

Judi Moylan MP

Federal Member for Pearce

Working with you, working for you



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

NORTHAM EDITION AUTUMN 2006

Northam man receives Prime Minister's Award

Raymond Brockman, of Northam, is a deserving winner of the Prime Minister's Work for the Dole Awards, according to Ian Somerville of the Albany and Districts Skills Training Committee.

Mr Somerville congratulated Mr Brockman on his outstanding commitment to his role as a Work for the Dole Supervisor in 2004 at a recent presentation in Northam.

Member for Pearce The Hon Judi Moylan MP presented Mr Brockman with a certificate at the function, in recognition of his involvement with the Northam Parks and Gardens project. Ms Moylan noted with admiration that "the team installed fencing and play equipment and created gardens at several parks within the Town of Northam".

In his nomination form for this prestigious award, Mr Brockman was described as a hard-working, generous and compassionate man, who provided support and assistance to participants beyond



▲ Raymond Brockman (left) celebrates his award with wife Janice and daughter Nikasha at the Town of Northam.

what was expected of him - even occasionally bringing them home-cooked meals and morning tea at his own expense.

In this issue

- ▶ \$13.78 million for Avon environment
- ▶ Local sporting identity acclaimed
- ▶ Northam's 708 Squadron members

Superannuation boost for Pearce residents

About 3400 people in Pearce have received a "super boost" as a result of the Howard Government's superannuation co-contribution scheme.

Late last year, Member for Pearce Hon Judi Moylan MP announced that the Government had paid out about \$309 million in co-contributions to superannuation funds of around 571,000 people across Australia during the 2004-05 financial year.

"Women enthusiastically took up the Government's offer to 'supersize' their superannuation, with 63 per cent of co-contributions going to women, with an average value of approximately \$570," Ms Moylan said.

A total of \$27.8 million is being injected into the superannuation accounts of Western Australians as a result of the scheme.

Commemorative Medallion presented at Northam

Northam's Elva Webb was presented with a Commemorative Medallion by Member for Pearce Hon Judi Moylan MP and Member for Avon Max Trenorden MLA late last year.

Mrs Webb accepted the medallion at a function at the Town of Northam on behalf of her late husband Reg Webb.

She was accompanied by several family members on the day and said to those in

attendance: "I just wish the man who really earned it could be here to accept it."

The Commemorative Medallions program is a Federal Government initiative recognising service in World War II. Surviving Australian, Commonwealth and Allied World War II veterans, or their surviving widows and widowers were sent or presented with medallions across the nation as part of the scheme.



▲ Elva Webb (centre) received a Commemorative Medallion on behalf of her late husband Reg, from Member for Avon Max Trenorden and Member for Pearce Judi Moylan.



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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.

Dining-in with 708 squadron

Invited to address the 708 squadron at its dining-in night in Northam, Member for Pearce Hon Judi Moylan MP shared with an enthusiastic audience her experience visiting Australian troops in Iraq.

On a visit through the Middle East with The Hon Alexander Downer MP, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ms Moylan attended meetings with Heads of State in Jordan and Saudi Arabia before touching down in Baghdad. Of special interest were her meetings with Australian servicemen and women who were in charge of restoring and maintaining airport control at Baghdad Airport. Elsewhere in Baghdad she met with our serving contingents and was witness to the outstanding work they were undertaking in the most difficult circumstances.

Leading up to the presentation of an Australian flag to squadron members, Ms Moylan paid tribute to the Australian Defence Force and the contribution they are making in Iraq.

"We can be proud of the way our men and women of the Australian Defence Force conduct themselves overseas," she said.

She also spoke of her close association with Defence through her role as Chair of the Public Works Committee.

Ms Moylan took the time to meet squadron members individually.

"I was pleased to see the squadron members' dedication to leadership, teamwork and getting involved in the community," she said.

At the dinner, the 708 Squadron Northam also recognised Barry Bristow-Stagg of the local Lions Club and Kevin and Julie Cox of Avon Valley Contractors. Ms Moylan was delighted to hand out their certificates of appreciation on behalf of the squadron.



▲ Judi Moylan with Northam's 708 Squadron members at the Dining In Night.

Local resident recognised for sporting commitment

Northam is one of many active sporting communities within the Pearce Electorate.

Jennifer Jones, who lives in Northam, was recognised for her contribution to sport through winning an Australian Government Sports Award.

She has played netball for 21 years in the town and for 15 of these she was part of the inaugural State League Midland Flames team. She is a Life Member of the Northam Netball Association and today plays socially on Saturdays and coaches locally.

"My beloved mother, who loved her netball, introduced myself and sisters Debra and Susan into competitive netball after playing through our junior age divisions," Ms Jones explained.

During a recent trip to the Avon Valley, Member for Pearce Hon Judi Moylan MP presented Ms Jones with a certificate and medallions in recognition of her achievements.

"It is always good to see people getting involved with sport at a local level," Ms Moylan said.

In congratulating Ms Jones, Ms Moylan said: "Jennifer Jones is one of many residents in the Electorate who have shown dedication to a sport they love and enjoyed the social benefits it brings."



▲ Jennifer Jones, of Northam (left), with Judi Moylan, was awarded for her contribution to sport.

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.

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