



Community News March 2023

Dr Mike Freeland MP Member for Macarthur

2023 Back to Parliament

It's good to be back in Parliament!

I'm excited for the year ahead and we are hitting the ground running.

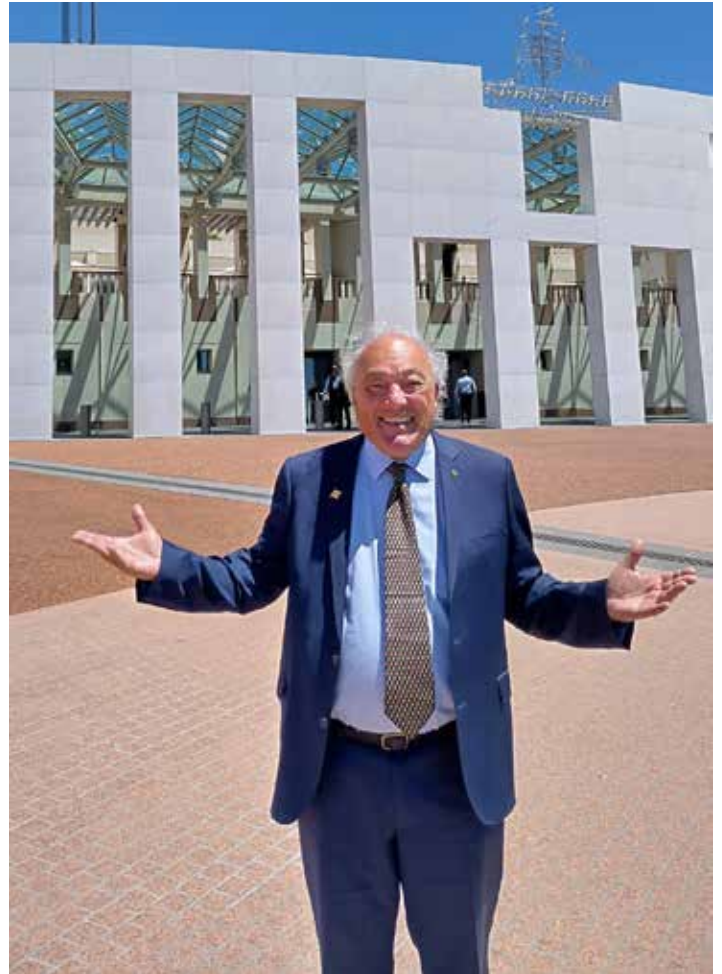
I hope to have the report into Long Covid finalised in the near future and I look forward to seeing positive outcomes from this.

I am focusing heavily on increasing access to early education, GP's, and public transport in Macarthur; as well as addressing medicine affordability too. This is all part of our plan to help tackle the growing cost of living.

We are also working on legislation to help construct 30,000 social and affordable homes over five years as part of our Housing Australia Future Fund. This is part of our plan to help Australians struggling to access housing, with a key component of this policy also providing housing for veterans, older women at risk of homelessness and those fleeing domestic violence.

I will also continue to advocate for our local environment to ensure our flora and fauna are protected.

There is a lot to do and I look forward to the delivering positive outcomes for Macarthur!



Message from Mike

I have spent over 40 years of my life here in Macarthur – raising a family, setting up my clinic and working in our local hospitals, and I know how fortunate we are to live in this beautiful part of the world.

I am very excited for our electorate and for our country with a Federal Labor Government now leading the way forward.

This is so important and as we look towards our future, I will continue to advocate for the interests and issues of Macarthur.

Please don't hesitate to contact my office by:

Phone: 4620 0293,

Email: mike.freeland.m.p@aph.gov.au, or

Office: 37 Queen St, Campbelltown

Yours sincerely,

Dr Mike Freeland MP

MEMBER FOR MACARTHUR

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website: drmikefreeland.com.au  Mike Freeland Macarthur

Parliamentary Friendship Groups



I recently established the Parliamentary Friends of Threatened Species with the Federal Member for Hughes, Jenny Ware MP, to provide a platform for organisations, experts and stakeholders who work with threatened species to shape policy and public awareness.

