

# THE WIMMERA MALLEE BROADSHEET

News from Andrew Broad MP for the people of the Wimmera, Mallee and Mildura regions

SEPTEMBER 2017



## Andrew's Message

People often ask me what I get up to in Canberra and what I'm doing to make your community the best it can be. 2017 so far has been an enormous year for the Electorate of Mallee and looking back we've achieved some great outcomes for the community.

Locally, the nine local councils within the electorate of Mallee have received more money for roads through Federal Assistance Grants and Roads To Recovery funding. Both the Western Highway and Calder Highway will receive an additional 10 million dollars in roadworks each, this will include two overtaking lanes between Red Cliffs and Ouyen to be built by 2018.

On a community level we're working with the Horsham Children's Hub and the Cancer Centre currently getting built, and we had a recent announcement of \$2.45 million for Mallee Accommodation and Support Program (MASP) to build new and better services to address disadvantage in our community.

In the health field, the Wimmera and Mallee now have three Headspace centres, Swan Hill, Mildura and Horsham to assist with youth mental health. Plus all children under 21 years of age who have Type 1 Diabetes can now receive a subsidised continuous glucose monitor, this is saving lives and started with a conversation with Blair Gould in Birchip.

Standardisation of rail gauges is underway in the Wimmera Mallee with Federal Government providing \$240 million of the Murray Basin Rail Project. This will bring down freight rail costs, and is our biggest contribution to the Victorian Freight Rail Network ever.

The Ouyen Lake will come to life after securing \$634,000 and another \$735,000 will go to three recreational lakes in the Buloke Shire district, Tchum, Wooroonook, and Watchem. With so much beauty in our part of the world we'll all get the chance to enjoy it more.

Plus a much needed injection of funds has gone into our education system with all 119 schools in the Wimmera, Mallee, and Mildura regions receiving more money. Great facilities, good teachers and a good home life ensures great graduates.

Looking back on just a few of the things we've achieved recently it shows that together we are delivering on the things that make our part of the world better. But, there is always more to do. It is my great privilege and honor to serve the people of the Wimmera, Mallee and Mildura regions and I'm excited to see what the future holds.

*Andrew J Broad*

Andrew Broad MP - Federal Member for Mallee

## BUILDING BETTER REGIONS



Andrew was thrilled to announce that three projects across the Wimmera Mallee have been awarded funding under Round 1 of the Building Better Regions Fund this August. Totalling more than \$3 million in funding combined all projects will bring significant economic and societal benefits to the electorate. Here's what you'll see!

### 1. A BRAND NEW MALLEE ACCOMMODATION AND SUPPORT PROGRAM SERVICE AND COMMUNITY HUB

Receiving \$2.45 million in funding, the MASP project was one Andrew was really hoping would succeed, with it being their third shot at Federal funding. Currently delivering more than 30 programs to local youth, adults and families MASP operate in an office that has become far too small for all the services they offer the community. Matching the funding money MASP will put \$2.5 million toward the new state of the art facility and continue to operate in Sunraysia for many years to come.

### 2. AN UPGRADE TO THREE RECREATIONAL LAKES IN THE BULOKE SHIRE DISTRICT.

This rejuvenation project has received \$735,000 from the fund with the Watchem Lake, Tchum Lake, and Wooroonook Lake all set to see significant upgrades. Both locals and tourists will experience new amenity buildings, upgraded walking trails, and new signage at the lakes, with the council contributing \$245,000 the total cost of the project is \$980,000. Andrew said the project won't only contribute to a better community but also make the lakes a must see for tourists passing through.

*Main: Andrew with Mildura Rural City Councillor Jason Modica, Member for Mildura Peter Crisp, and Arts and Culture Development Manager Antonette Zema, at the Mildura Arts Centre.*

*Inset: Andrew with MASP CEO Garty Simpson, Member for Mildura Peter Crisp and MASP Chair Greg Leslie.*

### 3. A CENTRE STAGE LIFT AT THE MILDURA ARTS CENTRE

The arts community is thriving across Mildura with the region attracting bigger and better things every year. Now they're upping their game after receiving \$200,000 for a new stage lift. The lift will increase stage capacity at the iconic Mildura Arts Centre and mean bigger shows will be able to come to perform at the venue. Andrew announced the funding and checked out where the new lift will go with Member for Mildura Peter Crisp in August.



## SMALL BIZ WINS BIG

Tax time was a particularly good one this year amongst small business owners in the region after the government's extension of the popular \$20,000 Instant Tax Write Off Programme.

This was big news for locals running their own businesses with anything up to the value of \$20,000 able to be deducted from their taxable income instantly. With 17,000 small businesses operating in the Wimmera, Mallee and Mildura regions the extension of these write-offs means more money is going into hard working locals pockets, there is more money to put back into the community, and more money to invest

and grow these businesses from retailers all the way to our farmers. The news was warmly welcomed by Andrew back in May.

*"The beauty about it is that not only does it help the 17,000 small businesses that function in the Mallee, it really helps the local community. Because the things you buy are pipes, sheds, tanks, utes, and computer equipment - the exact sort of things that are sold in small businesses across the country."*

The extension is now set to run until June 30 2018.

## MEET A LOCAL LADY

Our neck of the woods is full of wonderful people achieving great things in our community and in this issue of the Broadsheet we wanted to highlight some local ladies making a big difference in their communities and to the lives of others.



### JUNE CLISSOLD - HORSHAM

As the area manager for Horsham's Good Friday Appeal June has been involved with the Royal Children's hospital for the past 45 years. She's the organiser and go to lady, with this year's local appeal raising \$30,200. But it's not only at Easter when families need help, June says she's busy all year round, together with a group of ladies she knits thousands of jumpers and baby clothes that travel to the hospital by the bag full. She's missed just two years of fundraising since 1982 and she's not planning on stopping anytime soon.

