

Electorate of Albury incorporating AlburyCity, the Shire of Greater Hume, Federation, Murrumbidgee and Snowy Valleys Councils.

Difficult Times, Kind Community

Through the dark period that was the bushfire crisis over the New Year what shone through was a strong sense of community. For myself, and I daresay for each of us, we have been touched by the goodwill of others – whether it be our RFS volunteers, people at organisations such as FoodShare, BlazeAid and Rotary, or just the goodness of the many people who donated.

Only a short time later we are confronted with the uncertainty that is the global pandemic of COVID-19. We are in a period of initial shock that this virus is a real thing and it is on the move. How do we respond?

Will we be identified by our ability to respond with a strength of community reflected in compassion and kindness?

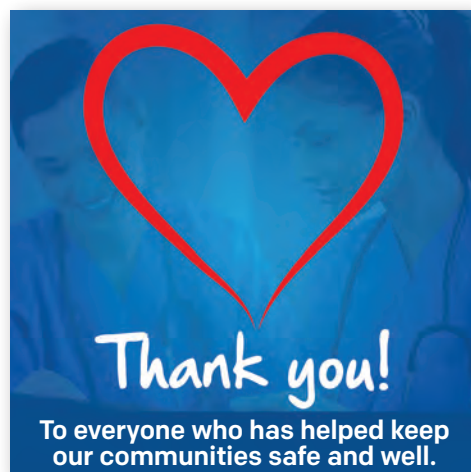
You and I know that this is our real community. We know it because we have seen how, in our corner of the world, we join together to fight drought, bushfires, to get through mental health difficulties and to fight anything else thrown at us.

We support those on the frontline – the RFS during the fires, our health teams in this crisis. We know this life and that is why we choose to live here.

How beautiful to see the staff at Corowa Public School, before the social distancing restrictions, travel around town in convoy – crazy hair style – to connect with students at home. Made my day! #LearnFromHome



Changes in government messages are inevitable – the health crisis is evolving and so must our response. The focus for decision-makers in this country is the health and well-being of our Australians and their livelihoods. Decisions are informed by the advice of our Chief Health Officer and state counterparts. This will be a journey, not pleasant, but it will pass through many stages.



We can help by keeping ourselves informed – from quality websites such as health.gov.au. Follow the messages that define the stage we are in and how best to combat the risks at that point of time.

Finally, look out for one another. This is a time of uncertainty and concern. Anxiety for health, employment and business is real. I appreciate the challenge that social distancing creates, however we can still reach out to one another over the phone or social media and check if our friends, family and neighbours are ok.

Your kindness and thoughtfulness will be valued. My best wishes to you and your family.

Justin Clancy, Member for Albury

Community Building Partnership grants announced

The Albury Electorate has secured \$300,000 in funding for a total of 18 projects through the NSW Government's 2019 Community Building Partnership Program.

These funds will deliver much-needed improvements to local facilities including Henty Men's Shed, Albury Wodonga Table Tennis Association and the Tumbarumba Little Athletics Club.

This grassroots funding will directly help create a more vibrant and inclusive local community with positive social, environmental and recreational outcomes.

I congratulate all the organisations that were successful in their application and look forward to seeing how these projects make a real difference for community groups in the area.

Applications for the 2020 Program opened on 4 May and will close 12 June 2020.

Go to www.nsw.gov.au and search community building partnership 2020.

Recipient	Project
Lavington Panthers Bowling Club	Solar energy
Henty Community Club	Solar energy
Henty Men's Shed	Access path
Boree Creek Public School P&C Association	Community sustainable vegetable garden
St Joseph's Primary School Culcairn	Learning space and sensory gardens
Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect Riverina School)	Computer lab room
Corowa Cricket Club	Shelter and storage
Welaregang Country Golf Club	Clubhouse renovations
Corowa Community Men's Shed	Solar energy
Tumbarumba Little Athletics Club	Discus cage
Henty Parish Presbyterian Church	Air conditioning for hall
James Fallon High School P&C Association	Canteen upgrade
Albury Tennis Association	Refurbish shade covers
Albury Wodonga Table Tennis Association	Flooring upgrade
The Scout Association of Australia NSW Branch	Hall lighting upgrade
The Scout Association of Australia NSW Branch	Plumbing upgrade
The Scout Association of Australia NSW Branch – Albury Gang Show	Audio and video equipment
Albury Lapidary and Allied Crafts	Refurbish flooring



This is where a new discus cage will go at Tumbarumba Little Athletics Club. Pictured – President Sophie Gair is pointing the way.



