

COMMUNITY NEWS

CARTRIDGES 4 PLANET ARK

In a world where so much emphasis is placed on recycling, have you stopped to consider what you do with your used printer cartridges? Do you throw them out or do you recycle them?

In the last year, 3.3 tonnes of printer cartridges per day were diverted from landfill through 'Cartridges 4 Plant Ark'. Now this innovative and free public recycling program has become the benchmark for electronics recycling in Australia and has paved the way for new recycled products such as asphalt, pens and park benches.

Why not do the right thing and recycle your cartridges by putting them in the collection boxes at your nearby Officeworks, JB Hi-Fi, Australia Post, Harvey Norman, Dick Smith, The Good Guys and Office National outlets.



CALL FOR COMMUNITY INPUT – ROADS REGISTER

We are seeking input from the local community! We need your help in establishing a road register. So if you know of a road that is in a state of disrepair and needs some work, or if you have any safety concerns relating to a particular road, we would love to hear from you. Please email your road concerns to schubert@parliament.sa.gov.au or phone the office on 8563 3636.

GRANTS

Grants provide a great platform for many sporting groups and community organisations to attract funding to help bolster their facilities and operations. If your organisation or group is interested in applying for grants, log on to <http://www.grantassist.sa.gov.au/> it is an invaluable resource.

COMMUNITY PHOTOCOPYING

If you are a community group, or not for profit organisation, were you aware that we offer a complimentary photocopying service. For more information please contact the office on (08) 8563 3636.

BUSINESS NETWORKING

Our office is committed to establishing and creating sound networking opportunities for businesses based within the Schubert electorate. If you would like to be involved in future business networking events, please email your details to schubert@parliament.sa.gov.au.



Steven Griffiths, Trina and Brett Thompson, Mark Grossman and Corbin Schuster at a recent Business Networking Forum.



Shadow Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, Hon David Ridgway MLC; Member for Schubert, Stephan Knoll; State Liberal Leader, Steven Marshall and Shadow Minister for Regional Development, Steven Griffiths at the Business Networking Forum in July.



Authorised by Stephan Knoll, Member for Schubert

Printed by
The Leader Newspaper
34 Dean Street, Angaston SA 5353



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WINTER EDITION 2014

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Dear residents of Schubert,

It is with great honour that I am able to send you my first newsletter as your new local Member of Parliament.

It is a great privilege to serve my community in this way and I do feel a strong sense of responsibility, I promise I won't let you down!

As I travel around the electorate what strikes me most about the wider Barossa and the Murraylands is the strong sense of community spirit. Visiting so many organisations and groups of people that band together to help each other is inspiring and I would like to thank every one of you that contributes to making this place one of the best on earth to live in. From the amazing way that people came together after the Eden Valley fires, to the work of our churches, schools, aged care and health facilities, service clubs, industry groups and others we can all be proud of our community.

On your behalf I am fighting to improve our region. Whether it be better health facilities, better roads and public transport infrastructure or greater support for our local industries I will do what I can to add to our strong social fabric.

Recently I was in Parliament to witness the handing down of the 2014-15 budget. There is a great deal of pain in this budget, especially for pensioners, Seniors Card holders, low income earners and small business. What is missing from this budget is any real mention of the electorate of Schubert. I am disappointed that a region such as ours, that contributes so much, has been forgotten. Whilst I will be holding the Weatherill Labor Government to account for this I will also be accepting some responsibility myself. This budget is a strong lesson in showing me that I need to work harder and advocate harder on your behalf.

As a new Member of Parliament I am very aware that I need to do a little bit of talking but a whole lot more listening to understand local issues and I will continue to do so. If you have any issues that you need help with, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Courtney, Brendan or Sam in the office. We are here to help!

Finally, can I thank the thousands of you that I have met in recent times and for the warm welcome you have extended to me. I look forward to meeting as many of you as I can and doing my best for our region.

Yours Sincerely,

Stephan

MAIDEN SPEECH

On Tuesday, May 20, Stephan delivered his Maiden Speech in Parliament. Supported by family members, friends and colleagues, Stephan spoke about how privileged he felt to become only the second member for the seat of Schubert. He praised the local Schubert community for their incredible sense of self-worth and valuable contributions, over and above its population base, to the state's economy.

"Perhaps, it (Schubert) should be better known for its sense of community. Schubert is a place of strong values, hard work, thrift, innovation and self-reliance. It is a community where people band together to get things done, where we put our hands in our own pockets first and ask for handouts last. Instead of wine, I would like to see these values become our greatest export," he said.

If you wish to read Stephan's Maiden Speech please contact the office on 8563 3636 and arrange for a copy to be sent to you.



BUDGET



The State Budget was handed down on June 19, and once again the Labor Government delivered a budget of broken promises and full of cost of living increases. At the March 2014 State Election, the Weatherill Labor Government promised to build, build, build But instead they have cut, cut, cut and it will be households and small business that will be left to bear the full impact of this budget.

Stephan was disappointed, but not surprised, to find that there was no direct mention of the Schubert electorate in the Budget. "This budget really is a 'sorry tale of affairs' for the Schubert electorate and its people," he said.

"There is not much in there (the budget) at all for regional South Australia. There is an amount of money being spent on rural hospitals, just not in Schubert. The fact that we haven't seen any health upgrades in years is disappointing.

