



LLEW O'BRIEN MP

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2021-22

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



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A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM *Llew*

Christmas is a time of peace and goodwill, and all going to plan, we can look forward to reuniting with our loved ones this festive season.

We also remember the true meaning of Christmas, the birth of Jesus Christ and His message of hope, love and salvation.

There is a lot to be optimistic about in 2022 with significant investments by the Liberal and Nationals Government creating hundreds of jobs in Wide Bay.

Work is progressing on the life-saving Section D Gympie bypass, a \$1 billion project that is supporting 576 jobs and will open up Wide Bay's economy for future growth.

A \$28.5 million federal investment is paying off at Maryborough with the Rheinmetall Nioa munitions plant reaching practical completion and will be

officially opened soon, creating a further 100 new, permanent jobs in addition to the 75 jobs it created throughout construction.

A \$4,979,706 Regional Jobs and Investment grant to help expand Nolan Meats production line has resulted in 200 new jobs in Gympie enabling more people to establish career paths in the meat industry.

At Noosa, the Peregrine Beach Digital Hub is being expanded to accommodate more tech start-ups and the new Community House is approaching completion.

This \$10.2 million project is creating an exciting place for entrepreneurs to generate jobs and vibrant spaces for community groups to meet.

Best wishes for a happy Christmas and a safe, prosperous New Year.

LLEW O'BRIEN



NOOSA

\$13,650 for Pomona & District Community House helped brighten its interior.



GYMPIE

Gympie Medical Transport received \$13,990 to transport patients to medical appointments.



MARYBOROUGH

Flag presentation at Maryborough's Aldridge State High School as part of NAIDOC celebrations.



MURGON

Meeting with Murgon's Sydney Ziebell to raise awareness of Type 1 diabetes.

Get in touch with Llew

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BUILDING STRONGER WIDE BAY COMMUNITIES



DIVINE DUNNIES TO BOOST TOURISM IN MARYBOROUGH

Maryborough Progress Association's Divine Dunnies City Hall toilet block makeover is a clever, creative way of improving local amenities, building on the Heritage City's unique train and Mary Poppins history. People will be lining up to check out the gold plated toilet!

This quirky project has received \$5,000 through the Stronger Communities Programme, adding to more than \$25,000 in community donations.



CREATIVE STITCH TO HELP KIDS

Uniforms 4 Kids is a world-first programme where volunteers turn donated police, emergency services and Australia Zoo uniforms into cheerful clothes for disadvantaged kids. This helps families in need, and also prevents the uniforms from being sent to landfills.

The dedicated volunteers at **Cooroy** turn out about 3,000 items of clothing every year, and the Coalition Government is supporting their work with a \$5,000 grant through the Stronger Communities Programme to purchase four sewing machines and an overlocker.

FUNDING KEEPS NOOSA DOLPHINS KICKING GOALS

A \$9,552 grant through the Stronger Communities Programme is helping **Noosa Dolphins Rugby Union Club** purchase essential equipment including tackling pads, junior and senior rugby balls, and scrum practising equipment.

"There are more than 1000 Dolphins members who will benefit from the grant, and the equipment will be shared with local schools, so this funding is a great score for the club and the Noosa community," Member for Wide Bay Llew O'Brien said.



SIGNAL BOOST TO SAVE LIVES AT DOUBLE ISLAND POINT



Visitors, boaties and campers at **Double Island Point** will have improved access to vital updates and emergency services, with a \$15,000 grant through the Stronger Communities Programme for a new UHF repeater, antennas and solar panels.

Federal Member for Wide Bay Llew O'Brien heard the concerns of the **Cooloola Coast** community about need for the community to be able to stay in touch and call for help, and worked with the Double Island Point UHF Committee to secure this funding.

"This means people can still reach emergency services even if their mobile telephone does not receive reception," Mr O'Brien said.

FULL STEAM AHEAD FOR MURGON'S RAILWAY MUSEUM



A \$15,000 grant through the Stronger Communities Programme will be used to hire a crane to lift a 100-year-old carriage and a steel goods wagon into place at the **Murgon** railway museum, bringing the project closer to completion.

"Volunteers at Murgon Men's Shed are using their skills to create a railway museum at the start of the South Burnett Rail Trail, which will preserve and highlight Queensland's rail history and be another drawcard for regional tourism, supporting local jobs and businesses as we recover from COVID-19," Federal Member for Wide Bay Llew O'Brien said.

TEWANTIN NOOSA BOWLS CLUB RENOVATIONS

Tewantin Noosa Bowls Club is looking fresh from a refurbishment to its dining area, with assistance from a \$10,000 Stronger Communities Programme grant.