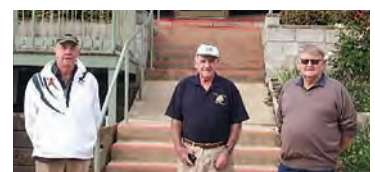
Henty Men's Shed will construct an access path. Pictured – Henty Mens Shed Life Members Back L-R: Tony O'Brien, Ed Knight, Neil Meyer President, Russell Davies. Front: John Ebsworth, Bruce Young.



Principal Josh Gaynor and Chairperson of the school council Adrian Knobel will use this funding to develop a new learning space and sensory garden at St Joseph's Primary School Culcairn.



Floors will be refurbished for Albury Lapidary and Allied Crafts. Pictured: President John Colley & Assistant Secretary Sally Hendy.



Lavington Panthers Bowling Club will be installing solar. Here are Bill Collins, secretary, Les Waldron, life member and Ray Edwards, treasurer and life member.

Stronger Country Community Fund grants announced

I am pleased that \$5 million from the NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 3 has been awarded to the Albury Electorate for projects and programs to improve community infrastructure and resilience, with a focus on youth related programs.

Albury City Council, Federation Council, Greater Hume Council, Murrumbidgee Council and Snowy Valleys Council have all secured NSW Government funding which will benefit residents and communities across the Albury Electorate.

This funding will provide much needed upgrades to facilities and in particular will assist in establishing new youth projects and programs.

Youth programs can provide training and skills for young people in our region.

From upgraded netball courts, sports lighting and a very significant skate park development, to programs which support vulnerable school aged children or youth dealing with trauma, there is much in this announcement that will enable community and council organisations to do good things right here.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW John Barilaro said \$100 million was being distributed across regional NSW, with regional communities set to benefit from more than 550 new projects.

Recipient	Project
Albury City Council	Albury Regional Skate and Recreation Hub
Flying Fruit Fly Foundation	Burrnha Bila Buraay: Leaders
HotHouse Theatre	HotHouse Theatre's Industry Co:Lab Pre-Professional Training Program
NSW Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors	Project Bantu Youth Leadership
Petaurus Education Group	Letting off Holiday STEAM in Albury
Urana Bowling Club	Urana Bowling Club Upgrade Project
Morundah Bush Entertainment Committee Incorporated (MBEC)	Paradise Palladium Theatre
Howlong Football Club Inc.	Howlong Community Hall and Fitness Centre Development and Club Room Upgrade
Federation Council	Mulwala All Abilities Playground
Rand Bowling Club Ltd	Rand Bowling Club Roof Upgrade and BBQ Room Construction
COMPACT Incorporated	CHANGEUP
Corowa Public School	The Kid's Shed
Holbrook Netball Club Incorporated	Upgrade of Holbrook Netball Courts and landscaping of adjoining area.
Greater Hume Shire	Walla Walla Shared Path Project
Jindera Netball Club	Jindera Netball Court Resurfacing
Henty Australian Football Club Incorporated	New Netball Courts for Henty netballers
Greater Hume Shire	Adulging 101: Young People in the Greater Hume Council LGA becoming resilient young adults
Burrumbuttock Public School P&C Association	Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA)/Community Hub
Tirkandi Inaburra Cultural & Development Centre	Tirkandi Therapy Rooms
Murrumbidgee Council	Murrumbidgee's Local Community Champions
Jerilderie Community Gym	Jerilderie Community Gym Sports Centre Modernization Program
Murrumbidgee Council	Rehabilitation of Jerilderie Lake Banks
Murrumbidgee Council	Replace lighting towers and upgrade LED flood lights at Monash Park Jerilderie
Murrumbidgee Council	Construction of Pump Track/Skate Park at Jerilderie
Tumbarumba Chamber of Commerce	Khancoban hall upgrade
Cycle Tumbarumba	Tumbarumba Bike Playground
Tumbarumba Rodeo Club	Installation of Sports Lights

ARTS AND YOUTH



A skate park of regional significance will benefit from this \$636,511 NSW grant to AlburyCity.