"This budget has pain I think the people of South Australia could wear pain if there was gain. We would understand that in strained economic times we need to cut our cloth to be able to look after and afford the services we want to provide whilst trying to create reform to create a better set of circumstances in South Australia There is no reform in this budget. There is no plan in this budget."

"I am still waiting for the Treasurer, the Premier and anybody opposite To stand up and say, 'I am from the Government of South Australia. I am taking responsibility for this mess, and I will do what I can to fix it', but not once has that happened. In fact, given the amount of time that has been devoted to talking about other people's influences on this state budget, one would think that we were sitting in the Federal Parliament in Canberra, rather than being here in the South Australian parliament talking about South Australian problems.."

"Should the budget return to the black and, at some point, it will - hopefully It will be on the back of the hard work and sweat of the regions, such as the Barossa and the Murraylands. But they will not be rewarded for their contribution by this Labor government, which sits comfortably here in its ivory tower. Every time the budget comes out, the belt is tightened and it is the regions that end up paying more and more."

- Hansard, July 1

A BUDGET SNAPSHOT

- ▶ **Emergency Services Levy increase of \$120 for regional SA**
- ▶ **Gawler rail announced three times, scrapped twice and now delayed again (2017-18 start date)**
- ▶ **Cutting \$1M from Natural Resource Management boards**
- ▶ **\$355.8M increase in taxes**
- ▶ **Council Rate Concession - Concession card holders will lose \$190 pa, seniors lose \$100**
- ▶ **Small business payroll tax concession to rise**
- ▶ **Increased screening charges for volunteers**



WISH LIST for Schubert

STEPHAN'S TOP FIVE....

1. A new Barossa Hospital
2. Better local public transport options
3. Greater support for local industries especially foods, wine and tourism
4. Increased local road funding
5. A stronger economy through better management of the state's finances

IN PARLIAMENT

▶ Robyn Muster

On 21 May, 2014, Stephan paid tribute to the late Robyn Muster of Freeling, remembering her for her incredible contributions to the agriculture sector and her local community. Stephan acknowledged Robyn's role as an advocate for women in farming and agriculture and touched on her many achievements, including being the first female elected to the Royal Adelaide Show Society's executive committee.

"The agricultural world is poorer for losing Robyn, but her achievements and firsts, of which there are many, will only serve to help future generations of rural families, and especially rural women, realise their potential with as much passion and zeal as Robyn expressed, and for that we in the rural communities are richer for having known her.

I will never forget Robyn and the way she approached life. She was one of the best examples of local community spirit, and she has inspired many others to continue her work in the local community. She is someone I look up to and someone I am going to miss deeply. She exemplifies for me everything that is right about our rural communities and how they work together to look after each other. I will make sure that I try to live up to her example over my time in this place."

▶ Workers Rehabilitation & Compensation (Firefighters) Amendment Bill

Stephan spoke passionately in support of the *Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation (Firefighters) Amendment Bill* in an effort to bring equality to Country Fire Service volunteers, regarding workers compensation arrangements with certain types of cancer.

"As a member from a rural electorate nothing could make me prouder because the CFS is an organisation that can stand up and say, 'We are here for the community. We are here to devote our time and we are prepared to do it to make our community better.' As a State Government we should applaud them and we should do everything we can to support them and, indeed, give them equality."

- Hansard, 5 June 2014

▶ Disused School Land

Stephan has been quite vocal in his support of returning vacant land at the old Mannum and Mocolta Primary Schools back to the community. The disused parcels of land have been on the property market for some time, but a buyer has not been forthcoming.

"I understand that this land is sitting on the balance sheet as part of the Government's budget; but if no one is prepared to buy it, what is it really worth?," he said. Stephan believes the land would be worth a lot to the local communities.

"I would contend that, in this case, for these two pieces of land it is entirely sensible - and it would not cost much for the State Government - to remit these two parcels of land back to the community to create community spaces that help to bring those towns together." - Hansard, 4 June 2014

Stephan believes that gifting of this land to the community is the most common sense approach and feels it will help revitalise the town and instil a sense of pride, achievement and community spirit. A meeting has been requested and is currently being facilitated between Minister for Education, Jennifer Rankine, Mid Murray Council representatives and Stephan.

▶ Stephan has also spoken in Parliament on the following:

- Supported Retirement Villages - Hansard, 18 June 2014
- Supported the RDA and an increase in funding - Hansard, 19 June 2014
- Highlighted speed limits and the inconsistency across the Schubert electorate - Hansard, 3 July 2014



AROUND THE ELECTORATE

A snapshot of visits and functions Stephan has recently attended:

- Bushgardens Natural Resource Centre Launch
- Opening of Mannum Community Hub
- Freeling RSL Dawn Service
- Angaston Primary School Sports Day
- Blessing of Seeds and Soil Mass (Freeling)
- Mount Pleasant Primary School Biggest Morning Tea
- Gawler East Link Road advocates
- Rotary Club of Barossa Changeover Dinner
- SA Wine Grape Growers Summit
- Good Shepherd Lutheran School new library and ITC opening
- Telstra Business Awards
- Melodienacht
- Barossa Barons first taste of 2014 vintage
- Lyndoch Red Cross meeting
- Meeting with Editor of Mannum Mag
- Barossa Business Networking Forum
- Mount Pleasant Show Society AGM