



Maitland Matters

A NEWSLETTER FROM JENNY AITCHISON MP ■ YOUR LOCAL STATE MEMBER FOR MAITLAND

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Putting People First

Every day I hear from people who are struggling with cost of living issues. Electricity prices have increased by 60 per cent since the privatisation of the poles and wires by the Berejiklian-Barilaro Government.



Waiting lists in public hospitals are too high and people are being pushed into the private system, which is just another cost. We don't have enough ambulance crews or vehicles in Maitland compared to other areas in our region.

Most of our public schools are at capacity, with too many demountables and massive maintenance backlogs. We've seen schools having to fundraise to get air conditioning when the temperature is soaring into the 40s in February. School children are walking long distances to get to school because they can't access free school travel and many families can't afford public transport on weekends.

Public housing waiting lists are too long. Too many vulnerable people are couch-surfing, living in cars, or worse. Mental health services are stretched beyond capacity with up-to-six month waiting lists. Domestic violence is happening in too many homes in our community. We must do more to prevent domestic and family violence and assist victims and survivors.

The Berejiklian-Barilaro Government has cut our services to the bone to fund their Sydney light rail cost blowouts and build stadiums in Sydney. This Government has all the wrong priorities for people living outside of Sydney. They need to start putting people first, particularly those in regions such as Maitland.

Please contact my office if you have any issues accessing Government services or are struggling with cost-of-living expenses.

Jenny writes

What an honour it has been to represent our community during the past four years. We have achieved much together and I am so grateful for the work of our many volunteers who provide services to improve the welfare, sporting activities and cultural life of everyone in Maitland.

I am so pleased plans for the new Maitland Hospital have progressed. After our campaign spanning more than seven years, we will get a fully funded public hospital and our efforts resulted in a \$70 million funding increase. This brings the total committed expenditure to \$470 million, all because of our efforts.

The mobility upgrade to the Victoria Street Station has finally been delivered. However, construction of the new \$3.8 million Rutherford ambulance station is yet to commence. The Government has failed to fix the congestion at the Maitland Railway Roundabout, failed to complete the duplication of the Thornton overpass, and failed to complete the \$7 million pledge for two lanes on the New England Highway between Racecourse Road and Anambah Road, Rutherford.

As I write, the light rail in Newcastle, which replaced the heavy rail ripped up by the Premier when she was Minister for Transport, still isn't carrying passengers. After four years that is a disgrace. The Government must stop the demolition of the Sydney stadiums and invest in our regions.

I have been and will continue to be a strong voice for Maitland. Thank you for the opportunity to serve our community.

Jenny



I AM PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE 2018 COMMUNITY

Over \$1 million in CBP grants for Maitland community since 2015

Since 2015, I have been proud to present \$1.03 million in grant monies to 53 community groups in Maitland through the Community Building Partnership (CBP) program. If your community group needs assistance, please contact my office.

- 2015 \$200k - 9 groups
- 2016 \$200k - 18 groups
- 2017 \$300k - 14 groups
- 2018 \$330k - 12 groups

What are the CBP Grants?

The Community Building Partnership Grants are an annual grant program open to incorporated not for profit organisations and local councils designed to promote and support infrastructure projects that deliver positive social, environmental and recreational outcomes, while promoting community participation, inclusion and cohesion.

What are the Local Sport Grants?

The local sport grant program aims to increase regular and on-going participation opportunities in sport and active recreation through project types in the areas of sport development, community sport events, sport access and facility development.

CBP Grants 2018 Awarded

ORGANISATION	PROJECT TITLE	AMOUNT
Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect)	Playground Safety Upgrade - Aspect Hunter School for Kids with Autism	\$20,000
Maitland Rugby Union Football Club Inc.	Marcellin Park Car Park and Safety Lighting Project	\$40,000
Gillieston Public School P&C Assoc.	Shelter for Playground	\$6,500
Trustees of Church Property for the Diocese of Newcastle	St Peter's Church - Removal of Pews and Replacement Floor	\$20,000
Early Links Inclusion Support Service Inc.	Office Refit	\$15,000
Friends of Grossmann House - National Trust of Australia (NSW)	Brough House Kitchen Upgrade	\$14,778
East Maitland Public School P&C Assoc.	"A Sense of Place" Inclusive, Native Outdoor Learning Space	\$44,456
Francis Greenway P&C Assoc.	Pizza Oven Project	\$11,000
Telarah Public School P & C Assoc.	Covered Outdoor Learning Area	\$53,421
Beresfield and District Community Care Inc.	'Meals on Wheels' Kitchen Refurbishment	\$26,345
Maitland Hunting Club Inc.	Security Fence Renewal	\$3,500
Police Citizens Youth Clubs NSW Ltd.	Repair and Secure Car Park	\$75,000

BUILDING PARTNERSHIP & SPORT GRANT RECIPIENTS!