Anni Davey, Artistic Director, Tahni Froudust, Executive Producer and Richard Hull CEO of the Flying Fruit Flies will use the grant for youth leadership training.



HotHouse Theatre is planning to run a pre-professional training program. Here is Artistic Director & CEO, Karla Conway.



Jindera Netball Club will benefit from resurfacing of its courts.

LAW REFORM

Reform to Evidence Rules for Child Sexual Assault

Child sexual assault cases can be difficult to prosecute due to a lack of evidence supporting the complainant's testimony. In March I had the opportunity to speak to a government bill created to improve this situation.

The Evidence Amendment (Tendency and Coincidence) Bill 2020 represents perhaps the most significant criminal justice reform by the New South Wales Government in response to the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse by allowing certain evidence of a defendant's other alleged sexual assaults.

Survivors' courage in coming forward has given us a unique opportunity to make criminal justice reforms, to protect children better and to facilitate prosecutions for child sexual offences so perpetrators can be held accountable.

Making the Community Safer

On 4 March I spoke in Parliament supporting the government's Firearms and Weapons Legislations Amendment (Criminal Use) Bill 2020.

The Bill provides new offences that meet the need to catch new materials and technologies. It is focused on those who knowingly take part in a step of the process of illegal manufacture; this could include letting those activities take place on their premises, the financing of illegal manufacture, supply of firearms, possession and acquisition.

Drought Inquiry

I am working with The NSW Legislative Assembly Standing Committee on Investment, Industry and Regional Development which, as part of its work, is conducting an Inquiry into support for drought-affected communities in NSW.

The committee will look at the impact of drought on businesses, industries and communities, the support that is currently available and what is needed.

This is a significant body of work as the committee seeks understanding and solutions arising from the 2019-2020 drought.

We've had some welcome rains already and everyone is hopeful of a good Autumn break for farmers.



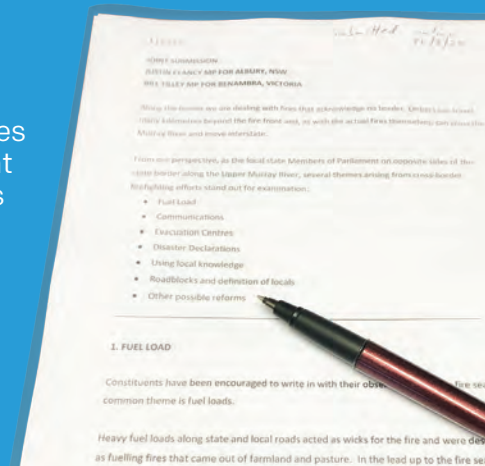
As part of the Inquiry we visited the canola oil business of MSM Milling in Manildra.

NSW BUSHFIRE INQUIRY

Having travelled widely and spoken extensively with those fighting the bushfires or impacted by loss, I have put many of your thoughts to the NSW Independent Bushfire Inquiry, in a joint submission prepared with my colleague from across the river, Bill Tilley MLA for Benambra.

This is a critical moment to get those frontline experiences and observations to government and to decision makers. It is important that we take learnings from this experience.

So, thank you one and all for coming up to me for a chat out at Jingellic, Tumbarumba or on the streets of Albury. I'll see the message gets heard.



ALBURY'S WOMAN OF THE YEAR 2020

Cristy Jacka was a young Assistant Principal at a rural school when the devastating news of her husband's rare cancer came through. Bringing her teacher's eye to the enormous amount of paperwork, test results, records and medications, she designed a folder and diary to keep track of everything.

Her vision, to help families like her own, became the cPLAN Project which aims to get cPLAN – a cancer planner for patients, carers and families – to every cancer patient across Australia free. Interest has spread here and to New Zealand. Away from home, the cPLAN for her husband Karl enabled paramedics and doctors in other hospitals to save hours of time and stress.

