



GRIFFITHS FOR GOYDER

WORKING FOR YOU IN GOYDER

Steven Griffiths MP JP

Member for Goyder

Shadow Minister for Economic Development

Shadow Minister for Regional Development

Shadow Minister for Transport & Infrastructure

Shadow Minister for Small Business

Shadow Minister for Federal/State Relations

Shadow Minister for Government Enterprises



Shadow Minister for Agriculture visits Yorke Peninsula

Shadow Minister for Agriculture, Adrian Pederick MP, spent a day on Yorke Peninsula with me in July and took the opportunity to meet and speak with local industry groups.

In the morning we visited Rural Solutions SA in Kadina, where discussions were had about the important role they have in delivering advice and consultancy services to enhance and support primary industries within the local region.

David Cowell, Regional Development Australia (Yorke and Mid North), and local farmer and proprietor of Gregory's Winery, Lyall Schulz, spoke with us in Maitland regarding local industry and the need for governments to be supportive of the agriculture sector, as well as enhancing export and regional development opportunities throughout the State.

We met with members of the YP Alkaline Soils Group in Minlaton to discuss the work they take on to identify, research, demonstrate and promote best practice farming systems in areas with alkaline soils.

The work undertaken by the YP Alkaline Soils Group is vital to the future of the South Australian agricultural industry; particularly in key cropping districts where alkaline soils are predominate including Yorke Peninsula, Eyre Peninsula, the Upper North, Lower North and the South East. Extra support from the State Government is needed and Agriculture Minister Michael O'Brien plans to meet with the Group in early October.



Above:
Adrian Pederick MP
and Steven Griffiths
meet with YP
Alkaline Soils
Group.

Right: Steven and
Bronte Blyth.

Adrian and I discussed recreational fishing with a key stakeholder in tourism on SYP about the need for the State Government to get the balance between marine parks and recreational fishing right. Recreational fishing is a huge part of Yorke Peninsula's economy. In 2009 it was estimated there were 435,000 overnight visitors to Yorke Peninsula and 41% of these visitors indicated that fishing was their most popular activity to partake in (which is a higher proportion than for any other SA region).

Adrian has a strong understanding of regional communities and thoroughly enjoyed his visit to our beautiful and diverse part of the world.

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Help available to make you digital tv ready?

Louise Sladdin has been appointed as the Digital Switchover Liaison Officer in our local region.

Her role will be to advise people how to get ready for digital only free-to-air television as the switch from analogue to digital television phases in between 2010 and 2013.

Within Goyder there are three different licence areas; Regional SA and Broken Hill/Spencer Gulf, Adelaide and Remote Central and Eastern Australia (other areas of SA) licence area.

The first area to have analogue services switched off is the Regional SA and Broken Hill/Spencer Gulf licence area, taking in the Copper Coast and Port Broughton, which will occur by the end of 2010.

Towns south of Moonta down to the heel of Yorke Peninsula and much of the Adelaide Plains fall into the Adelaide license area. The western part of the foot of YP falls under the Remote and Eastern Australia licence area. The analogue system for both of these license areas will be fully switched to digital in the second half of 2013.

To continue receiving free-to-air television after the digital switchover in your licence area you will need a television able to receive digital signals.

There are different ways you can make the switch by either converting or upgrading your existing equipment. You can connect a digital set top box or digital TV recorder to your existing analogue television or upgrade to a television with an integrated digital tuner. For more information visit the Digital Ready website at www.digitalready.gov.au or contact Louise Sladdin on the Digital Ready Information Line - 1800 20 10 13.



Phasing in of Modern Awards

The Rann State Government's changes to the Fair Work Act took effect from 1 January 2010. However, many businesses are still very confused by the new workplace laws.

Included in the key changes to the Fair Work industrial system is the reduction of state and federal awards from about 2500 into 120 "modern awards".

Most private sector employers have been transferred from state industrial relations systems to the national system, and their employees are now covered under one of the modern awards, with new pay rates phasing in from 1 July 2010.

