

# Do Not Call Register finally up and running

EVERYWHERE I GO, FROM EVERYONE I TALK TO, I HEAR STORIES OF PEOPLE RECEIVING UNSOLICITED TELEMARKETING PHONE CALLS IN THEIR HOMES.

Labor has been calling for a government-sponsored Do Not Call Register for over two years.

Before the Federal Government came on board and introduced the Do Not Call Register, the Australian Direct Marketing Association (ADMA) ran its own register, which some of you may have already signed up to. If you wish to continue to opt out of telemarketing calls then you will need to sign up to the new Do Not Call Register.

## Which numbers can I list on the Do Not Call Register?

You can list your Australian fixed line and mobile numbers on the Register, provided the numbers are used primarily for private or domestic purposes.

## How does the register work?

Under the Do Not Call Register legislation, telemarketers can check

their calling lists against the Do Not Call Register. If a telemarketer calls a number on the Do Not Call Register, they may be in breach of the Act, and may face penalties.

## When will calls start to reduce?

It may take up to 30 days for individual telemarketing agencies to recognise your registration, and stop calls to your number.

## Will it stop all telemarketing calls?

Registering your telephone number on the Do Not Call Register will not stop all telemarketing calls to your number. There are some exemptions (see [www.donotcall.gov.au/consumerfaq.cfm](http://www.donotcall.gov.au/consumerfaq.cfm)) which enable certain public interest organisations to make telemarketing calls, including charities, religious groups and registered political parties. You can also still receive calls from market researchers.



For more information or to register your phone number, simply go to [www.donotcall.gov.au](http://www.donotcall.gov.au) or call Chris' office on 9726 4100 for an application form

You can download an application form by going to [www.donotcall.gov.au/Media\\_Releases/english\\_applicationform.pdf](http://www.donotcall.gov.au/Media_Releases/english_applicationform.pdf)

## Labor's new national broadband network: Faster internet connections for Prospect

**Bowen backs ALP plan for faster internet links**

Fairfield Champion-4/4/07

Labor has announced a \$4.7 billion investment in partnership with the private sector to establish a national broadband network.

The new national broadband network will connect 98% of Australians to high speed broadband internet services, delivering speeds up to 40 times faster than most people can currently access.

Labor's broadband network will ensure every house and business in the Prospect electorate will have access to high speed broadband.

Plenty of households in the local area do not have access to the existing ADSL broadband.

The benefits of the network include:

- Slashing telephone bills for small business;
- Enhancing business services such as teleconferencing, video conferencing and virtual private networks;
- Providing high definition, multi-channel and interactive TV services.

The national broadband network will be rolled out over a period of five years.

'I am pleased that Labor's national broadband network recognises the problems of the existing slower, broadband network, and will deliver high speed broadband to 100% of households and businesses in the local area,' Chris said.

# The drug 'ice': What you and your family can do about it

Over one hundred parents and teenagers turned out to a public forum on the illicit drug 'ice' held by Chris Bowen at Smithfield RSL on Wednesday 18 April.

'On the street it's known as crystal meth or 'ice'. But whatever you call it, methamphetamine is a dangerous drug, being stronger, more addictive, and more dangerous than heroin,' Chris said.

'Ice is a potent form of methamphetamine, almost 80% pure in some cases. It's a very different drug to what's been out there before.

'That's all the more frightening because it's considered fun, a party drug, aimed squarely at young people.'

The forum included special guest speakers Dr Gilbert Whitton, Drug and Alcohol Specialist at Sydney South West Area Health Service, Beaver Hudson, a Clinical Nurse at St Vincent's Hospital and 'BJ', a former ice addict.

The number of arrests for methamphetamine use and trafficking has shot up from 3,900 in 1996-97 to more than 10,000 in 2004-05.

'Enough is enough – we must act

before ice gets totally out of control,' Chris said.

