



THE FARRER FLIER

It has been a busy few months across Farrer and it was a pleasure to attend local shows, field days and festivals throughout the region.

Among the highlights, I have been honoured to be guest judge at my first Griffith Salami Festival, attended the Hay Show dog jump (with my sausage dog Snag), travelled west for the Pooncarie Field Days and manned the regular Liberal Party site at the Henty Machinery Field Days.



I was delighted to welcome Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull to Albury in August to talk about energy prices, our Inland Rail project and how we can deliver not just for the region but for the country.

As the PM said on the day, we are a reminder yet again that Australians can do anything. The Government is supporting local business through business tax cuts which will provide real incentives for investment and also taking steps to reduce the cost of electricity for all Australians.

In this Farrer Flier, we are looking back on some of the things we have achieved together and looking forward at our future plans, all focussed on bringing jobs and opportunities to our region.



As always, I invite you to contact me about the events and issues that affect you and your community.

Sussan Ley



Sussan LEY MP

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Meeting with Southern Growers Group in Finley – Stephanie Chappell, Andrew Harding, Phillip Snowden, Geoff McLeod.

Irrigation modernisation programs

Thank you to Murrumbidgee Irrigation Limited (MI) for providing me with a guided tour of their recently completed work along the Northern Branch Canal.

Much of this complements, or is part of, canal modernisation programs funded by the Australian Government. This expansion allows new control structures to be utilised to their full extent.

This effectively doubles the canal's delivery capacity – and allows MI to deliver more water and higher flow rates, while better meeting the needs of their customers' farming operations.

More generally, the Coalition's Private Irrigation Infrastructure Operators Program (PIIOP) is investing in modern, efficient on-farm water infrastructure to help secure a healthy and balanced Murray Darling Basin.

PIIOP – PRIORITISING INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE OVER WATER BUY BACKS!

Total funding to date:

Coleambally Irrigation Co-operative – \$52.3 million

Murray Irrigation Limited – \$284 million

Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area – \$347.4 million

Hay Private Irrigation District – \$10.2 million

Foreign Ownership of Agricultural Land Register

I have been asked several times recently about foreign ownership of agricultural land in Australia. The Foreign Ownership of Agricultural Land Register has been updated as part of the Turnbull Government's commitment to increasing scrutiny and transparency in Australian agriculture and foreign investment.

The Land Register shows that at 30 June 2017 foreign investors held just 13.6% of all Australian agricultural land (down from an adjusted 14.1% on 30 June 2016).

The United Kingdom remains Australia's largest foreign investor in agricultural land, while the preferred means of agricultural land investment is through leasehold interests, with 81% of the land interests held by foreign persons being leasehold interests.

Of the 13.6 per cent of agricultural land held by foreign investors,

- United Kingdom around 27% (or 2.6% of total agricultural land),
- Chinese around 25% (or 2.5% of total agricultural land).

The Register can be found online <http://firb.gov.au/>

Would you like to receive Sussan's e-news as it happens?



www.sussanley.com/e-news

Celebrating our local global rice

It was a pleasure to have our Riverina rice growers represented as part of SunRice's parliamentary event recently; joining my federal parliamentary and government colleagues to showcase our locally based Australian rice industry and promoting its popularity around the world.

The evening celebrated the important and growing role that Australian grown rice plays in markets around the world, driven by SunRice's capacity as an internationally-focused, Australian agribusiness.

The event also highlighted the importance of the Federal Government's ongoing support for SunRice to expand into new markets.

I would like to commend SunRice on their reputation - developing a nutritious, high-quality, healthy and safe product, and their innovation through locally managed value-add initiatives, with fully-integrated supply chain from paddock to plate – wherever that plate might be!

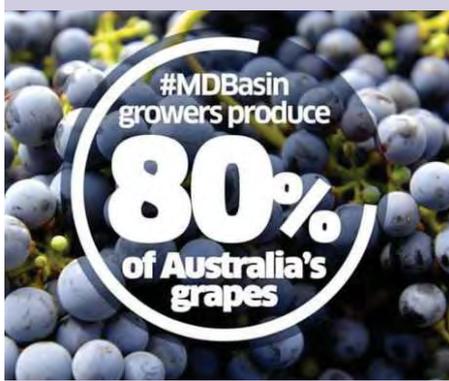


With SunRice Chairman and Moulamein rice grower, Laurie Arthur



FARM FACT!

If you enjoy a wine over the holiday break, or you are more partial to eating fresh grapes, you might be surprised just how many are grown in the Murray Darling Basin.



Wentworth's Murray House Aged Care

It was fantastic to visit Wentworth's Murray House Aged Care and I would like to again congratulate their residents, staff and management on a new \$1.9 million special needs wing.

This community owned facility has now seen four expansions in five years and is surely the gold standard when it comes to making **care** the most important part of any facility. Wentworth deserves to be proud of this achievement.



Visiting Wentworth's Murray House Aged Care.