"The club provides a no-cost venue for local community groups that do not have their own facilities, so this funding will help provide a vibrant setting that can be enjoyed by the club's members and the whole community," Mr O'Brien said.



MARYBOROUGH BEARS GRANT KEEPS KIDS AND ROOS SAFE

A \$10,000 grant for a new fence will increase safety for young players, spectators and families at the **Maryborough Bears** Australian Football Club grounds in Granville.

"This fence will prevent children from accidentally wandering on to the road and will also help protect wildlife and Granville's kangaroo population by preventing them from causing crashes and becoming injured by traffic," Federal Member for Wide Bay Llew O'Brien said.



SHADE FOR RAIL TRAIL BOOSTS MARY VALLEY TOURISM

Visitors exploring the **Mary Valley** Rail Trail from Imbil to Brooloo will be able to take a break in the shade, with a \$13,443 grant to provide shade and picnic tables at the Brooloo trailhead.

"The Mary Valley Rail Trail Association is encouraging more people to visit the Mary Valley by improving the trail and making this beautiful spot an even more inviting place for cyclists and hikers to take a break," Mr O'Brien said.

BUILDING A BETTER WIDE BAY

LOCAL PROJECTS TO BOOST LOCAL JOBS

The Australian Government is supporting 250 local jobs, with \$5,123,683 for Wide Bay projects as part of its \$2.5 billion Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program:

Cherbourg

- \$41,554 to upgrade the Barambah Avenue and Fisher Street/Marshall Street junction roundabout and drains - 12 jobs.
- \$20,000 to upgrade car park and driveway at Collins Road - 5 jobs.

Maryborough

\$780,000 for an additional 105 parks at the Brolga Theatre Carpark, supporting 12 jobs.



Gympie

- \$120,000 to upgrade the Albert Park Touch Carpark - 17 jobs.
- \$148,000 to seal Excelsior Road beyond Hyne Street - 10 jobs.
- \$98,000 to upgrade Laminex Road - 10 jobs.
- \$221,000 to upgrade Mellor Street - 11 jobs.
- \$441,000 to upgrade Pronger Parade and Smith Street, Glanmire - 10 jobs.
- \$758,507 to upgrade two Thornside Road floodways - 8 jobs.
- \$500,000 to expand the CCTV network - 6 jobs.

Noosa

- \$935,622 to upgrade and reseal David Low Way at Peregrine Beach - 19 jobs.
- \$100,000 to seal Tinbeerwah Road - 16 jobs.
- \$80,000 to resurface Eenie Creek Road, Sunshine Beach - 19 jobs.
- \$80,000 to reseal Ely Street - 19 jobs.
- \$200,000 to reseal Lake Weyba Drive - 19 jobs.
- \$100,000 to reseal Green Gate Road, Cooribah - 19 jobs.
- \$250,000 to upgrade Langura Street at Noosa Heads - 9 jobs.
- \$250,000 to upgrade Sea Eagle Drive, Noosaville - 19 jobs.

SECTION D TAKING SHAPE

- Work is progressing on the \$1 billion Bruce Highway Cooroy to Curra Section D **Gympie** bypass with 48 massive concrete bridge girders now in place for a new bridge over Tin Can Bay Road.
- The upgrade will improve traffic flow, bypassing 53 intersections and 106 property accesses, cutting heavy traffic through Gympie by 50% and most importantly, it will save lives and greatly reduce head-on crashes by providing a divided four-lane highway along a new 26-kilometre route.
- The Gympie bypass is supporting 576 direct jobs throughout construction, and will open up Wide Bay's economy for future growth.
- The Australian Government contributed \$800 million to the \$1 billion project which is on track to be complete by mid-2024.

WIDE BAY HWY ACCESS

- A single-lane roundabout is now improving safety and traffic flow at the intersection of Bruce and Wide Bay highways at **Bells Bridge**.
- This upgrade makes it easier for Wide Bay Highway traffic turning right, improving travel times for freight and general traffic, and making the intersection safer for all road users.
- The \$16.6 million intersection upgrade is jointly funded, with the Australian Government contributing \$3.7 million and the Queensland Government contributing \$2.9 million.
- \$4.29 million has also been allocated, jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland governments, for the safety improvements along the Bruce Highway between Meadows Lane and the Wide Bay Highway.