Kevin Rudd and Federal Labor are committed to tackling the ice epidemic, facing the problem with a plan that includes:

- Working to ban the importation of ice pipes and other drug paraphernalia under the Customs Act (at present there is no such ban);
- Working with State and Territory governments to make it a criminal act to sell pseudoephedrine to minors (pseudoephedrine is a major ingredient in speed and ice); and
- Tailoring existing national education programs on illicit drug use, specifically targeting young people and ice.

Locally, it is important that young people and parents are informed about what this drug is and what it can do.

**For a copy of the 'ice' information kit please contact my office on 9726 4100.**

## Labor's new fairer IR plan



Labor's industrial relations plan will abolish the Howard

Government's WorkChoices laws and build a new industrial relations system based on fairness and flexibility.

Labor's industrial relations plan will see:

- The creation of Fair Work Australia to replace four existing government agencies;
- A uniform national industrial relations system;
- Unfair dismissal exemptions for small business – up to 12 months;
- Mandatory secret ballots for industrial action;
- An end to strike pay.

**Labor will establish an industrial relations system for the 21st century that gets the balance right between the rights of employers and employees and is guided by the dual principles of fairness and flexibility in the workplace.**

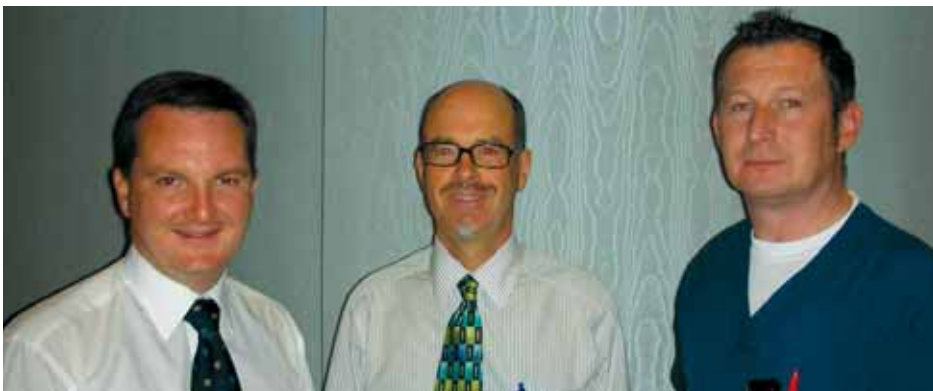
For more information on Labor's industrial relations plan go to [www.chrisbowen.net](http://www.chrisbowen.net)

## Labor's one-stop shop for a fair go

By ALISON REHN

LABOR would scrap the century-old Australian Industrial Relations Commission and instal

Daily Telegraph 26.4.07



At the 'ice' forum: (left to right) Chris with Dr Gilbert Whitton and Beaver Hudson.

# The Prospect Report

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FROM CHRIS BOWEN - YOUR FEDERAL MEMBER FOR PROSPECT ■ MAY 2007

115 The Crescent Fairfield • PO Box 802 Fairfield 2165 ■ Ph: 9726 4100 ■ Fax: 9724 6115 ■ www.chrisbowen.net

## Saluting their service: defence medals awarded

'On Monday 16 April I was proud to present, along with Major Bradley Orchard, the Australian Defence Medal to six veterans at a morning tea held in their honour. With Anzac Day recently in our thoughts, it was appropriate

that the community paid tribute to those who have served our nation with pride,' Chris said.

The Australian Defence Medal is awarded to Regular and Reserve Force members, volunteers and National Servicemen since World War II who have completed their initial enlistment period of service, or four years, whichever is the lesser.



Chris presented the Australian Defence Medal to veterans including locals Robert Noonan (1st on left) and Elizabeth McCann (2nd from right).

'It was an honour to present medals to six Australians, who between them have served in all three of the armed services – the Army, Navy and Air Force.

'We congratulate Mr Robert Noonan from Smithfield and Mrs Elizabeth McCann (on behalf of her late husband Thomas) from Canley Vale, who were among the six recipients of the Australian Defence Medal.'

