



ISSUE 3
May - June 2011

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NORTHERN BEACHES BULLETIN

Andrew Cripps MP State Member for Hinchinbrook
Proudly Representing Townsville's Northern Beaches

GOOD NEWS FOR NORTHERN BEACHES

Northern Beaches Bulletin readers will recall the campaign to try and secure the tenure of several popular overseas trained doctors working at the Bluewater Medical Centre surgeries at Purono Park and Bushland Beach. I was pleased to support the Bluewater Medical Centre and local residents with correspondence to the Federal Government and the Australian Medical Board.

Many residents on the Northern Beaches also signed a petition which I presented to the Queensland Parliament in September 2010. I am very happy to advise that Dr Aileen Sarito has been granted her AMB Registration, issued with her Medicare provider number and recommenced work at the Bluewater Medical Centre. This is good news for the Northern Beaches.

LABOR'S YEAR 7 PLAN A REAL CONCERN

Over 12 months ago, the Bligh Government released its *Flying Start* green paper on education, which included a goal of moving Year 7 students from primary to high school by 2014. I have a number of concerns about this proposal and the impact that it will have on a number of schools in my electorate. I believe teachers and parents ought to give this issue serious consideration, given the importance of education for our young people.

Firstly, the Bligh Government has underestimated the capacity of our high schools to accommodate another whole year of students in existing facilities. The *Flying Start* green paper suggested Year 7 students could be accommodated in our high schools for \$350 million of capital works across the entire state. What a joke. Overcrowding of students in classrooms would be a real issue in high schools if adequate funding is not provided.

Secondly, there is little in the *Flying Start* green paper that deals with the need to train and recruit additional high school teachers for an additional cohort of students at high school. In addition, what are current and experienced Year 7 teachers supposed to do when their students are sent off to high school? The issue is that the training to become a primary school teacher is quite different from that to become a high school teacher.

The problem of overcrowding at high schools would be in stark contrast to the impact this proposal would have on primary schools. I have more than 40 schools in my electorate. Many of them are small rural primary schools, some of which are already struggling with enrolments. I am very worried about what the loss of an entire cohort of students from these small rural primary schools would have on their long term viability.

Thirdly, I believe that Year 7 students play an important role in student leadership positions in primary schools. This is a very important learning experience. They are expected to be role models for younger students, leading by example in the school community. While many Year 7 girls may be mature enough to head off to a high school environment, given many boys mature later, I am not sure they are equally ready to go to high school.

I'm not against the concept of middle schooling. A smoother transition from primary school to high school, as far as the curriculum and the teaching environment is concerned, is a worthy goal. However, I think there are enough practical issues and shortcomings in the Bligh Government's planning of this proposal, for teachers and parents to ask if this is the best way to achieve such a transition. I for one am not convinced.

NORTHERN BEACHES FESTIVAL PROGRAM



NORTHERN BEACHES FESTIVAL



21st MAY TO 12th JUNE 2011

www.nbf.websyte.com.au

21st of May 2011 Launch of Festival at 2.00pm at North Townsville Community Hub.

21st May - Bingo Bonanza at the North Townsville Community Hub Deersgun
1 x Super Jackpot of \$500, 2 x major jackpots of \$150. Free tea and coffee,
other refreshments available for purchase. \$20 for 20 regular games and 3 jackpot games. Lucky door
prize as well as lucky number prize. Phone 4751 6511 for more info. Email Evej evej@active8.net.au
to book a table.

22nd May - Northern Beaches Extreme Sports Spectacular at Bushland Beach State Park
9.30am competition starts, presentations at 2.30pm with refreshments and entertainment all day.
Contact Jason for enquiries and registration - 0439 544 700

22nd May - Pro Tackle Shimano Junior Challenge Fishing Competition Toomulla beach camping
grounds. Registration from 9.30 to 10.00, weigh in closes 1.00pm.

Three categories -
Pre-school 1st, 2nd, 3rd
Primary school 1st, 2nd, 3rd
High school 1st, 2nd, 3rd
Many other prizes. Refreshments available from marquees.
Contact Don - 4770 7094. Email toomullafishingclub@gmail.com

26th May - Member for Hinchbrook Inter-club Challenge Fishing Competition and Dinner
Andrew Coppo M.P. to present trophies. Competition starts on the 1st of May 2011. All nominations
from fishing clubs between Cardwell and Ayr/Lizard Creek.
Contact Don - 4770 7094 for further information.

26th May - Saunders Beach Big Day Out at the Saunders Beach Community centre and Fishing
Club grounds. The day starts at 11am to 4.30pm with live music by Banana Flammock, raffles, face
painting, rural fire brigade demonstration, hands on wildlife display (crocodiles, lizards and snakes),
Major raffie of a 110cc quad bike, seafood bbq, other food stalls and much more family fun.
Contact Anthony - 0414683004

29th May - Show and Shine Car Show at Toomulla camping grounds. Start times 10:00am fishing
at 5.00pm. Food and drinks stalls, live music and other family fun.
Contact Bob for bookings and enquiries - 4770 7618

4th June - Bohle Markets and School Band Competition at the Bohle State School Community Hall.
Gates open 11.00am to 3.30pm. Youth bands playing throughout the day, market stalls, face painting, mini
cent sales, dance display, pre centenary celebrations, car boot sale, refreshments and much, much more
family fun. Contact Deb - sd_mccarthy@optusnet.com.au

4th June - Bush Dance at the North Townsville Community Hub. Doors open at 5.30pm. \$10 per adult, \$5
for children, \$25 for family. Music by Wattle 'n' Gum. Starts at 6pm. Bar open until 10.00pm, great raffles
throughout the night. Come dressed in a country outfit and win our best dressed competition.
Lucky door prize, BBQ and other refreshment available. Tickets for sale at the Community Centre.
Contact Trish - 47516 511. Email trish@buce.org.au

5th June - Friendship Basketball at Northern Beaches High School, start time 1.00pm with presentation
at 5.00pm. Coaching clinics, dance display, refreshments, and other family fun.
Contact Juliet - 47516511. Email juliet@buce.org.au

5th June - Ute, Car and Bike Show at Bluewater cruising from BP Chuden at 08:30am sharp. Gates open
7.30am with all vehicles to be parked at Bluewater Community Hall and Park by 10am. Live Townsville
Band, judging from 11am. Food and licensed bar by the Bluewater Community Centre, other family fun.
Contact Rod at www.bluewaterofcarbizineshow.com.au

11th June - Rollingsstone Community Centre, Lions, RLS Dinner Dance Cabaret at the Rollingsstone
Community Hall 1. Community Quiz, Budget Beach, door opens 6.30pm, lucky door prize, \$60 per ticket.
For bookings call Sue at the Rollingsstone Community Centre 4770 7855.

12th June - A Day on the Mountain, Village Green Paluma Markets
9.00am - Market Stalls open Live Music by Vic Kennedy on the Green. Sausage Sizzle on the Green,
Children's Activities and Competition

10.00 - Guided Bird Walk (1) With Roy Mackay.
11.30 - Guided Local History Walk (1) with Linda Venn.
1.15pm - Bird Walk (2).
2.00pm - Drawing of Festival Major Raffie of a Quintrex 380 Explorer aluminium boat, motor and Trailer.
2.15pm - Pottery Demonstration at Len Cook Studio.
3.00 - History Walk (2).
Contact person: Lynn Hyland Ph. 47706681 / 47737676. E-mail lhyland@qgtnet.com.au

12th of June 2011 Official Closing of Festival at 2.00pm Paluma Markets.



A big thank you to all our sponsors.

