

Judi Moylan MP

Federal Member for Pearce

Working with you, working for you



A community newsletter from your Federal Member of Parliament, Judi Moylan

NARROGIN EDITION AUTUMN 2006

New war memorial for Highbury

Highbury will soon be home to a new war memorial honouring those who served in World Wars I and II.

The Narrogin Returned and Services League Sub-branch has been granted \$3267 through the Government's Commemorations Program *Saluting Their Service* for the memorial, which will be located on the corner of Wilson and Burley Streets at Highbury.

Member for Pearce Hon Judi Moylan MP congratulated the President of the local RSL Club, Mr Hendrikus Chattillon, and other Narrogin RSL members for their initiative in bringing this community project to fruition.

"The *Saluting Their Service* program encourages the community to remember the sacrifice and contributions made by Australians who served in wars," Ms Moylan said.

Since the launch of the Commemorations Program in 1997 more than \$10 million in grants to over 4000 ex-service and community organisations has been approved across Australia.



▲ Judi Moylan met with Narrogin RSL Sub-branch President Hendrikus Chattillon at the Narrogin War Memorial during a recent visit. A new memorial will soon be built at nearby centre Highbury.

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Narrogin local represents young Australians in Canberra

Eighteen-year-old Narrogin woman Danika Eades travelled to Canberra last year to participate in the National Youth Roundtable 2005.

Thirty youths from across Australia were selected to represent young peoples' views at the annual Roundtable. Members were chosen from a wide range of cultural, working and educational backgrounds and they came from all States and Territories - some from metropolitan locations and others from regional areas.

Ms Eades said she appreciated the opportunity to be involved.

"The trip went really well, we met (Senator The Hon) Kay Patterson (former Minister for Family and Community Services), had tea with a number of people at the Parliament and there were a lot of different activities that we participated in," she said.

Member for Pearce Hon Judi Moylan MP described the young Narrogin woman as a fine role model.

"Danika's interests include sport, recreation, entertainment and leadership in rural and regional areas and she is an Ambassador for Aboriginal and other young people, ensuring they have mentors to inspire them," she said.

The National Youth Roundtable gives 15 to 24-year olds the opportunity to speak directly with the Government about issues which are important to them.

Boost for boys' education in Pearce

It's the boys' turn. After years of trying to get girls up to speed, it has been decided that boys are now lagging in the education stakes.

Success for Boys is a Government initiative which aims to support boys at risk of disengaging from school and improve their learning outcomes.

Earlier this year, Lancelin Primary School (\$10,200), Narrogin Senior High School (\$11,950) and York District High School (\$10,950) were among 801 schools across Australia to receive grants in Round One of the \$19.4 million *Success for Boys* program.

Three key intervention areas of benefit to boys will be addressed by schools through this scheme -

- Giving boys opportunities to learn from positive male role models and mentors;
- improving literacy teaching and assessment; and
- using information and communication technology (ICT) to engage boys in learning.

Member for Pearce Hon Judi Moylan MP commented: "It is imperative that nothing is done which undermines the important and necessary progress made in the last 20 years



▲ Michael, John and Nathan at York District High School are just some students to benefit from this initiative.

in girls' education. However, overwhelming evidence shows that boys are falling behind in our education system."

Earlier this year Ms Moylan visited Sawyers Valley Primary School with Member for Forde Mrs Kay Elson MP, Chair of the Boys' Education Inquiry. Sawyers Valley Primary School Principal Marian Gard informed the guests of several innovative programs at the school helping boys, and girls to perform at their best. The school aims to provide the best working environment for boys and girls, even if that means splitting them into same-sex classes for some subjects.

Since 2003 the Government has committed more than \$27 million to improve boys' educational and social outcomes.



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Protecting the environment

Moylan unveils \$13.78 million for Avon environment

An extensive scheme which will reap major environmental improvements across the Avon Valley was unveiled in Northam late last year by The Hon Judi Moylan MP, Member for Pearce.

Australian and State Governments accredited the Avon Catchment Council's Natural Resource Management Strategy and approved \$13.78 million (in 2005-06) for its Investment Plan in 2005.

Announcing her enthusiastic support for the scheme, Ms Moylan observed that: "The Avon Region covers around 12 million hectares and is home to about 46,000 residents. Its stunning ancient landscape features granite outcrops, six nationally significant wetlands and the Avon River, which flows into the Swan-Canning estuary."

"Like other regions, the Avon has taken up the fight to reduce salinity, improve declining water quality and rid the region of invasive pests to enhance biodiversity.

Along with combating dryland salinity and protecting groundwater, sustainable agriculture is also high on the agenda through minimising the effects of agricultural practises on our flora and fauna.

"More than 60 per cent of the Avon Region is used for agriculture, and the land needs to be in good condition for farm businesses to be successful in the long run," she said.

"The Avon Catchment Council is working hard to ensure our environment is protected for future generations.

