



Steve Irons MP

your local member for Swan



ISSUE 16

COMMUNITY REPORT



Cr. Glenys Godfrey, GPs and residents at Steve Irons' community meeting on 10 June

Community spirit helps secure new Abernethy Road Medical Centre

By working together with doctors, patients and the council we have managed to secure the opening of an Abernethy Road medical centre – a much needed service for the people of Belmont.

When the former Belmont Healthpoint closed many local residents contacted me to express their concern about the loss of GP services so I decided to advocate for them and hold a public meeting.

Cr Glenys Godfrey and I held discussions with a group of long-standing GPs who worked at Healthpoint and wanted to continue their long-service to the community.

We then held a community meeting at the potential new site, adjacent to the former Healthpoint, with the doctors to brief residents of a plan to get a new service going.

Now approval has been granted by the Council, fit-out of the new location can commence and \$40,000 worth of equipment has already been purchased from the AMA. We are hopeful it will be up and running by mid-August this year.

The new facility will **bulk bill**, which is a positive for the patients. We thank Dr Sri and Dr Pang for providing this service and for the wonderful work they do for their loyal patients.

Thank you to the community who have stuck together through this time and helped us to get a centre up and running.

How we secured the new Abernethy Road medical centre:

- Calls from residents asking Steve to look into the issue
- Steve and Cr. Glenys Godfrey hold discussions with Dr Sri and Dr Pang on plan to reopen a GP facility
- Plans submitted and representations made to council
- Community meeting to update residents on the plan
- Council approval granted and fit out commences
- Centre scheduled to open in mid-August as the Belmont City Medical Centre

Steve securing Health facilities for Belmont:



- ✓ 2009 - Belmont Medicare Office
- ✓ 2010 - HBF Office
- ✓ 2011 - After Hours GP Service Belvidere Street (scheduled September opening)
- ✓ 2012 Abernethy Road Medical Centre

59 Albany Highway Victoria Park, WA 6100 P.O Box 1060, East Victoria Park, WA 6981

Telephone: (08) 9355 0099 Fax: (08) 9355 0199 Email: steve.irons.mp@aph.gov.au www.steveirons.com.au



Steve and Greg Hunt talk to workers on the factory floor at the Rheem Solar factory in Welshpool

Standing up for our Kewdale-Welshpool industrial hub

Over a long period of time I have made many connections with the Kewdale-Welshpool industrial hub having started my own business in Anvil Way off Division Street, Welshpool in 1988 and worked in the air-conditioning, heating, ventilation and refrigeration sector for over 25 years.

There are many great businesses and workers in the hub and it is one of the last true manufacturing areas left in the state, as well as being the premier freight centre.

In recent months many workers in these industries have approached me about new Federal Government policies that are going to hit the area hard, including the carbon tax, mining tax and solar policy.

With the support of my colleagues we have been putting up a tough fight in Federal Parliament to support workers and businesses in this vital part of the Swan electorate.

Hunt Bill for Welshpool workers

In March we held a meeting with workers at the Rheem factory in Welshpool with Greg Hunt and we made a commitment to introduce a Bill into Parliament to protect Welshpool jobs.

The Bill was needed because of the Gillard Government's decision to break a commitment and abruptly end the national solar hot water scheme, causing inconvenience to customers and putting at risk 1200 manufacturing, and 6000 installation, sales and administration jobs across Australia, including in Welshpool, where the factory is a major employer and exporter.

Greg and I fulfilled our promise and introduced a bill into Parliament immediately that would have provided for the continuation of the scheme. However it was disappointing for the solar industry when the Independents and Greens combined with Labor to vote the Bill down.

The Coalition is a friend of the solar power industry and as part of our Direct Action Policy, we have a One Million Solar Roofs policy including solar hot water, which would be implemented by an incoming Coalition Government in place of the carbon tax.

Carbon tax and the carbon equivalent levy on refrigerant gasses

With my industry background, over recent months I have been approached by local Kewdale and Welshpool and national representatives of the heating, air-conditioning, ventilation and refrigeration sector concerned about the ridiculous impact of the carbon tax on refrigerant gasses and have raised the issues in Question Time to the Prime Minister and in grievance debates in Parliament.

