

November 2011



# Dr Mike Nahan MLA

## Member for Riverton

A newsletter for the residents of Parkwood, Riverton, Rossmoyne, Shelley and Willetton

## Premier Visits Local High School

**The Premier, Colin Barnett, recently joined me on a tour of Willetton Senior High School. The 35-year old school has around 1,800 students this year, making it one of the largest public school campuses in the State.**

Last year, 56 students from the school won Curriculum Council Awards and 15 students scored an ATAR of 99 or above. Willetton is also leading the way with its groundbreaking Engineering programme. Its NAPLAN results this year are the best the school has ever achieved in reading, spelling and numeracy.

The Premier acknowledged that WSHS is achieving extremely high results despite having a huge student population, more than 20 transportable classrooms and other ageing infrastructure. In speaking with the School's Principal, Chris Booth, and his Board on the tour, the Premier recommended that a master plan be developed to rebuild the school. Woodhead Architects has been engaged for that purpose and work on it is progressing.



*The Premier and Mike Nahan received a warm welcome from WSHS students when they arrived at the school for the tour.*

A business case is also being developed to seek future State funding for the much-needed rebuilding of the school.

## New Hospital On Time and On Budget

**In August, I undertook a tour of the Fiona Stanley Hospital construction site with Brad Sebbes, Executive Director of the hospital and Brookfield Multiplex Communications Manager, Terry O'Brien. The public hospital is the largest building infrastructure project the WA Government has undertaken and it is on time and on budget.**



*Mike Nahan taking a keen interest in the new local 783-bed public hospital which will provide health services for our area.*

When it opens in 2014, it will be WA's flagship health facility providing much-needed health services to communities across the south metropolitan area, and in particular, to local families, individuals and seniors.

The \$2 billion public hospital will feature eight buildings, including a seven-storey main block. Overall, the hospital will have 6,300 rooms with 783 hospital beds and will service an expected 350,000 patients a year. It will house the State burns unit and rehabilitation service, a major trauma centre, cancer and pathology services, renal and dialysis services, a mental health unit, and obstetrics and neo-natal services.

Certain non-essential services are being contracted out as is the standard practice across Australia for all new hospitals. I was extremely impressed by the sheer size of the hospital complex, which is virtually the same size as four city blocks, and by the scope of the medical facilities and services that it will provide to our community.

I have no doubt that, when it's finished, the Fiona Stanley Public Hospital will be a wonderful public health facility that is fully owned by the people of WA.

Tel: 9457 1282 Email: [mike.nahan@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:mike.nahan@mp.wa.gov.au) Website: [www.mikenahan.com.au](http://www.mikenahan.com.au)

Shop P05 Stockland Riverton, Cnr High Road & Willeri Drive, Riverton WA 6148; PO Box 225, Parkwood WA 6147

# Malaysian Commemoration Day

I was very pleased to join so many Malaysians and veterans at the Malaysian Commemoration Day ceremony hosted by the Malaya Borneo Veterans Western Australia. The event was held at the Flame of Remembrance at Kings Park to honour those who served and died in the Malaya and Borneo conflicts.

Colourful floral wreaths were laid in honour of the fighting in the Malaysian region from 1941 through to 2008 and in celebration of Malaysia's 54 years of independence and nationhood.

Many Western Australians served either as full-time military personnel or as reservists in those conflicts and their work assisted in the development of Malaysia. Their involvement was vital to the region and it cemented our relationship with Malaysia, which has flourished ever since.



*Mike joined Malaya Borneo Veterans WA President Bill Adamson, Rasa Subramaniam, President of AMWA, Malaysian Consul-General Hamidah Ashari and WA Governor, Malcolm McCusker at the event.*

## Free Housing Help For Seniors

The Barnett State Government has opened a new Seniors' Housing Centre in Perth—the first of its kind in Australia—to provide free advice about aged care housing options, contracts, strata titles and buying or building a house.

