

# Russell Northe MLA

Member for Morwell

## Community Newsletter

JULY 2010



### Shadow Minister For Manufacturing Visits The Valley



Maxine Kiel and Mark Medew (Production Manager) from Kiel Industries discuss regional manufacturing issues with Russell Northe and Ryan Smith.

**Shadow Minister for Manufacturing and Industrial Relations Ryan Smith recently visited the Latrobe Valley and met with a number of local businesses to discuss some of the challenges confronting regional manufacturers and businesses.**

Along with Russell Northe, Mr Smith met with representatives from local manufacturing companies such as Australian Paper, and Kiel Industries.

"It was a great opportunity to showcase some of our wonderful Gippsland businesses to the Shadow Minister, and to discuss matters with manufacturers including the impacts that Government policy has on their operations and what initiatives can be considered to ensure Victoria's manufacturing and industry sector has the opportunity to prosper," said Mr Northe.

"The Government's Procurement and Purchasing Policy is one impediment for regional businesses, which does not provide adequate support for many Latrobe Valley industries."

"One such example is the fact that many Government departments often purchase cheap imported paper rather than paper manufactured locally right here in the Latrobe Valley at Australian Paper's Maryvale site.

"I think this is a crying shame as, not only would the purchase of such products enhance Gippsland's and

Victoria's economy, it would eliminate environmental concerns of goods manufactured overseas that in some instances are not regulated to the rigour of Australian made products."

Mr Smith concurred with Mr Northe's statements, adding that the Brumby Government's incompetence in supporting the manufacturing sector in Victoria has far reaching consequences across regional Victoria including the Latrobe Valley.

"It shows a real lack of endorsement for local manufacturers when a government department is receiving goods from an interstate or overseas business, when a reliable local business is in the next town.

"Even the Australian Industry Group has been critical of the Brumby Government's procurement policy by stating that "Government departments have not sufficiently supported Victorian and Australian businesses".

"Jobs can be created and local economies stimulated by improving the State Government's Procurement Purchasing Policy.

"There are many issues being faced by our local manufacturers, but with the support of the local community, these businesses should continue to flourish.

### Do Not Call Register

Ensure You're On It

**Russell Northe is reminding people that registrations with the Do Not Call Register need to be renewed.**

The Do Not Call Register was launched in 2007 in response to community concerns about the growth of unsolicited telemarketing calls. More than 4.5 million home and mobile numbers are now registered.

The Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) have also announced that the Do Not Call Register has been expanded to include registration of fax numbers.

The ACMA has recently updated its Do Not Call Register consumer brochure. This provides information to consumers about the register, how they can register or re-register their number(s), as well as how to lodge a complaint when receiving telemarketing calls once they are registered.

For further information about the Do Not Call Register, ring 1300 792 958, or visit [www.donotcall.gov.au](http://www.donotcall.gov.au)

Brochures are also available from the website or Russell Northe's office at 66 George Street, Morwell.

## Out & About



Russell with Ron Barassi and Boolarra Football Netball Club President Russell McGlade at the recent Boolarra vs. Mirboo North Football match



Russell Northe with Rod Lavin, JP and Terry Fisher, JP



Russell with Lumen Christi Principal Cathy Blackford, and School and House Captains



Russell with the three founders of Ulinga Gymnastics, Margaret Tate, Phyllis Cranwell and Gordon Draper at Ulinga's 30th birthday celebrations



Russell with Central Gippsland Retired Persons Association Executive Members Beryl Murphy and Glenda Evans

# Services Available for Community

Russell Northe has welcomed the introduction of the Victorian Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages to the Department of Justice Office in Morwell, and praised the Gippsland Justices of the Peace (JPs) on their 100 year centenary.

"Both of these services deliver important assistance to many people in the Latrobe Valley community and it is of great benefit to have these resources readily available locally.

By visiting the Department of Justice Office in Morwell, members of the community can:

- Make face-to-face general enquiries about Births, Deaths or Marriages (BDM)
- Apply for certificates with personal assistance from Regional Justice Officers
- Pay for applications for BDM services
- Lodge and have certified proof of identity (POI) documents for the purpose of supporting their BDM applications
- Lodge other BDM related applications or supporting information

"Whilst such assistance will be extremely beneficial to the Latrobe Valley community, it is important to note that certificates will still be continued to be issued by the Registry in Melbourne."

Mr Northe also congratulated the Royal Victorian Association of Honorary Justices for celebrating their 100 year centenary throughout 2010 and commended all Gippsland JPs in Gippsland for their tireless community work.

"There are currently 54 sworn in JPs in the Central Gippsland branch of the Royal Victorian Association of Honorary Justices who volunteer their time to serve our community. There have been many thousands of hours dedicated in witnessing documents at various police stations in Gippsland.

"Over 8,000 documents had been signed by JPs at the Morwell and Traralgon Police stations in the last year, which is just staggering.

"This has freed up considerable time for sworn police officers to carry out their duties in protecting and serving the Latrobe Valley community.

"On behalf of the Morwell Electorate, I congratulate our local JPs on their continuing dedication and tireless work."

## IN PARLIAMENT THIS MONTH



### Russell Northe spoke on the following issues:

- the Brumby Government's Climate Change White Paper and the impact on the local power industry and jobs
- continuing smart meter issues
- support required for Dredger 21
- support for Old Gippsdown
- the introduction of a 3-tier reporting system for Victorian Incorporated Associations
- the Rural and Regional Committee's Inquiry into Regional Centres of the Future

Click on 'Speeches' on Russell Northe's website to view his Parliament contributions.

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