



Maitland Matters

A newsletter from **Jenny Aitchison MP** Your Local State Member for Maitland

New Maitland Hospital KEEP IT PUBLIC!



Ground has been broken on the new hospital!

Thanks to your efforts, we have already won some gains for our new hospital. It will have an additional \$50 million funding, it has commenced a year earlier than promised, and the Government has walked away from a "For-profit provider.

Unfortunately the Government is still pursuing a Public Private Partnership (PPP) with a "Not-For-Profit" provider. The PPP model is NOT the same as the Calvary-Mater. The Calvary-Mater hospital is operated and managed by the Government, and is an integral part of Hunter New England health.

A PPP hospital would be operated and managed by a private operator with (in this case) \$450 million of your taxpayer dollars. A PPP would not "plug into" local health district services in a seamless

integrated way. It would decide what services it offers, how it delivers them, and who gets what.

Never forget the Port Macquarie hospital experience with a PPP where it was so bad the Government had to pay for it twice and then give it away according to the Auditor General.

With only around 17% of our community in Private Health Funds for hospital cover, the Government should not replace our existing public hospital with a privatised two tier model! We already have a private hospital in Maitland!

I'm all for celebrating the start of construction, but let's make sure we let the Government know we want it to be fully public!

Maitland needs Schools & Hospitals not Sydney Stadiums!

Recently released census data showed that Maitland has grown by over 15% since 2011. We're the fastest growing city outside of Sydney in NSW.

Unfortunately we haven't seen enough investment by the Berejiklian Government in our area. The Government is quick to announce more than \$2 billion in rebuilding 2 stadiums in Sydney, meanwhile in Maitland we still wait for a hospital that was promised nearly seven years ago, with no new primary or high school and our school maintenance backlog is over \$12 million. We need better road connections and flood proofing as well.

Our paramedics, nurses, and police are under-resourced, and the re-engineering of the police that was recently announced has so far not promised any additional police. We need better access to TAFE courses for our students.

While we have had some wins with expansions of some schools, and the Government has finally started work on the new Maitland Hospital and Victoria Street Station lifts, the pace of these improvements has been too slow.

I will continue to fight for these and all the other issues you raise with me. I hope 2017 has been a happy and productive year. Have a safe and relaxing break over Christmas and all the best for 2018.

Jenny



Supporting the Maiwel Comedy Debate with CEO Pennie Kearney - doing such great work for people with disabilities



Constable Kel Boak at the Special Olympics in



Lovely to chat with some seniors at Rutherford's Signature Gardens Village



Maitland Regional Museum at the Grant Launch for the Centenary of Passchendaele Exhibition, Featuring the 34th Battalion (Maitland's Own)



Thanks to our veterans and families who joined with us for the ANZAC Soil Collection in Morpeth. We are hoping to do others around Maitland in the new year. Please contact my office if you are interested in more information.



Pleased to show Community and Council as p



For more photos please fo



Maitland Relay for Life is always a great day to share support for those in our community touched by cancer

August



With local teacher Scott Parrey at White Ribbon Day at Maitland High School - Great Initiative!



2015 is the Centenary of ANZAC. I have participated in many memorial services to honour our fallen.



With the Public Sector Union we successfully stopped the loss of 25 jobs from the Office of State Revenue in Maitland, but we're still fighting to stop 40 being transferred to Gosford



My support for our Indigenous Murrumbidgee Local Aboriginal Land part of NAIDOC Celebrations



Victoria Street Station lifts are FINALLY under construction!!!

THANK YOU
and stories about our local community,
Follow me on Facebook or Twitter



Rhys & the team from Youth Frontiers at Maitland Grossmann High



Save Our Schools

This year I've brought Opposition Leader Luke Foley as well as our Shadow Education Minister Jihad Dib to Maitland to visit some of our overcrowded and poorly funded schools. The Minister has refused to visit, but I have met with him in Sydney on these matters. Rutherford Public is set for expansion and I am continuing to fight for new schools and better maintenance in Maitland.

More Police Join the Campaign

Maitland needs at least 20 extra police to cope with our growth. We are under-resourced and regardless of whether we stay with Cessnock or merge with Port Stephens, we just need more cops on the beat, and more detectives to help solve crimes in our community. Sign our petition! Copies available from my office.



Return & Earn #Fail

The Government's botched container deposit scheme has seen people in Maitland paying more for bottled drinks since 1 November, but there is still nowhere to redeem your 10 cents per container in Maitland, with our closest point as at early December in Medowie! The container deposit machines are not accessible for people in wheel chairs. Yet another Government failure!

Mobile Offices

I hold regular mobile offices to help you with any State Government issues such as TAFE, Health, Schools, Housing, State Roads, Police, Primary Industries, Community Services.

Please call my office on 4933 1617 or email maitland@parliament.nsw.gov.au to make an appointment

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Friday 12 Jan	2-4pm	Woodberry
Tuesday 23 Jan	9-11am	Greenhills
Thursday 22 Feb	4-6pm	Largs
Wednesday 28 Feb	9-11am	Lochinvar
Sunday 4 Mar	8-10am	Clean Up Australia Day
Monday 19 Mar	9-11am	Bolwarra Heights
Sunday 1 Apr	8am - 1pm	Maitland Markets
Thursday 12 Apr	2-4pm	Morpeth
Friday 20 Apr	4-6pm	Gillieston Heights
Sunday 6 May	8am - 1pm	Maitland Markets
Friday 18 May	2-4pm	Tenambit
Sunday 3 Jun	8am-1pm	Maitland Markets
Tuesday 12 Jun	12-2pm	Ashtonfield