

# The Kemps Creek Report

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FROM CHRIS BOWEN – YOUR FEDERAL MEMBER FOR PROSPECT ■ MARCH 2006

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**IT'S TIME:** It's time for the Federal Government to come clean on the future of the Badgerys Creek site.

## 'No' airport at Badgerys Creek

2006 is well and truly here yet residents in western and south-western Sydney are no closer to a decision from the Federal Government on the long term future of the Badgerys Creek airport site.

**The Howard Government had promised to make a final decision on Badgerys Creek airport in 2005 and provide certainty to the region.**

The Federal Government's 2005 review into Sydney's airport needs concluded that Sydney airport should be able to cope with Sydney's air traffic for at least the next 20 years.

'I thought there would be some certainty when the Government announced that there would be a review in 2005,' said Chris Bowen.

'Instead it was a review that promises further reviews in the future and further uncertainty for hundreds of thousands of people.'

Local residents have already waited over two decades for a decision on Badgerys Creek and all the Howard Government has delivered is further indecision.

Many residents are concerned about the prospect of the aircraft noise and the significant disruption that an airport in Western Sydney would cause.

'If they won't make a final decision then people have no choice but to conclude that the Howard Government is committed to building a second Sydney Airport at Badgerys Creek,' said local Federal MP Chris Bowen.

## Chris Bowen writes....

Welcome to the second edition of the *Kemps Creek Report*.



This issue features the latest on Badgerys Creek airport and the fight to keep the Kemps Creek District Hall (see page 2).

Late last year the Howard Government rushed its industrial relations changes through Parliament and already ordinary workers are feeling the pressure (see page 3).

Also, Labor has released some positive ideas for encouraging young people into the trades and apprenticeships (see page 3).

If you run a not-for-profit community group and would like an article in the next edition of this *Report*, please give my office a call.

As always, if I can help with any Federal Government matters, please call my office on 9726 4100 or send me an email to: [chris.bowen.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:chris.bowen.mp@aph.gov.au)

A handwritten signature of Chris Bowen in black ink, written in a cursive style.

**Chris Bowen MP**  
Federal Member for Prospect

# Saving Kemp's Creek Community Centre



**PAUL ZADRO** (Kempo Martial Arts) & Chris Bowen outside the Community Centre.

In January this year, Paul Zadro from International Kempo Martial Arts approached Chris Bowen with concerns that Liverpool City Council were planning to demolish the Kemp's Creek Community Centre.

The Kemp's Creek Community Centre is 70 years old and is used by local community groups and families. Since 1999 International Kempo Martial Arts Group, operated by Paul Zadro, have been the main users. Through a hiring agreement with Council, Paul has also managed the Centre.

Up to 250 children use the Centre a week, participating in instructor-led karate, ju-jitsu and kickboxing classes.

On 15 February, representatives from Council met Paul to discuss further repairs to prolong the tenancy until suitable new premises can be found.

'In my view Council can not leave Kemp's Creek without a community hall,' Chris Bowen said.

'I would really like to thank Chris Bowen for intervening to help save the Centre and guarantee that martial arts continue in Kemp's Creek. It was looking like we would be kicked out by June with nowhere to go, but now Council have come on board and are keen to prolong the tenancy and talk about the potential of rejuvenating the site for future use,' Paul said.

## Fighting for local chicken farmers

**Local chicken farmers are finding it increasingly difficult to bargain with chicken processors due to changes in the Government's national competition policy.**

While the chicken farmers own the land and the sheds, the chicken processors own the chickens and the feed – the two most important factors influencing the price.

Chris told Parliament about some of the problems local growers had encountered while dealing with the larger chicken processors. One farmer was told by a processor that they would not receive payment for the last batch of chickens that they had already returned to the company.

'I am fighting to ensure local chicken farmers get a fair deal,' said Chris.

For a copy of Chris's speech in Federal Parliament about the chicken growing industry please phone 9726 4100.



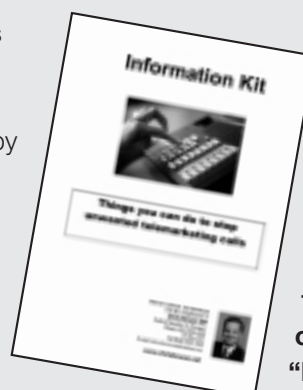
## Telemarketing – Hold the phone!

We all know what it's like. You've just got home from work, you getting the dinner ready or bathing the children. Next thing you know, the phone is ringing ... and it's someone trying to sell you something.

There is something you can do to reduce the number of telemarketing calls you receive.

Most telemarketing companies will stop calling you at home if you put yourself on a "Do Not Call List" that is administered by the Australian Direct Marketing Association.

Telemarketing calls will not stop completely but you will see a big reduction in the number of calls you receive.



**If you would like more information, give Chris Bowen's office a call on 9726 4100.**

**We will send you out an information kit that includes a form for you to complete so that you can be placed on the "Do Not Call List".**

## Tackling Australia's skills shortage

**A Labor Government will introduce Skills Accounts which will remove TAFE fees for traditional apprentices.**

Labor will make an initial contribution of \$800 per year for up to four years in an apprentice's Skills Account. This will get rid of up-front TAFE fees for 60,000 traditional apprentices each year.

Labor's new system will help young people complete their traditional apprenticeships.

TAFE fees are a major factor in the short supply of apprentices and why many apprentices drop out.

The Howard Government has neglected the training of skilled trades workers and, as a result, the economy and the community are starting to suffer.

The skills shortage means you just can't get a tradesperson any more, and when you do they're so much more expensive.

Under Labor's plan an additional 13,000 qualified tradespeople would enter our workforce every year.