"I congratulate the Catchment Council on looking forward with these important environmental concerns and addressing them for the future.

"I am also pleased that the Australian Government has been able to assist with this worthwhile program."

Visit www.avonicm.org.au for further details about the projects.



▲ Judi Moylan with Avon Catchment Council Chair Wayne Clarke and Member for Avon Max Trenorden MLA.

Environmental award for Parkerville Primary School

"Encouraging young people to become involved in environmental activities is the key to the continuation of a clean-green future for Australia," said Member for Pearce Hon Judi Moylan MP.

Welcoming the news that young environmental enthusiasts in Years 4-5 have helped Parkerville Primary School earn an environmental prize, as one of two schools announced as State winners for the *Hands on for Habitat Awards 2005*, Ms Moylan noted that Parkerville Primary School won with an outstanding project which included illustrations of Western Australian species, such as the Western Swamp Tortoise. Library Teacher Ella Marrion revealed that the students had since used their original artwork created with Art Specialist Sharon Wyborn to design items to sell within the school community.

"They made calendars, fridge magnets, badges, t-shirts, keyrings, placemats...all kinds of things," Ms Marrion said.

Through selling over \$1000 worth of hand-made products the children raised enough money to sponsor a Western Swamp Tortoise at the Perth Zoo and a Woylie at the Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre.

"I congratulate the teachers and pupils involved with this environmental project at Parkerville Primary," Ms Moylan said.

State winners of the *Hands on for Habitat Awards* received a \$200 gift voucher for native plants, a framed copy of the National Threatened Species Day poster featuring their artwork and Cadbury® Yowie® gifts. Parkerville Primary plans to revegetate nearby bushland with the \$200 nursery voucher.

Years 2-3 at Currambine Primary School were the other Western Australian *Hands on For Habitat Award* winners, whose striking paintings of the endangered Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo were well received.



▲ The budding artists' work at Parkerville Primary School.

Plans to minimise impact of climate change

The Australian Government is committed to minimising the impact of climate change and has released a report which plans for such circumstances.

The document is entitled *Climate Change Risk and Vulnerability – promoting an efficient adaptation response in Australia* and it reveals that a degree of climate change in Australia is inevitable.

Member for Pearce Hon Judi Moylan MP said: "With the help of local communities and industry we need to be prepared for change and to deal with it effectively."

The Government has announced a \$14.2 million grant through the *National Climate Change Adaption Program* to help State and Local Governments, industry and communities plan for environmental variations. This may include increased temperatures and minimised rainfall.

Ms Moylan said areas in southern Western Australia, which had been identified through the report as being at risk, will benefit from the planning initiatives.

in the Electorate of Pearce

Alternative method of controlling weeds

Member for Pearce Hon Judi Moylan MP recently had an extensive discussion with Hills resident Max Scott, who has had a long standing interest in developing chemical free methods of weed control.

Both agreed that the issue remains of profound interest to the Electorate.

Ms Moylan noted that weed infestation has major ramifications for agricultural production. At the same time chemical eradication methods impact on community health.

Thermal weed management has the potential to more effectively eradicate weeds, whilst eliminating negative effects on health.

Ms Moylan and Mr Scott expressed the hope that more local Councils would adopt chemical free innovations for weed control.



▲ Max Scott discusses thermal weed management with Judi Moylan.

South West allocated \$15 million for environment

An array of environmental issues will be tackled in the South West thanks to recent approval by the Australian and State Governments of \$15.4 million for the South West Catchments Council.

The Catchments Council will focus on projects which protect and manage water quality, water use, salinity, biodiversity, sustainable agriculture, land use, caring for our coasts and cultural aspects as well as investments that will monitor and evaluate the effects of these projects.

The Australian Government announced a component of \$5,615,600 as part of a total of \$11,231,200 from the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality and \$4,214,800 from the Natural Heritage Trust for projects in the South West region, based on the South West Catchments Council Investment Plan 2005-06.

Member for Pearce Hon Judi Moylan MP explained: "Nearly everything we do impacts on the environment and the more we can do to protect it from degradation the better."

"I welcome this Government commitment, which will benefit some of the southern areas in Pearce.

"It is pleasing to see the South West Catchments Council's vision become a reality."

General Manager of the South West Catchments Council Damien Hills added: "The Catchments Council is excited by the opportunity offered by the Australian and State Governments to make a real difference to the environmental outcomes of the region as the community has identified."

"In particular the support of local MPs, such as the Member for Pearce, for the Catchment Councils throughout the Regional planning process has been much appreciated. We are now looking forward to getting on with the job that the community and Government have charged us with," said Mr Hills.

Encouraging good nutrition at Chidlow Primary School

Children at Chidlow Primary School have been munching on their greens lately after Year Four pupils established a garden from scratch at the school site last year.

