

Scott Morrison - A Down to Earth Prime Minister

Australians are disappointed at the removal of another Prime Minister and while I did not support change I am very pleased to have Scott Morrison as our new PM. The public has warmed to Scott's down to earth, no-nonsense approach and appreciates his concentration on the issues rather than political point-scoring on inconsequential matters. Morrison has been tested in two of the toughest portfolios. He was the Minister responsible for stopping the boats, a position the rest of the world is now trying to emulate.

As Treasurer he was largely responsible for the rescue of the economy, returning our budget to surplus next year, record jobs growth (400k in a year) and as a result of the outstanding turnaround, the ability to invest record amounts in education, defence, health and aged care. At the same time he delivered the biggest tax cuts in a generation for individuals, small and medium business. We can only do these things if we have a strong, vibrant economy.



Treasurer Josh Frydenberg, Rowan and Prime Minister Scott Morrison

Visits to Businesses in the New Area of Grey



Recently Rowan visited Perfection Fresh Tomato Glasshouse near Two Wells, the largest glasshouse in Australia, Balco's export Hay Business at Bowmans and South Australia's largest egg producer Days Eggs near Lower Light. He is pictured at Days Eggs with owner Dion Andary.

Plant Breeding Centre Opened at Roseworthy



The importance of breeding grain varieties in South Australia cannot be overstated. I was pleased to attend the opening of the \$20m Australian Grain Technology Centre at Roseworthy recently. The event was also a celebration of Australian plant breeding

with legendary wheat breeders Rex Krause and Gill Hollamby present. They were responsible for varieties like Halberd, Spear and Machete. Gill was heard to remark – "It's even got air conditioning!" This state of the art centre is a huge plus for the grain industry.

Securing Drought Funding for Grey

Drought in Australia is a regular companion and as part of the business risk it should be part of farm planning. The Government has a host of programs including Farm Management Deposits, accelerated tax write-offs for fodder conservation, fencing and water infrastructure. However, despite these efforts, differences in individual circumstances, the severity of the drought and international commodity prices can conspire to undo our best efforts. This drought, while not yet as bad here as in the eastern states, is having a significant impact. During the last two months I raised the issue of drought relief for South Australian councils with the Prime Minister and met on a number of occasions with Agriculture Minister David Littleproud and Minister for Regional Services and Local Government Bridget McKenzie. Persistence pays off and I am very pleased with the recent announcement of up to \$1 million each for 13 drought-affected councils in Grey. For those

really struggling, the \$6k boost per person to the Farm Household Assistance has been welcome as has the extra commitment to the Rural Financial Counselling Service (RFCS). I have visited most of the worst affected areas and encourage anyone with particular concerns to contact me. The most important piece of advice I have is; DO NOT SELF ASSESS. Contact the free RFCS. The Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced at the Drought Summit the establishment of a \$5bn Drought Future Fund to assist farmers prepare for drought and importantly ensure there is money in the kitty when hard times strike again. I have advocated with Buy a Bale and convinced them to extend their reach into SA and finally some relief around the Robertstown area has been received. Owen Primary School deserves congratulations for their huge contribution towards the supply of emergency fodder as does Steve Whillas and EPIC Charitable Trust on Eyre Peninsula.



Geranium Plains... With Steph Schmidt inspecting the drought-affected country from World's End down through to Geranium Plains. The soil erosion problems are being greatly exacerbated by a plague of kangaroos.



Eudunda... The Dry Time Talk Forum was a good time to catch up with Stephanie Schmidt, Daniel Jenke, Simon Schmidt, Karl Zerner and Kym Schutz to discuss the tough times in the area..

Port Pirie Smelters Picnic



The Smelters Picnic is a major event in Port Pirie's calendar and this year's event was a great success. Rowan is pictured having a chat with Smelters Picnic committee member Ray Walters.

Oysterfest Art Exhibition



Viewing Sharon Gilmore's winning entry in the WestArt Oysterfest Art Exhibition with West Coast Sentinel journalist Luca Cetta.

