

Enlightened

News and Views for the Light Electorate

Edition 36 February 2018

FREE



GC&J Construction 's Ken Watt (site foreman), Reece Brown (Project Manager), Tony Piccolo MP, and Gawler and Districts College Principal Andrew Dickinson at the new STEM facility at G&DC.

The big infrastructure spend by the State Labor Government in Gawler and northern suburbs is delivering huge benefits in improved services, facilities and jobs for the local community.

STEM FACILITIES UPGRADE

Work has started on the \$3.5 million upgrade of STEM facilities at Gawler and District College, along with new disability and special classrooms.

Local Member of Parliament, Tony Piccolo was invited by the College's principal, Mr Andrew Dickinson to tour the works that are currently in progress.

Mr Piccolo said that the works were taking place in what was

the old Open Space Unit and were a welcome upgrade to a building that has been in use for more than 40 years.

"The Open Space Unit was built while I was attending Gawler High School, so it is well and truly time for it to receive an upgrade," Mr Piccolo said.

"Local construction company, GC&J Constructions was awarded the contract to build the new STEM facility.

"It is fantastic that our State Government is supporting local

jobs by awarding the contract to an established local business," he said.

The STEM funding will see facilities, such as the old Open Space Unit, upgraded and new equipment obtained to ensure our students obtain the knowledge and skills necessary for the jobs of the future.

Mr Piccolo said three quarters of the fastest growing occupations are technology related, and the funding would ensure that students have the skills required

for the workplace of the future.

SPECIAL EDUCATION AND DISABILITY BOOST

The College is undergoing a transformation with the new Special Education Classroom and Disability Access Classroom being constructed at the same time as the STEM facilities.

The College obtained funding to expand its Special Class program to include junior primary and primary school students.

(Continued page 2.)

From
the Editor



This end of term edition of Enlightened indicates what an exciting place the electorate is, with many great things happening, or in progress.

The huge government investment in infrastructure is delivering better services and facilities, while simultaneously creating valuable jobs in the local area.

Gawler and District College is one of the biggest beneficiaries of the investment with new STEM disability and special class facilities. Over the next few years, the College will have another \$10 million invested in upgrading the College facilities. I must confess a soft spot for the College as I undertook my secondary schooling there.

It is also great to see local building company GC&J Constructions winning a big chunk of the construction work.

This year work will finally commence on a number of road works, which will ease traffic congestion, improve road safety and generate a number

of jobs in the civil construction industry. The Dalkeith Road, Gawler Green and Potts Road hot spots will be transformed with multi-million dollar upgrades.

While all these projects are great for the community, I am concerned about the growing loneliness and isolation occurring in our community.

As a society, we must be vigilant against the growing economic and social inequality. A fair and compassionate community is the basis of a stable and democratic nation.

This will be the last edition of Enlightened to be published prior to the March State Election.

I hope to be back to be able to publish further editions, however whatever decision the voters make, it will be the correct one.

I trust your judgement and it has been an honour to serve you over the past four years; it would be a greater honour to serve you for a further term.

Tony


Tony Piccolo MP
Member for Light


Enlightened


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CALL TO HAVE CURTIS ROAD UPGRADED



Tony Piccolo has been working hard to address the long term upgrade of Curtis Road.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo has called on the City of Playford to address the long term upgrade of Curtis Road.

Curtis Road is a local road under the care, control and responsibility of the City of Playford.

Mr Piccolo said the Playford Alive and other nearby developments have increased traffic on the roadway significantly and congestion is occurring during peak times at most intersections.

“While it is great news that the Playford Alive and other developments have been successful, the Council needs to start thinking about plans to upgrade Curtis Road, or at least improve the intersections,” Mr Piccolo said.

“Traffic on the road is compounded by people using it as a connector to the Northern Expressway from the Blake’s Crossing development in the City of Playford and as far north as Gawler.

“I first received complaints regarding the road back in July 2015 and at the time, I wrote to the Council to find out what plans they had to upgrade it.

“I was advised by the Council they were preparing a short and long term strategy.

“I was told that a traffic study would be undertaken to determine the best course of action.

“At that time it was anticipated that the study would be completed during 2015.”

“I contacted the Council again in mid-2016, when I had not been advised about the outcome of the traffic report, only to be told that it still had not been completed.

“Following a further enquiry with the Council in late 2017, I was finally advised that the study had been completed.

“As a result of the study a report has been produced and discussions are now taking place between the Council, Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure and Renewal SA.

“I understand that the report considers what the current traffic flowz are and projects future traffic requirements.

“At some point consideration must also be given to either an overpass or underpass at the rail crossing. This is critical to improving safety and traffic flows.

“The road is the primary responsibility of the City of Playford, for which it collects rates from residential and business developments in the area.

“The roadway does carry some regional traffic, so the State and Federal Government could assist with funding some improvements to the roadway,” he said.

It is understood that discussions between the State and Council include a possible road responsibility swap; where the Council would take over the care and control of one of DPTI’s roads, in exchange for DPTI take responsibility for Curtis Road.

“This would enable planning for the upgrade to commence and work undertaken sooner rather than later,” he said.

“I have raised this issue with the Minister for Transport and I stand ready to assist the Council to get this important road upgrade delivered.”

Mr Piccolo also raised his concerns about road in State Parliament during November last year stating that it was “suffering from success, from both the success of Playford Alive and also the success of the Northern Expressway.”

LOCAL JOBS BOOM (continued)

Mr Piccolo said it was an exciting time with students from the special class on hand to watch the first section of their new class being lifted into place on the College’s northern boundary.

“The additional classrooms will ensure that local parents are able to have their children who require specialised teaching attend their local school,” he said.

ACCELERATING JOBS GROWTH

The State Government’s investment in education and local infrastructure is creating a jobs boom in the local area.

Almost 100 local businesses



Tony Piccolo with Gawler and District College students and staff outside the construction area of the new building.

have applied for the Job Accelerator Grant (JAG) Scheme that provides up to \$10,000 for every new job created and an additional \$5,000 for apprentices and trainees.

GC&J Construction are among those local companies who have applied for the JAG Scheme.

Mr Piccolo said that the purpose of the JAG Scheme was to support businesses to grow and support local jobs.

“It is exciting to see that local businesses are feeling confident and employing additional staff,” Mr Piccolo said.

“While a number of the jobs are in the building and construction industries, there are many more positions which have been created in other industries, including 13 apprenticeships or trainees.

“It just goes to show that growth in one sector supports growth across the whole local economy,” he said.

NORTHERN CONNECTION

Jobs in building and construction are in high demand now, partly due to the Northern Connector project that is currently under construction.

The Northern Connector project will link the Northern Expressway with the South Road Superway and the Port River Expressway.

To date, the project has supported more than 350 jobs through the Northhub site located on Port Wakefield Road.

Lendlease, who is overseeing the project, was recently awarded the contract for the electrification of the Gawler train line.

Mr Piccolo said that the electrification works will also be based out of the Northhub site.

“I recently had the opportunity to visit Northhub and view the expansive worksite,” Mr Piccolo said.

“Whilst there, I met a former Holden employee and Springwood resident, Rebecca Williams who obtained her position through the Holden Transition Centre.

“Northhub are currently seeking people for 45 available position, which includes 12 positions on the electrification project.

More information about employment opportunities through Northhub can be found at: <https://northhub.sa.gov.au>.

LIGHT ELECTORATE PROJECTS GET GREEN LIGHT

Infrastructure works worth hundreds of millions of dollars directly benefitting the people in the Light electorate will commence early this year after a parliamentary committee granted final approvals just prior to Christmas.

Local Member of Parliament, Tony Piccolo said that many of these projects were shovel ready but required consideration by the Parliamentary Works Committee before construction could commence.

Projects that are of direct interest to the area include:

- The installation of traffic lights at the intersection of Dalkeith and Main North Roads;
- Gawler East Link Road;
- Stage 1 of the Electrification of the Gawler Rail line; and the
- Northern Adelaide Irrigation Scheme.

According to the committee's report, the

Dalkeith Road intersection upgrade is expected to cost up to \$7.9 million.

Mr Piccolo said the improvements will include traffic lights to fully control all through and right hand movements both into and out of Main North, along with the construction of left hand turn slip lanes.

"48 crashes were reported at this intersection between 2012 and 2016, including 27 casualty crashes and 21 resulting in property damage," Mr Piccolo said.

"The predominant casualty crash type is 'right angle' followed by rear enders and right turn.

"I have been working with the Dalkeith Country Fire Service since January 2015 in calling for the intersection to be upgraded.

"I would like to thank the leaders and members of the local CFS who have worked tirelessly to get this intersection upgraded," he said.



Local MP Tony Piccolo congratulating Dalkeith CFS Captain Clint Marsh and First Lieutenant 'Mutchie' Mutch for their hard work in getting the upgrade on the agenda.

The Gawler East Link Road, estimated to cost about \$55 million, will provide direct access for residents in the new developments in Gawler East to Main North Road.

The benefits of the project including reducing traffic along Calton Road, Murray Street and Adelaide Road.

The committee also approved Stage 1 of the Electrification of the Gawler Rail line, which is projected to cost a total of \$615 million when Stage 2 of the project is completed to the Gawler Central Station.

Mr Piccolo said that Stage 1 of the project involves the line been electrified from Adelaide to Salisbury and is scheduled to start this year.

"With some financial support from the Federal Government the whole Gawler line could be completed," Mr Piccolo said.

"The State Government has committed 50 percent of the funding in the State Budget to enable this to happen.

"Federal Labor is committed to co-funding the electrification project, unfortunately the Federal Liberal Government is not supporting public transport infrastructure projects.

"I remain hopeful the Federal Liberal Government will see the benefit to the community in funding the electrification project," he said.

The Northern Adelaide Irrigation Scheme was approved by the committee and is expected to deliver 12 gigalitres of recycled water to Virginia/Two Wells and Northern Adelaide Plains horticulture areas.

The new 27 kilometre pipeline, which is jointly funded by the State and Commonwealth Governments will help generate over 3,700 jobs in the horticultural industry by increasing the productive capacity of the land in the area.

Mr Piccolo said that the NAIS one of the most exciting projects for the region.



Tony Piccolo with traders at the Gawler Green Shopping Centre.

AN ELECTRIC START TO THE GAWLER RAIL LINE

Pressure is mounting on the Federal Liberal Government to come to the party and partner with the State Government to fund the second stage of the Gawler Rail Line Electrification project.

Transport and Infrastructure Minister, Stephen Mullighan has announced that Lendlease has been awarded the contact to deliver stage one of the Gawler Rail Line Electrification project.

Speaking at the contract announcement, local Member of Parliament, Tony Piccolo said the people of Gawler and northern suburbs deserve to have an electrified rail line right up to the Gawler Central station.

"By commencing the project the State Government has demonstrated its commitment to improving public transport to the people of Gawler and the Northern suburbs," Mr Piccolo said.

"It's about time the Federal Liberal Government got on board and demonstrated its support for the local community.

"Stage 2 of the Gawler Rail Line



Local MP says the Federal Liberal Government needs to come on board and partner with the State Government to deliver the electrification to Gawler Central.

Electrification project will cost about \$462.2 million and the State Government has budgeted 50% in the 2017/18 budget, to get the job done.

Lendlease's Northhub employment and training facility located on Port Wakefield Road at Waterloo Corner, where the construction of the Northern

Connector is based, will be expanded to include the Gawler Rail Electrification Project.

Mr Piccolo said there are already a number of local people employed at Northhub delivering the Northern Connector project. The expansion of Northhub to include the Gawler electrification

means that there will be more local jobs for people in our region.

"An additional 135 people will be required each year to deliver stage 1 of the project, while stage 2 would create opportunities for an additional 95 people," Mr Piccolo said.

Stage one of the project will see the electrification of the line between Adelaide and Salisbury.

Construction will commence in the coming weeks, starting with the relocation of power, water, gas, telecommunications and stormwater services along the corridor.

Mr Piccolo said the electrification will deliver faster, safer, more reliable and more comfortable rail services for the 17,000 passengers who use the service each weekday, and significantly increase capacity, allowing an extra 2400 passengers an hour to use the train in peak periods.

"The electrification of the Gawler rail line is a project that will have an immediate and tremendous impact on our local economy," he said.

REPORT RECOMMENDS A FAIRER DEAL FOR PRIMARY PRODUCERS

A parliamentary committee has recommended that primary producers be given more support to manage big retailers.

The committee recommended that the South Australian Small Business Commissioner be provided with greater powers to support primary producers.

The report titled ‘From the Paddock to the Plate – a Fair Return for Producers’ produced by the Economic and Finance Committee was tabled in State Parliament yesterday afternoon.

The report recommends a range of measures to correct the huge power imbalance between producers and the big retailers in Australia.

The Committee heard evidence from a range of producers and industry associations. A common theme was that producers often accepted breaches in contract by retailers, fearing that their contracts would be terminated if complaints were lodged.

The Committee has recommended that the Small Business Commissioner receive additional



Tony Piccolo MP with Jersey Fresh general manager Lisa Werner.

funding to provide an Advice Unit. This would allow primary producers to lodge offers of agreement with the Unit on a confidential basis and too obtain advice on whether the terms of the agreement are fair.

