

LLEW O'BRIEN MP

Federal Member for Wide Bay
Deputy Speaker of the
House of Representatives



Summer Newsletter 2020



Support through 2020 and beyond

To support Australians through the COVID-19 pandemic, the Morrison Government is investing more than \$260 billion to keep Australians in jobs, keep businesses in business, and ease pressure on household budgets.

This includes \$10.7 billion in JobKeeper payments, saving thousands of Queensland jobs, plus temporary increases to JobSeeker payments and tax relief to help people and our economy through this difficult time.

The Australian economic recovery is building. Our plan to grow the economy and create jobs includes:

- ✓ The JobMaker Hiring Credit that will provide an incentive of up to \$200 a week for employers to hire new workers aged 16-35; **supporting around 450,000 jobs for young people.**
- ✓ Establishing the \$1 billion JobTrainer fund to create **free and low cost training places** for school leavers and job seekers.
- ✓ **100,000 new apprenticeships and traineeships**, with a 50 per cent wage subsidy for businesses who employ them.

Christmas Greetings from Llew

This year, we have faced the most significant global challenge in decades with the COVID-19 pandemic, and many of us will be pleased to leave 2020 behind as we look to a happier year in 2021.

As restrictions are gradually easing, the risk is still apparent so while we can be proud of our efforts to contain the spread of coronavirus, this Christmas may be unlike those of years past for many people. I would encourage everyone to reach out in person or by telephone to those who may be lonely or have suffered, whether they are separated from loved ones, have lost employment, or become ill.

I thank everyone in Wide Bay for your commitment, common sense and decency in helping stop the spread of COVID-19, and particularly those on our health frontlines who have worked tirelessly to protect us all.

From my family to yours, I hope everyone is able to celebrate a peaceful and safe Christmas, and wish all in Wide Bay a brighter year in 2021.

- Llew O'Brien

Section D Gympie Bypass works

Construction is now underway on the \$1 billion **Bruce Highway Cooroy to Curra Section D** project.

Queensland joint venture Bielby Holdings BMD has started works from **Woondum** interchange to Sandy Creek Road, and a second contract is expected to be awarded for the Sandy Creek Road to **Curra** section in January 2021.

Section D is expected to be complete in mid-2024, weather permitting. This project will create almost 600 jobs and enable faster and safer travel between **Cooroy** and **Maryborough**, and ease congestion through **Gympie**.

Working towards a brighter future in 2021



RNM project forges ahead

Construction work on the Rheinmetall NIOA Munitions plant at **Maryborough** has remained on schedule through the pandemic and the main structure is nearing completion with the majority of roofing and wall panels now installed.

Construction of the timber office has commenced, with all final fit-outs to begin soon. Dozens of local workers and businesses have contributed to deliver this state-of-the-art production plant, which is scheduled to be complete in March 2021.

The Liberals and Nationals Government contributed \$28.5 million contribution towards this \$60 million facility, which will create 100 local jobs.



New jobs now at Nolan Meats

100 new ongoing jobs will be created at **Gympie's** Nolan Meats from December, with its expansion nearly complete - in addition to 100 jobs that were created during 2019-20.

The Morrison Government's \$4.98 million contribution to the major upgrade of the meat production line facility has doubled its capability, boosting local jobs and supporting the domestic and export markets for high quality beef.



Funds spark innovation at Noosa

The **Peregian Beach** Digital Hub will be a hive of activity and innovation throughout 2021 and beyond, with the Morrison Government funding programs to develop world-first firefighting technology to protect property and lives:

- ✓ **Fireball International** - \$500,000 - through an Accelerating Commercialisation Grants program.
- ✓ **FireTech Connect and 2020** - \$100,000 through an Entrepreneur's Programme and \$100,000 - Regional Tourism Bushfire Recovery Grants program.
- ✓ **Helitak Firefighting Equipment** - \$497,500 through an Accelerating Commercialisation grant.

Murgon's a centre of activity

Two significant developments are underway in **Murgon**, heralding future growth in 2021.

The new RSL Drop-In Centre, which received \$450,000 as an election commitment from Mr O'Brien, is nearly complete and expected to open in early 2021. The project created 40 jobs throughout construction and will create several ongoing jobs.

Murgon's new \$1.6 million Creative Country Association cultural centre and fossil museum, funded by the Morrison Government, will also take shape through 2021, providing ongoing tourism and economic benefits for the South Burnett.

Copies of my rainfall calendar, '100 ways to praise a child' and times tables posters, growth charts, and age pension guides are available free from my office. For your copy, please call 4121 2936. You can also stay in touch via my website www.llewobrien.com.au or Facebook www.facebook.com/llewobrienLNP.



Llew O'BRIEN MP
Federal Member for **Wide Bay**

319 Kent Street, Maryborough QLD 4650
07 4121 2936 llew.obrien.mp@aph.gov.au
llewobrien.com.au [LlewOBrienLNP](https://www.facebook.com/llewobrienLNP)

Authorised by L. O'Brien, Liberal National Party of Queensland, 319 Kent St, Maryborough QLD 4650. Printed by Gympie Graphics, 3/38 Reef St. Gympie 4570