The Skills Account builds on Labor's Trade Completion Bonus policy which rewards apprentices from traditional skills areas like plumbing, carpentry and electrical work by paying them a \$1000 bonus half-way through their apprenticeship and another \$1000 at the conclusion.

**Labor's priority is clear – train Australian's first and train them now.**

# Your job and working conditions under threat

**In December the Federal Government rushed its extreme workplace relations changes through Parliament.**

Dozens of MPs were denied the opportunity to raise the concerns of their communities.

Many residents have contacted my office requesting information on what these changes mean for ordinary workers. People have also asked where the Labor Party stands on the changes. The major changes proposed are:

- Abolishing the requirement that individual Australian Workplace Agreements have to have conditions 'no worse off' than the relevant award or enterprise agreement.
- Allowing employers to dismiss workers in businesses with less than 100 employees with no requirement for fairness.

- Reducing the conditions that can be protected in awards from 20 to 5.
- Continuing to allow Australian Workplace Agreements to include a provision of an 'average' of 38 hours per week over a year. This means you can work 60 hours one week with no overtime, provided you work less hours in following weeks.

The most worrying aspect of the changes is how they will affect young people entering the workforce for the first time.

An 18 year old, being offered a job for the first time can be forced to take a contract with very low wages and poor conditions. If they want the job, they will have to sign the contract.

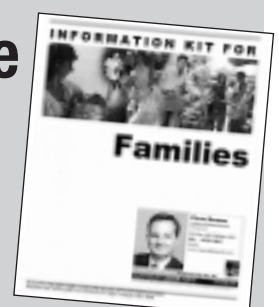
Labor opposed each of the changes and will continue to oppose them all the way. For a copy of Chris' speech on the industrial relations debate please phone 9726 4100.



## Information kits available

Information kits are available from my office on the following policy areas - Pensioners and Seniors; Families; Superannuation; Children & Youth; Veterans and Environment kits, will be available shortly.

Please ring my office on 9726 4100 to place your order.



# NEWS IN BRIEF

## Parliament on ABC 630AM

ABC NewsRadio – Sydney 630AM – broadcasts live proceedings from Federal Parliament. This gives Australians the opportunity to obtain a unique insight into the policy decisions that affect their country and lives.

You can listen live to NewsRadio at Sydney 630AM or on the Internet at [www.abc.net.au/newsradio](http://www.abc.net.au/newsradio)

## 2006 Federal Parliament sitting days:

### March

27-30 Both Houses

### May

9(Budget)-11 Both Houses

22-25, 29-1 June

House of Representatives

### June

13-15, 19-22 Both Houses

### August

8-10, 14-17 Both Houses

### September

4-7, 11-14 Both Houses

### October

9-12, 16-19 Both Houses

30-2 November

House of Representatives

### November

6-9 Senate

27-30 Both Houses

### December

4-7 Both Houses

## Anniversaries or 100th Birthdays?

If your loved ones are having a 50th or 60th wedding anniversary or a 90th or 100th Birthday, please contact Carole on 9726 4100 and we can arrange messages from the relevant dignitaries.

# The Canberra Connection

**Chris Bowen has recently been elected as Chair of the Federal Labor Party's Economic Policy Committee.**

This Committee has the job of working closely with Shadow Treasurer Wayne Swan to develop Labor's economic and tax policy for the next election.

Chris is also a member of the Joint Standing Committee (Senate and House of Representatives) for Corporations and Financial Services.

This Committee oversees bodies like the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) and is currently undertaking an inquiry into corporate social responsibility.

Chris is also the Chair of Labor's Waste Watch Committee monitoring wasteful expenditures by the Federal Government. Waste Watch have already identified several areas of taxpayer-funded waste including:

- \$190,000 on legal advice on what powers the Minister for Human

Services, Joe Hockey has over other government ministers;

- \$740,000 on Departmental and Ministerial media training.
- \$9.5 million on public relations consultancies, and;
- \$20 million on opinion polls and market research.

For a copy of any parliamentary committee reports, give Chris' office a call on 9726 4100.



**IN THE HOUSE:** Chris with Labor's Kevin Rudd.

## Chris in Canberra

These are some of the speeches that Chris has made since the last Kemps Creek Report:

- Therapeutic Goods Administration Amendment Bill – 15 Feb 2006
- Tribute to Bob Stein – 9 Feb 2006
- Student Assistance Bill – 9 Feb 2006
- Future Fund Bill – 7 Feb 2006
- Trade Practices Amendment (National Access Regime) Bill – 8 Dec 2005
- Human Rights in Iraq – 8 Dec 2005
- Economy - Trade Performance – 5 Dec 2005
- Welfare reform – 1 Dec 2005
- Mr Robert Gerard (Reserve Bank Board) – 1 Dec 2005
- Reserve Bank Board – 30 Nov 2005
- Human Rights – Falun Gong – 30 Nov 2005
- Battle for Australia (Smithfield RSL) – 28 Nov 2005
- Motion on Notice (Petrol Prices) – 28 Nov 2005
- Research and Development – 10 Nov 2005
- Work Choice Bill – 3 Nov 2005
- Land mines in Laos – 31 Oct 2005
- Vietnamese protest – 31 Oct 2005
- Government Accountability – 13 Oct 2005
- Independent Contractors and Labour Hire – 12 Oct 2005
- Chicken Farmers – 10 Oct 2005
- Young people in Nursing Homes – 10 Oct 2005
- Review of the Reserve Bank report – 12 Sept 2005
- Update on Horsley Park GP update – 12 Sept 2005
- Telstra privatisation – 12 Sept 2005

If you would like copies of any Chris's speeches in Parliament please phone his office on 9726 4100 and they can be posted to you.