The report is the result of an enquiry initiated by the Member for Light, Mr Tony Piccolo after he had been approached by market gardeners, wine makers

and other primary producers.

Mr Piccolo said that primary producers’ livelihoods are at stake when big retailers changed the terms of their contracts without notice.

“The Committee heard from a number of witnesses, some in confidence, who provided examples where the terms of conditions of contracts were unilaterally changed by the big

retailers,” Mr Piccolo said.

“In the longer term, greater competition in retailing will assist producers obtain a fairer price for their products, however, in the short term we need government interventions to ensure that smaller businesses are going to survive.

“The power imbalance between the producers and retailers is huge and real.

“It impacts on the viability of our local producers every day,” he said.

Many witnesses were critical of the current federal regulation, The Grocery Code of Conduct, which imposes greater restrictions on producers and wholesalers but not the retailers.

In the absence of Federal Government leadership, the Committee recommends that the South Australian Government should institute a state-based mandatory Code or add to the Regulations within the Small Business Commissioner’s current jurisdiction.

These changes would fill the gap between the Horticulture Code of Conduct and the Grocery Code of Conduct.

The Committee heard evidence that co-operative business models could help close the power gap as they increase the market strength of producers.

Mr Piccolo said the Committee recommends that the SA Government website include information about how co-operatives can help producers

operate in larger supply chains.

“The Committee recommended that the relevant government departments conduct audits of the relevant legislative instruments and grant programs to determine whether co-operatives are considered equal candidates through the application process,” Mr Piccolo said.

“It recommends that any barriers to co-operatives in the grants application process be removed.”

The report cites evidence from primary producers in the Barossa that some current planning and development laws, regulations and policies act as a barrier to the growth of artisan food and wine businesses in key tourism and primary production regions.

Mr Piccolo said these artisan small businesses offer real opportunities for business growth and new jobs in key tourism regions.

The 156-page committee report makes a total of 13 recommendations and can be accessed at:

<https://www.parliament.sa.gov.au/Committees/Pages/Committees.aspx?CTId=5&CId=292>

LOCAL NATIVE FOOD SMALL BUSINESS SET TO EXPAND

Local agribusiness, Red Centre Enterprises has relocated and is significantly expanding its workforce to meet growing demand for native food products.

The good news is the company, which was until recently operating from the Stretton Centre at Munno Para, is staying in the local area and relocating to bigger premises in Kudla.

The small business is focussed on the commercialisation of value-added native plants products.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo stated that it is one of five small businesses, which successfully applied for the Home to Curated Office Environment component of the Northern Entrepreneur Growth Program (NEGP).

Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation Kyam Mayer visited the new site to meet with the directors of Red Centre Enterprises, Mr Paul Keilly and Ms Nadia Matko.

The Home to Curated Office Environment initiative provides home based businesses with one to

one business mentoring along with the opportunity to operate their business from the Stretton Centre’s curated co-working office space.

Since its participation in the NEGP, Red Centre Enterprises has hired three additional staff and will employ a further 10 staff by the end of January 2018.

Mr Piccolo said the small business has developed a supplier relationship with Vili’s Family Bakery and has established collaborations with Flowerdale Farm (which operates out of Glenburn, Victoria) and Tantanoola based Holla-Fresh to commence commercially growing Australian native herbs.

“I understand that product lines co-branded Flowerdale Farm and Red Centre products will be distributed by Flowerdale Farm through its stores at the Melbourne and Sydney Wholesale Markets and its national network of agencies,” Mr Piccolo said.

The NEGP commenced as a pilot \$114,000 program in 2017 under the Northern Economic Plan that was championed by Mr Piccolo.

Mr Piccolo said the objective of the NEGP is to accelerate the growth of entrepreneurs, businesses and jobs in the greater Gawler region.

“The NEGP is being delivered through the Stretton Centre in partnership with the Gawler Business Development Group and Business SA,” he said.

The NEGP provides a range of training and mentoring, which includes:

- business basics for start-ups and individuals looking to start a business ;
- skills and knowledge to support established companies increase their growth and profitability;
- interactive training and group problem solving, with one to one mentoring with a business coach; and
- co-working from the Stretton Centre with one to one mentoring with a business coach.

NEGP initiatives are being delivered from the Stretton Centre and the Town of Gawler with over 40 businesses participating.

IMPORTANT FORUM FOR CURTIS ROAD SMALL BUSINESS



Member for Light, Tony Piccolo discusses the upcoming forum with Sav, owner of the La Sapor Italian Restaurant at the Playford Town centre.

A small business forum was held in January at the Stretton Centre to help small businesses in Munno Para and Munno Para West grow their customer base.

The forum was arranged and promoted by the Member for Light, Mr Tony Piccolo.

Mr Piccolo said he decided to arrange the forum following discussions he has had with small business owners in the area.

“Over the past few months, I’ve met a number of small business owners in the ‘Curtis Road Business Precinct’ (including the Playford Town Centre) to gain a better understanding of the needs of the community in the southern part of the electorate*,” Mr Piccolo said.

“Some small business owners have said they are struggling to build their customer base due to being a part of a new business precinct.

“The forum will give small businesses in the area an opportunity to raise any issues they may have, but also look at ways of working together to promote the precinct as a whole.

“The Stretton Centre is the ideal location to host the forum as it is well placed to provide advice and services to small businesses assisting them to succeed and create new jobs.

“The forum was also open to home-based businesses in the area, particularly those who may wish to take their business to the next level.

“The Stretton Centre offers home-based businesses access to a range of advisory services to assist them understand what is required to grow their business.

“It is disappointing that some businesses have already closed down in the precinct.

“New shopping precincts face many challenges and barriers while establishing themselves in the marketplace, so the forum will discuss the various options open to them.

“One of the things that will be discussed is whether it is worthwhile to establish an ongoing forum or association for businesses in the precinct,” he said.

**Munno Para will be part of the Light Electorate for the 2018 State Election.*



At the new Kudla site of Red Centre Enterprises were Co-Owner Nadia Matko; Stretton Centre Director, Dermot Cussen; Co-Owner Paul Keilly; Minister Kyam Maher and Local Member of Parliament, Tony Piccolo.

WELCOME TO GIG CITY



(From left), Mr Tom Hajdu (SA Chief Innovator), Paul Sherlock, (Chair of SabreNet Board), Tony Piccolo MP, Mayor Glenn Docherty, Dermot Cussen, (Director of the Stretton Centre) and Mr Ralph Leonard, (CEO of SabreNet.)

The Stretton Centre Gig City network connection was officially launched in November at a special ceremony by the Member for Light, Mr Tony Piccolo.

Mr Piccolo said he was pleased to be able to represent the Premier to celebrate the connection of the Gig City network, which is linking innovation precincts across Adelaide with ultra-fast broadband speeds at an affordable price.

"Its availability will enable the development of leading-edge, data-intensive and real-time applications in industry sectors such as biotech, advanced manufacturing and film post-production," Mr Piccolo said.

"This will help drive economic development opportunities and job creation.

"It will help the Northern Adelaide Region, and indeed South Australia to compete in the rapidly evolving innovation economy," he said. Since the launch of the program eight months ago, more than 100 businesses have signed up to Gig City, demonstrating the high demand for affordable ultra-fast internet connectivity in Adelaide.

The Stretton Centre, with its 31 businesses co-working under the one roof, is a focal point for job creation in northern Adelaide.

Mr Piccolo said that among other things, the Stretton Centre is providing a place for start-ups and entrepreneurs to link with local research organisations and industries.

"I'm told the Stretton Centre is a very enthusiastic user of

the service, being one of the precincts with the highest level of data downloaded and uploaded," Mr Piccolo said.

"This suggests that businesses at the Stretton Centre are making the most of their internet connectivity.

"The Centre and its tenants are capitalising on work that continues through initiatives such as the Northern Economic Plan, Invest Northern Adelaide and Northern Connections," he said.

SabreNet a leading innovator in digital communication provided the backbone infrastructure for the connection.

The South Australian Government has invested \$7.6 million over five years in Gig City.

STRETTON CENTRE TURNS TWO



Tony Piccolo MP with Mayor Glenn Docherty, Dermot Cussen (Director of the Stretton Centre) and Stretton Centre staff.

The Stretton Centre at Munno Para recently celebrated its second birthday.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo, representing Premier Jay Weatherill, said for the past two years, the centre has been a focal point for collaboration between researchers, industry and government.

The Centre is a partnership between the Australian Government, the South Australian Government through Renewal SA, the City of Playford and the University of Adelaide.

Mr Piccolo said the Centre has provided a clear demonstration of how powerful industry development can be a driver for sustainable community development.

"It is a focal point for jobs in northern Adelaide – providing a physical site for start-ups and entrepreneurs to link with local research organisations and industries," Mr Piccolo said.

"This is at the heart of what the Stretton Centre provides – it builds

upon initiatives that create jobs, diversify businesses and promote innovation.

"It is capitalising on work that continues through local initiatives such as the Northern Economic Plan, Invest Northern Adelaide and Northern Connections.

"The Stretton Centre epitomises what the South Australian Government is working towards and highlights what can be achieved when all levels of government, industry, research and the wider community work together.

"Two years on from opening its doors, the Stretton Centre is further enhancing its reputation as a hub for jobs and industry development in northern Adelaide.

"On behalf of the South Australian Government, I look forward to seeing the Stretton Centre continue to engage with the local community and expand its presence in northern Adelaide," he said.

SCHOLARSHIPS PROMOTE SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH

Renewal SA and the City of Playford, through the Stretton Centre, have announced the two winners for the 2017 Northern Adelaide Entrepreneur Scholarship.

Scholarship winners receive:

- Part time co-working spaces for 12 months at the Stretton Centre
- A spot in the 2018 Business SA SAYES Program
- \$1500 towards branding support funded by Renewal SA.

City of Playford Mayor Docherty announced the two winners at a ceremony held on 12th December at the Stretton Centre at Munno Para.

The two winners were Brett Freeman from Brett Freeman Marketing and Christopher Calyun.

Brett Freeman Marketing offers

tailored digital marketing services for small, medium sized businesses and not-for-profit organisations.

Brett believes social media is the single most cost effective way for businesses both large and small, to achieve exposure, revenue, sales, job growth and market shares.

Brett currently works with a not-for-profit organisation called Kids Arthritis and supports them by volunteering and taking care of their marketing.

Christopher Calyun owns a business in the Northern Adelaide area, which is a clothing brand that is designed to bring people together to develop positive connections within the community and Australia wide.

The Aboriginal business owner said the business would also like to provide youth mentorship programs.

Some of Christopher's brand ambassadors include former AFL player Leon Davis, Rabbit-Proof Fence actor Natasha Wanganeen and Ellie Lovegrove who was on the X Factor.

Member for Light Tony Piccolo, said the scholarship assists two local small business grow and prosper by providing timely advice, marketing support and a working environment that fosters business-to-business learning.



Member for Light, Tony Piccolo with City of Playford Mayor Glenn Docherty, and scholarship recipients Brett Freeman and Christopher Calyun.

ANGLING ON THE WARREN RESERVOIR



Minister Hunter about to cut the ribbon (with Mayor Sloane) opening the upgraded facilities at the Warren Reservoir with other reps from Recreational Fishing SA and Barossa Council.

Recreational fishers who have been angling to have fishing allowed on the Warren Reservoir, have had their wishes granted.

Last week the Minister for Water and Environment, Ian Hunter announced on site that the Warren Reservoir in the Barossa Valley has been upgraded and opened up to canoes and kayaks.

The Member for Light, Tony Piccolo who attended the official announcement, said the reservoir now has improved road access, upgrades to car parking and visitor amenities.

“The angler experience has been enhanced with increased shore-based recreational fishing access, as well as kayak and canoe on-water access.

“A grant of \$73,000 was provided

to RecFish SA from the South Australian Recreational Fishing Grants Programme to stock the Warren Reservoir with Murray Cod, Golden and Silver Perch,” Mr Piccolo said.

RecFish SA Executive Director and Willaston resident, Mr Danny Simpson said the expansion of the successful Warren Reservoir fishery is a great step forward and for the first time kayaks and canoes will be able to be used for fishing.

“Freshwater fishing is extremely popular in Australia and we expect that these reservoirs will attract interest from fishers across the country,” said Mr Simpson.

Mr Piccolo said the State Government supports the opening of recreational fishing access at offline reservoirs where appropriate.

Barossa Council Mayor Bob Sloane said the investment in new infrastructure for the Warren Reservoir will deliver positive tourism and economic outcomes for the region.

“Council has contributed significant funds in partnership with the State and Commonwealth Governments to achieve these infrastructure improvements,” Mayor Sloane said.

“The expansion of fishing facilities, in addition to on-water access for kayaks and canoes, will make the Warren Reservoir a recreational tourism attraction in its own right,” he said.