Last year, I chaired a Parliamentary Committee on aspects of senior's accommodation, which highlighted that many seniors signed housing contracts without fully understanding the legal issues.

The independent advice from the Centre will be particularly helpful for people who are looking to retire to help them decide what kind of housing is most appropriate for their situation.

Visit the Seniors Housing Centre, Ground Floor, Forrest Centre, 219 St Georges Terrace, Perth  
Email [seniorshousing@commerce.wa.gov.au](mailto:seniorshousing@commerce.wa.gov.au) or phone 1300 367 057.

## SMRC – Fix Your Problems!

**The Department of Environment and Conservation's recent Community Odour Monitoring Program in Willetton and Leeming has proven without a doubt that the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council's facility is, after more than seven years, still emitting odour pollution.**

The report found that of the 330 validated reports of odour in the test area over a 100-day period between January and April this year, 193 of them came from the SMRC's plant.

Of those reports, residents assessed 24% as being Very Annoying and 60% as being Annoying. These results have vindicated the community's claims and I am pleased that in a recent Grievance and Question Without Notice that I put to Minister Marmion in Parliament about these results, he has given the SMRC six months to get its plant in order.

As the SMRC's license is up for renewal, Minister Marmion has instructed DEC to address the results of the odour study in the renewal process. DEC has developed a new odour licence condition to apply to the SMRC and other operators to make licences more enforceable and to help ensure that licences protect the community from unreasonable odour emissions. While the SMRC plays an important role in the community, it cannot be allowed to continue to pollute its business neighbours and nearby families. It is also time for the SMRC to look beyond its composting plant to investigate alternative new technology.

If you experience annoying and unpleasant odours from the SMRC, I urge you to continue reporting them as and when they occur to DEC's Emergency Pollution Response Hotline on 1300 784 782. Please also register your complaints on the Canning Melville Community Odour Action Group's website at [www.cmcoag.com](http://www.cmcoag.com).

# \$490m Gain For Not-For-Profit Groups

The State Government has provided more than \$490 million in funding over the next four years to not-for-profit groups to assist them with the vital roles that they play in our community.

This financial year, eligible not-for-profit groups have had a 15% increase on their existing contract funding and, next financial year, a further 10% increase will be forthcoming. The new higher figure will then be maintained for the next two years after that. These are major funding increases for groups who help support the most disadvantaged and vulnerable people in our society. The new funding will allow not-for-profit organisations in our local area to improve service delivery for their contracts and ensure the quality of their crucial services, such as caring for the deaf and blind, children and adults with intellectual and physical disabilities, those who have been injured or suffer from debilitating mental illness, and families and children in crisis.



Mike Nahan joined GSI chief executive John Knowles and Glen Read's parents Lyn and Jim Beale to congratulate Glen on his 25 years of service to GSI.

Recently, I presented a State Government cheque for \$180,000 to Good Samaritan Industries chief executive John Knowles to assist GSI to develop a two-year research project called Ageing With My Ability, which aims to deliver services to ageing people with disabilities. I also presented three GSI staff members, Tyrone Dunkley, Carol Dyke and Glen Read with awards recognizing their 25 years of outstanding service.

## Parkwood Primary's German Excursion

In April, twelve students and two teachers from Parkwood Primary School headed off to Germany as part of their German studies. The groundbreaking tour was the first of its kind undertaken by WA primary school students.

While away, they visited old walled cities, local schools, magnificent castles, tasted German food and even went up to the top of Zugspitze, the tallest mountain in Germany, and enjoyed playing in the snow.

I provided the participants with special lanyards for the trip and when they got back, I hosted an afternoon tea with the teachers, students and parents to hear all about their German experiences.



The participants from Parkwood Primary School at Mike's afternoon tea.

## Canning Men's Shed – Wins Lotterywest Grant



Department of Communities Minister Robyn McSweeney and Mike Nahan joined some of the members of the Canning Men's Shed for morning tea during a recent visit.

