

In the
Parliament

South Australia

UniSA Magill Campus

As mentioned on page one, the proposed closure of the Uni SA Magill campus is big news for us locally. The State Government has announced they want to buy it for \$60 million from Uni SA as part of their \$440 million Uni Merger proposal, however they are yet to say what they want to do with the land.

As Shadow Education Minister, I have been pursuing a range of questions about this merger through the Parliament and through the media. As a local MP, I am concerned about what the Government proposes to do with this precious site at Magill. The site includes significant open space, has important local environmental and biodiversity value, as well as sporting and recreation facilities valued by many. The Childcare Centre is a critical community asset. The facilities include buildings of heritage value. Many local residents enjoy the site every day.

I've worked hard to establish a Parliamentary Committee inquiry into this proposal, of which I am a member, and that inquiry is now underway. If you have a view about any of these matters, I'd be keen to hear from you.

Early Childhood Royal Commission

In Morialta, we are very fortunate to be served by a range of excellent early childhood services, including Magill Kindergarten (pictured), and early childhood education is an important topic. One of the Government's election promises was to offer universal three year old preschool from 2026. Former Prime Minister Julia Gillard was appointed as a Royal Commissioner to work out the details of how this would work.

Many parents and prospective parents following this issue were disappointed to learn from Commissioner Gillard's Interim Report that universal preschool won't be delivered for all three year olds in 2026, and instead a rollout by 2032 is recommended. The final report is due soon so I hope to report on the Government's final plans in the next newsletter.



Our
Community

Coming up in
Morialta

Morialta
Matters

Issue 39 | Winter 2023 | News from John Gardner MP

Dear Resident

Welcome to the latest edition of Morialta Matters. I hope you find the updates inside interesting and useful. In particular I'd encourage you to check out the invitations to our coming Cyber Security and Scams Forum, and our community fundraiser for the Eastern Adelaide DV Service. Also I hope you'll jump online and fill in our local traffic survey – details are inside or you can jump straight to it by scanning this qr code.



Two issues raised with me every day are the rapidly increasing costs people are facing to live or do business, and concerns about the Government's failure to reduce ramping.

The average South Australian mortgage holder is about \$20,000 per year worse off than they were 18 months ago. Electricity prices, Council rates, household items and other bills have been very difficult to manage.

The state budget included some cost of living relief measures for concession holders, and the government extended the public school fee relief measures that I first announced as a former Education Minister at the beginning of last year, but there was very little else for homeowners or small businesses. The Liberal Opposition will continue to pressure the government to do more to assist these South Australians, who are doing it tough.

In regards to health, I found it remarkable that the Premier has been boasting about his government's performance in this area. We all remember that his central election promise was that he'd fix ramping, yet the last year has seen twelve months of ramping exceeding 3000 hours – a figure higher than any reached under any former government. I don't like these newsletters to be negative, but this is one area where we will keep holding the government to account.

Inside this issue there is news about some major issues, including the Government's proposed uni merger and land acquisition at Magill, the state Budget, and also some good news stories about our local community. Enjoy!

John Gardner
Member for Morialta; Deputy Leader of the Opposition
Shadow Minister for Education, Training and Skills; Shadow Minister for the Arts and Festivals

Contact:

P: (08) 8365 4224
E: morialta@parliament.sa.gov.au
W: johngardnermp.com.au

Social Media:



@JohnGardnerMP

Mail or visit:

163 St Bernards Road,
Rostrevor SA 5073

Community Forum Cyber Security/Scams

Supported by Campbelltown Council and SA Police

When: 11:00am, Thursday 7 September 2023

Where: Campbelltown Function Centre

172 Montacute Rd, Rostrevor

RSVP by Monday 4 September to morialta@parliament.sa.gov.au, by

phone to 8365 4224 or use this QR code:



Morialta Community Quiz Night

Quizmaster: Jane Doyle OAM

All funds raised support the Eastern Adelaide Domestic Violence Service

When: 6:30pm for 7pm, Friday 3 November 2023

Where: Campbelltown Function Centre

172 Montacute Rd, Rostrevor

Cost: \$25 per person or \$200 for a table of 10

BYO food and drinks

RSVP essential by Friday 27 October. Please use TryBooking via <https://www.trybooking.com/CJTBR> or use this QR code:



Don't judge a budget by its cover.



Electricity prices are the highest in the nation

Labor's Budget won't bring down power prices and a typical South Australian family will not receive any power bill relief.



Inflation and interest rate pain likely to get worse

Labor's massive budget blowouts are likely to fuel inflation and drive up interest rates.



SA's inflation is the highest in the nation

Labor's Budget does next to nothing to help South Australians struggling with soaring rents, mortgages, and power prices.



Record ramping despite record spending

Despite Labor's repeated promises to fix ramping, it's reached record levels.