A bottle of common fridge gas that cost \$788 in June now costs over \$2000. In one project in Melbourne alone the increase in price for refrigerant went up \$101,000. Some refrigerant gasses are up tenfold. Supermarkets use massive quantities of refrigerant gasses in their freezers and there are concerns that after their stocks run out, prices of frozen items will go up.

It is surprising these gasses are being taxed when it is already illegal for them to be allowed into the atmosphere at all and there are strict laws and levies already in place for their disposal. The Coalition would repeal the carbon tax as a first order of business if it wins Government

Gateway WA

Construction will start in the first half of 2013 on the Gateway WA project – a joint State-Federal initiative with bipartisan Federal Parliamentary support to improve roads and intersections in Welshpool and Kewdale including:

- Tonkin/Leach intersection upgrade
- Provide diamond type interchange at Horrie Miller Drive/Kewdale/Tonkin
- Upgrade of Roe/Tonkin Interchange
- Grade separation of Leach/Abernethy intersection

The Coalition has committed to funding this project without a mining tax.

AIRCRAFT NOISE UPDATE



2010-11
The Parliament of the
Commonwealth of Australia
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Presented and read a first time

Air Services (Aircraft Noise) Amendment Bill 2011

No. , 2011

(Mrs Moylan)

A Bill for an Act to amend the *Air Services Act 1995*, and for related purposes



Moylan-Irons private bill on aircraft noise

As part of my ongoing community aircraft noise campaign I have co-sponsored a private members Bill in Parliament with Member for Pearce Judi Moylan: The Air Services (Aircraft Noise) Amendment Bill 2011.

The Bill is an important part of addressing the aircraft noise issue in Perth, following the changes to flight paths, made without consultation in November 2008.

The Bill provides for a re-opening of the planning process for Perth flight paths, with a full community wide consultation legislated to follow, which should trigger a proper referral under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act.

After the Bill was introduced in October, wide consultation was undertaken with Government agencies and industry and as a result 15 small amendments were made. The legislation is ready to be voted on and consultation has been completed with the Independents and the Greens which means it could be passed if they decide to support it.

However the Gillard Government has said it will not support the Bill and has been using delaying tactics to stall the process and avoid a vote.

These delays are being deliberately orchestrated by Transport Minister Anthony Albanese who was the Minister who signed off on the Perth flight path changes in November 2008. He is also the Minister who has authorised millions to be spent on noise abatement measures for his own electorate in Sydney but continues to deny amelioration measures for Perth.

Be assured that I will continue to work in Federal Parliament on this issue and continue to keep the community updated on the Bill.

What the Bill would do:

- Trigger the reopening of a planning process for Perth flight paths by asking ASA to propose a flight path plan
- Ensure a proper consultation process is undertaken in which the community can get involved
- Make sure what happened in 2008 where flight paths were changed with no consultation can never happen again.

Full runway length take-offs

I have commenced discussions and initiated an Ombudsman Investigation into the enforcement of full runway take-offs at Perth Airport.

As asserted by the West Australian Aviation reporter, Geoffrey Thomas, airlines are avoiding full-runway take offs and full engine take-offs at Perth Airport to conserve fuel, which Mr Thomas estimates means planes are flying up to 300m lower and noisier over households than they need to be.

Good luck to our Swan Olympians and Paralympians in London!

Swan residents Colin Harrison and Jayde Taylor will be representing Australia at the London 2012 Games.

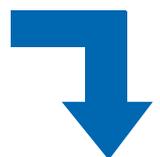
Jayde from Kensington, will be competing in the women's hockey event and Colin from Victoria Park, in the Paralympic sailing event. It was a pleasure to be present for the announcement of the Australian Paralympic Team in June when Colin's involvement was announced.



If you would like to donate to the Australian Paralympic Committee to increase awareness and support for Paralympic Sports and Australia's Paralympians you can do so at www.paralympic.org.au

Congratulations to Jayde and Colin on your fantastic achievement and good luck in London!

**The Swan electorate office has relocated to:
Corner of Albany Highway and Oswald Street, Victoria Park**



Steve Irons MP - Federal Member for Swan

Address: Corner of Albany Highway and Oswald Street, Victoria Park WA 6100

Phone: 9355-0099

Website: www.steveirons.com.au

Email: steve.irons.mp@aph.gov.au

Postal: PO Box 1060, East Victoria Park WA 6981