

Maroochydore | Electorate News

E-NEWSLETTER

Fiona Simpson MP

MEMBER FOR MAROOCHYDORE



December 2013

LNP Christmas Breakfast with special guest Minister for Health Hon Lawrence Springborg Friday 13th December



It's not too late to register for my Christmas breakfast at the Mooloolaba Surf Club on Friday 13th December at 7.00am.

The cost is \$35 per person and registrations must be received by Monday 9th December.

To register please [click here](#) to download payment form

For information please email: info@fionasimpson.com.au or call Lyn Smith on 0419 400 376.

*Merry
Christmas*

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Sunshine Coast University Public Hospital announcement

I welcome the Health Minister's announcement today that our new public hospital will not be outsourcing its clinical services to the private sector. These will be delivered by Queensland Health staff and I believe this is the best outcome for good patient care and for integration with training with the Sunshine Coast University.

I appreciate that Treasury required that there be market testing of options as to how best to deliver the free public hospital services for patients in this new facility.

However, I was confident that the Health Minister would ensure that patients would be put first in this process and that this exercise would demonstrate that the Queensland Health doctors, nurses and other clinical staff would provide the best service delivery model for a tertiary level hospital of this size and complexity.

The Sunshine Coast University Hospital was always to provide free public hospital services. Some support services may still be outsourced to the private sector but these high level clinical services will be provided by Queensland Health staff.

Christmas celebrations

I love this time of the year. While everyone is still very busy in the lead-up to Christmas, with school finishing and other preparations with work and family, there is the promise of a special time.

Some great activities and community events are planned which I'm looking forward to seeing you at:

- * Carols in Cotton Tree Park on Saturday 7th December from 5.30pm to 8.30pm
- * Christmas celebrations in Buhk Park, Alexandra Headland on Sunday 8th December from 4pm to 8pm.
- * Carols in Power Park, Mudjimba on Friday 13th December at 6.45pm hosted by Riverlife Community Church.
- * Christmas celebrations in Tickle Park, Coolum on Saturday 14th December at 6 pm and concluding with fireworks at 8.30pm.
- * Carols at the Wandiny Room, Novotel Twin Waters Resort on Sunday 22nd December from 5pm to 8pm.



Think Queensland, buy locally

The countdown to Christmas is also the time for us to support our local businesses.

Small business is the backbone of the Sunshine Coast economy and buying as much as possible locally to support jobs and boost our economy is a great way to help.

Each dollar spent in a local business returns many times that amount to the local economy through employee wages, rates and the purchase of goods and materials.



Support for Salvo's Christmas Wishing Tree Appeal

You can help to spread the joy of Christmas to thousands of children and families in need by supporting the Salvation Army's annual Wishing Tree Appeal

Donations of gifts will help the Salvo's reach their goal in assisting approximately 300,000 people this Christmas.

Shoppers at Sunshine Plaza can place a gift under the Kmart Wishing Tree up until Christmas Eve.



Help kids in care this Christmas



Another way you can help others this Christmas is by dropping a gift into my office for the State Government's annual Kids in Care Christmas

Appeal.

This is a great opportunity do your bit to help bring a smile to the faces of children and young people living in care. Presents like gift cards, sporting equipment, board games, clothes and books to the value of about \$20 would be very well received. They need to be unwrapped and suitable for a child aged 0 to 17 years and can be delivered to my electorate office in First Avenue, Maroochydore by 13 December.

Maroochydore Electorate 2013 Report Card

It's good to take a look back over the year and review what we've accomplished locally so far in our first term in Government.

Delivering locally:

- Sunshine Coast University Public Hospital (\$1.8 billion) - IN PROGRESS
- Maroochydore Bus Station (\$7.1 million) - IN PROGRESS
- Maroochydore Road Resurfacing Works (\$3.2 million) - DELIVERED (plus \$5 million works IN PROGRESS)
- Sunshine Motorway Safety Upgrades (\$510,000) - DELIVERED
- Sunshine Motorway Maroochydore Interchange Revegetation Works (\$400,000) - DELIVERED
- Permanent dredging pipeline for safer Mooloolaba Harbour entrance (\$750,000) - DELIVERED
- Two new floating walkways for Mooloolaba boaties and anglers - IN PROGRESS
- More dedicated cycle lanes on David Low Way - IN PROGRESS
- New marine safety system to keep Maroochy River waterways safe - DELIVERED
- School zone flashing warning signs at Maroochydore State High School - DELIVERED
- Signalised pedestrian crossing on Aerodrome Road - IN PROGRESS
- 19 more police officers in Sunshine Coast region (since April 2012) - DELIVERED
- 5 extra intensive care paramedics - DELIVERED

Delivering state-wide:

- Lowering the cost of living by freezing car registration on the family car, restoring the \$7,000 principal place of residence stamp duty exemption and scrapping the commercial waste levy.
- Supporting small businesses and creating local jobs by cutting red tape and reducing the payroll tax burden by \$40 million.
- Improving health outcomes by reducing emergency department wait times, doubling the patient travel subsidy scheme and reducing the public dental waiting list by almost 50,000 patients.
- Supporting Queensland children with more Prep teacher aides, E-learning for Special Schools and helping 12,000 kids get into sport.
- Making our streets safer with tougher laws and penalties to crack down on crime and more than 300 extra police on the beat.

