

Issue 2 - September 2007



# GRIFFITHS FOR GOYDER

WORKING FOR YOU IN GOYDER



**Steven Griffiths MP JP**

Member for Goyder

Shadow Minister for Finance

Shadow Minister for Employment, Training & Further Education

## See you at the YP Field Days

The Yorke Peninsula Field Days will be held over three days, 25-27 September 2007.

I am setting up a temporary electorate office in the Cyclone pavilion and encourage all to come and speak to me and my staff. Unfortunately, Parliament is sitting this week but I have arranged to be there on Thursday.

My staff and I are able to assist with all State issues including employment, transport, health, infrastructure, police, tourism, education, regional development, small business, families and communities, agriculture, food and fisheries.

Rowan Ramsey, Federal Candidate for Grey, will also be in attendance and is looking forward to meeting with locals and visitors to the area.

The Yorke Peninsula Field Days has a history spanning over 112 years and the bi-annual event is now a multi-million dollar showcase of the latest innovations in agricultural machinery, products, rural services and technology and is acclaimed as one of Australia's major agricultural Field Days.

It is with great pride that this event is held in our electorate of Goyder and was named Community Event of the Year for South Australia in 2005, attracting up to 50,000 people over the three days.

Recent rains have been less than we would all like but I sincerely hope that the season finishes well. See you at the YP Field Days.

**Aerial view of the Yorke Peninsula Field Days site held in September at Paskeville.**



**Opposition Leader, Martin Hamilton-Smith MP, Curramulka farmer Simon Polnton and Steven Griffiths, Member for Goyder, pictured at**

## Strength to Strength

In April 2007 the State Liberal Party underwent some major changes, including the voting in of new Opposition Leader, Mr Martin Hamilton-Smith MP.

As part of the reshuffle I was honoured to be given responsibility for the Finance shadow portfolio. While the requirement of having a detailed knowledge of a \$12.1 Billion State Budget is a challenge, my local government background has provided me with valuable experience within finance and budget control.

I look forward to the future opportunities this position will provide, especially in the development of Liberal Opposition financial policy heading into the 2010 State election.

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## Primo Smallgoods Rebuilds

Management of Primo Smallgoods recently made the announcement that a \$28 million rebuild is happening.

After months of uncertainty for staff and suppliers following the fire at the Port Wakefield abattoir in February, the recent announcement is wonderful news for the region.

A major concern was if the skilled staff of Primo would stay in the area, but their loyalty has been outstanding and has been a major factor in the decision to rebuild.

For the staff currently working in Murray Bridge and Adelaide, the decision will allow when the new plant opens in 12 months, the opportunity to work in an innovative, world standard facility.

The confidence in the future of our region by Primo Smallgoods, as demonstrated by this decision, is another example of why private investment dollars are flowing our way.



Photo courtesy of Plains Producer

## Club Handovers

I have been privileged to attend many service club handovers in recent months within Goyder including the Maitland Lions, NYP Rotary Club, Mallala Lions, Maitland Rotary and Apex clubs.

My wife Donna and I enjoy attending these functions, as we take great pleasure in meeting members of the clubs and seeing first hand the work done to benefit local communities.

Despite being away from the Electorate a lot while Parliament is sitting and having a lot of other Parliamentary commitments it is my aim to attend as many club handovers and meetings as possible.

If your club or group is holding an event please let me know. It is my belief that such organisations assist in holding the community together and I am here to offer all possible support.



ABOVE: Steven Griffiths MP, and Federal Member for Grey, Barry Wakellin MHR, with Ardrossan RSL members and supporters

## Operation Flinders

As the Shadow Minister for Youth, I took the opportunity a few months ago to participate in an Operations Flinders exercise for a few days at Warraweena Conservation Park, located 36kms east of Beltana in the northern Flinders Ranges.

I had heard a lot about the wonderful things the Operation Flinders Foundation program offers young people who have either breached the law or who are at risk of getting into trouble with the law.