A RecFish SA permit is required to fish at reservoirs and more information can be found at <https://recfishsa.org.au/reservoir-fishing/>

BAKER BOYS DO WASTE RECOVERY WELL IN WILLASTON



At the official opening this morning were (from left) Tony Piccolo MP, Minister Ian Hunter and Mark, Darren and Steven Baker.

Environment Minister Ian Hunter officially opened South Australia’s newest resource recovery facility, Eco Waste Solutions in Willaston in November.

Mr Hunter said the waste and resource recovery sector in South Australia turns over \$1 billion per annum and employs almost 5,000 people.

“This is a significant contribution that should be commended, and the Government wants to see the industry grow,” Mr Hunter said.

“We want to see the industry grow further, employ more South Australians and further improve our record diversion rate of 81.5 per cent.

“I am also excited as this facility shows the Government’s commitment to investing in waste and resource recovery infrastructure outside of metropolitan Adelaide,” he said.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo said he congratulated the Baker family for their investment in the South Australian, family-owned business, Eco Waste Solutions, and for taking the initiative to develop a new waste transfer station for the area.

“I am particularly excited because facilities like the one here today demonstrate that you can grow the economy and create jobs, while also looking after the environment,” Mr Piccolo said.

“The \$300,000 provided to Eco Waste Solutions by Green Industries SA, is a result of the Government’s waste reforms in which we are providing \$26 million over four years to help the sector build on its strong record.

“The Eco Waste Solutions facility demonstrates this with the creation of around 12 full-time equivalent

employees,” he said.

The new facility has the capacity to process approximately 10,000 tonnes of material per annum and will divert a large amount of useful material from landfill.

Eco Waste Solutions is the result of the vision the late Mr Graham Baker had in establishing a responsible waste management service.

Unfortunately, Mr Baker died before his vision could be realised, but his sons, Mark, Steven and Darren and their families have brought it to fruition.

The original business, CBS Bins was opened in 1975 by Graham and his wife Marion.

More details about the services provided by CBS Bins group can be found at <https://www.cbsbins.com.au/>

POWER TO THE PEOPLE

50,000 households will make up South Australia’s Virtual Power Plant.

Premier Jay Weatherill and Energy Minister Tom Koutsantonis announced the plan at the Stretton Centre on Sunday morning.

The plan will utilise 25,000 Housing SA properties and at least another 25,000 South Australian households.

Local Member of Parliament, Tony Piccolo who was present at the announcement said

that this a great step towards giving power back to South Australians.

“When ETSA was taken out of public hands it reduced our ability to influence electricity prices,” Mr Piccolo said.

“The next step in Our Energy Plan is a great stride towards assisting household budgets, firstly for people living in social housing and then the wider community.

“More renewable energy means cheaper power for all South Australians,” he said.

The plan will begin with a trial of 1,100 Housing SA properties that will receive a 5kW solar panel system and 13.5kWh Tesla Powerwall 2 battery installed at no charge and financed through the sale of electricity to the grid.

The Virtual Power Plant will produce 250MW of power and is expected to lower energy bills for participating households by 30 per cent.

All South Australians will benefit from the increased generation of energy in the South Australian energy mix, with lower energy prices and increased energy stability.

Members of the public who wish to participate in the program can complete a registration of interest at: www.virtualpowerplant.sa.gov.au.

CHANGE OF COMMAND

On Friday 1 December, the air force cadets and staff of No 608 (Town of Gawler) Squadron AAFC welcomed their new Commanding Officer – Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) Philip Brow.

Philip comes to the squadron with a wealth of experience. Philip has risen from being a cadet in 1973-75, to having a fulfilling 38 year career as a volunteer adult instructor and officer with the AAFC.

His command experience includes a term as Commanding Officer of No 614 Squadron at Port Pirie for five years and almost two years as Commanding Officer of No 620 Squadron at Kadina. He is currently also an instructor with 606 Flight (the 6 Wing Band).

Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) Brow said, “Taking up the appointment at 608 Squadron is going to be a challenge, but one I am really looking forward to”.

As a former Public Affairs Officer for 6 Wing, Philip is well aware of 608 Squadron’s long association with the Town of Gawler and its important role in developing young adults from the region. FLTLT (AAFC) Brow said, “The AAFC is a premier youth development organisation which teaches life skills and provides incredible experiences in a military and aviation environment. There now exists an opportunity for new members aged between 13 and 17 to join the squadron”.

No 608 Squadron is centrally located for members from the Willaston-Gawler and Barossa regions, or the far northern suburbs of Adelaide. The squadron parades on Friday nights during school terms.



Flight Lieutenant (AAFC) Philip Brow, Commanding Officer of No 608 (Town of Gawler) Squadron, AAFC.

The Member for Light Mr Tony Piccolo MP encourages all young potential future cadets aged between 13 and 17 who wish to be considered for the 2018 intake of the Squadron to email: co.608sqn@aafc.org.au or paco.6wg@aafc.org.au

World’s largest
VIRTUAL POWER PLANT
coming to South Australia

GAWLER'S WINNING MILLION DOLLAR IDEAS

A new community bus, upgrades to local parks, a training course for learner drivers and a mobile food van are some of the 15 projects in the Light Electorate that have won funding in the Fund My Neighbourhood grant program.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo said the Gawler community has been successful in winning \$1 million for the ideas that were nominated, which is an outstanding result.

"We did it, again," Mr Piccolo said.

"The community has shown that when it works together, we can achieve great things," he said.

To be successful, projects had to gain the support of their local communities and attract the most votes in an online poll.

Mr Piccolo said that the overwhelming response to the Fund My Neighbourhood program proves that no one knows their neighbourhood better than the people who live in it.

"Giving local people the power to decide where Government funding should be allocated demonstrates the importance of this new way of distributing public money," Mr Piccolo said.

"I was so proud of our local community who had worked very hard to achieve this fantastic result.

"From those who took the initiative and put their idea forward, to those who supported it and encouraged their neighbours to vote, this truly was a collective effort," he said.

To assist with the process Mr Piccolo held a number of information and nomination forums to give local communities the best chance to win the money.

Mr Piccolo said that he was honoured to be able to work with a number of highly motivated local people and support them through the process, including making his electorate office available as a polling booth.

"We have shown that when the cause is right, we have the



Local MP Tony Piccolo with representatives from the Winning Gawler Million Dollar Projects.

people power to deliver," Mr Piccolo said. "We won \$1 million from the total state budget for the program of \$20 million. "Gawler can be proud of its achievement," he said.

Funding has been split amongst 15 regions on a per person basis to ensure a spread of projects are delivered across the state and Gawler was in the Northern Adelaide region.

Sponsors of successful projects will now enter into a grant agreement with the State Government.

Mr Piccolo said he was keen to meet with nominators of unsuccessful projects and work with them to increase their chance for funding in the second round of Fund My Neighbourhood program which will open in May 2018.

A full list of winning projects is available at: www.fundmyneighbourhood.sa.gov.au.



SALT Church in Evanston Gardens received funding for their Community Hub idea.

NEW GAWLER BUS SERVICES RESPONDING TO DEMAND

The Adelaide Metro bus services operating in Gawler were modified in December following a review undertaken by The Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo said the new services will improve access to bus services while reducing the cost of some services.

"These changes will deliver a better outcome for Gawler taxpayers," Mr Piccolo said.

"While in general the community supports the current bus services, the new services are designed to respond to two key criticisms; that the services are not flexible enough and some services have too little usage.

"The demand driven services will be extended to weekends and Adelaide Metro pricing and concessions will apply to the service."

"As a result of the new measures, seniors' card holders will be able to travel free to connect to trains or travel into the township at no cost. "Peak time services were working very well, however, off peak services were not attracting enough patrons.

"It is critical that we maintain a sustainable public transport service in the town to ensure that people can access basic services, like visiting a doctor and participate in community



Springwood Senior Development Manager Anthony Andolfette is welcomed aboard the new 495 service.

activities.

"These changes are designed to get more bums on bus seats, and deliver a better outcome for taxpayers.

Peak time services have not been changed as they are well patronised and meet the needs of students travelling to local schools, workers connecting to the trains or travelling into Gawler's CBD area.

Off peak, services on the 493 and 494 routes are now delivered on an on-demand basis, rather than the current fixed routed, fixed time. Services on routes 491 and 492A and 492C remain unchanged.

The savings made from the fixed route services have been reinvested into the new demand response services operating off peak and on weekends.

Mr Piccolo said that the off peak services will operate as needed, rather than travelling around town empty.

"Any user with an approved medical condition can apply for a medical exemption to be eligible for a door to door service," Mr Piccolo said.

More information about the improvements to the service can be found at www.adelaidemetro.com.au or via phone on 1300 311 108

Mr Piccolo said while the changes may sound a little complicated, they are quite minor however will require some planning and a (free) phone call by some users. The service will be better and cheaper for most.

COLLECTING BOOKS FOR THE COMMUNITY



Zonta project coordinator Wendy Randell collecting donations from the office's Book Box.

Since starting their project to spread the 'reading bug' throughout Gawler, the Zonta Club has collected thousands of pre-loved books suitable for children up to age 12 from donations which they have then given back to the community.

The Zonta Club have hosted Giant Book Swaps where children are invited to choose a book to take home with them.

"Children perform better at school when they have books at home to read and parents are able to reinforce the importance of learning skills like literacy," project coordinator Wendy Randell said.

"Through this project we are giving books a new life where they might otherwise be sitting on a shelf gathering dust."

"In addition to our book

swaps, we donate books to the Willaston Domestic Violence Service for the children in affected families."

"We have collection points at the local schools, Gawler Community House, and Tony Piccolo's office," she said.

Local Member of Parliament Tony Piccolo said that recycling these books to ensure every child has the opportunity to learn to read is a fantastic initiative.

"I'm happy to continue supporting the Zonta Club as a collection point for community donations."

"My office also accepts old x-rays for the local Red Cross group, feminine hygiene products for Essentials 4 Women, and male hygiene products for our 'Socks, Jocks, and More' drive in collaboration with Ucare," he said.

PICCOLO PUSHES FOR ISSUES RAISED BY REID RESIDENTS

During November and December last year, Member for Light Mr Tony Piccolo was out doorknocking in the Reid area to discuss issues of concern to local residents.

One of the primary issues raised by residents was a lack of action and responsibility for Paternoster Road.

While Paternoster Road is technically under the care and control of Light Regional Council, the Department of Planning, Transport, and Infrastructure (DPTI) has control of the Gawler Bypass/Northern Expressway corridor, and all the residents live within the Town of Gawler.

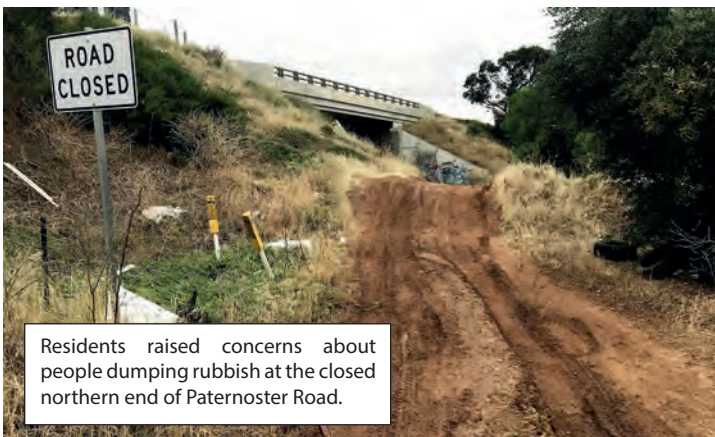
“This situation has been caused by confusion over where responsibility for maintenance of this road lies as a result of overlapping boundaries.” Mr Piccolo said.

“I was able to bring the Department and the two councils together to ensure that all the issues raised are being dealt with and are not getting lost in the system”

“As a result, DPTI will now be consulting with the Town of Gawler and Light Regional Council to ensure responsibility for ongoing care of the verges is allocated. DPTI has also agreed



Local MP Tony Piccolo engaging with Reid residents at a street corner meeting.



Residents raised concerns about people dumping rubbish at the closed northern end of Paternoster Road.

to undertake repairs of the rural style fencing that separates the Bypass from Paternoster Road.”

“The Town of Gawler will also be undertaking landscaping works by the entrance to the new estate near Chignell Circuit and Bleby Court.”

“When we can bring different levels of government to the

same table and discuss how we address problems that are raised, our community ultimately wins.”

“I will continue to work closely with the Department, Town of Gawler, and Light Regional Council to achieve results for the issues affecting residents in Reid.” Mr Piccolo said.

BARRIERS TO STOP RAIL CORRIDOR WARRIORS



Local MP Tony Piccolo hopes GWA will stop the rail corridor warriors from misusing the disused rail corridors in the Gawler Belt area.

Genesee & Wyoming Australia (GWA) are railing against four-wheel drive vehicles illegally accessing their disused rail corridors. 4WD vehicles regularly access disused rail corridors, particularly after major rain events, to test their cars limits.

These vehicles cause significant damage to the corridors, disturbing residents living along the corridor and creating hazards for people walking along the corridor.

Local Member of Parliament, Tony Piccolo said he is regularly contacted by constituents living adjacent to the rail corridors about the impact these vehicles have on their lifestyles.

