

Michael McCormack MP



*Putting
the Riverina &
Central West first*

June 2018

Continuing to work hard for you

RIVERINA and Central West people will always be a priority no matter my parliamentary responsibilities.

It has been four months since I was elected leader of The Nationals – a role I am truly humbled to fill, following on from the party's great Leaders of the past.

Most importantly, the role is to lead the party which has served the people of rural and regional Australia for more than 90 years.

I will continue to work hard for the Riverina and Central West and have been busy as a local member since becoming Deputy Prime Minister. The Liberal and Nationals' Government has continued its commitment to rural and regional Australians with plenty of funding for the electorate I serve.

I've also taken on the Infrastructure and Transport Ministry and, with a record \$75 billion of infrastructure being rolled out including the Government's \$9.3 billion commitment to the Inland Rail Project, it is an exciting time to be making a difference in this regard. Inland Rail will bring great benefits to our region.

There are always opportunities to apply for funding for your local community. Please contact one of my offices if you need more information.

Michael McCormack

**Michael McCormack MP
Federal Member for Riverina
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister for Infrastructure
and Transport**



NEW SPACE: At the official opening of the new Parkes electorate office with (from left) Temora Shire Mayor Rick Firman OAM, Forbes Shire Mayor Graeme Miller, Parkes Shire Mayor Ken Keith OAM and Weddin Shire Mayor Mark Liebich.

Parkes office open for business



OFFICE OPEN: With Parkes Shire Council Economic and Business Development Manager Anna Wyllie.

I AM pleased to open an electorate office at 207A Clarinda Street in Parkes.

The northern part of the Riverina electorate, which includes Parkes, Forbes, Peak Hill, Trundle, Tullamore, Cowra and Grenfell is a vibrant region and deserves an accessible office to provide the best representation possible. I am in this part of the electorate frequently and the office will allow me to meet constituents in a comfortable environment.

It's a delight to have an office in which a full-time job was created in the region to provide a face-to-face service for constituents in the northern part of the electorate.

The office telephone number is **(02) 6862 4560**.

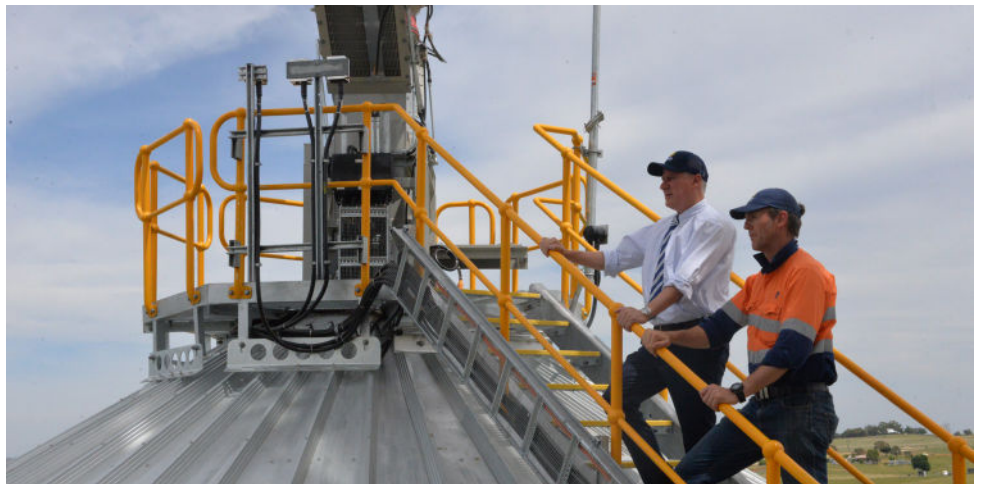


DELIVERING ON VITAL FUNDING

THE Federal Government continues to provide funding for communities to build important projects in local regions.

The Liberal and Nationals' Government is delivering – from multimillion-dollar projects such as the \$8.1 million upgrade to the Cunningar rail terminal with new storage silos and loading chutes, in which the Government contributed \$2.5 million through its National Stronger Regions Fund, to smaller but no less significant funding such as the thousands of dollars delivered to organisations across the region, including Men's Sheds and RSL sub-branches.

And, of course, there is the \$9.3 billion the Government is contributing to Inland Rail project which will transform communities throughout the Riverina and Central West.