Not only were they eating their carrots, broccoli and beans but the youngsters' garden, which they tend themselves, is organic. The children, who are now in Year 5, researched ways to minimise pest damage without using harmful chemicals.

Chidlow Primary School teacher Kylie Haddow spoke highly of the ongoing project.

"The children sell the produce to staff members and parents. The money made from the sale of the vegetables goes back into the garden to make it bigger," Ms Haddow said.

"The children have been given the opportunity to cook using the vegetables they have grown and were able to research a variety of recipes to create meals they previously had no experience with."

The innovative project was funded by the Government's *Healthy School Communities Program*.



▲ Chidlow Primary School pupils have created their own organic vegetable garden.

Pingelly and Narrogin schools initiate new programs

Pingelly and Narrogin Primary Schools have obtained funding through the Australian Government's *Whole of School Intervention Strategy*, which allows them to offer pupils a range of activities they might not otherwise access.

Pingelly Primary School received \$10,000 for the Read Aloud Project and the Breakfast Program while Narrogin Primary School was awarded \$3380 for the Parent Workshop, Year 7 Camp Subsidy and for swimming lessons.

Principal Stephen Doherty at Narrogin Primary School says the Health and Wellbeing Workshop (Parent Workshop), which took place last year, was a great success.

Some of the issues the Workshop focused on include - eyesight, ear and hearing check-ups, diet and nutrition. The plan is to further the program by providing a future session which will look at occupational therapy.

Mr Doherty said the initiative targeted parents.

"We have 52 Aboriginal students at the school from Year 1 through to Year 7. Most of these children's families took part in the program," he said.

Member for Pearce Hon Judi Moylan MP said the *Whole of School Intervention Strategy* encouraged schools, Indigenous parents and communities to work together to improve Indigenous students' attendance, literacy and numeracy skills. This would result in increased retention of Years 10-12 students and enhanced Year 12 results.

"Congratulations to those involved in initiating these excellent programs in Pearce," Ms Moylan said.

Ms Moylan visited Narrogin and Pingelly in August last year and spent time at Narrogin Primary School.



▲ Principal Stephen Doherty with Judi Moylan and pupils at Narrogin Primary School during Ms Moylan's recent visit to the town.

National Mental Health Plan welcomed

Welcoming the Federal Government's recent commitment of \$1.8 billion to a five-year National Mental Health Plan and new initiatives, Member for Pearce Hon Judi Moylan MP has called on the State Government to commit to joining the Commonwealth in an effort to redress years of neglect.

"Having spoken out about the appalling state of mental health services in the community, I applaud the recent decision by the Prime Minister to resolve the deficiencies which are of mounting concern nation-wide. Statistics show that one in five Australians suffer from a mental illness. Therefore it is crucial that we work together to make positive changes and provide the necessary services. This is more than a health matter it is an important social issue as well," she said.

The Prime Minister led the way at the Council of Australian Government's (COAG) meeting in February when he announced a new direction for mental health, pledging to improve not only public awareness of mental illness, but also available services.

At the COAG meeting it was announced that an Action Plan would be drawn up to consider reform to mental health. A report on mental health services in Australia has since been tabled by a Senate Select Committee.

According to Hon Christopher Pyne MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing, "the report is in line with what the Government has been saying for some time, that the mental health system has failed many Australians".

Mr Pyne explained that the report's findings were taken into consideration when developing the Action Plan.

The findings include –

- looking at prevention and early detection;
- getting the balance right between hospital, community and primary care;
- improving participation in the community and employment; and
- increasing the health workforce available, including the role of psychologists.

As well as announcing the new funding to implement the mental health Action Plan, the Federal Government remains committed to the Youth Mental Health Foundation, Beyond Blue - the national depression initiative - and preventative measures to reduce the incidence of mental health related issues in society. The Federal Government committed \$39.6 million over four years (in 2005-06) to the Beyond Blue program and funding of \$10 million was provided to Lifeline to upgrade its telephony system.

Federal funding assists Narrogin Region

Narrogin and its surrounds will be advantaged by the 2005-06 Local Government *Financial Assistance Grants*, which aid councils to offer high quality services to local communities.

Member for Pearce Hon Judi Moylan MP announced the *Financial Assistance Grants* last year. In the southern areas of Pearce the allocations are as follows –

- Shire of Brookton - \$567,125;
- Shire of Beverley - \$768,500;
- Shire of Boddington - \$348,329;
- Shire of Cuballing - \$642,225;

- Shire of Narrogin - \$666,496;
- Town of Narrogin - \$767,113;
- Shire of Pingelly - \$741,712;
- Shire of Wandering - \$301,891; and
- Shire of Williams - \$283,170.

"These Federal funds are employed by councils to provide a range of health, community, recreational, cultural and environmental services and to provide and maintain infrastructure such as roads," Ms Moylan said.

"The grants are untied so local councils can distribute the funds according to priorities."

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The Samaritans

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