ORGANISATION	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT REQUESTED
Lochinvar Rovers Football Club Inc.	Training and play equipment, Female Gala Football Day	\$5,500
Maitland City Roller Girls	First aid courses, Christmas Bout and membership fees subsidies	\$12,000
Maitland Meteors Softball Club Incorporated	Accredited training for coaches, scorers and umpires, and junior representatives travel subsidies	\$2,610
Maitland Rugby Club	Upgrade and expansion of existing lighting of playing fields at Marcellin Park	\$20,000
Maitland Touch Association Inc.	Purchase of uniforms for junior players	\$5,000
Tenambit Morpeth District Cricket Club	Purchase of new cricket uniforms	\$5,000



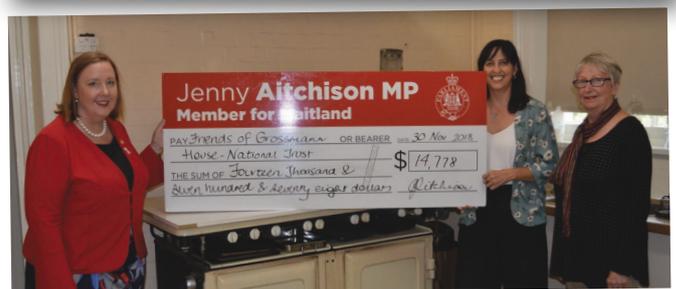
Tenambit Morpeth Cricket Club – new cricket uniforms.



Lochinvar Rovers Football Club - training and playing equipment and Female Gala Day.



Ben Emmett Maitland Rugby Club – safety lighting, car park and playing fields.



Brough House Trust – kitchen renovations.



Maitland PCYC – secure and repair car park.

JENNY'S COMMUNITY



Maitland City Choir at Tocal for the opening of Maitland Embroiderers' 27th Embroidery Exhibition.



2017 CBP Grant recipients, Thornton Scouts, finish their facilities upgrade!



Students from All Saints College, St Peter's Campus, visited me at Parliament House.



Opening my new office with Hon. John Price OAM, Peter Blackmore OAM and Kay Sharpe AM.



Great to see local students

TY NOTICEBOARD



50th Anniversary celebrations with the Thornton Rural Fire Service.



At the Woodberry Swamp Stomp.



Great to catch up with the Maitland Triathlon Club.



Advocating to ensure the community benefits from public assets.



Girls performing at Maitland Regional Art Gallery.



Lifeline received much-needed funds to continue their work in mental health services.

Representing you in the NSW Parliament



The NSW Parliament has risen for the year and will not sit again before the next election. In this term I have spoken in the Parliament 318 times, on the NSW Budget, various pieces of legislation, motions, petitions lodged by our community, community recognition statements, private members statements and matters of public importance as well as asking questions of various Ministers. I have asked 647 questions on notice to Ministers and moved 48 notices of motion about issues relating to Maitland, the Hunter and our State.

As Shadow Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Shadow Minister for Small Business since March 2016 and acting Shadow Minister for Women since March 2018 I have undertaken over 40 meetings around NSW to consult with regional communities like Maitland as well as metropolitan areas to develop policy and receive feedback on the Government's policies.

I am proud of what we have been able to achieve as a community during the last four years. Here are just some of the wins we have made through pressuring the Government to:

- Ensure the new Maitland Hospital is a fully funded public hospital
- Increase funding by \$70 million for the new Maitland Hospital to \$470 million
- Stop the Rutherford Stink with the closure of Truegain
- Fund \$7.3 million to 23 Pacific Highway sub-contractors who were owed money in the wake of the Oswald Brothers collapse
- Reinstate funding of \$250,000 to three domestic violence case management and counselling services