A 4-LANE TIARO BYPASS

- The Australian Government committed an extra \$183 million funding towards construction of a four-lane **Tiaro** bypass, after Llew O'Brien led a community campaign for the safer highway that Wide Bay deserves.
- This takes the Australian Government's total commitment to \$268.8 million. The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development Barnaby Joyce has written to the Queensland Government confirming that this funding is available now.
- But the Queensland Government says it won't finish planning the bypass until the end of 2022, and it won't start major construction until 2024.
- The Queensland Government must prioritise and fast-track work on this dangerous section of Bruce Highway that will significantly improve road safety with a four-lane divided road to help prevent head-on collisions and keep the wheels of our economy turning.

TINANA SAFETY UPGRADE

- Work is expected to be complete this month on the \$20.1 million safety upgrade on the Bruce Highway at **Tinana**.
- The new northbound and southbound dual overtaking lanes will allow drivers to safely overtake slow-moving vehicles, improving traffic flow.
- A wire rope safety barrier system will also be installed between the overtaking lanes to reduce the chance of head-on collisions.
- The project is fully funded by the Australian Government.

FIXING BLACK SPOTS FOR SAFER ROADS

The Morrison Government's 2021-22 Black Spot Program will provide a total of \$20.8 million to fix 67 black spots across Queensland, including:

- \$401,000 for a roundabout, traffic islands and new surfacing at the intersection of Albert Street and Tooley Street at **Maryborough**.
- \$513,000 to widen and reseal Sandy Creek Road, east of Laurel Road at **Veteran**, and install a shoulder, guardrails and markers.



\$108,500 for new kerb ramps, footpaths and road markings at the intersection of Ann Street and Adelaide Lane, **Maryborough**.



To nominate a black spot please visit investment.infrastructure.gov.au/about/local-initiatives/black-spot-program/

ROADS TO BUILD ON WIDE BAY'S RECOVERY

The Australian Government is committed to working with local councils to help them maintain and upgrade local road networks, and we're investing \$6.2 billion under the Roads to Recovery Program to create jobs, including:

- **Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire** - \$199,243 between 2019-20 and 2023-2024.
- **South Burnett Regional Council** - \$ 9,866,792 between 2019-20 and 2023-2024.
- **Sunshine Coast Regional Council** - \$18,268,834 between 2019-20 and 2023-2024.
- **Fraser Coast Regional Council** - \$9,560,283 between 2019-20 and 2023-2024.
- **Gympie Regional Council** - \$6,809,008 between 2019-20 and 2023-2024.
- **Noosa Shire Council** - \$3,951,729 between 2019-20 and 2023-2024.

