

# Senator Steve MARTIN's Flinders Island Local Newsletter

March 2019



## Nats deliver \$4.8m for Harbour upgrade

On my previous visits to Flinders Island, locals including the Flinders Island Tourism and Business Association lobbied hard for funding for the Flinders Island Marine Access and Safe Harbour project.

I am pleased to announce that the Nationals in Government will provide \$4.8 million to fully fund this excellent project.

It involves the development of a marina precinct to enable marine access and safe harbour. It includes a rock breakwater, a boat ramp and floating pontoon jetty, floating marina berths, amenities, sewage pump out, water out, water supply, power and fuel, car and trailer parking and slipway upgrade.

It is all about getting a fair share for Regional Tasmania.



## Sick of paying through the hose?

Despite countless official inquiries, Tassies are paying at least 15 cents a litre and sometimes as much as 40 cents a litre more for petrol and diesel than other Australians. And of course the gap is even greater on Flinders Island!

There is no justification for this. It hurts Tassie families and it hurts Tassie small businesses every day.

I have asked the Prime Minister to instigate a Royal Commission into Fuel Prices because nothing else will fix the problem.

A Royal Commission changed the big banks' behaviour and a Royal Commission would get to the bottom of the scandal of Tassies being ripped off at the bowser.

I need people power to make this happen.

Please get in touch and share your stories about how the Tassie fuel rip-off is affecting you, your family or your business.

You'll find more information as well as an e-petition on my Facebook page.



### the Tassie fuel rip-off

Mainland \$1.15/l

TAS \$1.45/l

Royal Commission NOW!

# \$1.8m for Flinders Airport

The Nationals in Government has just agreed to provide Flinders Council with \$1.8 million to help rebuild Flinders Island Airport's runway to provide for continued growth and expansion of passenger services and general aviation activities.

The airport is the Flinders Island lifeline to both Mainland Tasmania and Mainland Australia and this development will help future proof that vital link.

I have been pushing Flinders Council's wish list with Nationals Leader and Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack, who is also the Federal Minister responsible for aviation for some time and I am pleased he has agreed to fund this vital development for the benefit of all Islanders.



# Join AFL/AFLW Team Tasmania!

I have launched a virtual Tasmanian footy team in a bid to have a Tassie team included in both the men and women's national AFL competitions by 2023.

Membership is free and open to anyone who supports the concept.

Simply go to T23.com.au and apply to join. I also encourage you to interact with the associated Facebook page, TeamTas2023.

The time for talk and committees is over and

harnessing Tassie people power is the best way to force the AFL hierarchy to remedy the decades long injustice of excluding Tasmania from the premier competition.

2023 is a realistic goal and comes at the end of the current contracts for Hawthorn and North Melbourne to stage a handful of games in Launceston and Hobart.

The name of the new team will be up to the fans, but I think the *Tasmanian Devils* will likely be a popular favourite.



# Grab a community or sports grant

Bringing Nationals Deputy Leader and Federal Sports Minister Senator Bridget McKenzie to regional Tasmania has paid off.

The Minister has since announced infrastructure grants of between \$50,000 and \$500,000 for a range of sports clubs including (pictured) cricket in Latrobe, footy in Scottsdale and soccer in Devonport.

Most of these grants were about improving facilities for the rapidly

growing number of women and girls participating in team sports in Tasmania.

I have also secured grants for other community projects, aged care facilities and job-creating initiatives.

There are wide range of Nationals in Government grants available.

A good place to start looking is grants.gov.au or e-mail me and I'll see what I can do to help.



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