Mr Piccolo stated that winter tends to be peak season for 4WD drivers tearing up local roads and the rail corridor, however, with the unseasonal weather we have been having the 4WD season has been extended.

“I have been liaising with local government,

NO MORE SECRETS

The Gawler Council has been challenged to become a more open, transparent and accountable decision maker and to build trust with the community.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo has lodged a Freedom of Information request to obtain a copy of the ‘Jensen No. 2 Report’ that Council is determined to keep secret.

It is understood that the Jensen No. 2 Report deals with issues of great importance to the communities living in Hillier, Kudla and Evanston South.

Back in 2015, Council engaged the services of independent planning and development consultants Jensen Planning and Design to identify issues and make recommendations regarding the future character of Gawler’s southern rural areas.

Mr Piccolo said Jensen produced two reports, one outlining the history, existing character of the area and feedback obtained from the community.

“Importantly, the second report, as I understand it, outlines a number of possible scenarios for the development of the area,” Mr Piccolo said.

“It is very difficult to know exactly what is in the report as Council has decided on a number of occasions to keep it secret.

“Residents and landowners in the areas of Kudla, Hillier and Evanston South have for many years tried to engage with Council to reach a common vision for the area.

“Ensuring that the report which specifically addresses their issues is kept secret is hardly a proactive way of engaging with the community.

“I would like to know why the Jensen No. 2 Report cannot be made public. There are no commercial in confidence or negotiations in progress, which the release may harm.

“I acknowledge that sometimes government bodies do need to

discuss things in confidence and keep documents confidential until negotiations are finalised.

“This is not the case here and all they are doing is keeping residents in the dark and creating a sense of distrust for the affected residents.

“I have been told that some of the councillors did not like some of the scenarios suggested as possible development options and do not want to discuss or canvas these ideas with residents.

“The best way to progress and resolve the future character of the area is to have an open, transparent and informed debate about the issues involved.

“I have asked the Council on a number of occasions to release the Jensen No. 2 Report but to no avail.

“The Council has forced me to use the formal legal process by lodging the FOI request,” he said.

If the Council refuses Mr Piccolo’s request, he has the option to lodge an appeal with the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (SACAT).

Mr Piccolo said he sees this as a very important issue for the effected residents and that he would be prepared to refer the matter to SACAT for a determination.

“The decision is, in my opinion, contrary to the clear spirit and intention of the Freedom of Information laws and the new Community Engagement Charter that Councils should adhere to in relation to planning matters,” Mr Piccolo said.

“We do not know why the report is being kept secret and we don’t know who is voting to keep the report secret.

“It is somewhat ironic that a report paid by ratepayers cannot be read by the very same people.

“Clearly there is scope for further legislative reform to make councillors more accountable for their decisions,” he said.

police and GWA about steps that can be taken to stop these vehicles accessing the rail corridor,” Mr Piccolo said.

“I recently received correspondence from GWA advising that they were looking to build barriers across seven access points to the corridor,” he said.

GWA’s Paul Hollitt wrote to Mr Piccolo saying that vandals are causing considerable discomfort to local residents and are damaging native vegetation.

“GWA has for some time been trying to find a solution to the problem of four wheel drive use in the area,” Mr Hollitt said.

“Attempts to have two vandals charged for trespass have failed

despite photos being made available of their vehicles showing their numberplates, bogged in the rail corridor and this company making statements that permission was not given for the vehicles to be in the area.

“GWA may have however found a relatively cost effective way to build barriers across the rail corridor at seven points (each wall will be approximately forty metres long) that may stop this practice and reduce the amount of rubbish dumping in this area,” he said.

Mr Piccolo said that this is a real win for the local community and was pleased that GWA are taking positive steps to stop this antisocial behaviour.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN A PRIORITY FOR FORMER MINISTER GAGO



"I cannot begin to express what a great honour it has been to represent the people of South Australia in this place for the past 16 years" so began the Hon Gail Gago's valedictory speech late last.

Ms Gago said she was very proud to have served in both the Rann and Weatherill Labor Governments, Governments that have had the courage to stand up and unrelentingly fight for the best interests of South Australians.

Ten of the 16 years were spent as Minister in a range of portfolios.

Ms Gago said it was only now that she could completely share how overwhelming it is when she first became a Minister.

"It certainly was for me at least," Ms Gago said.

"There is no beginner's guide, there is no user manual and I remember surviving my first week as minister.

"Values such as equity, fairness and inclusion have been pivotal to her throughout her working life as a clinical nurse, as a unionist and as a member of parliament.

"These values are the centrepiece of the Australian Labor Party, which in

particular aims to improve the lives and protect the rights and conditions of working people.

"I am still to this day proud to call myself a unionist and to have followed in the footsteps of my grandfather, Aldo Coppede, who was a boilermaker and a local shop steward in Mooroopna and who helped lead the first strike action ever in the Goulburn Valley," she said.

Reflecting on her time as Minister for the Status of Women, she stated that she lead responsibility for ensuring that more women are able to make a contribution as leaders and key decision-makers in the South Australian community.

"One policy area from which I derived enormous satisfaction was working with the sector to help eliminate violence against women and children, recognising that violence against women occurs at the end of the spectrum that starts with gender inequality at the other end," Ms Gago said.

Ms Gago believes economic prosperity, which includes growing businesses and jobs, has been a priority of the Labor government to create a place where business and people thrive.

"I have been very fortunate to have had the opportunity to contribute to this agenda through the Riverland Sustainable Futures Fund," Ms Gago said.

"Established to assist the region to cope with the aftermath of the worst drought in our recorded history, we were able to help create new jobs and investment in the region through the Fund.

"I was the Minister responsible for the establishment of Sino SA, which is the internationalisation strategy of Bio Innovation SA, established to assist South Australian businesses to export to China.

"At times, 16 years as a Member of Parliament seems like a very long time, but in fact it is only a small moment in the history of this place and the future of South Australia.

"Many challenges and opportunities lie ahead, and if I were to impart any advice, it would be to share with you the daily motto which helped motivate me to do and be my very best, and that is: Don't waste one minute of one day."

"There is a great deal more to do to move to keep our state moving forward and serve the people of South Australia," she said.

WOMEN HONoured FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY

The South Australian Women's Honour Roll acknowledges women who are exceptional role models and pays tribute to South Australian women for their outstanding contribution to our community.

Member for Light, Tony Piccolo nominated five women for consideration for the 2017 Honour Roll.

Mrs Betty Locking, Kim Wright and Nicki Ryan and all familiar names in the Gawler region for their lifetime of commitment to numerous volunteer organisations.

Some of the organisations who have benefited from Betty Locking's involvement are, Neighbourhood Watch, Relay for Life, Gawler Road Safety Group, Adopt a Station, and Society of Sponsors for Children.

The Gawler Health Foundation, Gawler Town Band, Swim Club and Gymnastics Club are all organisations that Nicki Ryan has supported. Kim Wright has been a lifetime advocate


working with disadvantaged families and children and her promotion of White Ribbon activities.

Mrs Shirley Harris and Mrs Betty Alberton have volunteered in the Playford, Daveron Park and Peachy Road areas for more years than anyone can remember. Both women have been strong advocates for and supporters of families and businesses, assisting with housing issues and building stronger community ties.

"All five women have provided a positive contribution to our community, some paid and others in a volunteer role" said Mr Piccolo.

"We are extremely fortunate to have women in our community who are passionate and commitment and who often go unrecognised."

"I was very proud to be able to nominate these women in recognition for their contributions to our community and who lead by example for the attitudes and ambitions of young women" he said.



Our theme for 2018...
"Women make a difference!"





Thursday, 8th March, 2017
Gawler Greyhound Clubrooms
Nixon Tce, Gawler
7.15 – 8.30am
\$25

Guest speaker: Alexandra Reid, Deputy Chief Executive Officer at Department of State Development. This former actor is a key ingredient in SA's cultural growth. Alex is also running the Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation Division and the Capital City Committee Directorate. And she's been having and raising babies at the same time.

Tickets available now!
Admission via pre-paid ticket only

Phone: Maggi on 0407391344 for further details

Or to book on line: <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?embed&eid=252022>



FREEMASON'S FOUNDATION CENTRE FOR MEN'S HEALTH TURNS 10

On 17 November, the Freemasons Foundation Centre for Men's Health welcomed more than 90 Centre members and guests to the Panorama Suite at the Adelaide Convention Centre to formally celebrate the 10 year anniversary of the Centre and the unique research partnership between the Freemasons Foundation and the University of Adelaide.

Dr Roger Sexton AM, Principal Patron and Chair of the Board of Patrons of the Freemasons Foundation Centre for Men's Health noted that since 2007, the Freemasons Foundation has contributed 3 million dollars to support men's health research, the development of young and upcoming scientists and a program of public engagement; and investment matched 1:1 by The University of Adelaide.

The South Australian and Northern Territory Jurisdiction of Freemasons



Tony Piccolo MP with researchers from the Freemason's Foundation Centre for Men's Health.

has also provided considerable in kind support to the Centre over this period, and Roger thanked the Freemasons for their work behind the scenes fundraising in their communities to support the important work of the Freemasons Foundation and the Freemasons Foundation Centre for Men's Health. Dr Sexton went on to offer his gratitude to the University of Adelaide for the steadfast commitment to supporting the Centre, and more recently the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute.

Local member of Parliament, Tony Piccolo, a long time supporter and dedicated patron of the centre

attended the celebration.

Speaking in Parliament earlier in the week, Mr Piccolo congratulated the foundation on the milestone.

"The Freemason's Foundation Centre for Men's Health is the only multidisciplinary men's research centre in Australia."

"The centre does amazing work in firstly, supporting a comprehensive research program to improve men's health; secondly, to support an early career researcher development program; and, finally, to translate research knowledge to increase public awareness and to inform health policy and practice."

"On behalf of the South Australian parliament, I would like to congratulate the Freemasons Foundation Centre for Men's Health on reaching its 10-year milestone and on its important contributions to this state and to the health and wellbeing of men in our community," Mr Piccolo said.

WILLO'S CELEBRATES TEN YEARS OF SERVICE TO LOCAL MEN



Willo's Men's Shed celebrated its 10th Birthday in early December.

A plaque to commemorate the event was unveiled by local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo and Social Inclusion Minister Zoe Bettison.

Ms Bettison said the traditional backyard shed has long been a staple of Australian culture and this new and updated version adapts that tradition to a more communal focus.

"While they may vary in terms of resources, programs and members, men's shed all offer significant social and emotional

benefits to men," Ms Bettison said.

"These range from enhanced self-esteem, to companionship and the ability to forge new friendships," she said.

Shed President, Mr Wayne Marks said that over the ten years the shed has had 25,058 visits by men and over 115,345 volunteer hours have been contributed to maintaining the shed and in the undertaking of a number of community projects.

The shed came about as a result of funds made available in early 2007 by the Gawler Health Service and the then Men's Health Worker, Mr Aaron Phillips, who was given the task to manage the project to start up a Men's Shed.

Gawler Community House was identified a possible location but it faced a number

of obstacles and the Manager of Employment Directions in Gawler Ms Carmel Rosier came to the rescue.

Ms Rosier made the sheds at the Employment Directions site at Little Paxton Street, Willaston available and the shed remains there today.

Since the opening in 2007, Employment Directions have left the site, but Willo's have been able to renegotiate a new lease with the Gawler Council.

The name Willo's came about because of its location in Willaston and a song written and sung by John Williamson, or Willo for short.

Williamson's song called "The Shed" had the following lyrics:

*Yeah all the Australian boys
need a shed
A place where he can go to clear
his head.
To think about the things his
woman said
Yeah, all Australian boys need a
shed.*

Mr Piccolo said the shed plays an important role in helping men maintain good mental health, especially those who are alone or in poor health in some way.

"Willo's provides a safe place for men to go and talk about things important in the lives of men," said Mr Piccolo.



President Wayne Marks showing off a Men's Shed project to Minister Bettison and son Hugo.

MATES IN CONSTRUCTION LOOKING OUT FOR EACH OTHER

Mates in Construction (MIC) is an Award-winning Suicide Awareness and Prevention program and was launched in the South Australian Construction Industry in April 2013.

The MIC program is an integrated program of training and support. The MIC program uses training as a tool to raise awareness that there is a problem with suicide and its contributing risk factors in our industry. This training falls into three categories; General Awareness which helps to introduce workers to the nature of the problem, Connector training which teaches skills to workers on how to keep someone in crisis safe, while connecting them to professional help and ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) which equips individuals with skills to talk to a person contemplating suicide with the object of making this person "safe".

MIC then provides support through clear pathways to help, case management processes that ensure that workers in need of support are connected to appropriate help, and on-site visits by field officers to support the site and its workers in an ongoing presence until the site closes.

Since the introduction of MIC in South Australia:

- 592 construction workers (or immediate family members) have received Case Management and support
- 12,665 construction workers and safety staff have received the 1-hour General Awareness Training

• 733 construction workers and safety staff have been trained in the 4-hour Connector Training

• 154 construction workers and safety staff have undertaken the 2-day Applied Suicide Interventions Skills Training (ASIST)

• 18 Apprentices trained in Life Skills Tool Box

• MIC staff continue to respond to crisis calls from SA construction workers.