WIDE BAY KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- ✓ Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide
- ✓ Fairer farm gate prices for dairy farmers, ending the dollar milk war
- ✓ Royal Commission into the banking and finance sector
- ✓ Better pay for occupational therapists and allied health professionals treating veterans
- ✓ Reconstruction of **Tinana Interchange**, Bruce Hwy - \$30,400,000
- ✓ Bruce Hwy **Cooroy to Curra** Section D detailed design and construction - \$800,000,000
- ✓ **Murgon** Men's Shed extension and display shed - \$73,000
- ✓ **Maryborough** to **Torbanlea** Bruce Hwy upgrade - \$8,240,000
- ✓ Cooina Aged Care extension at **Gympie** - \$5,000,000
- ✓ New overtaking lanes at Bruce Hwy **Tinana** - \$20,100,000
- ✓ Expansion of beef cattle hide processing facility at Teys Australia **Murgon** - \$267,406
- ✓ Provectus Algae to develop medical technology at **Noosa** - \$100,000
- ✓ New production line for laminated timber at **Maryborough's** Dale & Meyers Operations - \$1,175,000
- ✓ Nolan Meats processing plant expansion at **Gympie**, creating 200 jobs - \$4,979,706
- ✓ **Gympie** headspace service - \$4,716,000
- ✓ South St boat ramp and parking redevelopment at **Maryborough** - \$390,328
- ✓ **Peregian Beach** Digital Hub and Community House development - \$2,550,179
- ✓ **Bauple** Band Hall renovations - \$13,637
- ✓ **Coondoo Creek** Bridge replacement - \$5,000,000
- ✓ **Maryborough** Military Aviation Museum displays and flagpoles - \$33,630
- ✓ All Terrain Vehicle for **Peregian Beach** patrols by **Noosa Heads** Surf Lifesaving Club - \$11,351
- ✓ New food van for **Maryborough's** Foodbasket - \$17,718
- ✓ **Kandanga** Tennis Club upgrade court surface, lights and fencing - \$159,990
- ✓ **Noosa** District Softball Association fencing - \$23,800
- ✓ **Widgee** Recreation Grounds lighting upgrade - \$30,000
- ✓ **Maryborough** and District Hockey Association indoor sports centre upgrades - \$426,300
- ✓ Bruce Hwy safety works at **Gootchie** - \$26,640,000
- ✓ MRI Medicare Licence at **Gympie** Radiology
- ✓ **Sunshine Beach** Surf Lifesaving Club upgrade - \$2,500,000
- ✓ New lighting for **Gympie** Showgrounds - \$144,036
- ✓ New headspace service at **Maryborough** - \$1,500,000
- ✓ **Tin Can Bay** Fishing Club amenities upgrade - \$60,000
- ✓ Off-stream water storage to support **Maryborough** agriculture - \$18,000,000
- ✓ Volunteer fuel for **Pomona** Meals on Wheels - \$5,000
- ✓ **Noosa** Trails network walking tracks - \$800,000
- ✓ Industry Training Hub at **Maryborough**
- ✓ **Murgon** RSL Drop-in Centre for veterans - \$450,000
- ✓ **Granville** Hockey Club amenities upgrade - \$181,000
- ✓ Rheinmetall NIOA Joint Venture munitions plant at **Maryborough**, creating 100 permanent jobs - \$28,500,000
- ✓ **Kin Kin Lake Cootharaba** Catchment project - \$49,887
- ✓ **Cherbourg** Ration Shed Museum refurbishment - \$237,000
- ✓ Covered arena for **Maryborough** Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA) - \$68,000
- ✓ **Tewantin Noosa** Cricket Club lighting system - \$500,000
- ✓ Enhancements at **Noosa's** Sunshine Butterflies - \$124,657
- ✓ Upgrades at Sherwood Hall in **Gympie** - \$40,000
- ✓ Bruce Hwy safety works **Maryborough West** - \$7,820,000
- ✓ **Cooroy** Badminton Club amenities upgrade - \$20,000
- ✓ **Noosa** District Rugby Union Club shed - \$50,000
- ✓ Extend service provision at **Gympie's** Little Haven Palliative Care - \$750,000
- ✓ Enhance supply chain capabilities to create jobs at **Maryborough's** Global Manufacturing Group - \$785,150
- ✓ Aerial firefighting manufacturing at **Noosa's** Helitak - \$497,500
- ✓ Sheppersen's Lane lookout revegetation by **Noosa** and District Landcare - \$19,226
- ✓ Reroof Gymnasium at **Cooroy** Gymnastics - \$17,788
- ✓ Cars and equipment for **Cooloola Coast** Medical Transport - \$63,781
- ✓ Kitchen at **Goomeri** Showgrounds - \$20,000
- ✓ Lighting for **Pomona** Showgrounds - \$85,675
- ✓ **Cooroy** Memorial Hall new furniture - \$65,000
- ✓ Hope Reins equine activity centre at **Gympie** - \$140,000
- ✓ Arts Centre and fossil museum at **Murgon** - \$1,596,514
- ✓ **Maryborough** Softball Association canteen - \$140,000
- ✓ Fireball International bushfire detection systems at **Noosa** - \$500,000
- ✓ **Doonella Lake** bridge replacement - \$2,000,000
- ✓ **Noosa** Film Academy for school film workshops - \$556,843
- ✓ Establish FireTech Laboratory at **Noosa** - \$947,000
- ✓ Shaded grandstands and water troughs for **Tansey** Showgrounds - \$23,848
- ✓ World War 2 commemorative statue at **Goomeri** - \$43,950
- ✓ **Kandanga** Memorial and **Imbil** Memorial Clock restoration - \$10,000
- ✓ Memorial plinth and plaque for new **Glenwood** ANZAC and Peace Keepers' Memorial - \$10,000
- ✓ Install shade shelters at **Maryborough** Speedway - \$15,000
- ✓ Upgrades at **Gympie** Pistol Club - \$15,000
- ✓ **Murgon** Lions Club food van fit-out - \$13,662
- ✓ Flood lights for **Kandanga** Country Club - \$16,000
- ✓ Improve drainage at **Noosa** Tigers Football Club - \$191,195
- ✓ Shade covers for **Pomona** Bowls Club - \$50,000
- ✓ Air conditioning and solar panels for **Maryborough** Military and Colonial Museum - \$50,000



To find out more about the Liberal and Nationals Government's investments to create jobs in Wide Bay please visit www.llewobrien.com.au

WORKING FOR WIDE BAY

BOOSTING K'GARI SAFETY

The Kingfisher Bay jetty at **K'gari** (Fraser Island) is the main gateway for locals, tourists and for emergency services – and it's about to receive a \$1.2 million upgrade, supported by a \$466,450 grant from Round 5 of the Coalition Government's Building Better Regions Fund.