## Liberals put Badgerys Creek airport back on the agenda

The Deputy Prime Minister Mark Vaile has delivered another blow to the campaign for no airport at Badgerys Creek.

Mr Vaile has written to councils in Western Sydney confirming that there would be another 'review' of Sydney's airport needs in 2009 and until then, the land at Badgerys Creek would be held in reserve.

The Deputy PM has well and truly put Badgerys Creek back on the Federal Government's agenda. This is bad news for families across Western Sydney looking to build a home or business, and bad news for land values.

'I call on the Prime Minister to come out and rule once and for all that no airport will be built at Badgerys Creek,' Chris said.

'Labor is already committed to not building an airport at Badgerys Creek.

'Now the Coalition has delivered another review and more uncertainty for residents and business in and around Badgerys Creek and in the Fairfield-Liverpool region.

'The truth of the matter, confirmed by the Deputy Prime Minister, is that a 'Yes' or 'No' decision has not been made by the Federal Government on Badgerys Creek.'

## Chris Bowen writes...



I was proud to support the Learning Links Charity Ball held at Club Marconi on Saturday 21 April. Over \$40,000 was raised on the night, which would not have

been possible without the tremendous support of local businesses and Clubs.

In this edition of *The Prospect Report* there's also plenty of local news with the Fairfield Zone of Playgroups and the City of Fairfield Squadron (see page 3).

There are important community announcements on the cervical cancer vaccine Gardasil and the dangerous illicit drug 'ice', as well as information on Labor's National Broadband Network, Fair Work Australia and BAS Easy for small business (page 4).

As always, if there is any Federal Government matter you would like to discuss with me, please contact me on 9726 4100 or [chris.bowen.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:chris.bowen.mp@aph.gov.au).

A handwritten signature of Chris Bowen in black ink.

Chris Bowen  
Federal Member for Prospect

### Badgerys airport is back on the agenda

Fairfield Champion- 7.3.07



# Learning Links charity ball raises over \$40,000

Chris Bowen hosted Learning Links Charity Ball at Club Marconi on Saturday 21 April.

'This was an opportunity for the community to assist Learning Links, a worthwhile local charity, and they responded magnificently,' Chris said.

'Over 380 people attended the Enchanted Evening. They were treated to an inspirational speech by Peter Garrett, experienced the auctioneering prowess of Sky News' Kieran Gilbert, and enjoyed dazzling performances by the Three Waiters and the String Angels.'

\$40,000 was raised on the night, with every dollar going to Learning Links' new facility that will service the Fairfield-Liverpool region.

Learning Links first came to Fairfield in 1999 and helped with weekly specialist services 52 children struggling to learn.

Since then their services have grown and now include early childhood intervention, specialist



Chris (right) with Ninos Khoshaba, State Smithfield MP, Nick Lalich, Mayor of Fairfield City, and Warren Johnson, CEO of Learning Links. Photo courtesy of Santo Grasso.

education support, therapy, family counselling, case management, professional development and group programs. The same location that helped 52 children in 1999 is now trying to squeeze 250 children through the doors.

Now Learning Links are looking to relocate into larger premises and are fundraising to help build

a new facility.

'I want to thank all the gold and silver sponsors - clubs, local businesses and the Fairfield Advance - for their generous support,' said Chris.

'Special thanks also to WoW Factor Events for concept and project management.'

## Vaccine to fight cervical cancer

### Important changes to the National Immunisation Program that could affect you!

While not as common as breast cancer in women, cervical cancer can be just as lethal. 1 in 183 Australian women will develop cervical cancer by the age of 75.

After a strong community campaign, the Commonwealth Government has decided to fund the cervical cancer vaccine, Gardasil®, for girls and women aged 12 to 26 from the start of 2007.

The cervical cancer vaccine took 2006 Australian of the Year, Ian Frazer, 15 years to develop and could prevent 70% of cervical cancer.