Australia is home to many wonderful flora and fauna species; however, we are at a tipping point of biodiversity concerns. Urgent action is required to protect threatened species and prevent irreversible loss and our Federal Minister for the Environment, Tanya Plibersek MP, is working hard to address these issues around the country.

Cheaper Medicines

The Albanese Labor Government is easing the cost of living, by making medicines cheaper.

As of January 1, Australians now pay up to 30% less for prescription medicines on the Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme; the first time that the cost of general scripts has fallen in the 75-year history of the PBS.

If you are taking one medication a month you will save as much as \$150 every year, and those with two or three medications will save as much as \$300-\$450 a year.

Our changes mean more people can afford to get the medications they need to stay healthy - without worrying so much about the price.



Pharmacies, such as Priceline Pharmacy in Oran Park, provide crucial healthcare services. Our Cheaper Medicines policy helps ensure patients can better afford their prescriptions.

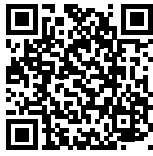
TAFE

The Albanese Labor Government is delivering 180,000 fee-free TAFE and VET places in 2023.

This is a big win for Macarthur and will help address skills shortages in our region and it will also help drive growth and give Australians the skills they need to prepare for the jobs of the future.

Fee-free places are now available in sectors including early childhood education, aged care, technology, construction, and hospitality.

Find out more by scanning the QR Code:



Early education is such an important part of our community and thanks to our fee-free TAFE & VET policy, we are helping deliver more quality educators.

OUT-AND-ABOUT

It has been a very busy year with lot's of parliamentary business to attend to, however I am always grateful for the opportunity to meet with local legends making Macarthur better.



Meeting Rebecca, James, and Isabelle Mitchell.

Isabelle carried out the match ball for the Socceroos in the World Cup, representing our community and her school, Thomas Reddall High School, proudly. Funnily enough, her dad is an old patient of mine.



Through the Federal Government's "Platinum Jubilee Tree Planting Program", Camden Council received \$15,000 in funding to plant 20 trees at Sedgwick Reserve, Currans Hill. I joined Deputy Mayor, Paul Farrow, and students from Currans Hill Public School to begin planting these trees.



Meeting the wonderful team at Hoxton Industries at their Return & Earn facility in Minto.

Stronger Community Grants

I am pleased to announce that my office is now accepting Expression of Interests for the Stronger Community Grants Round 8.

I am pleased to announce that my office is now accepting Expression of Interests for the Stronger Community Grants Round 8.

The Stronger Community Grants are open to community organisations in the Macarthur electorate for grants between \$2,500 and \$20,000 for projects that will improve and benefit our community.

The project must be in the Macarthur electorate and aim to improve local community participation and contribute to a vibrant and viable community.

Eligible organisations and eligible projects are detailed in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines which has been attached to this email.

The local selection panel will be prioritising projects of lasting and real benefit to the community.

Please complete the Expression of Interest form attached to this email and return them to my office by 5pm on the 3rd April 2023.

If you require any further details, please do not hesitate to call my office on (02) 4620 0293, email mike.freeland.mp@aph.gov.au or visit in person at 37 Queen St Campbelltown between 9am-1pm & 2pm-5pm weekdays.

I look forward to receiving your submissions!

Macarthur 2022 Christmas Toy Drive

Christmas is the time of giving and it is imperative that children who are doing it tough do not miss out.

My office partnered with Kids of Macarthur & Uniting to ensure gifts are delivered to children and families in Macarthur doing it tough.

I was also delighted to receive the support of Pelican Preschool in Blair Athol as their wonderful community collected toys for my drive too.

I would like to thank our community for their kind and generous donations as it certainly helped those doing it tough last Christmas.



With Denise McGrath of Kids of Macarthur.



Reading a Christmas story to Pelican Preschool students - I am very grateful for their support!



Dr Mike Freeland MP Member for Macarthur

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Authorised by Dr Mike Freeland MP, ALP, 37 Queen St Campbelltown NSW 2560.

Sign up to my mailing list:



Scan the QR code to register your details to keep up-to-date on local issues.

Scan Me!