*I can't get out in the garden, but I can knit so I do what I can. There is so much satisfaction. I do it because I love it.*

### LAURA SMITH - SWAN HILL

Looking for something to do with her retirement Laura decided to put her name down to become a part of the Friends of the Pioneer Settlement in Swan Hill - and become a part of it is exactly what she did, Laura has been involved at the Settlement since '89 and is now the groups Treasurer. She describes the group at the Pioneer Settlement just like a family, in her role she does all the shopping and organising for the popular Paragon Café and of course deals with the finances. Laura is just one of around 85 volunteers that dedicate their time to the treasured Pioneer Settlement, hosting live shows and thousands of tourists, locals, and school groups each year.

*Volunteering here gives me a reason to wake up each morning, and my car is automatic now, it just takes me here every day!*



### CHERYL BARNES - MILDURA

Moving to Mildura with husband John in 2002 to "retire" Cheryl is now probably busier than she was before! Joining the Ex-Service Women's Association she quickly took position as secretary and has been on board providing local support ever since. She is also the leader of the Mildura Parkinson's Support Group, organising monthly meetings with around 55 Parkinson's sufferers, their families and carers to speak openly and support one another through their medical condition. Suffering Parkinson's herself since 2005 Cheryl says the support group in Mildura is vital.

*I'm there if people wish to ask questions, need information, or need to see the nurse. We're all friends, if we can help each other out I think that's the best thing to do.*

Across the Mallee we have many talented athletes and recently 25 of our junior sportsmen and women were successful under the Australian Governments Local Sporting Champions program. Each of these young sports champs received \$500 to go toward their sporting endeavours. Your 2016/17 Mallee sporting champions are:



- MONTAN BERULDSSEN - ATHLETICS
- LACHLAN ROBERTSON - ATHLETICS
- STEFFI MCDONALD - TENNIS
- ALEC CARRIGAN - HOCKEY
- BRODIE CARRIGAN - HOCKEY
- JASPER LORD - VOLLEYBALL
- LEAH GRAHAM - TOUCH
- ISHA BEASY - TOUCH
- GEORGIE TOPP - TOUCH

- MAYA HARPER - TOUCH
- WILL BRENNAN - VOLLEYBALL
- NOAH BRENNAN - VOLLEYBALL
- LAELAH ROBERTSON - VOLLEYBALL
- GEORGIA MARTIN-ABBOT - TOUCH
- MELE FONUA - TOUCH
- MONTANNA HUMPHREY - TOUCH
- MULAN SEFO - TOUCH
- CLAIRE BARR - SWIMMING

- TINO BEPETE - RUGBY UNION
- SEBASTIAN DALGLEISH - FOOTBALL
- JOHN KEARNS - VOLLEYBALL
- VICTORIA MALAEULU - TOUCH
- GABRIELLA ALESSI - TOUCH
- JASKSON WALSGOTT - FOOTBALL
- ELLA WALSGOTT - FOOTBALL



John Lowes presenting Ethan Jolley with his award at St Brigid's College.

## 'TIS THE SEASON FOR GIVING... (ALMOST)

Christmas has a way of always sneaking up on us, and while it might seem a little early there's no time like the present to help support those less fortunate than us. Operation Christmas Child is in full swing across the Wimmera, Mallee and Mildura regions and our offices are once again collection points. Send a small shoebox of goodies and make a big difference this year. To find out more contact your Area Co-ordinator for Mildura - Swan Hill Janeen Norris on 0418 478 696 or for the Wimmera call Ann Rohde on 0467 239 493 or visit: [www.samaritanspurse.org.au](http://www.samaritanspurse.org.au)



## MENS SHED FUNDING SUCCESS

The Horsham, Kaniva, and Warracknabeal Men's Sheds all received a helping hand earlier this year sharing in more than \$10,000 of federal funding to help maintain and improve local sheds. The many Men's Sheds around the Wimmera Mallee and Mildura regions play an important role in supporting the mental health of local men, providing a safe friendly environment where they can work on projects that help out their community and maybe even learn a thing or two from one another. Andrew called in on the men of the Warracknabeal Men's Shed in June where they're putting the funds towards plumbing and electrics.



## SCAM WARNING

Recently our office has been getting a lot of calls about scams happening across the electorate. Scams can come in all forms from phone calls and emails to door knockers, but there are a few steps you can take to protect yourself from scams. You can order a copy or the Little Black Book of Scams from the ACCC website, or drop into our electorate office for a copy, reduce unwanted calls by putting your number on the free Do Not Call Register at: [www.donotcall.gov.au](http://www.donotcall.gov.au), and you can also place 'Do Not Knock' stickers near your home and business entrance. Always remember to report scams to: [www.scamwatch.gov.au](http://www.scamwatch.gov.au)



## FUNDING UPDATE

It's been a big year so far across the Wimmera Mallee and Mildura regions with a total of \$131,386,693 invested in the form of Federal Funding. Take a look at some of our recent big wins.



**ROADS & INFRASTRUCTURE - 105.6 MILLION**

- Calder and Western Highways upgrades
- Roads To Recovery Program
- Federal Assistance Grants



**COMMUNITY - \$23.4 MILLION**

- Local Arts and Culture Projects
- MASP Service and Community Hub
- Buloke Shire recreational lakes upgrade
- Local NAIDOC Week projects



**HEALTH - \$2.4 MILLION**

- Local Men's Shed upgrades
- Grampians Community Health
- Indigenous Case Management Services

Federal Member for Mallee Andrew Broad MP

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