Listening to Drought Issues



Rowan held a drought forum at Arno Bay in August with assistance from Centrelink's Robert Holtham and Rural Financial Counsellor Chris Fitzgerald. A major issue farmers are facing is continual drift and lack of feed through summer.



Arno Bay...Thousands of tonnes of valuable top-soil have drifted out of the paddock and on to the road. Recently announced assistance to councils will help return the soil to the paddocks and not place this cost on farmers.

Port Augusta Car Rally



Catching up with Kevin Schwab and his pride and joy at Gladstone Square during the Northern Districts Motor Sports Rally.

Whyalla Football Wind-Up



Congratulations to Whyalla Football League trophy winners. President Jack Velthuisen presented South Whyalla's Joel Howard-Bristow with the Whyalla News Medal.

Wandearah Heritage Society



Rowan joined His Excellency Hieu Van Le at the opening of the Broughton Plains Heritage Society/Nurom Whim Historical Group's new shed, which received a substantial Federal grant.

Jamestown Air Show



Rowan ran into Robert Sampson from Balaklava with grandson Sam at the outstanding Jamestown Air Show. Unbelievable array of WW2 war aircraft.

Edithburgh Museum



The museum at Edithburgh houses the incredible history of the early port. It was good to be shown around by President Keryn Dawes.

Leigh Creek



Rowan discussed the future of Leigh Creek with Tavern relief manager David Hartley and local Joanne Cotter. While it has been a challenge, locals remain optimistic about their future.

Leadership Graduation Wallaroo



Rowan was pleased to listen to the presentations of up and coming regional leaders who graduated from the Yorke and Mid North Emerging Leaders.

Whyalla Veterans' Day



Vietnam Veterans' Day is increasingly important for Australians to remember the military service of Vietnam veterans. It is a time to recognise and atone for the way returning servicemen were treated at the time.

Clare Catch-Up



Caught up with Brian and Jo Tilbrook in the main street of Clare. They had dropped in to visit a local art gallery.

Port Pirie Blessing of the Fleet



The annual Port Pirie Blessing of the Fleet Deb Ball was again a wonderful success. The night is enjoyed by family and friends.

Alpaca Stud Wool Bay



Learning about alpacas at Neil and Di Daniels' Barachel Alpaca Stud, Wool Bay. Neil and Di run this as a tourist attraction as well as a working sheep and alpaca stud.

Variety Bash Visits Kimba



The Variety Bash visited Kimba on the second last night of their 2018 rally and it was good to catch up with SA President Sandra Lukin and husband Tony.

Fowlers Bay Visit



Discussing tourism with Fowlers Bay Café owner Dr Robyn Wallace and staff member Lena. Rowan also caught up with Simone Keogh who with husband Rod runs whale watching tours.

Willowie Book Launch



The Willowie Hall was full for the launch of Diggers from the Dust. The book authored by Di Barrie and her husband's cousin Andrew commemorates the servicemen and women from the Willowie district.

Blinman Art Exhibition



Rowan and Teresa enjoyed another high standard Blinman Art Exhibition in September. Bill McIntosh talking with two of the exhibiting artists.

Rowan Ramsey Federal Member for Grey

Grey, a great place to live and work...

Boundary Changes

As a result of recent boundary changes by the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC), Grey has now expanded to 92.4% of the State. The State's declining percentage of the national population determined the AEC reduce the number of seats in the state to ten. The remaining seats have been expanded and Grey now has 120 thousand electors, gaining the equivalent of three quarters of a state seat. I welcome the council areas of Clare and Gilbert Valley, Adelaide Plains, and part of Wakefield Council not already in Grey and

western part of the Light Council. I have been busy since the redistribution attending community functions, visiting major employers and running pop-up office events in many of these areas. I am fortunate in having a strong knowledge of the rest of the electorate which places me in the position to build on that relationship in the new areas. Great things are happening in Grey and our economic contribution to the State has plenty of upside. I am as committed and full of enthusiasm for my role in representing the new parts of the electorate as I have been for all parts of Grey.



