April 2023

## Let us remember them ANZAC DAY 25.4.2023

25.4.2023 saw many events happen across the electorate of Finniss, well done to all organisers and participants of dawn services, remembrance ceremonies, breakfasts, morning teas. It was a privilege to personally lay a wreath at Goolwa RSL and have my office represented across the electorate.



With respect, commemorating the courage, service and sacrifice made by brave individuals who have worn and continue to wear, the uniform of our country's defence force and allied services is very important, and I lay a wreath in memorial.

The National Servicemen's Fleurieu Sub-Branch (Nashos) are people who were conscripted to mandatory National service.

It has been an honour to attend their functions and remember their service. Service by conscription ceased in 1972, and I understand the National organisation will wind up officially in coming years as membership declines because of age.

I know the connections and friends made in our local sub-branch will continue unchanged. I can assure all "Nashos" I have had the privilege to meet; you are remembered and respected. Thank you for your service.



In these times of clever phones and 'aps', we can see where our family are any time of day. Imagine your child heading into a conflict zone with no idea of return date and no way of knowing where they are or what they are doing ... not for days on end but for years. The unpredictability of COVID-19 gave us a small taste of not being free to move about the world or see our loved ones at will. Our service men and women experienced this beyond imagining.

Anzac Day gives occasion to reflect on the heroes and traditions that have been brought about by people putting aside their own path in life by living as a servant of their country.

The reality of countrymen and women going to war is that no one is unchanged and "normal" must be redefined.



In the modern world it has become easy to gloss over these acts of service and the reality of brothers, sons and fathers, wives, mothers, daughters sacrificing the life they knew for the future they imagined for others.





#### **Affordable Housing is complex**

With out doubt housing and housing affordability is a complex and demanding issue that is very real to many in our community and state.

It is important to be very cautious about a "quick fix" without planning, research and committed supporting services such as effluent, power, telecommunications, water.

The urgent matter to explore, and I have begun doing so, is that significant swaths of land have been purchased and flagged for development but are not currently being developed.

There will be significant housing available if all the developments from Goolwa to Encounter Bay in progress or approved, are built to completion. In one property alone there is allowance for close to 2000 homes.

The burden of supplying land in this region should not fall to any level of government as there is still significant land privately available and Council's support will be better used elsewhere. Some of the developments in progress such as 'Best life communities' on Crozier Road are age focussed and will be very much affordable even though targeted for a particular cohort.

These properties will draw older residents, making available other general housing for younger residents.

It is important to discover the road blocks to existing developments being completed.

I look forward to reading the findings of the Economic and Finance Committee inquiry into South Australian Housing Availability.

In the electorate of Finniss, many of the main towns have been established as holiday towns servicing visitors to the area. This situation, coupled with being a region, adds complexity to decisions on planning policy and programs. A change to one aspect could severely impact the economic balance and affect the region's ability to thrive.

Decisions of zoning and town limits could be revisited within councils, state government and stakeholders with the view to logical and sustainable town expansion.

My office has been represented at community meetings and forums on the matter, and we are carefully watching this space while finding as much data as we can to assist in making good decisions.

There are agencies, charities and groups facing the daily reality of housing for a variety of people throughout the community. An important voice on this matter is the Southern Fleurieu Housing Round Table.

Please, if you need support or assistance, contact our office. We will do our best to connect you. PH: 8552 2152 or finniss@parliament.sa.gov.au

#### **Middleton Whale Sculpture**

Over the Easter weekend, talented artist Silvio Apponyi was carving a red gum trunk on site at Basham Beach to create the sculpture of a Southern Right Whale Mother and Calf known as "Buttons & Bobby".

My fondest memories are farming early in the morning and seeing the whales breaching at Basham Beach.

The creative idea came from Middleton SA Town and Foreshore Assoc. and is a brilliant collaboration of art, nature and community, paying homage to the iconic whales of our coast. MTFA will regularly oil the sculpture and artist Silvio engineerd the tail, wrist and flukes to be thicker than scale to ensure it is strong enough.

Public donations and funding from various government agencies have made the vision a reality.

Buttons is a regular Whale spotted from the sculpture site, returning last year to birth Bobby, her third calf born in the area. Thank you to Jen Watts for her vision and the Committee for driving the project. Thanks to Cedric Varoe for the Smoking Ceremony and Silvio for his skilled art.



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Seven tonnes of river red gum that fell in a Naracoorte swamp inspired Jen Watts to bring more art and joy to Middleton.



Prescribed burn information

https://www.environment. sa.gov.au/topics/firemanagement/upcomingprescribed-burns





Leader of the Opposition, David Speirs MP joined me for a day out in the electorate, visiting businesses, Markets, Surf Competition and Wooden boat festival.





Congrataulations to well-known Mount Compass local Carole Perry. Carole received Life Membership to the Mount Compass War Memorial Community Centre Inc. Carole is warm, enthusiastic and welcomes everyone into the fold with a smile. The Mount Compass community are lucky to have you and my family is enriched by calling you a friend. Thankyou Carole!

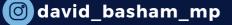


The SteamRanger train was busy in the school holidays, I counted six carriages and hardly an empty seat. Thank you to the volunteers working over the Easter Break!





The Victor Harbor Times changed hands, and we wish the new owners' every success!



#### The Next Generation is Here

Investigator College, Year 8 Civic and Citizenship class. The class was full of enthusiastic and curious students eager to learn about our political system and the importance of civic engagement. As we engaged in meaningful conversations about current issues and policies that affect our lives, it was evident that these young individuals have the potential to become informed and active citizens who can make a difference in society.

It's crucial that young people understand how decisions are made and how policies are created. The knowledge and skills obtained through civic education can help students develop critical thinking abilities and participate in civil discourse. This, in turn, can lead to informed and responsible citizens who can engage constructively in their communities and beyond.

Investigator

I had an amazing experience visiting As future leaders, the voices and opinions of these students matter. It's essential to provide them with the necessary resources and support to help them grow and shape their leadership skills. I encourage the class to reach out to me anytime they need help or want to discuss particular topics related to civic education. I'm here to support and nurture their growth as informed and responsible citizens.

> Opinions matter! Please reach out if you'd ever like to discuss a particular topic or if there's anything else I can do to support your civic education.

To MA David Basham Thank you for your



# NEED HELP WITH GRANTS?

Government grants are available for a wide range of community groups, organisations and projects in South Australia.

- The Finniss Electorate Office can help with:
- Information about grant programs
- Eligibility criteria - Application processes
- Letter of support from your
- State Member of Parliament.

FINNISS ELECTORATE OFFICE P: (08) 8552 2152, E: FINNISS@PARLIAMENT.SA.GOV.AU A: 71 VICTORIA STREET, VICTOR HARBOR



#### ATTENTION TEACHERS

## PARLIAMENT HOUSE SCHOOL TOURS

Contact the Finniss Electorate Office to arrange a tour of Parliament House in Adelaide for your students with their local MP, David Basham. School classroom visits can also be arranged for David to talk with the students about Parliament.

#### Finniss Electorate Office

P: (08) 8552 2152, E: finniss@parliament.sa.gov.au A: 71 Victoria Street, Victor Harbor SA 5211

Please like or follow my Facebook or Instagram profiles to see where I have been in the local community and matters of concern as your local state member of parliament. To receive email newsletters and updates, please contact the Finniss Electorate Office.



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