As part of the National Immunisation Program, Gardasil® is being funded by the Federal Government, commencing in the 2007 school year for:

- An ongoing target group of 12 and 13 year old girls in a school-based program, generally delivered in the first year of high school;

- A catch-up group of 13-18 year old girls in a largely school-based program.

Women aged 18 to 26 will be also able to access the Gardasil® vaccine through their local GP from June-July 2007.

Women seeking to have this vaccination should contact their local GP for more information.

**If you would like a Fact Sheet on Gardasil® and the National Immunisation Program, please contact my office on 9726 4100.**

## Fairfield Zone of Playgroups

THE FAIRFIELD ZONE OF PLAYGROUPS, AFFILIATED WITH PLAYGROUP NSW, CONSISTS OF FIFTEEN PLAYGROUPS IN THE FAIRFIELD AREA

### Abbotsbury

Thursday 10am, Abbotsbury Community Centre

### Abbotsbury Busy Bees

Wednesday 10:30am, Abbotsbury Community Centre

### Abbotsbury Total Tots

Friday 9:30am, Abbotsbury Community Centre

### Bonnyrigg Heights

Thursday 9:30am, Bonnyrigg Heights Community Centre

### Bonnyrigg Heights Gumtree Kids

Friday 10am, Bonnyrigg Heights Community Centre

### Bossley Park Bossy Bubs

Tuesday 10am, Bossley Park Community Centre

### Cabramatta St Jonah's Russian

Tuesday 10am, Russian Orthodox Church

### Edensor Park Cuddle Pot

Tuesday 10am and 12am, Edensor Park Community Centre

### Edensor Park Funtime

Monday 10am, Edensor Park Community Centre

### Edensor Park Little Darlings

Wednesday 10am, Edensor Park Community Centre

### Horsley Park 21st Kids Club

Friday 10am, Horsley Park Community Centre

### Mt Pritchard

Monday 9:30am, Mt Pritchard Public School

### Prairiewood Little Rascals

Monday 10am, Prairiewood Community Centre

### Prairiewood Little Squirts

Friday 10am, Prairiewood Community Centre

### Smithfield Brenan Park Little Joeys

Wednesday 10am, Brenan Park Hall

### FAIRFIELD ZONE COMMITTEE FOCUSES ON FUNDRAISING IN 2007

Our first event for the year, a BBQ at Bunnings on Saturday 5 May, raised money for Kids Disco, a major occasion this year for children in the Fairfield Zone.

Following the success of our inaugural Playgroup Member of the Year Dinner, the Zone committee is looking forward to planning this year's Awards Dinner. The aim of the night is to thank our members for all their volunteering efforts during the year. In 2007 we hope to have even better attendance, and the committee is also aiming to offer our deserving members some fabulous prizes, ranging from dinner for two, to some great pampering packs and a weekend away.

At Playgroup, our volunteers are our lifeline. This year we are encouraging our fellow playgroup mums, dads and carers to volunteer. Volunteering is a great way to get involved, and can be something as simple as helping out with craft, morning tea, singing, reading with the children or simply listening and talking.

If you are interested in joining an existing playgroup, or would like to start up your own, please contact [www.playgroupnsw.com.au](http://www.playgroupnsw.com.au) or phone toll free on 1800 171 882.

## Flying High with City Squadron



Chris Bowen has recently become the Patron of the City of Fairfield's Squadron.

Parades: Tuesday night 7:30pm - 9:45pm. Boys 8-17 years and adults 18+ at the Fred Galton Memorial Hall, Bertha Street next to Fairfield RSL.

Activities includes: Education in aviation, aircraft modelling, camping, drill, flying camps.

**Contact: Officer Commanding Charles Majorian on 9723 8225 or 0412 968 936**



## Labor's BAS Easy: Making your Business Activity Statement easy

Labor will cut the time taken for small businesses to complete BAS paperwork.