Riverton	Saddleworth	Long Plains
Clare	Avon	Watervale
Balaklava	Auburn	Wild Horse Plains
Port Wakefield	Sevenhills	Bowmans
Owen	Manoora	Lower Light
Roseworthy	Mintaro	Wasleys
Hamley Bridge	Port Parham	Stockport
Mallala	Middle Beach	Habury
Dublin	Lewiston	Marrabel
Two Wells	Tarlee	Thompson's Beach
Rhynie	Windsor	Alma

Delivering in Grey

We have a Government in Canberra delivering a strong economy and a State Government keen to cooperate.

"My persistence is delivering results for our electorate."

Joy Baluch Bridge

Secured \$160m of \$200m project for duplication of the bridge at Port Augusta, fixing the pedestrian safety, bottleneck and emergency service issues in one project – completion 2022.

Port Wakefield Solution

Secured \$72m of \$90m project – fixing the Yorke Peninsula turnoff bottleneck – ensuring economic future of Port Wakefield and the first step in dual lanes to Port Augusta.

Support for New Port on EP

\$10m through the Regional Growth Fund to assist in the establishment of a new multi-commodity deep water port on EP - competition will alter the dynamics of the SA grains industry.

Re-railing the Adelaide-Tarcoola Line

\$252m increasing load capacity and rail speed, providing vital work to the Whyalla steel works and about 150 track workers.

Renewable Energy Storage Projects

\$110m support with Solar Reserve now in final stages of business case. Backing two localised pumped hydro projects near Port Augusta.

Building Better Regions

More than \$40m into Grey since coming to Government. Backing significant infrastructure right around the electorate including wharf loading facilities, town sewerage systems, numerous community sporting facilities, artificial reefs, aged care facilities, telecommunications and flood mitigation works, to name just some.

Regional Jobs & Investment Package

\$20m to stimulate jobs growth in the Upper Spencer Gulf providing more than 300 permanent jobs.

New Funding Deal for Childcare

Subsidy lifted from 72% to 85% and abolishing the Annual Rebate Cap.

Drought Support

\$1m each for the 13 most drought-affected councils across Grey determined by significant rainfall deficiency and the percentage of people employed in agriculture.

Full Headspace Unit for Whyalla

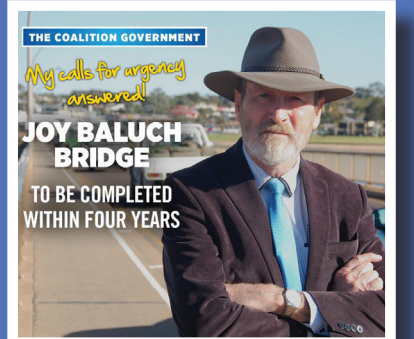
Established a second HeadSpace unit in Grey and I continue to lobby for similar facilities elsewhere in the electorate.

General

At a localised level the Stronger Communities and Veterans' Affairs grants continue to be a huge assistance to local groups and volunteers. I have a number of state roads on my agenda and am urging the State Government to develop submissions to seek Federal assistance. The sealing of the Strzelecki Track and a concrete plan to duplicate the Augusta Highway in a progressive manner are also in my sights.



Announcement of Port Wakefield overpass project with Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack, State Minister Stephan Knoll and Member for Narungga Fraser Ellis.



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Rowan Ramsey MP November 2018

Secure Drinking Water for Outback Towns

Six more outback towns will receive safe and palatable drinking water as a result of a \$675k Federal grant to install small desalination plants in Marree, Parachilna, William Creek, Glendambo, Yunta and Blinman.

These communities currently rely on rain water until it runs out and then depend on trucking water or imported bottled water.

It is expensive and inefficient and I am very pleased to have assisted OCA in this cause.

I look forward to a few other small outback communities being added to this list in the future. Water is a very precious commodity. Some outback residents are flabbergasted to see travellers pull up and illegally use town drinking water to wash their vehicles.

The new system will mean travellers will be able to purchase small quantities and I urge them to remember that a commodity taken for granted at home is a matter of life and death in the outback.



Rowan with Chairperson Outback Communities Authority Cecilia Woolford

Federal Government Grants Benefitting Grey



The Clare Valley Aerodrome received \$469k to seal the strip from the Building Better Regions Fund.