The conditions of Modern Awards that will be allowed to be phased in include:

- classifications and minimum wages (including industry allowances) for adults, juniors, apprentices and trainees, supported wages and piecework rates;
- casual or part-time loadings;
- Saturday, Sunday, public holiday, evening and other penalties;
- shift allowances and other penalties.

Businesses can choose whether they automatically pay the increased wages, loadings and penalties from 1 July 2010 or phase in the increases over the period as stated in the Modern Award.

However, allowances (e.g. meal and travel allowances), other than industry allowances, must be paid in accordance with the provisions contained in the relevant Modern Awards from 1 January 2010.

More information can be obtained by visiting www.fairwork.gov.au or on 13 13 94 or by calling Business SA on 8300 0101.

Volunteers making Goyder proud

Volunteers in our community are invaluable and their contribution is often selflessly undertaken without the acknowledgement deserved.

Recently however the Kadina Apex Club has been awarded as the Best Club in the nation and David Venning, one of its members, has been named national Apexian of the Year.

It is truly fantastic to see the Kadina Apex Club and David recognised for their commitment to the local community. Congratulations!



David Venning with his 'Apexian of the Year' award, presented at the National Apex Convention held in Tasmania from 22-25 July 2010.

Photo courtesy of the YPCT

PETITIONS

I believe it is the fundamental right of all citizens to petition Parliament. As your local representative in State Parliament I am able to present a petition on behalf of an individual or group calling for the House of Assembly to take action on an issue.

Recently two different petitions from community members have been handed to me to present to Parliament. Frustratingly they were both rejected for presentation because the correct format was not used, despite the intention of the petitions being evident.

The drafting and circulation of a petition is a time consuming exercise, therefore it is very important that the format of the petition be correct and comply with the Standing Orders of the House and parliamentary tradition.

Every petition to be presented to the House of Assembly should begin with the words:

"To the Honourable the Members of the House of Assembly in Parliament Assembled"

If signatures are affixed to more than one sheet, the prayer of the petition must be repeated at the head of each sheet.

My staff at the Electorate Office are available to assist and guide you when drafting a petition. Please let us know if you would like a copy of the guidelines and we can send them to you.

Interesting fact: The most famous petition tabled in the House of Assembly is the 'Women's Suffrage Petition of 1894', signed by over 16,000 citizens. It was credited as an important element in the campaign that resulted in the granting of the vote to women.

SA Water reticulation mains renewal work in Goyder



I wrote to the Minister for Water, the Hon Paul Caica MP, earlier in the year seeking information on SA Water's Water Network Reticulation Mains Renewal Asset Program.

Since being elected as the Member for Goyder in 2006 I have been contacted by many constituents about the poor and ageing condition of water mains in the region.

I am advised that \$65 million will be invested in reticulation mains renewal over the next five years by SA Water and the following projects are planned within Goyder for the 2010/11 financial year:

- Four projects in the Maitland/Arthurton area that will replace approximately 11.8km of water mains;
- Replacement of 200m of water main Graves Street, Kadina;
- Replacement of 780m of water main along Bute-Snowtown Road (while not located within the Goyder electorate funding for this project is pleasing).

A further 15km of water mains within Goyder are tentatively scheduled to be undertaken over the next five years.

ARKAROLA



Steven and Leader of the Opposition, Isobel Redmond, at Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary



Amendments to the *Mining Act 1971* will be debated in the House of Assembly when State Parliament resumes this month.

The *Mining (Miscellaneous) Amendment Bill* includes an amendment to protect the Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary from mineral exploration and mining.

In early August I visited the Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary with several of my State Opposition colleagues to obtain a better understanding of the controversial debate that is occurring over a mining proposal within the Sanctuary.

Marathon Resources has lodged an application to mine 45 million tonnes of uranium oxide at Mt Gee, which is located within the Sanctuary. Marathon Resources hope to have an underground uranium mine operating by 2011 and the life of the mine is expected to be 13 years.

If the amendment to protect the Sanctuary from mining is passed this will not occur.

About the Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary

The Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary is located in the northern Flinders Ranges and is 610sq km in size. In 1968 it was purchased by Dr Reg Sprigg as an under-developed pastoral property for the sole purpose of natural protection and conservation.