• Attached to the above, MIC provide a 24/7 crisis call line: 1300 642 111 that is available to workers within the industry as well as their immediate family members.

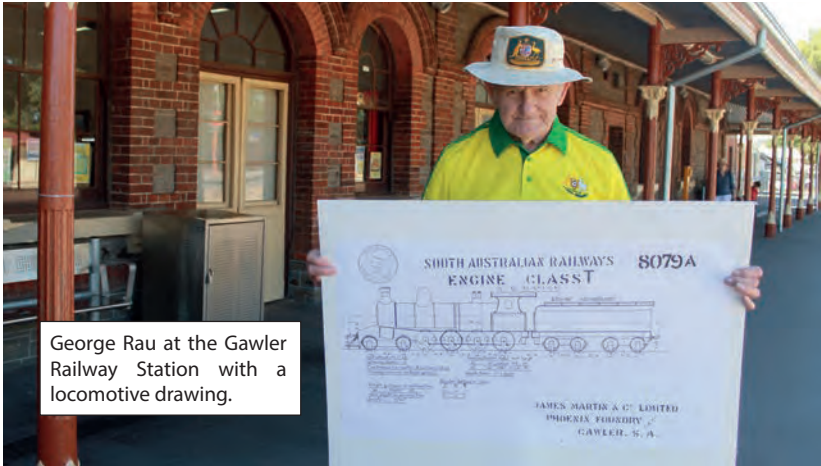
MIC also holds an annual major fundraising Charity Lunch which over the last few years has been held at the iconic Adelaide Oval. We had an amazing 250 guests at the lunch last year and hope to see more attend this year!

For more details on the Charity Lunch for 2018 (tickets and sponsorship) and how you can become involved in the MIC program to provide a safer working environment, please contact the MIC SA office on (08) 8373 0122 or alternatively by email at enquiries@mic.org.au.

Local Member of Parliament Tony Piccolo is a strong supporter of the Mates in Construction program and attended the most recent charity lunch with student representatives from St Patrick's Technical College.

"Suicide prevention is everyones business and it is by working together that we can and do save lives," he said.

GEORGE STEAMS AHEAD TO HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY



George Rau at the Gawler Railway Station with a locomotive drawing.

Local rail historian George Rau has long had an interest in trains as far back as he can remember, and that is a long time, since he recently celebrated his 90th birthday.

Nothing excites Mr Rau like the history of the rail system in Gawler, and in particular, those manufactured in the James Martin Foundry back in late 1800s and early 1900s.

Born and bred in Gawler to Harold and Catherine Rau (nee Ford), Mr Rau unsurprisingly spent his whole working life (45 years) in South Australia Railways, where he was kept busy repairing and maintain the rail carriages.

Educated at the local public school, Mr Rau has amassed a huge collection of drawings and photos, second to none, of Gawler's rail history.

Mr Rau laments the day that the Commonwealth closed down its sites in South Australia and disposed of historical documents charting the States rail history.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr

Tony Piccolo said Mr Rau has had an enormous interest in the town history as far as I can remember.

Mr Rau is often hard saying when you have an hour I will show you plans and photos of the locos built in Gawler.

"I have plans and records of all the locomotives built in Gawler, from when the town was one of the country's biggest manufacturer," Mr Rau said.

"Have plans of the wagons that were built as well," he said.

Mr Piccolo said in its heyday Gawler was a leading manufacturing town designing and building not only locomotives but also an array of farming machinery and equipment.

"It is no accident that George is in huge demand as a guest speaker on the rail history of the town," Mr Piccolo said.

"He lives, breathes and I'm sure he also dreams about Gawler's rail history.

"There is no doubt that George's historic collection is priceless, as many of the documents can never be replaced," he said.

TRINITY VET AWARD



Each year, Member for Light, Tony Piccolo sponsors the Light Award in recognition of an outstanding Trinity student who has undertaken Vocational Education and Training Awards.

This year, the Award was presented to Anika Scott at the Trinity College Senior Vocational Education and Training Awards Ceremony in October last year

Ms Scott is undertaking Certificate III in Tourism at TAFE SA and amongst her many qualities making her an ideal recipient included her support of other students in the

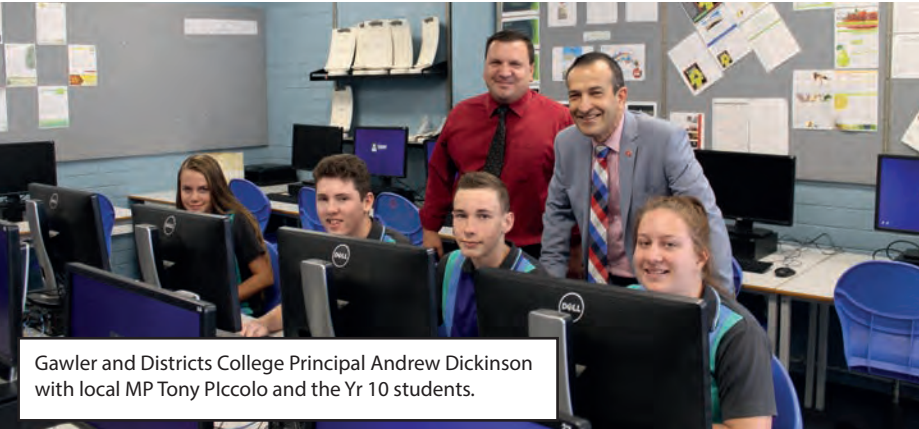
class and always having a position attitude and a friendly smile for everyone.

Mr Piccolo said he is very proud to be in a position to sponsor this award every year.

“Every year, the student selected by their trainees and mentors, are excellent examples of how young people can achieve their dream career” said Mr Piccolo.

“I was very pleased to learn that Anika has been offered a school based traineeship at Helloworld Travel Elizabeth where she now works as a trainee travel consultant” he said.

LOCAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS TURBO CHARGED FOR THE DIGITAL AGE



A commitment by the State Labor Government to grant every year 10 public school student across South Australia a publicly funded laptop has been well received in the local school communities.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo said the State Government will invest around \$70 million over five years under the Laptops for Students program, with all year 10, 11 and 12 public school students to have personal laptops by 2021.

“Students will take the laptops home to assist with homework, and will keep the devices after graduating – setting them up to commence further studies and join the workforce,” Mr Piccolo said.

“Unfortunately, not every family can afford a home computer, let alone personal laptops for their children.

“I strongly believe that education should be accessible to everyone, and this initiative will help our public school students to get ahead.

“The teachers, parents and students I spoke with during the week certainly welcomed the laptop and internet announcements by the State Government during the week.

“While Nick Xenophon and the Liberals voted to cut \$210 million from SA schools over the next two years, the State Government is making investments such as these that prepare students for the careers of the future,” he said.

Gawler & District College is currently undertaking a \$3.5 million upgrade of its STEM facilities with construction works being undertaken by local builder GC&J Constructions

Pty Ltd.

During the week, additional classes for students living with disability and special needs started to arrive at the College.

This will enable the College to offer a specialise teaching program for all students from reception to Year 12.

Mr Piccolo said that the huge investment in infrastructure by the State Government is not only improving the learning opportunities for our young people but also creating valuable local jobs in the construction industry.

“I understand that the laptop roll-out will commence for a number of schools in the second term of 2018, with a roll out to all year 10 public school students to occur in 2019,” Mr Piccolo said.

“The State Government has also announced upgraded broadband speeds for all public schools and preschools across the State, significantly improving the learning potential for students – especially those with access to laptops.

“Access to both laptops and high-speed internet will accelerate learning and enable teachers to deliver a wider range of online curriculum in real-time across the public school system.

“Schools that already have school owned laptop programs in place will allocate the devices currently being used by year 10 students to other students in the school.

“The broadband upgrade across 900 SA’s public schools and pre-schools will take two years to complete, and is expected to create investment and jobs during the roll out,” he said.

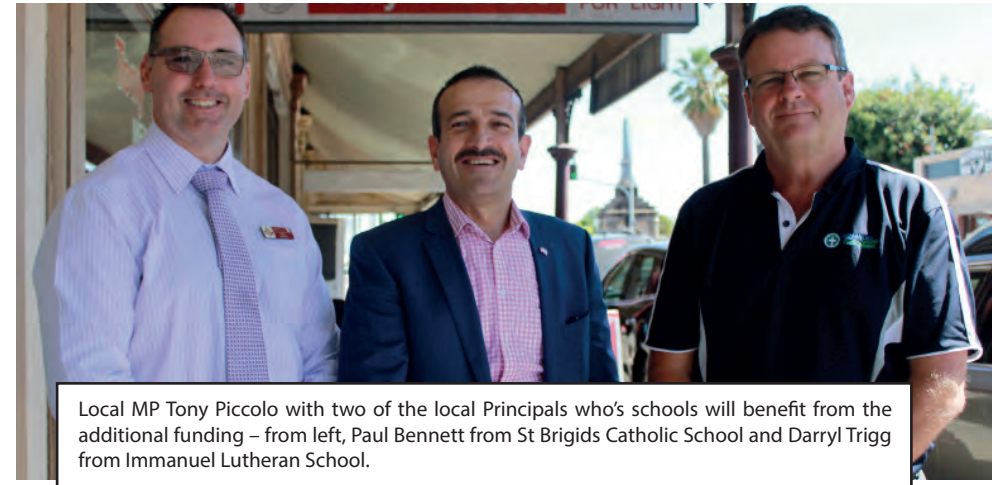
THE CLASS OF 2017

In 2017, Tony Piccolo was privileged to be able to attend a number of end-of-year celebrations, graduations, and prizegiving ceremonies across the Light Electorate.

Mr Piccolo sponsors a number of awards including certificates and prizes for student achievement.



FUNDING BOOST FOR FOUR LOCAL SCHOOLS



Four schools in the Light Electorate will receive additional funding from the State Government from next year to ensure their students are not disadvantaged by the Federal Liberal Government’s decision to back out of Gonski.

Immanuel Lutheran, Trinity North, Trinity South, Xavier College and St Brigids Schools will receive a funding boost from next year to ensure they have the resources to meet their student’s educational needs.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo has welcomed the announcement this morning by Education Minister Susan Close.

Mr Piccolo said the additional funding is based on the State Government’s commitment that schools are resourced on a “needs basis” to ensure all students get the opportunity to access the best possible education.

“This additional funding will enable the schools to provide individualised learning and specialised support where required,” Mr Piccolo said.

“Schools will be able to offer a greater range of educational supports to ensure every child receives every opportunity to succeed.”

“These schools would have been left behind by the Federal Government’s decision to cut funding when they reneged on the Gonski agreement, which had already been signed by the State Government.

“As a State Government we recognise the importance that a good education makes to getting a good job and living a good life.

“We are committed to funding our schools to meet the individual needs of our children,” he said.

This funding is on top of the recently announced Building Better Schools program, which saw Gawler & District College receive an additional \$10 mil in funding.

Schools that already achieve the school funding standard will receive an indexed increase with the four schools receiving additional funding.

GAWLER LIONS ROARS INTO ITS FIFTIES



Tony Piccolo MP with current President Ray Brussow and charter member Humphrey George (on far right) holding the original charter at the birthday celebrations.

The Gawler Lions Club has roared into its fifties with a celebratory dinner in November to mark the historic event.

Over 90 Lions, family and friends entered the den at Nixon's Function Centre to see the cutting of the 50th birthday cake, a speech from Charter Member Mr Humphrey George, and a minute's silence to remember those members and friends who had passed away.

Current President Mr Ray Brussow said that the Gawler Lions had a great deal to be proud of in serving the local community.

"Through the many fundraising efforts the club has supported a number of local, national and international projects," Mr Brussow said.

Mr George agreed with Mr Brussow adding that the club was at its best when it worked

with other service clubs in Gawler to deliver significant projects for the town.

"The Clubs worked together to help establish Gawler Aged Cottage homes to provide quality accommodation at an affordable price to local seniors," Mr George said.

"In the 80's the combined service clubs worked hard to deliver a Sport and Recreation Centre for the young people of Gawler," he said.

The Club was an all-male affair for many years with Gwyneth Helbers becoming its first female president in 2002/03, closely followed by Beryl Tearle.

Local Member of Parliament and Lions Member, Mr Tony Piccolo emceed the dinner, and Dr Bruce Eastick delivered the Toast to Lions International as he had done so 49 years ago as Mayor of the Town.

Mr Piccolo said the anniversary provided the club members an opportunity to celebrate and reflect upon their achievements and remember past members and friends.

"While the club had achieved a great deal in their first fifty years, there was much more to do in the next," Mr Piccolo said.

Guests at the dinner included Mr Kevin Master, First Vice District Governor Elect, Mayor Karen Redman and her partner Terry, and representatives from other Lions Clubs and Service Clubs in Gawler.

Special guests at the dinner were the partners of founding (charter) members of the club who had since passed away.