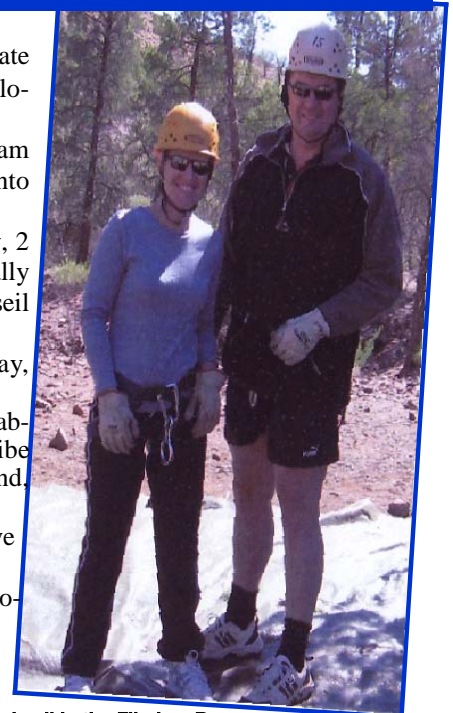
Donna and I joined the program as visitors from Saturday 31 March to Monday, 2 April 2007. It was an amazing opportunity to discover first hand how the program actually operates and in a meeting with one of the groups we even took up the challenge to abseil down a steep rocky outcrop.

The program takes young people aged between 14 and 18 years of age, on an 8-day, 100km trek through the rugged and beautiful Flinders Ranges.

Over the eight days the young people are taught basic bush survival skills, learn to abseil while learning about Aboriginal culture from members of the Adnyamathanha Tribe and the rich history of the Flinders Ranges. The young participants sleep on the ground, prepare their own food and learn to work as a team.

Donna and I met many of the young participants and it was inspiring to see the positive change in many of them. On our drive home from the exercise Donna and I had a real appreciation for Operation Flinders and the outstanding effort they put into giving young people a second chance in life.

Financial support in any way is always welcomed by the program and further details are available at [www.operationflinders.org](http://www.operationflinders.org)



ABOVE: Donna and Steven Griffiths preparing to abseil in the Flinders Ranges

## Balaklava Eisteddfod celebrates 11 years



**ABOVE:** A very jubilant Maitland Area School, the Band Champions and 1st place winners for the 4th year running.

*Photo courtesy of Plains Producer and Trish Goodgame*



**LEFT:** Steven at Hamley Bridge Primary School in August

I have personally visited many schools since being the Member for Goyder, including Kadina Memorial High School, Ardrossan Area School, Edithburgh Primary School, Maitland Area School, Minlaton District School, Moonta Area School, Balaklava Primary School, St. Columba's Catholic School at Yorketown, Wallaroo Primary School, Harvest Christian School at Kadina, Yorketown Area School, Kalori Catholic School at Wallaroo and Hamley Bridge Primary School. I enjoy meeting with our school children and teachers and intend to visit as many schools in the Goyder Electorate as possible.

## Marion Bay Desalination Plant

Congratulations to the District Council of Yorke Peninsula on the Marion Bay Desalination Plant project which commenced operation in July this year.

The \$500,000 project, largely funded by Council (\$45,000 from the Federal Government and \$10,000 from the SA Tourism Commission) currently produces up to 48,000 litres of water fit for human consumption per day.

Marion Bay is the second site in South Australia to install a desalination plant eight years after SA Water installed the first plant at Penneshaw, Kangaroo Island. It is a significant development for our region, particularly in an area that does not have access to reticulated water.

The project will provide the Marion Bay community with desalinated water as residents and holidaymakers currently rely on rainwater and the Marion Bay underground basin for water, which is rapidly declining in both quality and quantity.

A better water source is necessary for future expansion of the community and facilities and I emphasise the significant impact a reliable water source will have on our region.

As well as funding the establishment of the desalination plant, Council have been responsible for conducting environmental impact reports and ensuring monitoring, maintenance and the overall running of the plant is efficient.