Port Lincoln's fabulous pelican art on the showers near the town jetty was supported by the Stronger Communities Program.



Ardrossan Caravan Park was provided with \$75k to build two new luxury cabins under the BBRF which has delivered more than \$40m to Grey over five years.

Eleven communities received support from the Armistice Centenary Grants Program - Alford, Burra, Bute, Craddock, Gladstone, Laura, Port Lincoln, Port Vincent, Quorn, Stansbury and Wudinna.

Support for New EP Port adds to Infrastructure Momentum

The SA grains industry has been struggling with comparatively high grain handling charges and searching for some competitive pressures in the market. A new port will do that.

The recent announcement that Free Eyre's proposal to build a new port on Spencer Gulf between Tumby Bay and Port Neill has progressed to lodge a full business case to the Commonwealth's Regional Growth Fund (RGF) is exciting news for all grain growers in South Australia.

The proponents Free Eyre, have passed the first stage of a highly competitive process to access the \$272.2m RGF.

Three hundred applications were received nation-wide.

Just 16 have been selected to progress and advancing to this stage is a significant milestone. The proposal to construct a 620 metre modular jetty/wharf capable of loading Panamax class vessels would include construction of a ship-loader and multi-commodity conveyor system, silos, sheds and bunkers.

It was not the only port proposal put forward in the area however, obviously only one port will be built and it must have the capacity to accommodate multiple products and users. I have been urging the two parties to come together and pool their resources to ensure success, even to the point of shifting the project to the alternative site, if that produces the best result.

Federal Ministers in Grey



Kadina...John Olsen, DPM McCormack, Mayor Thomas and Fraser Ellis with Rowan at the Copper Coast Leisure and Sports Centre opening.



Jamestown... Federal Agriculture Minister David Littleproud and Rowan took part in a Q&A panel at the Jamestown Show.



Port Augusta... With then Social Services Minister Dan Tehan in town to address a meeting of volunteers at the magnificent Arid Lands Botanic Gardens.



Rowan in Ceduna with Minister Dan Tehan discussing welfare issues with Dr Jen Cleary CEO Centacare Catholic Country SA.

Fibre Optic Link Secures Elliston's Communications



I have been working on Elliston's communication problems over the last few years and am very pleased to celebrate the commissioning of the new \$4m optic fibre link. This project has secured a large Federal grant of \$1.3million, more than \$2m from Telstra, the Elliston Council contributed \$80k and the State Government \$100k. The new 4G mobile tower is delivering speeds up to 120mbps. Elliston had previously relied on an outmoded and overloaded radio link prone to outages. They now enjoy excellent connectivity.

Whyalla Business Awards



Whyalla Business of the Year Award winner Alicia Wilson from Ann's Florist with her partner Thomas.



Apprentice of the Year was jointly won by Amber Freymark and Codey Booth.

Finally - we have been able to negotiate the removal of the "Tampon Tax" by convincing the states to support the removal of GST on women's sanitary products. Products such as condoms and Viagra have been exempt since the introduction of the tax in 2000. It makes sense that if these products are exempt it is only right sanitary products for women should also be exempt. While the change will deprive the States of \$30m a year of GST the Federal Government has committed to providing billions in extra payments to the states as part of the reform to the GST.

Finally, Tampon Tax to be Removed

The current GST distribution has become increasingly unfair and unsustainable. While GST is also used for the levelling of the playing field between states, over time the states comparative wealth has changed significantly and led to the situation where the NT has received \$5.60 for every dollar of GST they paid. Tasmania has received \$1.63 and South Australia \$1.42 with WA being given as little as 34c. Clearly this is unfair on WA and the Prime Minister and Treasurer have provided a solution where they will receive a top-up and no other state will be worse off.



Pitching in at Working Bee



After 34 years it was finally time to retire the carpet at the Buckleboo Club. Rowan gave a hand at the working bee rolling up the old carpet and scraping glue off the floor.

Nantawarrina



The 20th anniversary of Australia's first Indigenous Protected Area was marked near Nepabunna on August 26. Rowan helped unveil a plaque to acknowledge the importance of the day.