In
Morialta

Supporting our Community

Made in Morialta

Thanks to all the local Morialta businesses who participated in the #MadeInMorialta promotion over the winter months. Every week I was able to produce content through my @JohnGardnerMP social media channels highlighting some of the amazing things that are made in our area – whether it be food production, manufacturing, creative industries or more. As well as promoting our area, I also think that ‘good news stories’ like these put more positivity onto social media! If your business is in Morialta and would like to be featured in any future promotions I do, please let me know.



Clockwise from top left: Strangio's Structural Steel, Sweet Snax Cafe, Reality Furniture, La Vera Cheese, Rustic Kitchen, Amore Lampshades, Fine Food Cucina, Elbio Patisserie, Zuccherio Pasticceria, Botanic-Fawna.

Engaging with community

It's important to be proactive in getting out and about in the community. That's why I do regular doorknocking, as well as holding street corner meetings and community forums. Thanks to all who have come along to street corner meetings this year already. These will be resuming in the coming months as the mornings get warmer and the rain subsides. If you missed the meeting when I've been in your area but have a point of view you'd like to share, please get in touch with me at any time.

Our community forums this year have also been well attended, with topics including stroke awareness and road safety. As you can see from details elsewhere in this newsletter, our next forum is coming up at 11am on September 7 on the topic of Cyber Security and Scams.



Out and About

Campbelltown Soccer Club turns 60



It's a big year for soccer with the FIFA Women's World Cup and a 60th birthday for Campbelltown City Soccer Club.

Congratulations to all at the Red Devils on behalf of our local community!

Morialta Community Workshop extension



Thanks to local Federal MP James Stevens, along with Campbelltown Council, who have supported our local Rotary Club of Morialta with grants to enable an extension of the Community Workshop on Maryvale Road.

The workshop has nearly doubled in size, allowing many more members of the community to get involved.

Backpacks 4 SA Kids



My office is proud to be a collection point for Backpacks 4 SA Kids – and I encourage you to make a donation. Thanks to residents who do so on a regular basis – particularly these generous souls from Adelaide's “Knit and Natter” group who get together each month to personally create their beautiful donations.

Athelstone-Rostrevor Lions Club



The charter is unfurled, and the Athelstone-Rostrevor Lions Club is inaugurated! The new combined club pays respect to decades of service of all past and current members, but are now working together to surpass what the two separate clubs were previously able to achieve. I can't wait to see what they will do for our community.

A fond farewell to Linda Driver



Thanks to Linda Driver for her service to our local community over the last six years as Minister at Athelstone Uniting Church. It was wonderful to see so many people from around the community come together for her final service in Athelstone.

Our Community

Working for you

Morialta local traffic survey

Are there any local traffic issues that really grind your gears? Whether as a commuter, a user of public transport, a cyclist, pedestrian or whatever other way you use our transport infrastructure, if you live in Morialta then I want to hear from you! If you have five minutes I hope you'll take the opportunity to fill in my local traffic survey, online at www.bit.ly/morialtatrafficsurvey - or scan the QR code on the front page of this newsletter.

I'm always keen to push for better services and infrastructure for our area. Over the years, I have advocated for the upgrade of Paradise Interchange, better services and a range of improved intersections and pedestrian crossings around the electorate. We've had some good wins.

One particular current priority is the need for a new Road Management Plan for the area including St Bernards Road, Penfold Road, the Parade, Magill Road, Norton Summit Road and Glen Stuart Road. Along with neighbouring MP Vincent Tarzia, we have been making the point that the old Road Management Plan, done a decade ago, is now out of date. There has been substantial infill, new developments and we also have changing traffic pressures as a result of the new school.

A new plan will engage experts, update the data, consult with community, and make recommendations for new investments, and we hope the Government will get on board.



Mid Year Entry for Pre-School

Many local children born in May or later in 2019 experienced their first day at preschool as part of mid-year entry in recent weeks. This is part of the Government's move to reintroduce mid-year reception entry next year in public schools.

As Shadow Education Minister I have welcomed this move in a bipartisan way. It is a logical step to take after our major change of moving year 7 to high school, achieved during the term of the former Liberal Government.

Preschool directors, such as the excellent Marnie Hillier at Highbury Preschool (pictured), and preschool staff across Morialta have worked extremely hard to prepare our sites for this change and I congratulate them on their efforts. Well done!



Morialta Secondary College first day

Two of my proudest days as the local MP for Morialta and Education Minister were, first, the day I cancelled Labor's plans to sell off the old Norwood Morialta middle campus site, and then, second, the day we confirmed a new school would be built on the site. The old buildings were no longer fit for purpose or capable of being renovated, and a brand new school was needed. There is still some work being completed on some of the buildings, but the first cohort of year 7 students have now been at the school for most of this year, and the facilities they are already using are outstanding. It was a great joy to be able to join with Principal Roley Coulter, governing council members and staff as the students experienced their first day at the new school, and I know these young people are going to achieve great things in the years ahead.

