

Is detention legal?

Yes, this practice reflects Australia's sovereign right under international law to determine which non-citizens are admitted or permitted to remain and the conditions under which they may be removed. Guidelines from the UNHCR specifically acknowledge the legitimacy of detention for the purposes of identification and assessment of any claims to stay.

Can't you just detain the parents and not their children?

It is the Government's considered view that it is in the best interests of the child for them to remain with their parents, family or fellow country people.

How long are boat people detained?

Once detained, the Government seeks to minimise the period of time it takes for applications to progress through the asylum determination process and, hence, the period of detention. Once a person is determined to be a refugee, they are immediately released.

How long does it take to process illegal migrants?

Some 80% of asylum seekers receive a primary decision on their asylum application within 18 weeks and 10% of cases are processed within seven weeks.

Why are some people in detention for several years?

Most people who spend lengthier periods in detention have been found not to be refugees and have chosen to appeal the decisions in the tribunals and courts, thus lengthening their stay. In almost 90% of these appeal cases the Department's initial decision is upheld.

What is the average time spent in detention?

During the current financial year, the average time spent in detention was 155 days for people who arrived unlawfully by boat. This includes people who were released after an appeal process, which lengthened their stay in detention.

The Perth - Mandurah rail fiasco

Until now, I have taken a 'back seat' on the issue of the Perth to Mandurah rail line. However, I am receiving numerous representations from constituents on this issue, particularly from the Canning Vale/Thornlie end of the electorate and the people in the City of Mandurah part of Canning – eg Halls Head, Dawesville and Falcon etc.

The Coalition Government originally committed \$1.1 billion to this major rail project. The initial route was planned to go via Canning Vale/Thornlie and Kenwick as a result of major population growth occurring. \$70 million has already been spent on infrastructure such as tunnels and bridgework.

Since the Gallop Labor Government came to power in 2001 it is clear the project now faces disruption and modifications including:

- The rail line has now been re-routed to go from the City along Kwinana Freeway, South Perth and over the Mt Henry Bridge.
- The estimated new cost is \$1.5 billion and rising (equal to the cost of building 60 new primary schools).

- Estimated completion time has been extended from 2005 to 2007.
- The largest railway station and passenger intake was to be at Nicholson Road, Canning Vale. They will now miss out and there is discussion about a spur line.
- As a result it is expected that the City of Gosnells will be denied the following economic flow ons – 100 additional local jobs, the building of an extra 200-300 residences and the loss of \$300,000-400,000 in rates income.
- Rockingham is to miss out on the rail running through its city centre.
- The Kwinana Freeway bus lanes will be removed and replaced with the train track.
- Along with more cars, increased environmental pressure from trains will be placed on the river foreshores.

No doubt there are many of you who are not concerned with these developments, but for those of you who are, and I am sure you comprise a significant number, I encourage you to contact your local State members to express your views.

Roads to Recovery

Following an article in Issue 1 of The Randall Report and a commitment to investigate options for funding for improved boat facilities, Mr Randall has revealed that funding is available under the Roads to Recovery Program.

In November 2000, the Federal Government announced a \$1.2 billion boost in its funding for local roads through the Roads to Recovery Program. This Program represents the largest ever injection of funds into local roads by any Australian Federal Government. This increase will give councils a far greater capacity to repair and upgrade local roads.

The Roads to Recovery Program is a single intervention by the Commonwealth to address the specific problem that much local government road infrastructure is about to reach the end of its economic life and its replacement is beyond the capacity of local government.

Mr Randall has encouraged residents to the south of Mandurah area to make representations to local Councils to access this funding to improve boat ramp facilities.

Visit Don at www.donrandallmp.com



Senior Australian of the Year Award 2003

All Australians are encouraged to think about the older people they know who make a real difference in business, the community sector or public life and nominate them for the Senior Australian of the Year Award.

Nominations will be accepted until September 23, 2002 and winners of each State and Territory will be announced in November.

Nomination forms are available at the Commonwealth Bank, The Sunday Times or by phoning 1300 130 279.

THE SENATE REPORT

David Johnston
Senator for Western Australia



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I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as your new Liberal Senator for Western Australia.

As I am sure you are aware, every State in Australia has 12 Senators that represent their State in the Federal Parliament through the Senate, which is traditionally known as the States' House.

I represent the entire State of Western Australia, as opposed to a Member of the House of Representatives, who represents a particular electorate.

Senators work together to review existing and proposed legislation through a committee system. I am on a number of committees including Defence, Foreign Affairs and Trade; and the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Committee.

I was sworn in as a Senator for WA on August 19th 2002 and intend to work as a grass roots politician throughout the State by helping and working with the people of WA. I was born and raised in Perth and studied law at UWA. I have worked in both the legal arena, as well as in the mining industry, and am aware of the many issues and challenges facing this wonderful State.

I look forward to working with your local Federal Member, Don Randall on issues of concern to the electorate of Canning.

If you have any issues you would like to discuss with me, I would love to hear from you. I look forward to your feedback.

Additionally, I produce a Federal Report during parliamentary sittings weeks that will keep you up-to-date with what is happening with legislation in parliament. If you would like my report emailed to you on a regular basis, just email me at senator.johnston@aph.gov.au and type in 'subscribe' in the subject line.

Best wishes,



Want to get involved in exporting?

Many small businesses are looking at joining the export boom. For more information about getting involved in exporting, ring Austrade on 13 28 78 or look up their very informative website at: www.austrade.gov.au

Australia's largest ever trade deal is made with China

The much-publicised trade deal Australia has made with China will see the North West Shelf in WA supply China's first liquid natural gas (LNG) project.

This very exciting trade deal will see LNG shipped to the Guangdong province in China, and will add 15% to the value of our total exports to China.

Under the deal, between \$700 million and \$1 billion will be added to Australia's economy each year for the next 25 years.

Thousands of jobs will be created along the Pilbara Region's north-west coastline as new infrastructure is built on the Burrup Peninsula to service the project.

In fact, the infrastructure alone will inject around \$1 billion into the economy over the next three years – this is fantastic news for Western Australians in particular.