

The

Wilson Update

Geoff Wilson mp,
a local who delivers

August 2010



I was pleased to welcome the new Principal of Patricks Road State School, Bronwyn Braithwaite and the Acting Ferny Grove State High School Principal Mark Breckenridge to the Ferny Grove electorate. Principals are the leaders of our schools. They make decisions every day about what's best for our children. That's why having strong and effective leaders guiding a quality school is critical to the future success of our children.

Exciting things are happening at our schools at the moment with buildings, solar power, reading programs, Book Week celebrations and the preparation for the national curriculum. With the Federal Election coming up this weekend,

many of you will visit your local school which will be transformed into a polling station for the day. Please take the time to have a glance around and appreciate the wonderful environment that these schools provide for our students. And of course don't forget the tastiest part of any election – the local P&C sausage sizzle and cake stall!



Road Safety

I would like to urge everyone to be careful on our roads. On September the twelfth the Education Department is supporting Grace and Jessica's Road Smart Day. Twin girls Grace and Jessica Hornby, along with their grandmother and another person died in a road accident on the Sunshine Coast on May 8 2009. Since then their parents, Michael and Kelly Hornby have been campaigning for motorists to slow down and people to remember road victims of road trauma. Recent events on Mount Nebo Road where the young driver of a car was seriously injured in an appalling car crash should give us all pause.

Our roads are no more or less than pathways for us to get around. They should never be regarded as race tracks. Please consider each other on the roads and slow down.

Community Funding

The current funding round for the Queensland Government's Gambling Community Benefit Fund closes on 31 August. One-off grants of up to \$35,000 are allocated to approved not-for-profit organisations to help them provide community services or activities that benefit the community. There are also solar sport and community group grants available to fund the installation of 1.5 kilowatt solar panels to sporting and community group buildings. These funds are an excellent way for our local community groups to gain the funding they need. I am very happy to offer letters of support for not-for-profit groups wishing to apply for these grants in our local community. The Gambling Community Benefit Fund receives money from taxes on Golden Casket lotteries, wagering, keno and gaming machines. It distributes these funds to community projects on a quarterly basis. For more information please head to my website or check out www.olgr.qld.gov.au/grants/gcbf.

gocards

The final stage of the Bligh government's go card giveaway is happening now. Until 10 September TransLink is providing gocards to not-for-profit and charitable organisations to provide to their clients and volunteer staff. Stocks are limited and this is the last chance to access what has been a very successful program. So far almost 300,000 cards have been distributed to Queenslanders through community events, online registrations and postal applications. To apply log on to the Translink website www.translink.com.au or call 13-12-30.



Ferny Grove Rail Update

I would like to thank everyone who made a submission to the public consultation conducted on the \$100 million redevelopment of the Ferny Grove Station Precinct. The consultation has now ended and the Department of Transport will be posting the results of the consultation on its website soon.

Bushfire Season Update



Please be aware that the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service has declared a Fire Danger Period from 29 August until 2 January next year. In effect this will mean that lighting small fires will no longer be allowed without a Permit to Light Fire from local Fire Wardens. For most of us fire is not an ever present part of our lives. In the past, small backyard fires have escaped because people were not familiar with the danger that even small fires can present. Please do not underestimate the severity or spread of fire – it is a killer. For more information of this season's fire preparedness check out the Prepare.Act.Survive booklet available on my website (www.geoffwilsonmp.com) or go to www.ruralfire.qld.gov.au.

Willmore Kindy Has Turned 40!

Congratulations to the parents and kids! To celebrate, Willmore Kindergarten and Preschool is planning an open day on Saturday the 9th of October from 10:00am at 14 Irruka Crescent, Ferny Hills. If you would like more information please contact the President, Fiona Preston on 3351-2022.

Near Pavilions

Winter Trophy and Summer Signup season is now here. This is a time of great activity for our local sporting groups as they both wind up and wind down for the year. I was lucky enough to catch up with the Ferny Grove Falcons Junior AFL President Brad Wyatt and Treasurer Paul Anderson last weekend. The Falcons are doing our region proud with three of the Falcons' teams making the finals this season and a number of the Falcons' players moving on to representative honours.



Have Your Say

The Queensland Government currently has a number of consultations open to the public, from Children and Young People to Infrastructure. To find out what consultations are currently open and to have your say on these matters head to www.getinvolved.qld.gov.au.

Make your voice heard!

Daffodil Day

The Cancer Council is having its annual Daffodil Day fundraiser on 27 August. Each year Daffodil Day raises around eight million dollars for cancer research. During their lifetimes one on three women and one in two Queensland me are likely to develop cancer. This is a health issue that cuts across regions and economic boundaries. For more information visit www.daffodilday.com.au.



Grandparents Day

This year the Queensland Government has endorsed its very first Grandparents Day for 7 November this year. Every year there is a Mothers Day and a Fathers Day, so it is about time we celebrate the effort and love of Grandparents too. In the future this will be held on the first Sunday in November. Probably about time too!

Back to School

Prep Enrolment time is now here. Over the next few weeks and months the schools in the electorate will be holding open days, information evening and enrolment sessions. For more information, please check the school websites.

Samford Valley Steiner School's *festiValley* festival is now upon us. The festival will take place over the weekend of 27 and 28 August. All are welcome! On Friday 27 August there will be an art exhibition. Entries are being sought from current and past parents, teachers, staff and year 12 students. Each entry costs \$5 and tickets to the Friday event will be \$15. For more information visit the school website at www.smafordsteiner.qld.edu.au.



Patricks Road State School is celebrating its school carnival on the 4th of September. This will also incorporate a small expo. The school is also looking rather spick and span at the moment as many of the walls, paths and toilet blocks have been prepared and are about to or have already been repainted.



Ferny Grove State School experienced some unexpected media attention recently when a 50 tonne crane that was moving structural steel for the BER Hall extension toppled over. Fortunately no one was hurt in the accident and the contractors who are undertaking the work will complete the necessary repairs without any cost either to the school or the BER budget. Special mention must be made of Acting Principal Brett Shackleton's poise and dignity in handling his media commitments in between mowing the lawn!

Mt Nebo State School is having its Mountain Festival on Sunday the 5th of September in the school grounds. As the Festival falls on Father's Day there will be many Father's Day related activities. Questions about the markets can be directed to Vanessa Andre on 3289-0277 Also there will be a working bee for all who wish to pitch in before the Festival on Sunday the 22nd of August. Starting time is 8:00am. For more information on the Mountain Festival please visit mountainfestival.wordpress.com.



Future Issues

If you belong to any of the community groups that call the Ferny Grove Electorate home and you would like me to promote your upcoming events in my newsletter, please email me at ferny.grove@parliament.qld.gov.au or call my office on 3851-1570.