Former Gawler resident, and now South Australian Senator Simon Birmingham, was an apology for the occasion but a pre-recorded greeting from him was played on the night.

Mr Birmingham, now Federal Minister for Education and Training was a Gawler Lions Youth of the Year winner in 1991/92.

Charter Member Humphrey George and current President Mr Ray Brussow cut the birthday cake.

A brief history of the club's first fifty years has been published to mark the occasion.

TIME FLIES FOR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

The centenary re-enactment of the first airmail delivery in South Australia had a safe landing in Gawler on Thursday despite clouds threatening to rain on the Airmail Society's parade.

A crowd, comprising of members from the Gawler History Team, Gawler Red Cross, Australian Airmail Society and the Adelaide Soaring Club, amongst many others, gathered at the north eastern corner of the Gawler racetrack in the afternoon to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the first airmail delivery to Gawler, and in honour of Robert Graham Carey's first aeroplane flight over Gawler.

Local resident and member of the Airmail Society Mr Martin Walker approached local Member of Parliament, Tony Piccolo, to have a

memorial marker sign placed at the location to make people of the historic monument at the racetrack.

Mr Piccolo said that he understood that when the Jockey Club was first approached about holding the small celebration at the memorial, they responded with, "what memorial?"

"The historic occasion was first celebrated on its 80th anniversary with a memorial plaque placed at the edge of the horse racing track," Mr Piccolo said.

"I was able to quickly obtained the support of the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure about having a memorial maker sign placed on Adelaide Road.

"It was installed the day before the centenary event," he said.

In 1917, Mr Carey's flight over Gawler was scheduled to occur three weeks earlier.



Martin Walker, Tony Piccolo MP and Edith Martin (grand-daughter of the 1917 pilot R.G. Carey) unveil the sign to mark the monument.

However, he crashed shortly after take-off, which disappointed the crowd of onlookers waiting in Gawler.

The first flight carried with it a letter from the then Speaker of the South Australian Parliament, Mr FW Coneybeer, to the then Mayor of Gawler, Mr William H Cox.

The current Speaker of the South Australian Parliament, the Hon Mick Atkinson and Gawler's Mayor Karen Redman commemorated the event by having letters delivered to each other via the aeroplane, which recreated the important event.

Mr Piccolo said that it was great to be involved in the recreation of another of Gawler's historic pioneering events.

"By unveiling the memorial marker sign I hope that this event will be remembered more widely than it currently is," he said.



Congratulations to Rits and John Ambler of Evanston Park celebrated their 60th Anniversary in December!

Are you or a family member approaching a milestone birthday or wedding anniversary?

Would you like to receive congratulations from the Premier, Federal and State Members, Governor, Governor-General, Prime Minister and Her Majesty the Queen?

If you are approaching your 90th, 95th, 100th or even 105th birthday; or you are going to celebrate your 50th, 60th, 65th or even 70th wedding anniversary, and you are a resident of South Australia, you are eligible to receive messages of congratulations.

For more information please contact Tony Piccolo's Light Electorate Office on 8522 2878 or email light@parliament.sa.gov.au

CHILDREN'S CENTRE TURNS 5

On December 8, the Gawler and Districts College Children's Centre celebrated its 5th birthday. Established back in 2013 as a result of an amalgamation with the Evanston Preschool, the centre currently has 83 children enrolled.

Children's Centre community development co-ordinator Kim Wright said "We engage with about 150-200 different families on a weekly basis, through all of our different programs."

"We're a multi-functional team, so we have a family services co-ordinator, an occupational therapist, a speech pathologist and we also have a children and family services department."

"It's amazing to see the children grow and to see the families find the support that they need."

The occasion was marked with a 'Family Fun Day' with live entertainment from the Salisbury City Brass Band, family activities including bouncing castles and face painting, and various arts and craft stalls by members of the local community.

Local Member of Parliament Tony Piccolo was also asked to assist with the burial of the time capsule alongside Gawler Mayor Karen Redman and the centre's Education Director Katherine Bruggemann before they cut the centre's birthday cake and sung 'Happy Birthday' alongside attendees.

"Children's centres, an initiative of the State Government, provide families with the best possible learning, health, and wellbeing outcomes for their children." Mr Piccolo said.

"Congratulations to the Gawler and District College B-12 Children's Centre for five years of service to the Gawler community," he added.

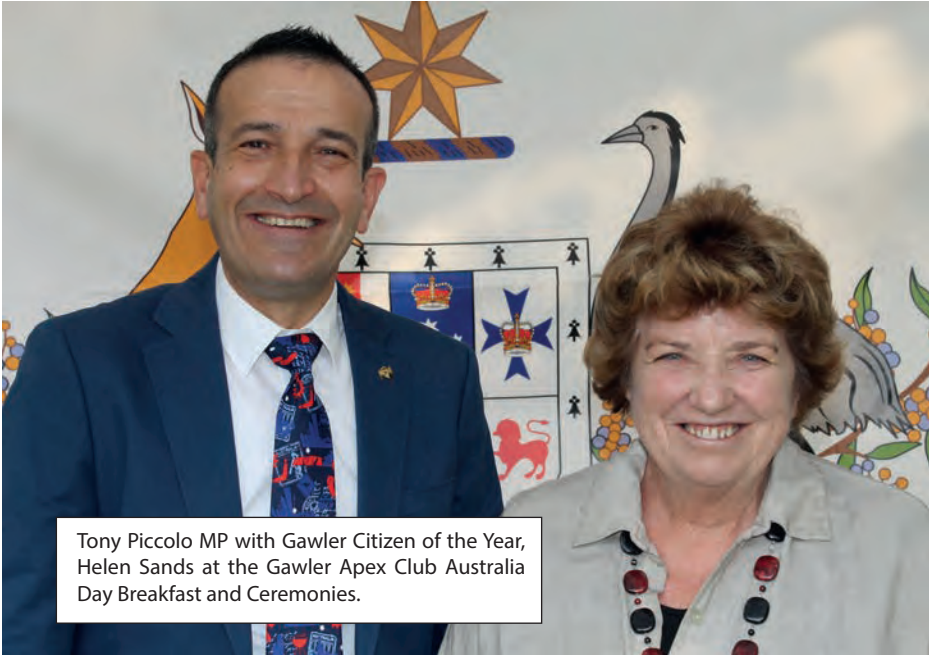


Tony Piccolo MP with Mayor Karen Redman and Education Director Katherine Bruggemann cutting the 5th birthday cake.



Tony Piccolo with Mayor Redman and Ms Bruggemann burying the time capsule.

LETS NOT FORGET THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY SAYS PICCOLO



Tony Piccolo MP with Gawler Citizen of the Year, Helen Sands at the Gawler Apex Club Australia Day Breakfast and Ceremonies.

While giving the Australia Address at the Gawler Apex Club Australia Day Breakfast and Ceremonies, local Member of Parliament, Tony Piccolo drew attention to the growing inequality that is having a negative impact on local communities.

Mr Piccolo said while individual economic rights are the foundation of our economy, they must not be allowed to undermine community. “Our communities are being undermined by the growing importance of individualism, while individual social rights

are important, they cannot be at the expense of community,” Mr Piccolo said. “As a result of these two forces our families, neighbourhoods, towns and cities are under increasing pressure from a growing sense of isolation, loneliness and alienation.

“The relationship of community is suffering from the lack of attention and neglect. “People often confuse individuality with individualism. They are two different things, one positive the other negative,” he said. Mr Piccolo also acknowledged that the celebration of Australia Day on 26 January has once again generated a great deal of discussion. Mr Piccolo said Australia Day was more important to a majority of Australians than a range of other celebrations because it is the one day that we try to put our differences aside and celebrate our commonality. “We share a set of values that while at times can be considered universal, nevertheless help us form our identity not only as a nation, but also as a people,” Mr Piccolo said. “As a nation we value our personal freedom and rights, but we must not forget the freedom and rights of others. “As Australians, we strive to achieve personally, but we value a fair go for all. It is no accident that we often barrack for the underdog.

“We admire the courage shown by our armed services personnel, our emergency services workers (both career and volunteer), and the hundreds of acts of courage demonstrated by ordinary everyday Australians. “Quite rightly we view ourselves as a compassionate society always prepared to lend a hand to those doing it tough, for one reason or another. “We are a very tolerant and accepting society, who have welcomed many, like my family. “I am a grateful recipient, and a product, of those Australian values, which makes me proud to call Australia home. “And while we have become unfortunately, a less economically equal society, we still cherish our sense of fairness and egalitarianism. “When we combine all these values together, it is clear that there is one relationship that we continually strive for the relationship of community. “Whether the community is the extended family, our church, a sporting group, neighbourhood, town or city matters not, we achieve added

meaning in our lives by being part of a community. “The relationship of community is suffering from the lack of attention and neglect. “Communities thrive when we are all able to make a contribution to them. “Humans are social beings, so individuals thrive when we have healthy communities. “Children thrive in healthy families. Families thrive in healthy communities. Community flourishes in an economic and socially inclusive, just and fair society. “We must find ways to ensure that all Australians feel that they belong and can benefit from our economy and society to be able to make a contribution to community. “We must also remember and try to understand the views of those for which this day is not a day of celebration. “For those values we share and hold dear as Australians are nurtured by compassion and respect. “They help strengthen that relationship called community,” he said.

FROM DOG BOX TO TIGER’S LAIR



At the official opening of the new Gawler Centrals Sporting Association Administration Centre were (photo 1190) (from left) Mark Hermann (GCSA Vice President); Leanne Songer (President, Gawler Centrals Netball Club); Tony Piccolo MP, Kingsley Songer (President, GCSA); Mayor Karen Redman; Andrew Pike (President, Gawler Central’s Football Club); and Mitchell Horwood, (President of Gawler centrals Cricket Club)

The Gawler Central’s Sporting Club has officially opened its new clubrooms. Gawler Mayor, Karen Redman and Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo jointly unveiled a plaque commemorating the official opening at a recently held ceremony. The State Government contributed \$20,000 through the Active Club program to the total cost of the project’s budget of \$72,500. Mr Piccolo said while the grant helped fill a funding gap, it was the 1,700 hours of volunteer work that ensured the project’s success. “Although a number of people were involved in the project, the driving force was Association Vice President, Mr Mark Hermann,” Mr Piccolo said. “Sport and recreation plays an important role in our lives, for many reasons, and for many people a club becomes their second home. “This project has redeveloped the old Gawler Greyhound Club ‘Dog Box’ into the new ‘Tiger Lair’ that will benefit the whole community.

“People who undertake volunteering work like this build more than a facility, they help build a community and a strong sense of belonging. “Many future generations of young sportspeople will benefit from the contribution by this group of volunteers led by Mr Mark Hermann. “Sporting clubs are a meeting spot, a social hub, and often the heartbeat of the local community.” “I understand the Town of Gawler generously provided the Club with an interest-free loan of \$20,000 to assist in the redevelopment of this project,” he said. The Club was recently successful in securing \$150,000 through the State Government’s Fund My Neighbourhood program to construct their ‘Grandstand Shelter Project’. This will be another significant facility for the Club and will reap huge benefits for its players and the wider community going forward. Mr Piccolo said that he applauded everyone involved in bringing this project to fruition.

COMMUNITY GROUP OF THE YEAR



Gawler Community House



Graffiti Removal Team (Special Commendation)



COMMUNITY EVENT OF THE YEAR



CHANGE Original Music Festival (accepted by Martin Johnson)

YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR



Franke Agenbag

CORPORATE CITIZEN OF THE YEAR



Steve Barilla - Gawler Country Office National and Furniture (with wife Grace)



Damien McGee - The Exchange Hotel (Special Commendation)

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR (SPECIAL COMMENDATION)



Mr Bruce and Ms Nancy Townsend



Richard Holt

Enlightened

Looking back at our past four years

UK Prime Minister, Harold Wilson said in 1964 that a week was a long time in politics.

As your local Member of Parliament, all I can say is that the last four years has flown by.

We have achieved a great many things as a community in this time.

Most recently we worked together to secure funding to upgrade the Gawler Green intersection; and I worked very closely with the Dalkeith CFS to obtain funding for the Dalkeith Road intersection.

Each and everyone of us is an integral part of our

community. The strength of our community is due to the contribution that our volunteers make each day.

This brief review of the last four years of *Enlightened* highlights the contributions that volunteers have made to our hospitals, schools and the community's safety.

You can see that by working together we have been able to achieve a great deal for our community.

I look back on the last four years with fondness and look forward to continuing to work you.



Tony Piccolo
Member for Light

TULLOCH TACKLED!

The Gawler Community has won its battle to have the Gawler Green Shopping Centre intersection substantially upgraded, following a decision by the State Government to allocate \$4 million to the project.

The decision has been welcomed by Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo, who has co-ordinated a long campaign with local traders, residents and the Gawler & District College community to have the Tulloch/Main North Roads intersection upgraded.



Gawler Mayor Karen Redman backed the campaign earlier this year.

Mr Piccolo said the strong campaign by the whole Gawler community has led to this fantastic decision.

campaigning I have been involved in countless meetings with Ministers and State Government Officials.

to the campaign has been just wonderful.