In the past 3 years Cristy has been an inspirational part of fundraising initiatives that have raised well over one million dollars for cancer research and support.



Wonderful to be with three generations of remarkable women – Lee, Cristy & Lucy. Cristy Jacka is an amazing ambassador for cancer care, along with Jenny Jensen developing the C-bag and a well deserved recipient as Albury Local Woman of the Year. Thank you for your inspiring work Cristy. #woty2020.

First NSW Rail Trail Opens

After nearly two decades of hard work by the Tumbarumba to Rosewood Rail Trail Committee and the Riverina Highlands Rail Trails Inc team, the 22km Tumbarumba to Rosewood Rail Trail was officially opened on 3 April – the first government funded Rail Trail in NSW.

With the region in the early stages of healing from the recent bushfires earlier this year and now Covid-19, it is a credit to the passionate members of these groups and supporters that we now have this amazing trail.

The Rail Trail is a genuine community effort and has taken many years to get to this point. Funding of \$5.7 million from the NSW Government helped get the project off to a strong start.

I am pleased to see that, having done so much to make this a reality, Greg Aplin has agreed to be the patron for the rail trail.

Congratulations to all those who gave their time and inspiration for the trail. Make a plan to visit the trail when travel returns to normal. Bring your bikes and the kids! Let's support each other.



A bird's eye view over Mannus Creek Bridge which is one of the reconstructed rail bridges along the new rail trail.

Albury Court Security Upgrade

A \$243,000 upgrade of Albury Courthouse is the largest renovation of this essential facility since 2006.

The upgrade which includes the installation of new CCTV cameras and an alarm system is great news for the local community and is designed to significantly boost safety for court users.

The project will provide a new jury courtyard enabling jurors to have extra privacy and security. In addition, there will be a minor refurbishment of Judge Grant's chambers and his associate's room.

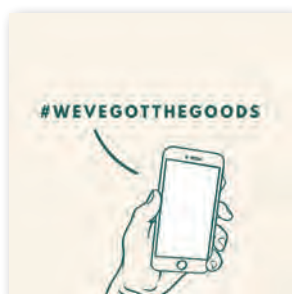
The arrival in February of Judge Sean Grant, the Albury-Griffith circuit's first resident District Court judge, means more trials in Albury Courthouse.

I extend a warm welcome to Judge Grant and would like to thank Attorney General Mark Speakman for his strong support for the courthouse upgrades.



Let Your Customers Know

Many businesses are looking to adapt and use new ways to do business such as converting their sit-down restaurant service into a takeaway product, moving a traditional bricks and mortar retail offering to an online shop, providing a home delivery service, doing virtual wine tastings, tours, gym classes and more.



Businesses can let customers know what they are up to and how they are trading now by posting the NSW campaign hashtag of #wevegotthegoods on their social media.

NSW Destination Riverina Murray will repost some of these and help share the messages with potential customers across the region and beyond.

Justin Clancy MP
Member for Albury

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DOMESTIC VIOLENCE – CALL IT OUT

Isolation at home can raise the risk of increased household friction or even acts of violence. Our police and frontline services are ready to support you and your family as NSW continues to respond to the coronavirus threat.

My message is this: Do not hesitate to seek help and support if you feel in danger.

In an emergency call **Triple Zero (000)**.

If you are in need of support services, such as housing or counselling, hard working frontline services are also available to help those suffering domestic violence.

Recently the NSW Government passed amendments in Parliament to enable provisional ADVOs to remain in place for up to six months, if the court cannot consider them earlier. This coincides with reforms that extend the default duration of ADVOs made by a court from one year to two years.

Other support services include:

- **1800 RESPECT (1800 737 732)** is a confidential information, counselling and support service;
- **NSW Domestic Violence Line (1800 656 463)** is a statewide telephone crisis counselling and referral service for women;
- **Men's Referral Service (1300 766 491)** provides telephone counselling, information and referrals for men; and
- **Link2Home (1800 152 152)** can help refer women experiencing domestic violence to crisis accommodation.