Wild Dog Meeting



The ageing of the Dog Fence and the number of dogs now south of the fence is causing widespread losses across our grazing areas and they are moving further south. While the Minister for Agriculture was in Jamestown I organised a meeting with concerned farmers and Dog Fence Board members.

The Commonwealth has announced money to fight weeds and pests in drought areas and I am working towards securing a significant

amount of this to start replacing the fence. I have been working with the board and the State Minister since then to lodge a bid.

Quorn Races

A cracker of a day for the Quorn Races this year. Congratulations to Michelle Reynolds from Willow Springs Station for winning fashions of the field. Michelle has a strong involvement in tourism and is a great ambassador for the Flinders.



Make A Wish Fundraiser



Port Pirie... Lots of fun was had at the Make a Wish Quiz Night fundraiser. Terrific effort from quizmaster Chook Harslett.

Whyalla



Whyalla Steel Works Anniversary-Rowan with steelworks owner Sanjeev Gupta and Minister Christopher Pyne marking the one year anniversary of Liberty Primary Steel. The new ownership has given a boost to Whyalla.



Kadina's JDRF advocate Connor Gilliflan visited Parliament House in August.

Local Sporting Champions

This ongoing program delivers grants to young competitors to assist with travel to State, National or International competition.



Cummins Young Local Sporting Champion Bridie Mickan is a talented swimmer.



Kadina Young Local Sporting Champions Bailey McNicholl, Kayleigh May, Grace Knight and Olivia Elsworth.



Port Lincoln Young Local Sporting Champions-Arjay Isle, Joseph Perin, Millie Hart, Tahlia Weir and Jamie Ford.

Melrose Caravan Park



In Melrose recently to discuss plans for the walking trail and caravan park extension. Rowan with committee members Peter Bammann and Peter Jacobs, caravan park managers Jennifer Padgett, Kevin Mahney, Mayor Colin Nottle and CEO Jessie White.

Pirie West Primary School



On National Flag Day Rowan explained the origins of our flag and its protocols to Pirie West Primary School students. Rowan and Member for Frome Geoff Brock presented new National, Aboriginal and State flags to the school.

Ceduna Save the Children



Ceduna Save the Children received \$150k for a supported accommodation unit- a safe place for young mothers and families. Rowan met with Breony Carbines, Joy Reid and Kerry Robinson.

Port Augusta Naidoc Day



Naidoc Week is an important time for indigenous Australia to connect to the wider community. Rowan was very pleased to join in the crowd as they marched through Port Augusta.

Port Lincoln Childcare



Rowan was given a tour of Kirtan Point Children's Centre recently. The centre is doing a tremendous job of early years' engagement. He is pictured with Director Pam Stanley and Sonia Regan.

Peterborough Proclamation Day



On October 7 1886 Petersburg was declared a municipality. The German, farming and train history of the town was celebrated in October. Rowan is with Petersburg Proclamation Day committee members Anita Stewart and Jenny White.

SHOW TIME

Shows are a great time to catch up with local people, these are a few of the ones Rowan has attended lately.



Rowan caught up with Jill Borlace at the Port Lincoln Show. It was beautiful day. It was lovely to see Mayor Bruce Green involved in the show and win first prize for his homebrew.



Rowan was very pleased to host the Federal Minister for Agriculture at the Jamestown Show where a panel answered questions related to Agriculture. The event was compared by Jordy Kitschke and President David Cooper expressed his delight at the Minister's attendance.



Rowan chatting with Ben Mumford at the Minlaton Show. The show was opened by Bob Edwards who was enjoying his 86th Minlaton Show.



Whyalla Show stallholder Mid North Christian College raised money for Buy a Bale to help farmers in drought. Rowan with Jennie Benjamin, Brittany Shepherd and Emma Metcalf.



Cummins Show President Raymond Whillas and Rowan testing the Riding Without Age trishaw, providing excursions for the aged. They are with project champions Tiff Firth and Tania Hammond.



Fashions from wool packs was a feature of the Burra Show with some innovative designs modelled by enthusiastic entrants. SAFM's Cosi was in town to commentate various events.