GRAIN DELIVERY: With Graincorp General Manager Operations Nigel Lotz at the opening of the Cunningar Rail Terminal upgrade, which received \$2.5 million in Federal funding.



SHOOTING HOOPS: With (from left) Lucy Proctor, Milla O'Reilly, Casey Proctor, Cowra Mayor Bill West and Tilly Proctor at the Cowra Netball Courts. Cowra Netball Association received \$8,150.



AIR APPARENT: With members of Wagga Wagga Men's Shed, which received \$3,750 to buy new equipment, including an air compressor.



SPORTING CHANCE: With Illabo Sporting Bodies President Emma Muller at the Illabo Tennis Courts.

Some of the organisations benefiting from funding across the Riverina and Central West include:

Ariah Park Men's Shed	\$2,280	Purchase tools and equipment	Illabo Sporting Bodies	\$4,000	Upgrades
Bedgerabong	\$18,000	Shelter for Recreation Ground	Jugiong	\$4,672,537	Bundarbo Road Bridge replacement
Bogan Gate	\$297,000	New Kadina Bridge on The Bogan Way	Lockhart	\$3,636	Restoration of WWI honour board
Caragabal	\$14,245	Shade sail installation at park	Parkes RSL Sub-branch	\$3,000	Restore wartime memorabilia
Coolamon Shire Council	\$45,800	Modular pumptrack and launch pads	Stockinbingal Public School	\$48,502	Mobile Digital Technology Hub
Eastern Riverina Arts	\$19,350	Venues audit + database	Trundle Men's Shed	\$4,065	Test and tag training and equipment, defibrillator
Forbes Shire Council	\$70,000	Developing strategic plan for agriculture	Trungley Hall	\$203,000	Trungley Hall Road culvert replacement
Goldenfields Water, Temora	\$100,000	Development of MyH2O mobile app	Uranquinty	\$20,000	Skate park
Grenfell Henry Lawson High School	\$39,740	Upskill staff and purchase resources	Wagga Wagga	\$18,492	Riverina Science Festival
Gundagai Sewage Treatment Plant	\$3,500,000	Upgrade, flood proof facilities	West Wyalong	\$20,000	Coinda Park and RSL Walk Project
Harden Murrumburrah Men's Shed	\$2,500	Replace flooring in two rooms	Young	\$573,568	Burrangong Creek Bridge duplication

Improving regional reception



BETTER RECEPTION: *With Deputy Leader of The Nationals and Minister for Regional Communications Bridget McKenzie at the Ladysmith mobile phone tower delivered under the Mobile Black Spot program.*

THE Liberal and Nationals' Government has delivered 867 base stations across Australia, including 20 in the Riverina and Central West.

A fourth round of funding for the Federal Government's mobile phone black spot program worth \$25 million will deliver improved coverage to regional and remote communities.

The new round will call for applications from mobile phone carriers within the coming months and I urge and encourage residents and businesses throughout the Riverina and Central West to work with their councils, community organisations, emergency services and telcos to identify the black spots they want fixed.

This new round is an important step in our determination to deliver 21st Century telecommunications to rural and regional areas.

We deserve it as much as people living in the cities.

The competitive selection process for round four of the program is expected to start in the second half of 2018.

More information about the program is available at: www.communications.gov.au/mbps.

The Regional Telecommunications Review has begun and the committee has been asked to hand down its recommendation before the end of the year.

Towers being delivered:

Round 1: Bedgerabong, Billimaria, Cultowa, Gooloogong, Koorawatha, Ladysmith, Ungarie, Darbys Falls, Jemalong, Murringo, Noonbinna, Warroo, Weethalle, Woodstock.

Round 2: Mount McDonald, Old Wagga Road South, Temora West, Trungley Hall.

Priority Locations Round: Dirnaseer, Wantabadgery.

GIVING STUDENTS WHAT THEY NEED TO SUCCEED

SCHOOLS in Wagga Wagga, Cootamundra and Temora have received grants totaling nearly \$2 million to help build vital learning facilities and staff amenities.

The grants to four non-government schools are being made available under the Federal Government's Capital Grants Program.

St Anne's Central School at Temora will receive \$624,454 towards the cost of refurbishing general learning areas in Block A.