Cancer Centre receives new prostate cancer support nurse

Prostate cancer is the most common form of cancer affecting men, with over 16,000 Australians expected to be diagnosed this year and, despite a 95 per cent five-year survival rate, more than 3,000 men die from it each year.

Albury Wodonga is set to host a full time specialist prostate cancer nurse, one of 14 new positions funded by the Australian Government to be allocated across Australia.

The nurse, located at the Albury Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre, is among the new recruits joining 29 existing nurses currently working in hospitals across the country.

The Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia (PCFA) is implementing the program, with expansion of the specialist service made possible after the Federal Government allocated a further \$5.9 million over three years as part of the 2017/18 Federal Budget.

Private Health Insurance

The Turnbull Government has announced a wide ranging package of reforms to make private health insurance simpler and more affordable for Australians.

For regional Australians, this includes the ability for insurers to offer enhanced travel and accommodation benefits for people who need to travel for treatment.

The private health insurance rebate also remains for products used by people living in regional and rural Australia – allowing access to doctors of their choice as private patients in regional public hospitals.

Saluting their Service

As a community we must keep alive the ANZAC spirit and teach future generations about our military history and the importance of reflecting on the price we have paid for our values and freedoms.

The **Saluting Their Service** Community Commemorative Grants program provides up to \$4,000 for an individual project. It is a rolling grants program, so applications are accepted at any time.

I encourage any local community organisations interested in applying for funding under the Saluting Their Service grants program to contact the Department of Veterans' Affairs Commemorative Grants team on 1800 026 185 or email commemorativegrants@dva.gov.au

Armistice Day 2018 Centenary Grants

The Centenary of Anzac 2014-2018 is one of the most important remembrance periods in our history, allowing us to properly acknowledge service men and women from all conflicts who fought for a just and secure peace.

One-off grants from \$3,000 are now available as part of the **Armistice Centenary Grants Program**, to help support projects or activities in our region which will commemorate the end of the First World War. I encourage anyone in Farrer who wants to contribute to this significant moment in our nation's history to submit an expression of interest.

For full details on the grants, including eligibility criteria or to lodge an Expression of Interest, please call my office on 1300 303 203 or email farrer@aph.gov.au.



THE COALITION GOVERNMENT

Armistice Centenary Grants Program

Organisations in our community are invited to express an interest in grants to support local, community based projects and activities that commemorate the end of the First World War.

With Barham's Edgar Pickles

\$31 million in additional funding for veterans' mental health

The Government will provide an additional \$31 million to support veterans' mental health as part of its response to the Senate Inquiry into veterans' suicide.

The Prime Minister has said, we best honour the diggers of 1917 by ensuring our veterans in 2017 receive the support they need and deserve. When someone stops serving their country it is their country's turn to start serving them.

The Turnbull Government has made veterans' mental health a priority and has committed and further \$31 million to support veterans' mental health, which is in addition to the \$58.6 million in mental health funding provided in this year's Budget.

If you need to speak with the Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service Call 1800 011 046

If you would like to connect to WVCS or Veterans Line whilst overseas please call +61 8 8241 4546 - please note that standard international call costs will apply.



THE COALITION GOVERNMENT

GREATER FUNDING FOR AGED CARE IN FARRER

MORE PLACES AT MURRAY HAVEN HOSTEL AND NAVORINA NURSING HOME

Building Better Regions

The third round of the Coalition Government's Building Better Regions Funding was announced recently and almost \$7 million in funding has been secured for the development of the Howlong Industrial and Export Precinct, \$277,000 to provide five day per week children's services in Walla Walla and Burrumbuttock's Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre plans to develop their services with a grant of \$38,210.

Back in Albury, work is now well underway on a project to create one of regional Australia's leading sports arenas – a sod turning was the symbolic start to the Lavington Sports Ground redevelopment.

The \$9 million plan to build new multi-purpose playing field, cricket nets, a major grandstand extension to the existing oval and other new amenities, with the project jointly funded by the Coalition Government (\$4,025,560), the Albury City Council (\$4,005,560), AFL NSW/ACT (\$250,000), and the Lavington Panthers Football Netball Club (\$20,000).



Howlong Cool Off



With Albury Mayor Kevin Mack, Lavington Sports Ground.

CCTV making our communities safer

Applications under round two of the Coalition Government's **Safer Communities Fund** programme closed recently, but I am pleased to advise that CCTV, secured in both Albury and Griffith under round one of this program, will help our local councils and police keep our streets safer.

The Federal Coalition has now committed more than \$100 million to assist communities in keeping our streets safe from crime and anti-social behaviour.

Details on the Safer Communities Fund can be found online at www.business.gov.au/safer-communities-fund

An advertisement for the Australian Government's Building Better Regions Fund. It features the Australian Government logo at the top left, with the text 'Australian Government' to its right. Below this, the title 'Building Better Regions Fund' is displayed in large, bold, white letters against a background of a vast, green agricultural landscape under a cloudy sky. At the bottom, there is an orange banner with white text: 'Funding infrastructure and community investment projects that will create jobs, drive economic growth and build stronger regional communities into the future. For more information visit business.gov.au or call 13 28 46.'

