



# The Randall Report

ISSUE 2 • MAY 2002

Progress Report from Don Randall JP MP, Federal Member for CANNING.

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## New Child Care Guide available

Please contact my office for a copy  
Also available - Seniors Guide, Veterans' Guide and Deeming Guide

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Don Randall recently presented the National Service Medal to two local residents. He's pictured above with Mick Golding and David Shannon at the ceremony.

## Don Randall urges community to utilise black spot funding

Federal Member for Canning, Don Randall has invited the people of Canning to take advantage of funding available for road Black Spots after the Federal Government delivered on its commitment to extend this successful life saving program.

Mr Randall said, "this program aims to eliminate crash sites and repair damaged sections of road with poor safety history. The fact that the national road toll has stabilised and is not rising in line with population increases and vehicle use shows the cooperative effort between federal, state and local governments and the community appears to be working. This program saves lives."

"In the last three years, this electorate has received scattered funding allocation under this program to help address areas of need. Clearly this suggests that there has been

little support to secure more funding. As the recently elected Federal Member, I will be actively supporting any applications to the Department in respect to this program," Mr Randall said.

"I would like to encourage any community groups, organisations or schools who have identified a road or section of road which could benefit from this funding, to contact my office on 9390 1211 to obtain an information pack. I also encourage them to let me know of the application so I can endorse it," Mr Randall said.

Anyone seeking additional information can access the Department of Transport and Regional Affairs website at [www.dotars.gov.au](http://www.dotars.gov.au) or contact Don Randall's office on 9390 1211.

## Don's Desk

My second report comes following the 7th Howard-Costello Budget delivered on May 14, 2002. While most of the Budget detail is now well known to the electorate, I wish to address some of the issues which will be of interest to the people of Canning.

The focus of this Budget continues to deliver on the defence and integrity of our borders and national security while maintaining our international commitment to the War on Terrorism. Such commitment does not come cheaply.

This Budget also continues to send a strong message to people smugglers and would be illegal arrivals. I was a strong advocate for building a detention centre on Christmas Island prior to the 2001 Election both for security and health reasons and am pleased a purpose built detention centre will be made available. Since our strong border protection stance there have been no arrivals on the Australian mainland for 7 months. Despite some international and national criticism, clearly the Government's tough stand is working.

This Budget also delivered on its pre-election commitment for the 'Baby-bonus' which I believe will greatly assist many young families in Canning. This will provide up to \$2,500 per year over five years and this is great news for those who want to have children.

This Budget also reaffirms the Government's commitment to the First Home Owners Grant. This funding is helping to fulfil the home ownership aspirations of many first

homebuyers across the electorate. When this is viewed in the context of the lowest interest rates in 30 years, low unemployment rates and low inflation, it is little wonder the housing industry remains buoyant. It is disappointing the Gallop Government raised stamp duty on homes in the recent State Government Budget.

The Howard Government has also increased funding for aged care. This will impact directly on seniors in Canning who will be able to remain in their own homes if they so choose. Importantly, measures were also provided to increase aged care nurses wages and incentives to get more nurses into this nursing sector.

I am also pleased that the issue of youth unemployment in Canning will be addressed. Cash incentives will be provided to employers to take students from school into apprenticeships. These school-based apprenticeships will provide our young people with both trade and IT skills.

Much has been said about Budget measures relating to the PBS and pensions. In a responsible move, the Government had to take strong measures to stop the huge blow-out of the PBS and provide scrutiny of the Disability Support Pension. The ALP and others have pedalled much misinformation about these measures.

Of the 652,000 DSP recipients, only 30,000 people will be reviewed to determine if they will be able to work. It is unfair to assume that all people with disabilities do not want to work. What has not been made clear is that an exemption is being placed on any review where illness, age and those on TPI pensions is concerned.

This Budget is a responsible one. It addresses our changed world since September 11, 2001 and delivers on last year's election promises. It takes appropriate measures to reign in spending where there are potential blow-outs in Government spending. It unashamedly gives commitment to families and ageing members of our community.

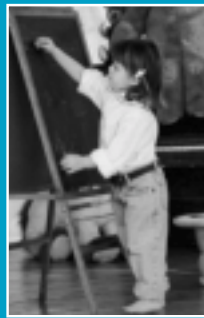


Don Randall and staff at McDonald's Kelmscott helping to raise money for seriously ill children on McHappy Day.