Maroochydore Bus Station now operational for new bus network

While work is still ongoing at the new Maroochydore Bus Station, the new platforms have been operational from Monday 25th November to facilitate the changes to services as part of the new bus network.

I am following up with the Minister about concerns raised about pedestrians crossing between the platforms rather than using the signalised pedestrian crossing.

Landscaping and the construction of the amenities buildings on the eastern side of Horton Parade are scheduled to be completed by late January.

[READ MORE - information about some of the improvements to bus services](#)

All Sunshine Coast buses will be FREE from 26 Dec - 5 Jan

Sunshine Coast Council, in partnership with TransLink, are providing FREE public transport for everyone on the Sunshine Coast, funded by the Public Transport Levy.

Pedestrian safety steps up on Aerodrome Road

Pedestrian safety on Aerodrome Road will be improved thanks to a new signalised pedestrian crossing currently under construction between May Street and Fourth Avenue.

[READ MORE:](#)

Ken Neil Bridge named to recognize community spirit

I was delighted to recognise local legend Ken Neil for his contribution to the Sunshine Coast community with the Bradman Avenue bridge over the Maroochy River being renamed in his honour.

Ken and his wife Desley have been Bradman Avenue residents for more than 50 years. The bridge and foreshore area have special significance for the family who have been the driving force behind many projects and organisations that have shaped sport and recreation community on the Sunshine Coast.



Funding for local ANZAC centenary projects

To commemorate the centenary of the First World War, the Queensland ANZAC Centenary Grants Program is providing funding of up to \$80,000 for local projects to honour the ANZAC spirit.

Applications for the first round of grants will close in March next year, but there will be further funding rounds through the duration of the centenary period.

More information and application details for the grants can be obtained through my office or by visiting the Anzac Centenary website at: www.qld.gov.au/anzac100.

Business discount schemes help Sunshine Coast seniors and carers save money

Sunshine Coast seniors and carers can benefit from savings on a wide range of products and services from a number of local businesses under the State Government's Seniors and Carers Business Discount scheme.

The new 2013-14 discount directory is now available from my office, community service centres, government offices and our local libraries. Cardholders can also go online at www.qld.gov.au/seniorscard or www.qld.gov.au/carercard to locate business discount providers.



I encourage any seniors and carers who do not currently hold a Seniors or Carers Business Discount Card to go online to find out if they're eligible and apply for a card.

For more information contact my office on 5443 7995 or email maroochydore@parliament.qld.gov.au.

Progress made on cutting red tape for hospitality, tourism and property industries

The State Government is making progress in its commitment to reduce red tape by 20% by 2018 with changes to liquor licencing legislation helping small businesses and supporting our local tourism industry.

[READ MORE:](#)

Review of Body Corporate and Property Laws

The State Government has recently announced that it will conduct a broad review of our property laws, including the Body Corporate and Community Management Act (BCCM Act).

[READ MORE:](#)

New State Planning Policy announced

The State Government has unveiled landmark reforms to revolutionise Queensland's planning processes.

The new policy provides greater clarity for local governments by consolidating in one document, the state interests and policies that councils must consider when preparing or amending local planning schemes, or assessing development applications.

[READ MORE:](#)

Voting Revolution for Queensland

Voting will be revolutionised at the next state election under electoral reforms recently introduced in Parliament.

Queensland's electoral system will be modernised and simplified but also better protected, with proof of identity to be required on polling days to prevent voter impersonation.

[READ MORE:](#)

Disaster and Emergency information now available online

Vital information on natural disasters and emergencies are now available online at www.qld.gov.au/emergency.

This One-Stop Shop approach will provide Queenslanders with easy to access, up to date, consistent information online via a smart phone, tablet or PC, or by calling or visiting a government services counter in their local community. In this case people can find out information on emergency alerts and updates.

[READ MORE:](#)

New Board for Construction Watchdog

The creation of the Queensland's new building industry watchdog, the Queensland Building and Construction Commission (QBCC) heralds the start of the most significant reform of the construction industry regulations in more than 20 years.

[READ MORE:](#)

Free training for Year 12 graduates

Queensland school leavers will be given fee-free training in core skills areas from next year in a bid to boost frontline services and build the state's economy.

[READ MORE:](#)