Sacred Heart Primary School in Wagga Wagga will receive \$478,899 towards the cost of demolishing administration and staff facilities and construction of new facilities.

Wagga Wagga Christian College will receive \$450,000 towards building four primary

general learning areas, a staff room and staff amenities.

The Elouera Special School at Cootamundra will receive \$300,000 towards building a new multipurpose hall and re-purpose an existing building to provide an additional learning area.

Education is a building block for life and the Liberal and Nationals' Government is investing in providing the best education possible by helping schools get the facilities they deserve.

We are delivering lasting infrastructure for our young people to reach their potential.

The Capital Grants Program helps non-government schools improve their facilities where they otherwise may not have access to sufficient capital resources.



HEART OF THE SCHOOL: *With Wagga Wagga's Sacred Heart Catholic School Principal Carolyn Matthews and students (from left) Penelope Jamieson, Angelina Morell, Augustine Lyons, Gurkirat Mettla and Ashlee Byrne. The school received \$478,899 towards upgrading facilities.*

The Government is proving its commitment to regional Australia with the delivery of a needs-based funding model, recommended by David Gonski, as well as a \$53.9 million injection for Youth Allowance to allow more regional students to qualify.

HEALTH CARE A PRIORITY

RURAL and regional Australia is in healthier shape thanks to a number of Liberal and Nationals' initiatives.

While the announcement of the Murray-Darling Medical Schools network in last month's Budget was significant, the \$781,500 in funding going towards the Murrumbidgee Suicide Prevention Program is just as vital.

The Way Back – developed by *beyondblue* provides a trained support co-ordinator who will contact a person within 24 hours of being discharged from hospital after a suicide attempt.

The Government has provided more than \$19 million to the Murrumbidgee Primary Health Network specifically for mental health and suicide prevention.

The Government has also provided more than \$1.8 million through the Rural Junior Doctor Training Innovation Fund towards on-the-job training in medical centres across the Riverina and Central West.

More than \$1 million has been granted to two Riverina disability service providers to deliver programs which make Australia more inclusive for people with a disability.

If you need help, you can call *beyondblue* on 1300 224 636

Ensuring safer communities

PERSONAL safety in West Wyalong and Parkes is to be improved thanks to the Safer Communities Fund.

The program aims to enhance community safety by providing funds for local security infrastructure such as closed-circuit television (CCTV), lighting and bollards.

I am pleased to have secured funding for Parkes Shire Council (\$226,306) towards upgrading its existing CBD security network and also to Bland Shire Council (\$39,450) towards CCTV on West Wyalong's Main Street.

Another \$30 million has been committed over 2018-19 and 2019-20 to improve the safety of our local communities.



WAY BACK: With (from left) *beyondblue* chief Georgie Harman, Wellways General Manager Mental Health Services ACT and NSW Gavin Bussenschutt, Health Minister Bridget McKenzie, Wellways Director Mental Health Services, Research and Development Laura Collister and Murrumbidgee PHN chief Melissa Neal at the launch of *The Way Back*.

Delivering for rural and regional Australia

Murrumbidgee Local Health District \$1,304,967 Junior doctor training for Coolamon Shire Medical Centre, Glenrock Country Practice Wagga Wagga, Victoria Street Surgery Temora.

Cowra Kendal Street Medical Practice \$514,617 Junior doctor training.

Eastern Riverina Arts \$588,280 Portable sensory space for artists with a disability.

Kurrajong Waratah \$452,654 Peer support initiative to foster social inclusion.

Cowra conference our commitment to deliver

THE Nationals hold our conferences in regional areas because we represent rural and regional Australians.

This results in giving the local economy a real boost with accommodation booked out in Cowra and close to capacity in surrounding towns such as Young and Grenfell.

Pleased to have the opportunity to address those at the conference and was delighted to meet and talk with many of those in attendance.

The beauty of The Nationals is that we are truly a democratic party. We are a party of fighters.

We fiercely, proudly and passionately continue to represent the best interests of

our region and that is the people we serve - people like you.

I know there are challenges in rural and regional Australia but we are committed to addressing these issues such as world-class health services, improved education facilities, better roads and infrastructure because your postcode should not limit your potential.



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Suite 2, 11-15 Fitzmaurice Street, Wagga Wagga, NSW 2650.
Printed by Chambers Whyte Design and Print, 5 Rabaul Place, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650