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, Kelmscott, Keysbrook, Kooljerrenup, Lake Clifton, Lake Preston, Livingston, Mardella, Marrinup, 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.

# The Coalition Government



**taking action together today  
for a better future tomorrow**

This Budget delivers on all of the Government's election commitments in full, on time and on budget.

It also does something even more important. It takes responsible actions to ensure we meet the challenges of today so that they do not become the entrenched problems of tomorrow.

That is precisely what we have done together as a nation over the past six years - taken the hard decisions in the national interest. We have worked to repay almost two thirds of Labor's debt, reducing interest payments by over \$4 billion, devoting more resources to real priorities.

More recently, we have taken strong actions to secure our borders. The surge of illegal boat arrivals that stood at over 1200 in the first three weeks of last August alone has been slowed to the point where there have been no unauthorised boat arrivals since December.

Now we must continue to work together to secure these gains and protect our national and economic security interests for the future.

To further secure our borders we will increase air and sea surveillance and work to intercept unauthorised immigrants in transit countries before they reach Australia.

We will also support our troops deployed in the War Against Terrorism and upgrade domestic security to help guard against terrorist acts on Australian soil.

The same approach of taking responsible action today for a better future tomorrow has been adopted in other areas of the Budget.

Over the last decade spending on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme has skyrocketed by 250 per cent and now we have done something about its cost to prevent it from breaking under its own weight hurting the sick and the poor.

We have responded to the doubling of the number of people on disability support benefits that has occurred since 1990. To encourage greater self esteem and self reliance we have resolved to help those capable of working more than 15 hours a week to return to the workforce.

These are strong but necessary decisions taken in Australia's interests to provide a better future for us all.

Regards,



**At a glance ...**

**Stronger Border Protection**  
**Increased Defence funding**  
**Upgrading domestic security**  
**Unemployment to fall to 6%**  
**Business investment strong**  
**More Labor debt repaid**  
**Interest rates remain low**  
**Extra funding for Aged Care**  
**All election commitments delivered**



## They said it ...

"Tonight's Budget confirms the pre-election commitments made in relation to aged care last year." - **Aged and Community Services Australia, 14/5/2002**

"It's a very solid Budget reflecting the Government's good economic management." - **Business Council of Australia, 14/5/2002**

"It's a responsible Budget and I think it's a Budget that will enable the business of agriculture to continue to grow." - **National Farmers Federation, 14/5/2002**

"Budget fireproofs the economy. The Coalition's seventh Budget is a financially responsible one." - **Housing Industry Association, 14/5/2002**

"The investments made in rural health two years ago in the 2000 Federal Budget have been protected in this year's Budget" - **National Rural Health Alliance, 14/5/2002**

"What is very different about this Budget is that it really is a document for the long term. The Government ... has rightly decided that things need to be done now." - **Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 14/5/2002**

"We welcome the investment in funds for outer urban GPs and the other policy commitments made during the last election." - **Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, 14/5/2002**

"Older people will benefit from the increased funding for Home and Community Care." - **Council on the Ageing, 14/5/2002**

"It's been great for us. The income support is what the most needy of our group want and need." - **June Healy, War Widows Guild of Australia, 14/5/2002**

"From the tourism industry it is a thumbs-up for the Budget to help us get out and sell Australia again and get people back to work." - **Tourism Taskforce, 14/5/2002**

**Aged care sector gets \$654m boost**  
By EMMA MACDONALD

Source: Canberra Times, 15/5/02

**\$100m to combat salinity and improve water quality**  
By GRANT NEWTON

Source: Canberra Times, 15/5/02

Some of the newspaper coverage of the Coalition's responsible Budget that's securing Australia's future by making decisions in the national interest.

**Six new cancer centres for bush**  
By ANNA PATTY

Source: Daily Telegraph, 15/5/02

**Business confidence hits eight-year high**

Source: The Age, 14/5/02

## Need more information?

For more information about the Federal Budget, please contact my office for a copy of any of the following Fact Sheets:

- Protecting Australia's borders
- Strengthening the defence of Australia
- Governing in the national interest
- Certainty for older Australians
- Supporting local families
- The Baby Bonus to help families
- Strengthening regional Australia
- Respecting our veterans
- Encouraging small business
- Providing quality healthcare
- Improving education standards
- Protecting our environment

# taking action together today for a better future tomorrow

## Providing Safety and Security

A Government's first responsibility is to ensure the safety of its citizens. This includes preserving Australia's **national security** and protecting the freedoms we enjoy. It's a basic belief founded in the Anzac tradition and made more relevant by recent world events.