- Halt the tendering out of the Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service, which would have made the Hunter the largest area in the State and not funded some specialist positions
- Halt the sell-off of the Maitland Department of Lands Office Building to enable consideration of its development as a regional museum
- Install container deposit machines at Thornton, East Maitland, Rutherford, Aberglasslyn
- Introduce Paid Domestic Violence Leave for government workers
- Consult with students about sexual assault on university campuses
- Deliver a Sexual Assault Strategy
- Deliver a Women's Strategy
- Expand Rutherford, Bolwarra and Ashtonfield Public Schools
- Install new toilets at Gillieston Public School and undertake other maintenance works
- Reduce the maintenance backlogs at Maitland's public primary and high schools
- Commence construction of a new ambulance station at Rutherford



- Repair dangerous road surfaces near the Maitland Railway Roundabout
- Reverse some of the public sector job cuts
- Install accessible lifts at Victoria Street Station
- Fill casual positions in Maitland's public schools

In addition, with the help of my team, I have assisted people with issues like public housing access and maintenance, anti-social behaviour, school transport passes, out-of-zone school enrolments, and accessing health and mental health services through representations to various Ministers and their departments.



Tenambit Morpeth Probus Club at the NSW Parliament.

Maitland visits Parliament

It is always great to see people from Maitland experience Parliament! Let me know if you would like to visit and/or book a tour. Sit in on Question Time, take a tour around the historic building and gain insight into the inner workings of our State Parliament in Sydney.

Active Kids Vouchers

If your children are involved in sport and fitness related activities, parents, guardians and carers can apply for a voucher valued up to \$100 per calendar year for each student enrolled in school.

The voucher may be used with a registered activity provider for registration, participation and membership costs for sport, fitness and active recreation activities.

The voucher can be used at any time during the calendar year it was issued. Just go to <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-active-kids-voucher>



Creative Kids

From early 2019, The Creative Kids program will include a \$100 voucher to be used towards the cost of participation in or tuition fees for activities such as music lessons, drama and theatre, language classes, visual arts, coding and design.

Time's running out to claim CTP Greenslip Refunds

If you were the registered owner of a private vehicle (excludes motorcycles) before December 2017, you may be eligible for a refund of part of your 2017 CTP Green Slip (between \$10 and \$120). Refund amounts are calculated on a pro rata basis and subject to an administration fee.

You have until 30 June 2019 to claim your refund – go to <https://my.service.nsw.gov.au/MyServiceNSW/CTPRefund>

If the vehicle is registered under a business name and you have not received a refund cheque in the post, please call 13 77 88.

How can I help?

As your local Member of the NSW Parliament, these are some of the common issues I help people with:

- ▶ Public hospitals
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Community Health
- ▶ TAFE and Vocational Training
- ▶ Transport
- ▶ Main Roads
- ▶ Emergency Services
- ▶ Public Housing
- ▶ Police
- ▶ Attorney-General's Department
- ▶ Land and Water Management
- ▶ Public Works
- ▶ Primary Industries
- ▶ Ageing and Disability
- ▶ Community Services
- ▶ National Parks
- ▶ Fair Trading
- ▶ Multiculturalism
- ▶ Medical Research

Help with Cost of Living

If you are having trouble with cost of living issues, you can speak with Service NSW about what rebates or savings you might be eligible for. You can either go to the Service NSW website or book an appointment at Service NSW by calling 13 77 88 or log onto your MyServiceNSW Account.

Maitland City Council

Council looks after local roads, rubbish collection, rates, sporting fields, parks, footpaths, street lighting, residential and commercial development, council bylaws, maintenance of parks and gardens, animal control, and signage.

If you have a council issue, it's best to call Council directly on 4934 9700. Record the event number you are given for future reference.

Roads Safety Survey

Road safety has been a major issue in Maitland as our population continues to grow. I have had a number of different issues raised with me during the past four years. Please indicate which road issues are of most concern to you by numbering the boxes below, with #1 the highest priority:

- Maitland Railway Station Roundabout
- Raymond Terrace Road - Intersection with Haussman Drive
- Thornton Railway Station Overpass
- Thornton BP & Mortels Roundabouts
- Testers Hollow
- Buchanan Road
- Weakleys Drive
- New England Highway & Aberglasslyn Road

OTHER ROADS ISSUES (PLEASE SPECIFY):

NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE: MOBILE:

EMAIL:

PLEASE RETURN THIS SURVEY TO:

Jenny Aitchison MP, Member for Maitland, 2/12 Elgin Street, Maitland NSW 2320.

Visit me at my new office



2/12 Elgin Street
Maitland NSW 2320

Call 4933 1617 for an appointment

JENNY AITCHISON MP
STATE MEMBER FOR MAITLAND