"As a community we can proud of what we have achieved together," he said.

"We left no stone unturned,"

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LOCALS ELECTRIFIED BY GAWLER RAIL ANNOUNCEMENT

Gawler locals excited about the new funding commitment.



The full electrification of the Gawler Rail Line is back on track with the State Government committing to its share of the cost in the 2017-18 State Budget handed down last week

The project requires matching funding from the Federal Government to guarantee the project goes ahead.

Stage 1 of the Gawler Electrification is being fully funded by the State Government at a cost of \$152.5 million and will involve electrifying the rail

line to Salisbury.

Stage 1 will support approximately 135 jobs per year during construction.

Local Member of Parliament, Tony Piccolo stated that this was a massive investment in rail for Gawler and the people of the Light electorate.

"I was disappointed when the electrification of the line was stalled after the Abbott Government withdrew their funding for the project in 2013," Mr Piccolo said.

Minister Snelling said.

"Additional staff include nurses as well as dedicated Allied Health services such as a dietitian,

is committed to rural healthcare," he said.

The purpose-built renal unit at Gawler Health Service has nine chairs and is already providing on average 300 treatment sessions per month.

Since opening its doors in September 2016, the Gawler Renal Unit has expanded its services from three days a week to six days - saving patients from travelling into metropolitan Adelaide for treatment.

Local resident Mr Trevor Grasse said the new renal unit had been a godsend, as he previously had to travel to the city.

Currently 25 local people access the service three times a week, with a session typically lasting between four and five hours.



Mr Trevor Grasse (and wife Maxine) chat with local Member, Mr Tony Piccolo at the official opening of the Renal Unit at the Gawler Health Service

Enlightened

Looking back at our past four years



E26 AUGUST 2014

GREEN LIGHT FOR PLAYFORD GROWTH

The last stage of the Playford growth areas within the Light electorate has been given the green light for development.

The second of two Development Plan Amendments (DPAs) were authorised recently and bring the total allotments now available for development to 11,700 for a potential population growth of 30,000 people.

Approval was granted for an expansion of Angle Vale with the latest approval extending the new urban boundaries to include Munno Para West and Munno Para Downs.

Local Member Tony Piccolo said the approved plans will deliver a vital economic boost to the northern suburbs, Gawler and surroundings areas.

"Thousands of jobs will be created over 15-20 years as new houses and businesses are built in the area," Mr Piccolo said.

The area approved for development involves hundreds of small landowners

uneconomic because of their size.

Mr Piccolo said the development will help deliver up to 17-20 years of land supply in the northern areas of metropolitan Adelaide and compliment the land already available at Gawler East, Evanston South, and Evanston Gardens.

Mr Piccolo said he was impressed how the hundreds of small landowners had worked co-operatively with the City of Playford and the state government to achieve this great result for them and the local economy.

"This decision meets the three key criteria for orderly greenfield rezoning. One, infrastructure agreements are in place off the back of a detailed structure plan. Two, rezoning is phased and orderly and maximises the efficient use of existing infrastructure. Three, the target of 15 years zoned land is secured," Mr Piccolo said.

For more information about the Playford Growth Project visit: dpti.sa.gov.au/planning/playfordgrowth

CFS VOLUNTEERS WIN CANCER COMPENSATION

The State Government has legislated to provide automatic compensation for CFS volunteers who are diagnosed with certain types of cancers.

The decision was made following discussions between local Member of Parliament and Minister for Emergency Services, Tony Piccolo and the CFS Volunteers Association.

Mr Piccolo paid tribute to the CFS Volunteers' Association for their constructive engagement with him over the issue. Mr Piccolo said "a genuine face to face dialogue enabled a good agreement to be reached."

Mr Piccolo said the scheme allows for current and future operational CFS volunteers to access the scheme.

"We made a commitment before the election to review the arrangements of the scheme and we have now delivered on this commitment," Mr Piccolo said.

"The new scheme will open up the

availability of automatic compensation to all current operational CFS volunteers and will be applied retrospectively from 1 July 2013."

CFS Volunteer Association Executive Director, Ms Sonia St Alban said the Association welcomes the presumptive cancer compensation decision for CFS volunteer firefighters, which will provide volunteers and their families with peace of mind.

"The CFSVA is relieved that the cancer risk faced by CFS volunteer firefighters

our CFS volunteers who place themselves in potentially dangerous situations for the safety of the community," Mr Piccolo said.

The scheme is funded at \$7.8 million for the first year, rising to \$13.4 million in year ten with funding arrangements beyond the current financial year to be considered as part of the 2015/16 Budget process.

"I see this as a solid investment in the well being of our volunteers," Mr Piccolo said

NINE DIALYSIS CHAIRS FOR GAWLER



SA Treasurer Jack Snelling and local MP Tony Piccolo discuss the announcement with Health Service staff.

People in Gawler will have easier access to dialysis services, after Labor delivered on an election promise.

Minister for Health Jack Snelling announced in March a re-elected Labor Government would invest about \$10.5 million to establish and operate nine dialysis chairs at the Gawler Health Service – a promise that was kept in the State Budget.

"This is a significant investment in health services for people living in Gawler and the surrounding Barossa area," Mr Snelling said.

Local MP Tony Piccolo welcomed the announcement saying it would make a positive difference in the lives of those locals

who currently have to travel to Adelaide for the service.

"At present, when someone needs renal dialysis, they have to travel to metropolitan Adelaide for treatment.

"In fact, there are currently around ten patients who have to make the trek to Adelaide each day for haemodialysis.

"In addition, there are 19 patients on the pre-dialysis list who are likely to need this service in coming years.

"By establishing a service in Gawler, we'll eliminate the travel time and make life easier for those people who rely on these services."

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP TO LOCAL MP

The Dalkeith Country Fire Service (CFS) has conferred honorary membership of its brigade on local Member of Parliament and Minister for Emergency Services, Tony Piccolo.

Mr Piccolo was presented with his 'official' Dalkeith CFS polo shirt and welcomed to the Brigade at a ceremony held recently at the station.

Mr Piccolo said that he was honoured by the conferral, both as a local Member of Parliament and as Minister for Emergency Services.

"Our volunteer firefighters do such a great job helping to keep our community safe, so it is a privilege to be invited to be a member of the local Brigade," Mr Piccolo said.

Brigade Captain Mr Justin Baxter said Mr Piccolo had been offered honorary membership in recognition of the contribution he makes as the local member for Light and what he gives to our community.

The Brigade formally voted last November to offer Mr Piccolo honorary membership.

While honorary membership imposes no minimum time commitments, Mr Piccolo said he was keen to undertake the basic training course to help him understand the role of our volunteer firefighters.

The Dalkeith CFS Brigade, which was formed in 1994, is one



of the busiest in the state. In addition to fighting fires they also undertake road rescue and are trained to undertake emergencies that involve hazards.

The Brigade is part of the Para Group within Region 2 and covers areas within the City of Playford and Town of Gawler.



E27 APRIL 2015

Enlightened

Looking back at our past four years



E28 SEPTEMBER 2015

THE BASIC ESSENTIALS PROVIDE DIGNITY FOR WOMEN



Local MP Mr Tony Piccolo, has joined forces with Essentials for Women SA to help women who are homeless or victims of domestic violence to obtain the 'basic essentials'.

The brainchild of Kelly Peacock and Amy Rust, the product based donation initiative is

Mr Piccolo's electorate office at 148 Murray Street, Gawler is a designated drop off point for people who wish to donate "the basic essentials" to support women in need in the community.

Mr Piccolo said that items can be dropped off at his office Mon-

including products and underwear.

Ms Rust said "our long term goal is to get to a point in South Australia where vulnerable women no longer need to menstruate without dignity and to resort to disturbing decisions such as making the choice of either buy-

EVANSTON GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL IN \$6 MILLION UPGRADE



Students and teachers are celebrating the recent commencement in August

Currently there are redevelopment will classrooms and support

480 students. Most importantly, the school will also meet contemporary disability access standards.

Local Member Tony Piccolo, lobbied heavily for the redevelopment and is pleased that the redevelopment would enable all modern teaching techniques to be utilised at the school, while still re-taining the two buildings that have historic and heritage significance that will be incorporated into the redesigned school.

School staff and members of the Governing Council have been consulted during the design stages of the project. School Principal Ms Libby Cliff stated that with new opportunities for technology there will be greater learning opportunities for our teachers and children.

"A new library and administration building will make a big difference and we will be able to build

Governing Council Chair Ms Tori Geraghty said that as a parent and chairperson of our school, my main focus will be for our students to have a comfortable and up to date learning environment for students and teachers."

Mr Piccolo said the school opened on 20 January 1908 and Blanche Tims, a provisional teacher, taught at the school in 1908 and 1909. In 1923 the Department of Education built the present school. In 1951, 1961 and 1966 wooden prefab classrooms were added to the school as pupil numbers grew.

Another wooden prefab classroom was added in 1974 when the nearby Gawler River School closed.

Until 1968 the school was known as Gawler Blocks primary school, reflecting the name of the area until that time. Gawler Blocks was originally owned by Mr John Riggs in town sections of 630 acres. A move to

COUNTRY CABINET COMES TO GAWLER



Over a long weekend in October, Country Cabinet toured the Gawler, Barossa, Light and Mallala council areas, meeting with community, business and local governments to gain a better understanding of the issues in the region.

The visit commenced with a community forum with a large crowd taking advantage of the opportunity to meet with Cabinet ministers.

There were many other opportunities for the Premier and ministers to visit some of the exciting developments in the region, such as Maintenance Techniques in Roseworthy.

The Premier and Local Member Tony Piccolo concluded the visit with a walk along Murray Street and the chance to catch up with some of the local business owners such as Damien McGee who showed off the new renovations at the Exchange Hotel.

E29 DECEMBER 2016

DEVASTATED COMMUNITIES WILL REBUILD

The Light Electorate was one of the hardest hit areas during the Pinery fires.

Local Member of Parliament and Minister for Emergency Services Tony Piccolo said that rural part of his electorate have been devastated by the fires.

"While the fires have traumatised the local community, I know how resilient country people are and they will bond together

and rebuild their lives and communities," Mr Piccolo said.

"Foremost, I want to pass on my thoughts and prayers to those families affected by the Pinery fire."

"This tragedy has struck our community at its core.

The recent fires that have ravaged much of the rural areas of the electorate are a harsh reminder of nature's

power and our need to respect our environment.

Foremost though our thoughts and prayers must be with those families that are coming to terms with the loss of loved ones, livelihoods and property.

While the fires have created new harsh memories they also destroyed many joyful ones.

Country people are very resilient and we remain

convinced that they will overcome this hardship and thrive, very proudly, once again.

In true Australian spirit, from the volunteer and paid emergency services workers to strangers from afar, the community has rallied behind the affected communities in recognition that we share both the beauty and harshness of this incredible continent.



Enlightened

Looking back at our past four years

TONY WELCOMED BACK

Local Member of Parliament Mr Tony Piccolo has stepped aside from State Cabinet to concentrate more of his efforts and energies in his electorate.

Mr Piccolo announced in early January that he had advised the Premier that he was happy to make way for 'new blood' in the ministry.

During the latter part of 2015 the Premier had signalled that he wanted to make some changes to his ministry in early 2016. Mr Piccolo remains the State Member for Light until the next State elections and has indicated that he plans to re-contest the seat in 2018.

"Everybody knows I am a local member first and foremost and a Minister second."

"Unfortunately the level of commitment meant I was also missing out on many family experiences."

"It was not unusual for me to miss significant occasions within the extended family."

"The three years as minister have been very rewarding, and I have learnt enormously from the experience."

Mr Piccolo said that while his electorate saw a little less of him during the period he was minister, it also did bring benefits from his greater understanding of how government works.



opportunity arise."

"Until then, I have plenty of work to do in my local community."

Mr Piccolo highlighted helping to rebuild the communities affected by the Pinery fires, ensuring the successful roll out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme, and job creation as priorities for the coming

STUDENT POEMS REFLECT A BYGONE ERA SAYS LOCAL MP

Poetry written by Year 7 students at the former Evanston Primary School some 45 years ago has been unearthed by local resident and parent Mrs Margaret Edwards.

Mrs Edwards's children attended Evanston Primary School and was pleasantly surprised when she saw the book of poetry at a second hand market.

Mrs Edwards brought the existence of the book of poems to the attention of local Member of Parliament Mr Tony Piccolo whose poem about Captain Cook is published in it.

The book of poems titled A Book of Verse was prepared during the 1971 book week and won the "best class" award in that year.

The book contains 19 poems and accompanying illustrations covering such diverse topics as spiders, cow girls, witches, pirates, and the Australian bush.

"My own poem about Captain Cook is no accident since 1970 was the Bicentenary of Captain Cook's visit to Australia and I had developed a great interest in his travels around the world."

Mr Piccolo said the book is a great artefact of the former Evanston Primary



School that he has had the book professionally scanned and uploaded it on his website to make it available to the families of other students whose poems appear in it.