Now, more than ever, we **must take action today** to ensure a safer, more secure future tomorrow.

That's why the Coalition has committed an extra \$194 million to strengthen Australia's contribution to the **war on terrorism** - because fighting terrorism overseas reduces the risk of it coming to our shores.

Here at home, we're delivering a major upgrade of our Defence equipment. We're establishing a Permanent Incident Response Regiment and doubling the Australian Federal Police Strike Team capability. \$128.5 million is being invested in **improved aviation security**. \$11.4 million is

being spent to develop a national stockpile of antidotes and vaccines, while a permanent Defence Force Tactical Assault Group is being put in place.

We all know that **protecting our borders** is a key part of national security. What we do now makes a difference in the future. And there's clear evidence decisions taken last year are working.

No unauthorised boats have arrived on our shore since December last year. And because we invested more funds in law enforcement and our Customs Service, there have been **record seizures of illicit drugs**.

To further secure our borders and maintain the fight against drugs, this Budget provides \$77.4 million to double the days at sea for Customs vessels, \$39.8 million to x-ray more shipping containers, and allows our **Defence Force operations to continue** to deter unauthorised boat arrivals.

*Together*

### Building on our achievements since 1996

Over the previous 6 years, the Coalition Government has:

- ✓ Protected Defence spending and increased readiness capability as seen in East Timor.
- ✓ Taken action to address illegal entrants - no unauthorised boats since December.
- ✓ Introduced 'Tough on Drugs' seizing 6 tonnes of illicit drugs compared with just 2 tonnes during the previous 5 years.
- ✓ Taken a strong stand to get guns out of our suburbs.

## Governing in the National Interest

The Coalition doesn't back away when tough decisions need to be made. Governing in Australia's **national interest** doesn't mean doing what's politically easy or popular. It's about doing what's right for Australia. It also means **looking to the future** and taking action now to avoid problems that may arise down the track.

This Budget takes a long-term view to address the challenges of an ageing population. By making the hard decisions now to moderately increase prescription prices we can make sure that **subsidised medicines** will continue to be available in the future. It's all about making sure new health treatments can be accessed by everyone.

The changes to Disability Support Benefits will **assist many people** back to work. This will make sure those who are capable of working more than 15 hours a week will play a greater role in their communities, resulting in increased confidence and self esteem. Of course

assistance will continue for those who genuinely need it.

And by creating an extra 8,500 **'Work for the Dole'** places, even more jobseekers can benefit from practical work experience.

Despite the extra demands on defence and security, this Budget does not increase taxes. Spending on **education and health** are higher than ever before. And that's only possible because we've all worked together over the past 6 years to make practical, positive changes. Things like paying back \$61 billion of **Labor's debt** by June next year - to keep interest rates low and create more jobs.

Over **900,000 new jobs have been created** since the Coalition was elected - a result we can all be proud of. But there's still more to be done.

That's why the **Coalition will continue to work** with local communities to make long-term, practical decisions for the right reasons.

*Together*

### Building on our achievements since 1996

Over the previous 6 years, the Coalition Government has:

- ✓ Paid off almost two thirds of the \$96 billion debt left by Labor - saving \$4.75 billion each year in 'dead' interest payments.
- ✓ Protected our economy while other countries fell into recession.
- ✓ Created over 900,000 jobs and cut the unemployment rate from 8.2% to 6.3%.
- ✓ Introduced a fairer and more sustainable tax system to set Australia up for the future.

## Delivering Practical Support

The Coalition Government believes in delivering practical support now to ensure Australians benefit in the future. That's why we are continuing to invest in **improving literacy and numeracy standards**, with a record \$6.6 billion in school funding. This includes a 5.7% increase to government schools this year, which is a massive 52% increase in public education funding since 1996.

The Budget also **delivers in full** the Government's election commitments including the 'Baby Bonus' to help young families starting out, improvements in

superannuation, \$80 million to fund more doctors for outer-metropolitan areas, and an extra \$654 million over four years for **quality aged care**.

The Coalition will continue to protect our environment with practical local projects and our **roads will be made safer**.

Further encouragement will be given for small business to take on apprentices while the **successful First Home Owners Grant** will be continued. An extra \$60 million will be provided for research in information technology and biotechnology.