Volunteers

Volunteering has a strong presence throughout our community, whether it is helping out with local sporting teams and land care groups, responding to natural disasters and emergencies or helping local charities support some of our most disadvantaged people.

The Australian Government's Volunteer Grants program aims to support the work of our local volunteers with small grants of up to \$5,000 for computers, training and other costs.

Congratulations to more than fifty local community groups, including the local Barham Landcare group, who recently shared a slice of almost \$195,000.



Better, more affordable childcare for families

Too many families struggle with the costs of rising child care fees. In response, the Australian Government is overhauling the system with an investment of an additional \$2.5 billion and subsidies, which will be better targeted to people earning the least and to families working the most.

The hourly fee cap will also put downward pressure on prices and we're ending the stress that families face mid-year by removing the annual rebate cap.

Next year the Government will be in touch with families to give them more details and to help them transition to the new system. In the meantime, I urge you to visit our child care estimator to see exactly how you are set to benefit. <https://www.education.gov.au/sites/education/files/sch/est/index.html>

Capital Grants Program

While buildings alone do not make a great school, I am sure that students and staff of Moama Anglican Grammar school are inspired by their new \$4 million Resource Centre – funded in part through the Australian Government's Capital Grants Program.

The Centre includes two IT classrooms, five study rooms, senior studies areas, staff offices, storage area and amenities – giving the latest in education research and allowing local children to learn more effectively.



Hanwood Public School, visiting Parliament House, Canberra

milestones

May – November 2017

100+ BIRTHDAYS

Ellen Widdup	104	Woomargama
Beryl Burke	100	Deniliquin
Vera Nixon	100	Corowa
Roger Williams	100	Narrandera
Marjorie Ryan	100	Berrigan
Beryl Owen	100	Griffith
Bruce Oliver	100	Lavington
Ethel Lyons	100	Glenroy

90+ BIRTHDAYS

Jack Cummins	95	Lavington
Joan Macpherson	90	Corowa
Dorothy Hoy	90	Culcairn
Margaret Alvey	90	Coomealla
Nanette Ambler	90	Mulwala
Ruby Milthorpe	90	Lavington
Patricia Burge	90	Griffith
Raymond Bowd	90	Lavington
Joyce Smith	90	Howlong
Laurence Cottrell	90	West Albury
Elizabeth Clarke	90	Moama
David Tyrrell	90	Corowa
Mavis Gow	90	Griffith

80+ BIRTHDAYS

Dorothy Bowd	85	Lavington
Elsie Pisan	80	Griffith

70+ WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Jack & Marge Cummins	70	Lavington
Ken & Mavis Brown	70	Barooga

60+ WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Peter & Lola Wilson	65	Finley
Gerald & Joyce Agosta	65	Finley
Royce & Florence Dredge	60	Griffith
George & Ada Madders	60	Springdale Heights
Frank & Anne Kennedy	60	Leeton
Willis & Jan Reid	60	East Albury
Laurence & Beverley Cottrell	60	Holbrook
Frank & Nora Lange	60	Albury
Les & Pauline Hassell	60	Moulamein
Leslie & Morag Maggs	60	Griffith
John & Alice Maslin	60	Springdale Heights
Kevin & Meryl Burns	60	Albury
Tom & Joyce Morgan	60	Griffith
Maurice & Eunice Schuller	60	Henty
Graham & Kay Mills	60	Leeton
Doug & Joan Pargeter	60	West Albury
Ian & Faye Beattie	60	Leeton
William & Marie Watt	60	Leeton
William & Barbara Scott	60	Corowa
Sisto & Elsie Pisan	60	Griffith
Don & Mary Wood	60	Hillston
Herbert & Shirley Patten	60	Glenroy
Francesco & Angela Amato	60	Merungle Hill
Wilfred & Glenda Scholzz	60	Norris Park
William & Peggy Veldman	60	Thurgoona
Laurence & Beverley Withers	60	Leeton
Dorothy Bowd	85	Lavington
Elsie Pisan	80	Griffith

50+ WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Charles & Elaine Butler	56	Corowa
Geoffrey & Estelle Smith	55	Howlong
Robert & Cathy Ross	50	Lavington
Lance & Margaret White	50	Lavington
Eric & Rowena Whiting	50	Leeton
Francesco & Maria Rizzo	50	Leeton
Paul & Beverlee Edwards	50	Hay
Ian & Ruth Dunn	50	Jindera
Jeffrey & June Grosse	50	Walla Walla
Barry & Margaret Gordon	50	Griffith
Alan & Jenny Brumfield	50	Leeton
Jim & Nola Holland	50	Glenroy
Geoffrey & Pamela Anderson	50	Howlong



Sussan Ley MP

CONGRATULATORY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY MESSAGES

	50th Wedding Anniversary	50th plus Wedding Anniversary	90th Birthday	90th plus Birthday
Prime Minister	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Governor-General	Yes	Yes	No	100th and every fifth year thereafter
The Queen	No	60th and every fifth year thereafter	No	100th and every fifth year thereafter

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