"The book is a treasure for the students of their families and might be a great memory," Mr Piccolo said.

Mr Piccolo said the poems were a great

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MURRAY STREET CROSSING IMPROVES PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

The long awaited pedestrian crossing and refuge across Murray Street near the Gawler Central Railway Station has been constructed and is operational.

Local Member Tony Piccolo said the new crossing has been welcomed by local residents who can now cross Murray Street to go to the train station and Northern Market Shopping Centre with a higher level of safety.

Mr Piccolo said that each work day 19,000 vehicles cross Murray Street at this point which made it very difficult and 'quite dangerous' for



E30 MARCH 2016



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Mr Piccolo said the need for a pedestrian crossing on Murray Street near the Gawler Central railway station had been raised with him some years ago and he had continued to lobby for its construction.

Willaston resident Ms Karen Farrell was one of the first residents to raise the issue with Mr Piccolo in mid-2011.

NEW HEWETT PLAYGROUND A HIT!



The long-awaited installation of new play equipment at Hewett in the reserve area south of Rosella Circuit has been completed and is a real winner with local children.

Responding to an identified need for the growing community, the installation of play equipment by Light Regional Council has been made possible through generous assistance from the State Government via Local Member Tony Piccolo MP.

Play equipment installed provides a range of play activities for children ranging from toddlers through to those of primary school age.

Mr Piccolo said the playground is well suited to the site being within walking distance of the Primary School, Child Care Centre and Hewett Centre, adjacent to the recently upgraded

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Shared Use Path along the North Para River.

"The playground delivers on a commitment the State Government made at the 2014 election to make where we live in more liveable

FUTURE JOBS STEM FROM A SOUND EDUCATION

Two schools in the Light Electorate will benefit from the State Government's new \$250 million investment in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) equipment and related infrastructure in schools across the State.

Gawler and District College will be the beneficiary of \$3.5 million to build STEM related facilities and equipment, while Roseworthy Primary School receives a \$1 million boost.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo welcomed the announcement stating that the investment will assist our young people in obtaining the knowledge and skills necessary for the jobs of the future.

Mr Piccolo said with our state economy shifting focus to new technology based on

advanced manufacturing, we need to ensure our schools are equipped to deliver the relevant curriculum.

"Three quarters of the fastest growing occupations are technology-related, so our children and young people will need new skill sets in the workplace, with a strong focus on STEM."

Mr Piccolo said the infrastructure program will not only provide exciting, new facilities for students in our local schools but also a boost to local economies through the significant building works generated.

The facilities under the program will be fast tracked to assist the building and trade industries to create additional employment opportunities in the local area.

"Principals at the two schools in my area are excited by the new opportunities this huge investment in STEM will create," said Mr Piccolo.

"Understanding science, mathematics and technology is critical to our community's wellbeing, by allowing the development of the right skills and knowledge."

"This investment will enable children at a younger age to be exposed to new learning opportunities, setting a sound foundation for their futures."

While the investment program is for public schools, the State Government has also announced a new loan initiative to support local non-government schools upgrade their facilities.



E31 AUGUST 2016

Enlightened

Looking back at our past four years

DISABILITY EXPO A SUCCESS

Around 100 people attended the inaugural Gawler and Districts Disability Expo held on Sunday October 30 at STARplex.

Families with children and adults living with a disability had the opportunity to explore the wide range of sporting and recreational opportunities.

The Expo was a joint venture between local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo and STARplex based at Evanston Park.

Activities included scuba based therapy in the pool and a wide range of court activities including basketball and bocchia.

Mr Piccolo said the feedback from both families and exhibitors was very positive and

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BOOST FOR SPECIAL ED



The Special Class program at Gawler and District College will be expanded from 2018 to include junior primary and primary school children.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony

additional places mean that more Gawler families will be able to send their children to a local school rather than sending them to schools located out of the area. "said Mr Piccolo.

In addition to the additional places, the District College Special Class will receive a major upgrade to the new places.

Gawler and District College announcement is part of a \$10 million State Government Strategy to support families whose children are recommended to attend a special education option.

Mr Piccolo said the new investment

TV RECEPTION CAUSES STATIC

An increasing number of local residents are experiencing poor TV reception and have taken to Facebook to air their grievances.

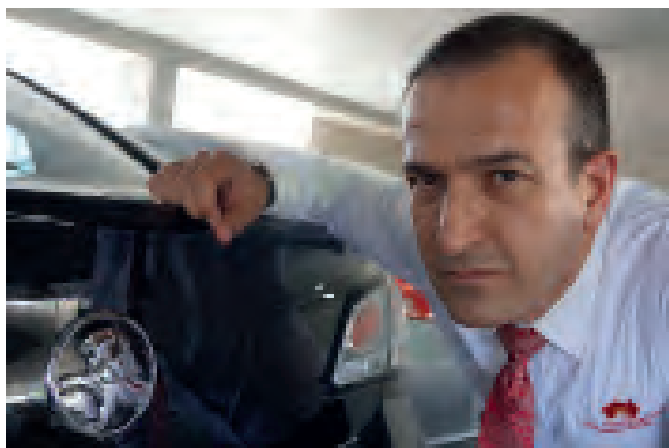
A Gawler East resident who posted a message on the *I'm from Gawler* Facebook page, expressing his experience with poor TV reception, drew a quick and strong response from other residents in the area.

The Facebook site contacted local Member of Parliament, Mr. Tony Piccolo seeking his assistance to have the relevant authorities investigate residents' concerns.

Mr Piccolo has invited residents in the area experiencing reception problems to send their details of their TV reception issues to his office, so that they can build a case to take to the Australian Communications and Media Authority.



CLOSURE SAD FOR HOLDEN FAMILIES



Tony Piccolo MP not happy about the Holden closure

The recent announcement by Holden that the last car will roll off the Elizabeth plant production line on October 20 is a sad moment for the whole northern community, according to Local Member of Parliament Mr Tony Piccolo.

Mr Piccolo said that as a "Holden family" he was personally aware of the important role the plant has played in the lives of many

families, including many 1950's and 60's migrants.

"My family arrived in South Australia on 13th March 1963, and the very next day my late father, Raffaele, started work at Holden, and did so, for over 20 years until he retired through poor health," said Mr Piccolo.

"Holden provided many opportunities, and it is not unusual to find three generations

of a family working at Holden."

"I still recall the Christmas picnics I attended at Holden as a child."

"Our first family car was a Holden HR ute and every car I have owned has always been a Holden."

"If my dad were still alive, he would have been heartbroken by the news, as Holden gave our family a fresh start in our new home, Australia."

Mr Piccolo said the South Australian Government will continue its support for workers, suppliers and northern Adelaide by providing millions of dollars in support to help workers move into new employment.

Mr Piccolo said automotive workers shouldn't have to lose their jobs.

"When given the option to support the domestic car

manufacturing industry, the Federal Liberals shamefully drove Holden out of town," said Mr Piccolo.

The State Government's \$24.7 million Northern Economic Plan, released last year, is a blueprint for a prosperous northern Adelaide focused on creating jobs and empowering local communities.

Mr Piccolo said new local economic growth programs will be launched later this month for the Gawler and Hewett areas under the auspices of the Stretton Centre, the Gawler Business Development Group and Business SA.

Details of programs to support workers and companies are available at <http://www.statedevelopment.sa.gov.au/industry/automotive> and details of the Northern Economic Plan are available at <http://looknorth.com.au/>

SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB FEATURE INSIDE

Enlightened

Edition 32 December 2016

FREE



TRADIE TOWN



The recent decision by the Gawler Council to select a preferred alignment for the Gawler East Link Road will result in the State Government investing \$55 million into the project creating many new jobs.

Continued on page 2

E32 DECEMBER 2016

THANK YOU

Major fires and flooding in the local region over recent years has highlighted the importance that we understand and accept that we all have a role to play in keeping the community safe, according to Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo.

Speaking at a meeting with local emergency services workers (both paid and volunteers) Mr Piccolo said that for most of us, this means doing our part in keeping ourselves and our families safe by planning for major disasters and events and undertaking precautionary actions to minimise any damage to our family homes and property.

At the meeting the Country Fire Service were represented by the Dalkeith CFS Brigade, while the State Emergency Service had representative from both the Kapunda and Salisbury Units. The MFS were represented by their regional office and officers from the Gawler Station.

The meeting was arranged to explore opportunities for the services to work together to help educate the community about the steps they can take to reduce the risk of fire and flooding, amongst other disasters.

SMALL BUSINESS FEATURE INSIDE

Enlightened

Edition 33 March 2017

FREE



THANK YOU



Major fires and flooding in the local region over recent years has highlighted the importance that we understand and accept we all have a role to play in keeping the community safe, according to Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo.

Continued on Page 2

E33 MARCH 2017

Enlightened

Looking back at our past four years



E34 July 2017

NDIS ROLLS OUT THROUGHOUT THE LIGHT ELECTORATE



Local Feros Care Manager Ms Lea Spaven

Adults started entering the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in South Australia from Saturday 1 July 2017.

young people aged 15 to 17 in January this year.

Local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo said the NDIS is the biggest social reform since Medicare, introducing a new way of providing disability

Mr Piccolo said between July 2017 and April 2018, adults with disability around the State will start joining the scheme, based on their geographic area. Northern Adelaide, the Barossa, Light and

SOCKS JOCKS AND MORE APPEAL



Piccolo MP with Rev Peter Carter and Raelene and Geoff Benier.

The "Socks, Jocks & More" program has already been an outstanding success due to the generosity of local people from across the region.

On July 29 a big box full of men's dignity items was delivered to Gawler UCare who act as the distribution point for the program.

Local Member of Parliament, Tony Piccolo launched the 'Socks, Jocks and More' program during Men's Health Week at an event hosted by the Northern Men's Wellbeing Network at the Playford Uniting Church in Munno Para.

The project is designed to provide local homeless men and boys with basic 'dignity items'.

Mr Piccolo stated that he developed the idea from the successful 'Essentials for Women' project, which his Electorate office supports.

"The Essentials for Women project has enabled the community to support women who are homeless or are unable to purchase basic items due to their circumstances," Mr

JOBS IN LIGHT ARE ACCELERATING



The Exchange Hotel licensee Damien McGee discussing the Job Accelerator Grant Scheme with Tony Piccolo MP.

trainees.

The increase in the Grant for apprentices and trainees is a State Budget measure to boost employment among young people.

The expanded Grant means businesses with payrolls between \$600,000 and \$5 million will receive up to \$15,000 for each apprentice above current staffing levels, while small businesses with payrolls up to \$600,000 will receive up to \$9000.

The new Grant for apprentices and trainees will be backdated

Businesses across the Light electorate embraced the Job Accelerate Grant Scheme announced in the 2016/17 State Budget. By July 2016, already hired

GAWLER & DISTRICT COLLEGE B-12 \$10M INVESTMENT



Tony Piccolo MP with GDC students, Principal Andrew Dickinson and Chair of Governing Council, Leanne Conway.

Students in the electorate of Light will benefit from a \$10 million upgrade to the Gawler and District College B-12 announced by Premier Jay Weatherill and Education Minister Susan Close.

Member for Light Tony Piccolo has welcomed the State Labor Government's unprecedented investment in public school infrastructure upgrades at the Gawler and District College.

The \$10 million announced today is in addition to the \$3.5 million dollars announced in July 2016 to build STEM related facilities and equipment, and the announcement in December last year to expand

the Special Education Program.

"These three important projects represent an investment over \$15 million in improving the educational facilities of children and young people in our community," Mr Piccolo said.

Gawler and District College is one of 91 public primary and secondary schools across the state to receive funding to upgrade or redevelop their school facilities under the Building Better Schools program.

"This State Labor Government understands the importance of continuing to grow and improve our public education system, because every child deserves a chance to

"ENLIGHTENED" YOUNG POLLIES PREPARE FOR PARLIAMENT



Young "polities" from the Light Electorate are set to descend on Parliament House as part of the YMCA 2017 Youth Parliament.

The nine students from secondary schools across the local electorate are part of the "Enlightened" team, sponsored by local Member of Parliament, Mr Tony Piccolo,

to empower young people to be advocates for their community," Mr. Piccolo said.

"The program is focused on personal development, youth leadership and connecting parliamentarians and decision makers with youth voices and opinions. Every year, young leaders come together to learn about public speaking, parliamentary

NEW SCHOOL FOR MUNNO PARA

Families across Munno Para and Angle Vale are the big winners in the State Budget with the announcement of a new birth to year 12 school to be constructed in the Munno Para area.

The new school announced for the north will accommodate 1400 students, 100 special-school students and a 55-place children's centre.

Local Member of Parliament, Tony Piccolo welcomed the

news stating that he had written to the Education and Child Development Minister seeking the construction of an additional school in Adelaide's north last year.

"In my discussions with local principals and parents it has become clear to me that an additional school in the Munno Para area is needed," Mr Piccolo said.

"Rapid growth in the City of Playford has seen Mark Oliphant College reach its



capacity much earlier than expected."

"The new school will alleviate pressure on other northern schools like Munno Para



E35 November 2017

