



Alan Tudge MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR ASTON



Aston Community News

Spring 2010

Open for Business

Dear Fellow Resident,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to represent you and our community as the new Member for Aston. I will be working to the best of my ability to make our community an even better place to live.

My priorities include:

- ✓ Continue to fight for the rail-link to Rowville and tram extension to Knox.
- ✓ Secure funding to install security cameras at local hot spots including Studfield, Wantirna Mall, Mountain Gate and Scoresby Village shops.
- ✓ Support local small business to keep the economy growing and create local jobs.
- ✓ Work to increase police officers at local stations and fight for a 24 hour police station at Rowville.
- ✓ Provide every possible support for local schools, including the continuation of the chaplaincy program.

My office is open and I'd love to hear from you! I am located on Burwood Highway, opposite Knox City or can be contacted on 98873890 or alan.tudge@aph.gov.au. Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance.

Alan Tudge

Gold Coin Line Up for a Good Cause



Mountain Gate Primary School students dressed up in their favourite AFL club colours and brought along a gold coin to line up next to their club's name.

Collingwood was the winner with the longest line of gold coins. My contribution to the Kangaroos line couldn't quite make the difference!

Over \$400 was raised by the students with money going to the school's sponsor child in Africa. Well done to all!

House for the Community



The Orana Neighbourhood House in Studfield recently had its Open Day. Orana is a welcoming place for adults to build skills and help support each other. It also provides programs for pre-schoolers. Pictured here with my daughter Kristen, and Orana staff Delice, Karin and Leeann. Find out about Orana's services by calling 9801 6844.

Time to scrap the Stud Road bus lane?

The bus lane is dangerous and often empty. It is time for it to be re-thought. I am working with residents to get action taken.

More inside....

Recognising a High Achiever

Congratulations to Joey Koay, a student at Park Ridge Primary School in **Rowville**, on receiving the High Achiever award for violin.

Joey was selected to be a member of the orchestra in the Victorian State Schools Spectacular which performed at Hisense Arena.

I had the pleasure of presenting her award at a morning assembly.

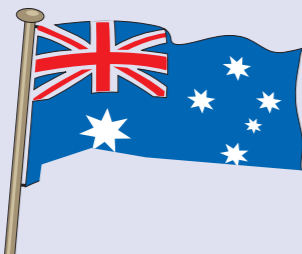


National Flag Day

Australian National Flag Day was held on 3 September and is a day to recognise all that our flag symbolises. Whenever the flag is raised we feel a sense of unity.

We live in a remarkable country and our flag is an important part of Australia's history and identity.

The Australian Parliament provides flags for local community groups. If you require one, please contact me.



Premier ground for EFL

I am pleased to report that the Eastern Football League's planned upgrade of **Bayswater Oval** will go ahead.

New seating, coaches boxes and competition level lighting will be installed to keep it the premier oval in eastern Melbourne and home to EFL finals.

Both myself, and Heidi Victoria MP, had strongly backed the plans and had secured funding commitments for it.

Supporting expansion plans for Bayswater CFA

Bayswater CFA celebrated their 40th anniversary in August. I visited the team to learn about their work and discuss the plans to expand their site to better suit the brigade's needs and make it safer for local residents.

Bayswater CFA is one of several local volunteer CFA brigades who do an exceptional job in protecting our community.



Discussing priorities and plans with the Bayswater CFA Captain and First Lieutenant.

Fighting for security cameras at local shops

I recently met with the **Mountain Gate Trading Association** to discuss their concerns about crime and their desire for security cameras to be installed the local shops.

Traders in **Wantirna Mall, Studfield** and **Scoresby Village** are also seeking security cameras. I have approached the Knox Council to see how we can work together to achieve CCTV cameras for the community.



Going through local security issues with **Wantirna Mall** trader Angelo

Time to re-think the Stud Road bus lane

Public transport is an important priority for our local area, but I am concerned the bus lane on Stud Road has increased congestion and made Stud Road more dangerous.

It suffers from what transport experts call "Empty Lane Syndrome" since only 6-7 buses travel along it per hour, even at peak times, while thousands of cars travel along the other lanes.

I have approached the Transport Minister as well as the local council calling on them to scrap the bus lane, or at the very least,

instigate a full review.

Transport experts recommend that at least 17 full buses per hour are required to justify a dedicated lane. Other options should be explored such as providing buses traffic signal priority, rather than a dedicated lane.

