

Hello

Lots of travel last weekend! It was out to Wentworth on Saturday for the Show. There was a big crowd and it was a fantastic day. TV personality Costa opened the show – he's a man with an incredible amount of infectious energy.

On Sunday it was back to Griffith for the Salami festival. It was a great event with well over 1000 people attending – a terrific job by the organisers.

This week kicked off in Deniliquin with the Speak Up water rally. Over 500 people attended the rally, with the participants unanimously passing the motion to push for access to an early allocation for NSW Murray general security farmers. An open letter was distributed after the meeting urging politicians and regulatory bodies to investigate every avenue for drought relief. I've distributed this letter to all State Members of Parliament.

As I mentioned last week, I've been in constant discussions with the Minister's office to ensure the dire situation of our farmers is understood and solutions are found – and I will continue to do so.

Other highlights of the week were:

- Turning of the first sod of Stage 2 of the Echuca-Moama Bridge, a project jointly funded by the Australian Government, NSW Government and Victorian Government.
- Attending the Murrumbidgee Police District Medal and Awards Ceremony – congratulations to all the winners (see photo below).
- Attending the Murray Darling Association National Conference and AGM in Leeton.

On Sunday I'm looking forward to attending the Finley Show – be sure to say hi if you see me there.

Enjoy the weekend!

Kind regards



Austin Evans
Member for Murray



It was a pleasure to be a guest at the Murrumbidgee Police District Medal and Awards Ceremony in Griffith on Tuesday. Congratulations to all those who received awards and medals, and also to those who took their affirmations and oaths of office. Thank you for the incredible job you do each and every day!



Service NSW opens its doors in Hay and Leeton

The wait is over for the people of Leeton and Hay, with the official opening of two new Service NSW Centres. Minister for Finance, Services and Property Victor Dominello joined Austin to open the centres last Friday.

[Read more >>](#)



Speak Up public rally - Open letter from attendees

Over 500 people attended the public rally in Deniliquin on Monday to explore options for NSW Murray Irrigators who have a zero water allocation. It was unanimously passed at the rally to push for access to an early allocation for NSW Murray general security farmers. An open letter has been widely distributed following the meeting, including by my office to all NSW Members of Parliament.

Photo: Federal Member for Farrer Sussan Ley addressing the audience.

[Read more >>](#)



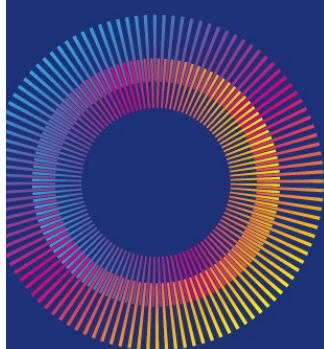
Echuca-Moama Bridge - Stage 2 gets underway

Work is getting underway on the second stage of the Echuca-Moama Bridge project, which will deliver important upgrades to Warren Street through Echuca. The \$280 million Echuca Moama Bridge project is jointly funded by the Australian, Victorian and NSW governments.

[Read more >>](#)

CELEBRATING DIVERSITY EVENT GRANTS ARE NOW OPEN! UP TO \$10,000 IS AVAILABLE FOR EVENTS AND FESTIVALS WHICH SHOWCASE OUR CULTURAL DIVERSITY.

APPLY NOW!



Apply now for Multicultural Grants Program

Applications are now open for up to \$10,000 to support our local festivals and events through the Celebrating Diversity program. Applications close 5 pm, Friday 28 September.

[Read more >>](#)



Let's look after those who look after us.
See flashing lights on a stationary vehicle, slow down, move over.

NEW ROAD RULE APPLIES FROM TOMORROW

Slow down to 40km/h around emergency vehicles





Ask R U OK?

Our friends, family members and workmates face life's ups and downs every day of the year and RUOK encourages everyone to start a conversation as early as possible, as the earlier you reach out, the more likely the outcome will be a positive one.

[Read more >>](#)

Tradies flock to fee-free apprenticeships

Apprentices undertaking their training in NSW are already benefiting from the NSW Government's fee-free apprenticeship package, with 38 apprentices in the region taking advantage of the program, only two months after its launch.



[Read more >>](#)



This a fantastic online resource packed with information about disaster preparation. It has sections specifically for the individual, business, local councils and community service organisations.

[Read more >>](#)

\$2M in grants to help manage waste in Aboriginal communities

Local Aboriginal Land Councils can now apply for grants to improve waste management in discrete Aboriginal communities (former missions or reserves).

[Read more >>](#)

Griffith Community Forum - Elder Abuse

Come along and hear what the President of the Australian Human Right Commission has to say about Elder Abuse.

Date: 13 September 2018

Time: 5-7 pm

Venue: Griffith Exies Club, Jondaryan Avenue, Griffith

Cost: Free - please register for catering purposes

Hosted and supported by: Griffith City Council, Griffith Aged Support Service and Soroptomist International Griffith Inc.

[To register >>](#)

Better mental health for older people in Murray

Mental health first aid training for seniors and those working with older people in Murray will take place in Murrumbidgee and Far West Local Health Districts to help identify and lead people to mental health support earlier. Wesley Mission will run the training, following a \$75,000 grant from the NSW Government.

[Read more >>](#)

Grants, scholarships and awards

[Conservation Partner Grants](#) to support private landholders in NSW. Offered through the Biodiversity Conservation Trust. Ongoing subject to availability.

[Grandparents Day Photography Competition](#). Closing 14 September.

[Local Sport Defibrillator Grant Program](#) providing access to a defibrillator for sporting clubs. Closing 14 September.

[Regional Growth Fund - Environment and Tourism Fund](#) - available for regional tourism projects. Closing 21 September.

[Multicultural NSW Grants program](#) - to support local festivals and events. Closing 5 pm, 28 September 2018.

[Heritage Green Energy Grants](#) for owners or managers of heritage buildings to make them more energy efficient. Closing 30 September 2018.

[Protecting our Places](#) grants to empower Aboriginal community groups and organisations to protect, conserve and restore cultural landscapes and waterways. Closing 8 October 2018.

[Waste Less Recycle More grants](#) - for Local Aboriginal Land Councils to improve waste management of discrete Aboriginal communities. Closing 5 pm, 2 November 2018.

[More details](#) on other funding opportunities.



If you would like an appointment to discuss any ideas, projects or issues you may have, please contact my Deniliquin or Griffith electorate offices.
Together we can help our local communities to thrive!