The Budget also provides better health care for our veterans and **greater support for war widows**. Six new regional radiotherapy centres will provide access to oncology services for cancer patients.

An extra \$65 million will fund treatment programs to get young people off drugs while public safety will be improved with funding for **retractable needle** and syringe technology.

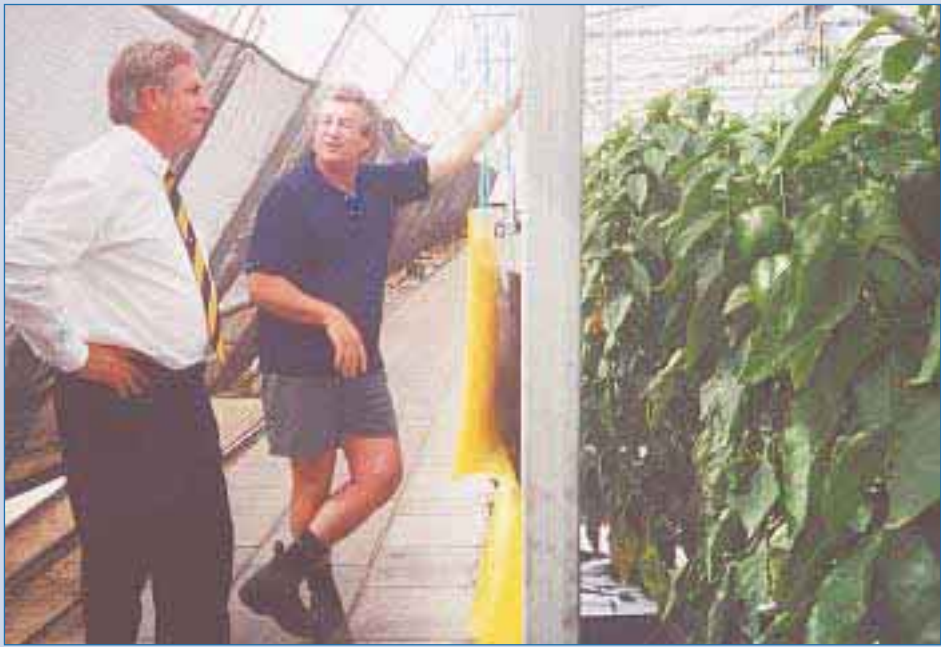
These are just a few of the positive ways the Coalition is continuing to work to deliver **practical support** now that will help deliver a stronger future.

### Building on our achievements since 1996

*Together*

Over the previous 6 years, the Coalition Government has:

- ✓ Boosted funding to improve literacy and numeracy skills to give young Australians their best chance in life.
- ✓ Created more apprenticeships that have led to more jobs.
- ✓ Delivered real benefits to the local environment by working with local communities to fix local problems.
- ✓ Increased Aged pensions and cut taxes for retirees.



Don Randall listens as Mr David Zalsman explains the details of his greenhouse project.

## Local News In Brief

### Green Reserve

Green Reserve is the Federal Government's voluntary environmental work experience program and a new project in Canning will provide 4 places for unemployed people. Participants will work to improve our local environment and the knowledge of our local heritage. Participants will help create public understanding of animal habitats through the construction and installation of animal exhibits in Wungong.

### Developing Our Seniors

The City of Armadale will receive a \$44,000 Federal Government Veteran and Community Grant to assist in commencing the 'Developing Our Seniors' Leadership' Project. This grant will be used to identify new and innovative ways in which to address the needs of seniors living in the City of Armadale with regard to leisure and community activities to help reduce the risks of loneliness and isolation they might be exposed to.

## Making schools in Canning 'asthma friendly'

The Federal Government has provided \$1.2 million to support an initiative which aims to decrease the risk of severe asthma attacks and even asthma deaths amongst school students.

The Asthma Friendly Schools Program is a voluntary project designed to assist entire school communities in providing an asthma friendly environment for students and staff. It equips teachers, students and parents to recognise and deal with an asthma emergency and provides practical advice which can save lives.

Canning MP Don Randall said "the potential benefits of the Asthma Friendly Schools Program are significant. It will reduce school absenteeism, provide a more supportive and understanding environment for students with asthma and reduce the risk of an attack."

## Funding delivers an 'Australian first'

A new and innovative generation greenhouse will be installed as a result of Federal Government funding of \$195,975 under the Commonwealth Government's Agriculture Advancing Australia (AAA) - Farm Innovation Program to company Zaldeesh Pty Ltd.