Let me know what you think about the Stud Road bus lane at alan.tudge.mp@aph.gov.au



Batting for Bluebirds Softball

I recently joined the Bluebirds Softball Club for a pre-season training session at Gilbert Park in **Knoxfield**.

It was great to have a hit and a pitch with the talented Under 12's who won the grand final earlier this year.

For more information on how to join the Bluebirds junior or senior teams, please contact Sally Johnson on 0416 213 333.

Aston Community Forum underway

I convened my first Aston Community Forum on September 24th. This Forum brings together front line service providers such as St Vincent de Paul, Knox Community Health, and local Community Houses to discuss issues affecting our community.

We share information and determine priorities for further work. If there are other community organisations that would like to be part of the Forum, please let me know.

Blue Ribbon Day

Victoria observed Blue Ribbon Day on September 29.

This is a special day when we remember the police officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

The Blue Ribbon Foundation helps keep alive the memory of our fallen police officers by building new and improved hospital facilities that bear their names.

You can visit www.remember.org.au to make a contribution.



Keep Clear Victory in Ferntree Gully

Residents in **Ferntree Gully** have secured a partial victory with authorities finally agreeing to put "Keep Clear" signs on Ferntree Gully Road where it intersects with Dairy Lane.

Locals Toni and Belinda led the charge by collecting over 500 signatures in support of the signs.

State Member for Ferntree Gully, Nick Wakeling MP, and I have pushed hard in support of the cause.

We will now fight to see the Keep Clear area extended to include the whole intersection to allow traffic to turn in and out of Dairy Lane.



Out and About

- ✓ Met with CEO of Knox Community Health Service, **Ferntree Gully**, to discuss priorities and service needs.
- ✓ Attended the **Rowville** Primary School musical.
- ✓ Spoke with a Year 9 class at **Bayswater** Secondary College about democracy and Australia's parliamentary structure.
- ✓ Supported the **Scoresby** Tennis Club in their grand final match.
- ✓ Visited young members of the Australian Air League **Ferntree Gully** Squadron.
- ✓ Spoke at the **Knox** Australian Citizenship Ceremony, representing the Commonwealth of Australia.
- ✓ Met with residents at the Peppertree Hill Retirement Village Spring Fair Open Day in **Rowville**.
- ✓ Met with and discussed local priorities with the President of the **Knox** Environment Society.
- ✓ Attended the **Knox** Info Link Annual General Meeting.
- ✓ Visited the Orana Neighbourhood House in **Wantirna South**.
- ✓ Presented the High Achiever Award, and met with the Principal, at Park Ridge Primary, **Rowville**.
- ✓ Met with budding athletes at the **Knox** Little Athletics registration day.
- ✓ Met with residents at the Balmoral Gardens Retirement Village Kiosk Day, **Wantirna South**.
- ✓ Attended the Knox Heath Aboriginal Gathering Day, **Ferntree Gully**.
- ✓ Met with the new **Lysterfield** Primary School Principal.
- ✓ Discussed expansion plans with Captain and First Lieutenant of **Bayswater** CFA.
- ✓ Visited St Andrews Christian College, **Wantirna South**, and spoke with Year 8 students about Australia's Parliamentary structure.
- ✓ Supported **Scoresby** at the EFL Grand Final against Noble Park. Saw **Knox** win the Reserves Premiership.



With Freya from the Australian Air League Ferntree Gully who was recently named Victorian Jnr Cadet of the year

Local Sporting Champion Grants

Local Sporting Champion grants is a program established by the Australian Parliament to help cover costs involved with competing in a sport at a State or National level.

Young people between the ages of 12 and 18 years of age could be eligible for a grant.

Please contact me for more information.

A little bit about Alan

Most importantly, I am a husband and a father. I have been married to my wife Teri for 7 years and we have two little girls. We live locally, and are lucky enough to be surrounded by our extended families.

While I studied law at university, most of my career has been in business, including most recently running my own small business-advisory firm. However, I have also had experience in the community sector and in Government (working to lift education standards).

I strongly believe in public service and have always been involved in community organisations, including the Red Cross, my local Lions, and local church. Over the last few years, I have helped found a new organisation ('Teach for Australia') that encourages young people into teaching in disadvantaged schools.



Discussing Australia's parliamentary structure with year 9 students at Bayswater Secondary College



Dinner with residents at Balmoral Gardens Retirement Village