One of the big time wasters that small business owners tell me about is the time taken to complete their Business Activity Statement (BAS) under the Coalition's Goods and Services Taxation system.

Let's face it, spending hours acting as the Federal Government's unpaid tax collector is not the best way to increase productivity!

A special survey on red tape released by MYOB in January 2007 found that over two-thirds (68%) of small businesses reported the bookkeeping requirements of the BAS to be by far the most onerous red-tape burden.

Federal Labor's BAS Easy option will provide simpler and faster ways for small businesses and independent contractors to estimate their GST obligations.

BAS Easy would mean BAS paperwork would take minutes instead of hours.

### How BAS Easy would work

Under Federal Labor's BAS Easy option, small businesses would be able to apply simple rules to their sales and purchases, allowing them to quickly estimate their GST payments.

They would do this by taking a snapshot of their net monthly GST payments twice a year and applying that ratio for the rest of the year.

Small businesses wanting to stay with the existing BAS system would be free to do so.

**If you're interested in these small business measures, and would like updates on Labor's Small Business policies, sign up to Chris' Small Business E-Network by emailing him at [chris.bowen.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:chris.bowen.mp@aph.gov.au)**



Chris participating in the Pollies For Small Business Program. Photo taken by Gene Ramirez and provided courtesy of the Fairfield Champion.

## Chris in Canberra

These are the speeches that Chris has made since the last Prospect Report:

- Tax Laws Bill (2006 No.7) – 29 March 2007
- Corporations Committee – Report – 29 March 2007
- Governance Review Implementation – 28 March 2007
- Trade Practices regulations – 28 March 2007
- Labor's Broadband Network – 28 March 2007
- Liberal Democratic Party – 26 March 2007
- Australian Crime Commission – Drugs – 26 March 2007
- Australian Energy Market – 1 March 2007
- Corporations Takeover Bill – 28 February 2007
- Personal Explanation – Managed Investment Schemes – 28 February 2007
- Customs legislation – 28 February 2007
- Human Rights – 26 February 2007
- Housing – 26 February 2007
- Grievance Debate – Iraq – 26 February 2007
- Tax Laws Bill (No.7) 2006 – 7 February 2007
- Vietnam: Human Rights – 4 December 2006
- Human Cloning Bill – 30 November 2006
- Australian Technical Colleges – 29 November 2006
- Judiciary legislation – 28 November 2006
- Chaldean Catholic Church – 27 November 2006
- Australian Citizenship – 2 November 2006



**If you would like copies of any of Chris' speeches in Parliament please phone 9726 4100 or go to [www.chrisbowen.net](http://www.chrisbowen.net)**

## Costello fails to deliver Easter eggs to Australian motorists

You might recall the media commentary on petrol prices with the petrol price spikes during the Easter holiday break.

The Treasurer, Peter Costello, made some comments saying that he would be asking the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) to keep an eye on petrol prices over Easter.

These comments by the Treasurer were nothing more than lip service to motorists.

The ACCC always informally monitors petrol prices around the country.

But the Treasurer still refuses to give the ACCC, Australia's consumer watchdog, the power to act and to formally monitor petrol prices.

Mr Costello, price monitoring by Google is not formal price monitoring.

The ACCC cannot move to formally monitor and investigate petrol prices without notification from the Treasurer under Part VIIA of the Trade Practices Act.

It should not be up to the Treasurer to determine when the ACCC can formally monitor and investigate petrol prices.

Labor has consistently argued that the ACCC needs to be given the power to act independently and formally investigate petrol prices as it sees fit.

Petrol pricing is complex, and the biggest impact on petrol prices is world oil prices. But the Australian people deserve to have their watchdog, the ACCC, given full powers to do their job.

Chris is Labor's Shadow Assistant Treasurer with responsibility for petrol prices. You can keep tabs on Chris' progress as Shadow Minister by going to [www.chrisbowen.net](http://www.chrisbowen.net)