

A message from Ashton

Dear local resident,

Welcome to the latest edition of my community newsletter.

Summer is here, Christmas is almost upon us and while it's always an exciting time of year to be with friends and family, cost of living pressures and interest rate rises are making it tougher across our community.

That's why I've been so overwhelmed by the generosity of the many people who kindly donated to my 2023 Salvation Army Gift Drive. Even in tough economic times, people in our community dig deep and think of others.

These presents will go some way in helping families in crisis or facing hardship to celebrate this Christmas and make their day a little more special.

With Christmas comes summer, and all reports suggest we are in for a long hot season this year with below average rainfall.

Like every year it's important to remain vigilant about the threat of bushfires. Being prepared, having a plan and staying informed is crucial.

If you need assistance or information on preparing a bushfire safety plan please get in touch with the CFS, or contact me at my office. My door, and inbox, are always open.

Finally, I want to wish you and your family a wonderful Christmas and a safe, Happy New Year!

Best wishes,



ASHTON HURN MP Member for Schubert Shadow Minister for Health

Did you know we can help with...



Community printing

My office is always happy to assist community and sporting groups with the printing of newsletters or flyers.



Parliament House tours

If your local school or community group would like a tour of Parliament House, please call my office to arrange a day and time.



Congratulatory messages

Assistance with congratulatory messages such as milestone birthdays and wedding anniversaries.



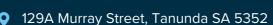
Grant assistance

Does your community or sporting group need funding? Talk to me about what Federal, State or Local Government grants may be available, and I can also provide a letter of support.



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End of School Year 2023

Visiting local schools is always something I enjoy – from celebrating the success of our students and teachers, to opening new facilities and attending special events, there's always something happening.

The end of the school year is a particularly special time for families with graduating students, and it was my pleasure to again sponsor an award called the 'Schubert Quiet Achiever Award'.

Instead of focusing on academic, music or sporting excellence, I wanted a student to be acknowledged for: working hard, being reliable, having a sense of service and a focus on being the best they can be. Which just about sums up the characteristics of our community!

Congratulations to all the wonderful quiet achievers I have had the privilege of meeting this year, and well done to all those who have graduated from Primary School or High School in 2023. Best wishes for 2024.



Road safety in the Northern Adelaide Hills continues to be a concern for many in our local community, and it's an issue which requires urgent attention and action.

Thank you to those of you who were able to join me for the Community Road Safety Forum that I hosted at the end of October in Cudlee Creek

There were a wide variety of concerns raised at the forum. It was very troubling to hear reports of motorcycle time trials and dangerous racing activities that clearly endanger the lives of everyone on our roads. Some of the other issues raised included:

- Persistent and severe tailgating in the northern Adelaide Hills, particularly on Gorge Road, Tippett Road and Lower North and North East Roads;
- Frequent hoon driving including burn outs, and road users crossing double block line markings, including buses and trucks who often have no other option around bends due to lack of space;
- General condition of the roads, and visibility concerns at some intersections;
- The fact that there are minimal spots for SA Police to monitor bad behaviour, due to the narrowness of the roads.



Birdwood High School award winner - Riley Polmear

We were very appreciative that two representatives from South Australia Police (SAPOL) were able to provide some opening thoughts, answer questions and take some on notice about local policing efforts.

Unfortunately, since the forum, there have been a number of serious crashes on local roads – at the time of writing this, 105 lives have been lost of our roads. That's compared to 62 lives at the same time last year.

A comprehensive summary of the meeting was provided by my team to the Minister for Police & Road Safety as well as SAPOL, and we anticipate that a formal response will be provided, outlining the actions being taken to get on top of reckless behaviour on our roads.

World Teachers' Day

On Friday 27 October, we loaded up the car with treats from the Barossa Valley Chocolate Company and visited all the schools in the community for World Teachers' Day.

It was a great opportunity to acknowledge and show our appreciation to all our school leaders, educators and support staff across the Barossa and Adelaide Hills!

A small token to thank them for all that they do to educate and support the next generation.



Cudles Creek mobile coverage

Mobile coverage in and around Cudlee Creek is challenging to say the least – and it's something that locals have raised with me as an issue.

It can be frustrating trying to simply chat with friends and family on the phone, take orders or bookings as a business – or to even to organise rideshare or taxis to get you from 'A to B'.

In some welcome news Cudlee Creek has just been announced as one of several locations across Australia which will have a new base station built to improve mobile coverage in the local area.

Telstra has co-invested in the project with the Federal Department of Communications, in the hope that mobile coverage blackspots can be improved.

I look forward to seeing the project get off the ground and hopefully making a difference in the community.

Street corner meetings

In recent months I've held nineteen street corner meetings across every part of the electorate which is a great chance to have a chin-wag about any matters of concern. Everyone is welcome to drop by.

I've also been at various shopping centres speaking about specific issues, whether it's our push for funding from all spheres of government for the Amy Gillett Bikeway from Mount Torrens to Birdwood, or seeking your views on health or ride share in the Barossa.

Keep an eye out on social media or in your letterbox in 2024 so you know when I will be holding one near you!





Cutting the ribbon with Principal Bianca Laister.

Paracombe Primary & Preschool opening

Paracombe Primary & Preschool officially opened their new preschool, including a new building and an outdoor learning area.

The new preschool is the result of an amalgamation between Houghton Preschool and Paracombe Primary School and supports early learning for up to 30 children.

The project has been a long time in the making and is the result of collaboration between the school communities.

It is a wonderful asset for the community, and a pleasure to acknowledge the occasion by cutting the ribbon with Principal Bianca Laister.

Active Club grants

Successful applicants of the latest Active Club grant program were recently announced through the Office of Recreation and Sport. I had the pleasure in presenting certificates to local clubs across our region.

It has been great to head out to clubs right across the community to hear about what they've been able to achieve with their grant money — this investment makes a big difference to our local clubs.

From scoreboards to basketballs, to footballs, netballs, and tennis balls - the Active Club grants pump thousands of much needed dollars into grassroot clubs.



Our local sports clubs play an important role in our region for many reasons and every little thing we can do to help keep them thriving is a good thing.

Equipment can often be a big cost for clubs, especially the essentials that need to be replaced frequently. Having a well-equipped club also encourages more people to participate and get active.

Out and about in Schubert



Meeting with Ivy the koala at Gorge Wildlife Park.



Acknowledging staff milestones at Wirraminna Care.



At Torrens Valley Orchards with Tony Hannaford.



Presenting Active Club grant certificate to Gumeracha Bowls Club.



King Charles III Coronation Tree in Gumeracha at Federation Park.



Kenton Valley Cherries and Figue with Hon David Speirs MP.



Reading a book to Paracombe Primary School students for Bookweek.

Enjoying Houghton Spring Fair with Arcadia



Community catch up in Birdwood with Cr Lucy Huxter



Speaking with passionate Williamstown Primary School students and Mayor Lange



50th wedding anniversary for Margaret and Glen Tscharke.



Putting Schubert first.

Catching up with Hello Mount

What matters most to you?

I hope you might find some time to fill in my community survey to let me know what matters most to you.

Contact me or my office for a hard copy, alternatively you can fill it out online using the QR code below or visiting my website.

Share your views! Scan the QR code to the right or visit ashtonhurn.com.au/news/community-survey to open my survey