It was declared a sanctuary under the National Parks and Wildlife Act by the State Government in 1996. The Sprigg family continue to operate the Sanctuary and were our hosts during our stay.

Grants

Volunteer Support Fund - Open on Monday, 9 August and closes on Monday, 11 October 2010.

The Volunteer Support Fund is aimed at assisting and promoting volunteering programs within the local community. Grants of up to \$3,000 for initiatives that assist volunteer programs are available to eligible applicants.

Further information can be obtained from the Office for Volunteers on 8463 4490 or by visiting www.ofv.sa.gov.au/grants

Active Club Program - opens 21 August 2010 and closes on 5 October 2010.

The Active Club Program provides financial assistance to not for profit community based active recreation and sporting organisations to develop and expand the services they provide.

Eligible organisation can apply for funding in one of the following three categories:

Program and Equipment Grants - up to \$10,000

Facility Grants - up to \$20,000

Youth at Risk Grants - up to \$10,000

For more information on the guidelines or discuss your application please contact the funding consultant on (08) 7424 7708 or email ORS-grants@sa.gov.au or visit www.recsport.sa.gov.au

Community Recreation and Sport Facilities Program - opens 28 August 2010 and closes on 11 October 2010.

Funding for the development of new or existing sport or active recreation facilities. Sport and active recreation clubs/associations, Local Government Authorities and school councils are eligible to apply.

For guidelines and application form go to www.recsport.sa.gov.au or contact my office on 8832 2455.

Premier's Community Initiatives Fund - scheduled to open in late October and close in December 2010.

Provides financial assistance for projects that benefit disadvantaged, disabled or socially isolated members of the community. Up to \$10,000 available to assist organisations to undertake a project.

Guidelines and application form available from www.premcab.sa.gov.au or phone my office for a copy.

Grant for Seniors - through the Office for the Ageing one off grants of up to \$5,000 to help older people be involved in their community and continue participating in activities of their choice are available. Funding is available for the purchase of equipment or materials, social or skill enhancing activities and fitness, sporting or educational programs.

Contact the Goyder Electorate office for more information on 8832 2455.

Changes for L and P drivers

The rules for drivers obtaining a learner's permit or a provisional licence are changing.

The initiative has been implemented to help drivers progress safely towards a full driver's licence. The new rules are affective from 4 September 2010 and include the following measures:

- Increased minimum time required on a learner's permit from 6 to 12 months for drivers under the age of 25 years.
- Increased minimum supervised driving time for learner's permit holders from 50 hours (including 10 at night) to 75 hours (including 15 at night).
- Increased maximum speed limit a learner's permit holder may travel on a road from 80km/h - 100km/h, where speed signs permit this.
- Provisional (P1 and P2) drivers under 25 years of age will be restricted from driving high-powered cars including vehicles with engines of 8 or more cylinders; turbocharged or supercharged engines (except diesel powered vehicles), vehicles that have been modified to increase engine performance and a number of nominated high performance vehicles.
- Tightening of curfew conditions for novice drivers returning from a serious disqualification, a penalty of two demerit points for failure to display L and P plates instead of licence disqualification and the offer of a Safer Driver Agreement option for disqualified provisional drivers.

The changes follow an earlier change in August 2009 on banning L and P1 drivers from using any type of mobile phone function while driving.

For more information visit www.mylicence.sa.gov.au

DTEI & Mallala Council to negotiate on level crossings

The District Council of Mallala has received a proposal from the Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure (DTEI) proposing to close a number of railway level crossings within the Mallala district.

In particular the possible closure of crossings on Simpkin, Pratt, Gallipoli and Old Dublin Roads has raised concerns from members of the community. I have met with a number of land holders/primary producers to discuss the likely impact the railway level crossing closures will have, chiefly when it comes to the moving of heavy machinery and access to rural properties.

Alternate options are required and consideration needs to be given to prevent the trafficking of heavy vehicles and agricultural machinery through townships and on major roads.

On Friday, 30 July, I attended a meeting to discuss the level crossing proposal held at the Mallala Council Chambers where DTEI representatives were present. Safety is the main concern for all parties involved and community consultation will continue so alternate suggestions can be considered.