**The State Opposition is serious about South Australia's water resources and Members visited Perth in April to Investigate Western Australia's desalination plant technology. L-R: Adrian Pederick MP, Stephen Wade MLC, Ivan Venning MP & Steven Griffiths MP.**

Their efforts in establishing alternate water resources are to be commended.

Little assistance from the State Government has been given to this wonderful project which is very disappointing in this time of drought and water shortages.

A better water source is vital for the future development of all of our communities and unfortunately support from the State government is sadly lacking.

## 2007 Kernewek Lowender a success

The 17<sup>th</sup> Kernewek Lowender (Cornish Festival), a celebration of Cornish ancestry and tradition, was held from 14 to 20 May 2007. It was an absolute brilliant festival and I had the opportunity to attend quite a few of the events, the first being the Art exhibition on Monday 14 May. The Dressing of the Graves occurred during the week and it was encouraging to see the local school children involved.

Traditionally the Cornish Festival was held over the long weekend in May. This year, the event was met with the challenge of having the long weekend moved back to March with the celebration remaining in May. Despite fears that the loss of the long weekend in May would affect crowd numbers, (in the past the festival has attracted up to 80,000 visitors), it was an outstanding success.

My wife, Donna, and I attended the Cornish Festival on the Friday, Saturday and Sunday. We both had a wonderful time and enjoyed the festivities in our period costume.

The Cavalcade of Cars was a truly amazing experience with 850 vintage vehicles involved. I was privileged to complete the hour and a half journey riding in the 1912 Hupmobile of Mr Ivan Venning, Member for Schubert.



**ABOVE: Steven Griffiths and Ivan Venning MP, Member for Schubert, with the 1912 Hupmobile.**



**LEFT: Donna and Steven Griffiths enjoying traditional Cornish celebrations**



## Kids in the House

On Thursday, 26 July 2007, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation 'Kids in the House' event was held. Over 40 children from across South Australia with type 1 diabetes and their families visited Parliament House to meet parliamentarians to help raise political and public awareness of type 1 diabetes and the importance of research to find a cure.

Approximately 13,000 children in South Australia and 140,000 children throughout Australia suffer from Juvenile Diabetes.

Nathanael Snodgrass, who lives on a farm with his family near Tickera, was my special visitor for the day. Nathanael was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes when he was only 18 months old.



His courage and determination is outstanding and we all hope a cure will be found soon to help him and the thousands of other children suffering from diabetes.

**LEFT: Nathanael Snodgrass at Parliament House with his mother, Andrea, and Member for Goyder, Steven Griffiths MP**

## Funding Assistance

If your group or club is seeking funding please contact my office for information and assistance with applying for a range of different grants.

There are a range of grants available to community organisations, schools and sporting groups. My staff at the Goyder Electorate Office have access to funding guidelines and application forms and we are more than happy to assist with providing advice and support.

An example of recently successful applicants are the Alford Bowling Club who received \$5,000 through the Active Club Program for new lighting, the Balaklava Football Club were successful in obtaining \$13,000 for the upgrade of sporting facilities, the Wallaroo Nautical Museum was granted \$11,000 for a project through the History Trust of SA and the Yorketown Progress Association was successful in their grant for funding of \$24,828 for a community connect project.

The 'Places for People' program is a grant available to South Australian councils to strategically plan, design and develop public places of community significance. \$170,000 was provided for the Maitland landscaping project and \$220,000 was received for the Port Wakefield Master Plan project.

Funding program rounds open at different times of the year, the Volunteer Support Fund is currently open for applications from community based organisations, the closing date is Tuesday, 2 October 2007.

Local councils and Federal Government grants are also available, the following web sites will be helpful in your search for a suitable grant:

[www.grantslink.gov.au](http://www.grantslink.gov.au)

[www.grants.org.sa.gov.au](http://www.grants.org.sa.gov.au)

[www.service.sa.gov.au](http://www.service.sa.gov.au)

[www.stevengriffiths.net](http://www.stevengriffiths.net)

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You can also email me at [goyder@parliament.sa.gov.au](mailto:goyder@parliament.sa.gov.au)