The Canning Men's Shed, which is based at the Riverton Baptist Community Church premises in Modillion Avenue, Shelley, is a success story.

Local senior, Eddie Holmes, started the group three years ago. From an initial eleven members, it now has 45 and the number is growing. The group helps older men participate in community life and utilise their abilities to make wooden toys and other items that they sell to raise money for local charities. Recently, the group was awarded a Lotterywest grant of more than \$11,000 to enable them to purchase some new machinery, install a storage shed and connect three-phase power to their workshop.

The group meets every weekday morning from 9am – 12 noon, other than Thursdays. If you are interested in joining or would like to donate any tools, materials or equipment, please call Eddie Holmes on 0405 199 710.

# Seniors 25th Anniversary



*President Mary Robertson, Senior Vice-President Harry Monks, Mike Nahan, Treasurer Audrey Varischetti and long-standing member Mal Atwell at the Club's 25th Anniversary celebrations.*

I had the pleasure of attending the Herald Avenue Senior Citizens 25th Anniversary luncheon for its members on Friday 14 October 2011. The Club first opened its doors in 1986 and, since then, it has grown to around 1,600 members, making it one of the largest senior citizens' clubs in WA.

The Club, located on Herald Avenue in Willetton, is very ably managed by a team of volunteers led by President Mary Robertson, Senior Vice-President Harry Monks and Treasurer Audrey Varischetti.

A range of activities is available at the Club, including indoor bowls, art classes, yoga and tai chi, snooker, darts, card games, computer lessons, dancing, hairdressing and podiatry facilities, excellent meals in the Dining Room and a range of interesting social activities. If you are aged 55 or over and interested in joining, please call the Club on 9231 0990.

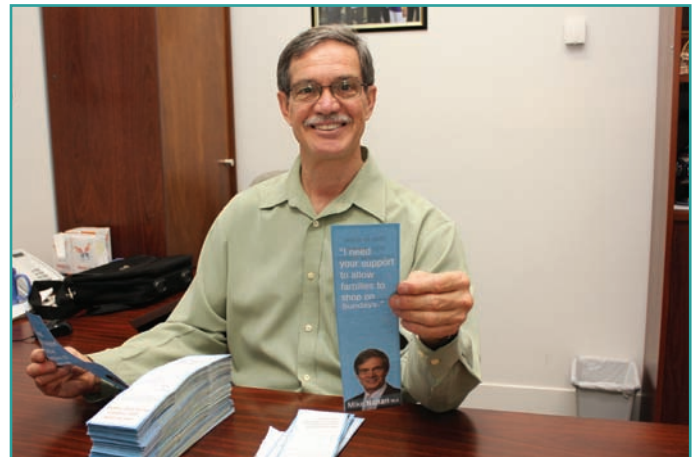
## Sunday Trading Very Popular With Families

Thank you to everyone who sent in their responses to my recent letter seeking your feedback on the Premier's pledge to deregulate Sunday Trading. I received a large number of responses from the community and the results were overwhelmingly in favour of Sunday Trading.

The Liberal State Government has made a genuine election commitment to give local families the right to shop when they want and to give all retailers the opportunity of opening Monday to Saturday from 7am to 9pm and on Sundays from 11am to 5pm if they choose.

Currently, the Liberal Party does not have enough votes in State Parliament to pass these much-needed changes on its own and it needs your mandate at the next election.

Surprisingly, Labor is against these common-sense reforms and so is the National Party, despite most country centres already having Sunday Trading. This important community-minded policy is all about choice.



*Mike Nahan goes through many of the responses from the community showing that local families clearly support the State Government's election policy of deregulating Sunday Trading.*

I appreciated receiving your clear support for it and I'll be taking these results showing strong grassroots backing for this change to State Parliament.

*Merry Christmas*

*Wishing you and your families a Safe and Happy Festive Season*

*I look forward to working together with you in 2012*

*Dr Mike Nahan M.L.A., Member for Riverton, Family and Staff*