"This upgrade will provide lasting benefits to tourism, it will improve safety by increasing access for emergency services, and will also allow for the efficient movement of freight, food and goods for the island – plus it's creating 15 jobs for local contractors," Federal Member for Wide Bay Llew O'Brien said.



NOOSA PICKLEBALL SERVING TOURIST DEMAND



Fans of the fast-growing sport pickleball will soon enjoy Australia's first all-weather pickleball facility at Noosa, with a \$248,900 grant towards the eight-court venue.

"This investment through Round 5 of the Building Better Regions Fund will enable the Noosa Pickleball Club to host multi-day tournaments and special events, attracting hundreds of players nationally and internationally, and boosting local tourism and hospitality businesses," Mr O'Brien said.



KIA ORA PONY CLUB BUILDS FOR FUTURE SUCCESS

A new toilet and shower block at **Kia Ora** and District Pony Club is on the way, bringing new opportunities for the whole community.

"The Pony Club committee has worked hard to secure a \$35,000 grant for the new amenities through the Building Better Regions Fund, and I congratulate them on their effort and their commitment to Kia Ora's future growth," Mr O'Brien said.



GRANT LIGHTS UP GYMPIE ARENA

The **Gympie** District Show Society has lit the way for a bright future, securing a \$51,622 grant through the Building Better Regions Fund towards 40 new lights at the main arena, bringing the facility up to national championship standard for events such as show jumping and barrel racing.

"This means bigger, better and brighter events, more spectators and competitors, and more money injected into our local economy, to benefit the broader Gympie community," Mr O'Brien said.



BOOSTING AGED CARE

A record \$17.7 billion investment by the Liberal and Nationals Government will support 33,000 new training places for personal carers and higher payments for residential care, helping ensure that Wide Bay's 33,236 seniors have access to the care they need.

Hundreds of aged care places in Wide Bay will become operational between 2022-23, including 180 beds at **Maryborough** Community Aged Care in Tinana, which will create about 210 local jobs when it opens next year.

PHONE TOWER UPDATE



Mobile phone towers at Boreen Point, Cootharaba Road, Maaroom, Pomona-Kin Kin Road, Tansey, Cinnabar, Yerra and Glastonbury are being upgraded to receive longer-lasting battery back-up, as part of a \$37.1 million to strengthen telecommunications resilience in bushfire and disaster prone areas following the Black Summer bushfires.

Since 2016, the Liberals and Nationals Government has provided funding through the Mobile Black Spot Program to build or upgrade base stations at:

- Kilkivan
- Maryborough - Biggenden Road at Oakhurst
- Maaroom
- Yerra
- Boreen Point
- Cootharaba Road, Cootharaba
- Pomona-Kin Kin Road, Kin Kin
- Glastonbury
- Wide Bay Highway at Cinnabar
- Tansey
- Widgee
- Windera
- Kin Kin
- Woolooga
- Wide Bay Highway at Oakview
- Eugarie at Fraser Island
- Central Stations Camp Ground at Fraser Island
- Poona
- Wrattens Forest

FUNDING FOR QLD HOSPITALS INCREASE

THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

101%

THE QLD GOVERNMENT

53%

FROM 12-13 TO 19-20 FINANCIAL YEARS

FREE FROM LLEW'S OFFICE

Copies of Llew's rainfall calendar with community contacts, '100 ways to praise a child' and times tables posters, growth charts, and age pension guides are available free from his office.

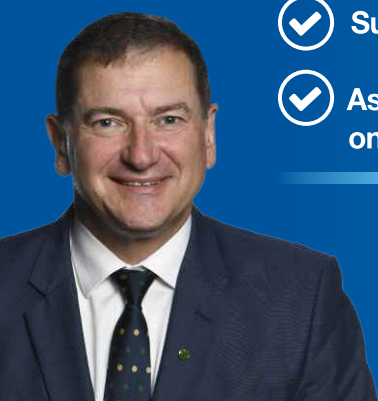
For your copy, please call 1300 301 968 (landlines only) or 4121 2936.



How I can help?

- ✓ Supporting community organisations
- ✓ Assisting residents with advocacy on local issues

- ✓ Providing assistance with Australian Government departments and agencies
- ✓ Arranging congratulatory messages for significant milestones
- ✓ Attending community events



Llew O'BRIEN MP

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

Authorised by Llew O'Brien,
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