This funding will allow owners, Denise and David Zalsman to extend capsicum production on their Oakford property from nine months of the year to twelve months with the help of this new greenhouse.

"Although this technology is used in other parts of the world, it is being pioneered in Australia by the Zalsmans in Canning," Mr Randall said after visiting the property.

Mr Randall said "the Farm Innovation Program is designed to encourage the adoption of already researched and trialled innovative practices, processes, technologies and products and selected projects are eligible for funding up to a maximum of 50 per cent of the eligible costs."



Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Danna Vale was invited by Don Randall recently to present certificates to local vets. They are pictured above with Keith Manning.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Federal Government will provide 11,500 participants each year over four years IT training to help them develop useful computer skills. The training will be aimed at people aged 45 years and over who are in the labour force or who are welfare dependent but have no previous post-school qualifications in IT. The program aims to provide participants with basic computer competence and training will focus on computer basics such as use of the internet, email and word processing.

Under the Innovation New Apprenticeships initiative, employers will be eligible for an additional \$1,100 in financial incentives for taking on a new apprentice in Information Technology and other emerging highly skilled occupations.

School based New Apprenticeships continue to provide young people with skills better employment outcomes and their importance is reflected in the Government's commitment to providing employers with an extra \$720 incentive to take on New Apprentices while they are still at school.

## Federal Government consults with community on future of ageing in Canning

Don Randall and the Minister for Ageing, the Hon Kevin Andrews recently met with members of the community at Bedingfield Park in Pinjarra to discuss key policy issues centred on the future of ageing in Australia.

Don Randall, the Minister and key members of the community held a forum to discuss a range of issues centred on priorities to address one of the most major demographic shifts in our history.

"The Minister visited the electorate specifically to seek grassroots views and practical suggestions and solutions to address the future challenges we face. Significant changes will flow to all aspects of social and

economic life as the proportion of older people in our community increases. The consequence of demographic change needs a proactive approach to ensure quality of life for older people, harmony between the generations, and positive outcomes for the whole population. We need to lay these foundations now," Mr Randall said.

The number of people in Australia aged over 65 is likely to swell from 2.4 million people now, up to 4.2 million people in 20 years time. The proportion of the population aged over 65 will increase from 12 per cent of the population in 2001, up to around 18 per cent of the population in 2021. Australians can also expect to live an extra 20 years.



Minister for Ageing, Kevin Andrews, Mr Ken Ridge, Mr Ken Hedley, Member for Roleystone Martin Whitely and Don Randall at the official opening of "Beenu" Graceford Hostel, Byford

"The Commonwealth Government has developed a National Strategy for an Ageing Australia which outlines a framework identifying the challenges and possible responses for Government, business, the community and individuals to meet the needs of Australians as they age. Local government is becoming a key player in future aged care planning."

## Don't forget your Medicare Card

From 1 May 2002, you will need to provide your Medicare card to pharmacists to obtain PBS subsidised medicines. Veterans need to show their Repatriation Card, and visitors from countries with health care agreements with Australia will have to show their passport.

Mr Randall said, "this change would not affect the entitlements of eligible people. It simply requires people to verify their eligibility for the PBS benefit. Special arrangements are in place to make sure that eligible people who can't provide their Medicare details are not disadvantaged and cover people in emergency situations."

"This initiative will save \$20 million of taxpayers' money each year.

Our PBS system is recognised as one of the best in the world and the Federal Government spends \$4.2 billion a year on the Scheme to give people affordable access to necessary medicines."

## Paying for the PBS

Generic name	Use	Average Price	PBS prescription cost (from 1 Aug 2002)	Government Cost	Total cost
Simvastatin	High cholesterol	\$60.86	\$4.60 for concession card holder and \$28.60 for others	\$251m	\$282m
Celecoxib	Arthritis	\$46.92	\$4.60 for concession card holder and \$28.60 for others	\$142m	\$167m
Olanzipine	Schizophrenia	\$219.18	\$4.60 for concession card holder and \$28.60 for others	\$118m	\$121m
Bupropion	Nicotine addiction	\$249.51	\$4.60 for concession card holder and \$28.60 for others	\$82m	\$86m
Salmeterol and Fluticasone	Asthma	\$70.51	\$4.60 for concession card holder and \$28.60 for others	\$82m	\$94m