

## Dear Residents,

Each year, families throughout the world come together to celebrate Christmas and take time to appreciate our families, friends and communities while reflecting on the year that was.

My staff and I wish you all the best as you spend time with your loved ones and celebrate the festive season.

As we usher in the New Year once again, I am confident that we will continue to achieve positive results for ourselves, our neighbours and our local community in 2014.

On behalf of my family and myself I wish you all a happy and holy Christmas and all the best for the new year.

## Loss of a Visionary

The Mudgeeraba community recently lost one of its great pioneers and contributors with the passing of John Fouhy Kearney AM, QC.

John Kearney Sr was amongst the first to recognise the potential of our local area and witnessed its transformation from a village separated from the Gold Coast by a dirt road and paddocks to the thriving community it is today.

His passion for education was renowned, having supported the establishment of both Bond and Griffith Universities and been the benefactor of many educational bodies,



▲ Mark Anderson, Ros Bates, Karen Andrews MP and Cr Glenn Tozer at 'Walk for Daniel and Sam'

including Marymount College, Somerset College and All Saints Anglican School.

John Kearney will be greatly missed by the Mudgeeraba community, and his contribution to both our local area and the lives of those within it will undoubtedly be long remembered.

## Walk for Daniel and Sam

What began as an event to raise awareness of a missing Mudgeeraba Special School student became an example of a community coming together in thanks for his return, and in remembrance of Daniel Morcombe and his tragic story.

The Mudgeeraba Special School, under the leadership of Principal Colleen Hope, mobilised in an extraordinary fashion following the discovery that one of their students was missing. The way the school sought to highlight the story in order to help find him and their efforts to support his family were truly heart-warming. Praise must go to the entire school community and local Police for a great result.

Yours sincerely

*Ros Bates*

Ros Bates MP  
Member for Mudgeeraba

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# LOCAL ROAD UPDATES

◀ Sound barriers under construction at Encamp Street, Reedy Creek and new street lights installed by Energex

## Pacific Motorway (Worongary to Mudgeeraba)

The first major stage of the \$95.5 million Pacific Motorway upgrade, which involved widening the road in the centre median and upgrading the southbound bridges, is now complete.

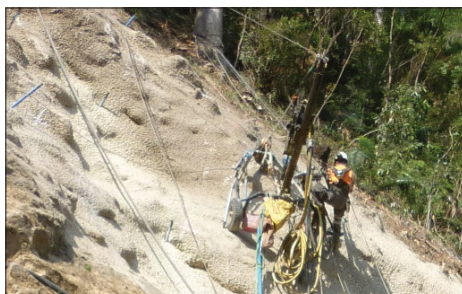
Demolition of the existing northbound bridges started in early October 2013. Piling works for the new northbound bridges are complete and construction of the new bridges is now underway.

The project is now on track to finish six months early, in mid 2014 weather permitting, resulting in significant savings to the Budget bottom-line. I'll be pushing for these savings to be spent in preparation for further works on the M1 towards Reedy Creek – an area with significant traffic issues that desperately need addressing.

## Gold Coast-Springbrook Road landslide repairs between Mount Nimmel Road and Pine Creek Road

This project is making good progress, although recent rain has affected some activities.

More than twenty soil nails have been inserted into the upper section of the landslide by a specialist rope crew.



▲ TMR install soil nails on Gold Coast-Springbrook Rd landslide

Remaining tasks include the installation of steel mesh and revegetation with indigenous species to reduce the risk of further erosion. Expected completion is early December 2013, site and weather conditions permitting.

Just over \$1m has been allocated to these works under the National Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements – a joint State and Commonwealth Government program.

Additional state-funded preventative works will commence shortly, involving tree clearing, drainage works and installation of guide posts. Works will be carried out under stop/go traffic arrangements.

## Beechmont Road landslide between Bottletree Lane and Nerang-Murwillumbah Road

Work in the upper section, which involved cleaning, installing rock anchors and shotcreting is now complete.



▲ TMR install rock anchors at the Beechmont Road landslide site

To date, nearly 200 rock anchors have been installed by specialists working from ropes secured at the top of the landslide face. Removal of debris from the lower sections of the slip has started.

## QUICK UPDATES

- In preparation for additional services on the Gold Coast – Brisbane line, planning for additional storage for trains at Robina Station in an expansion of the existing facilities, but within the already established boundaries of the site is complete.
- The sound barriers at Old Coach Rd, Reedy Creek are finally under construction and should be completed shortly.
- You should expect to hear the results of the lengthy public consultation process into the naming of the bridges in Springbrook with an announcement by the Minister for Transport and Main Roads now imminent.
- The noise mitigation process for some units close to King's College Reedy Creek is underway.
- Energex have delivered street lighting on Old Coach Rd, Reedy Creek in the interests of community safety and in conjunction with the Gold Coast City Council. Results were delivered through working closely with my GCCC colleague, Cr Daphne McDonald.
- Also at Old Coach Road, the new roundabout, complete with new traffic signals is now open. Please be patient as Transport and Main Roads adjust the phasing to ensure optimum traffic flow.

Visit [www.rosbates.com.au](http://www.rosbates.com.au) regularly to ensure you're up to date with what's happening on our local roads.



# Our TOP COP

As a Government, we've made significant changes to the law to enhance community safety and tackle antisocial behaviour, but this means little if these laws are not enforced.

That's why we're so lucky to have dedicated Police Officers within our local community.

I was delighted to attend the Rotary Police Officer of the Year Awards at which the Officer-in-Charge of the Mudgeeraba Police Station, Senior Sergeant Mark Anderson received the top award in acknowledgement of his service to our community.

I've worked closely with Senior Sergeant Anderson since being elected to represent Mudgeeraba, whether it be through the Police Community Consultative Committee or through our regular catch-ups regarding the state of local crime.



▲ Earle Hinschen, Snr Sgt Mark Anderson and Ros at the 2013 Rotary Police Officer of the Year Awards

As outlined in my previous Bulletin, we've made great inroads in reducing the incidence of local crime and Senior Sergeant Anderson deserves his share of credit.

If you want to support your local community in reducing crime and increasing community safety, please contact my office and we'll put you in touch with your local Neighbourhood Watch.

## SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

I recently hosted the Minister for Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services in Mudgeeraba, giving me the opportunity to introduce her to several of the exceptional organisations servicing our local community.

The Hon Tracy Davis MP accompanied me to witness the good work done by Mudgeeraba Special School, Job Centre Australia and the House with No Steps and meet with their staff, clients and students.

Upon our visit to the Youth at Risk Alliance in Robina, the Minister and I presented a cheque for more than \$670,000 to the hard working staff to allow them to continue their efforts in supporting local at risk young people.



▲ Ros and Minister Davis present a cheque to the Youth at Risk Alliance

► Ros with Minister Davis, Principal Colleen Hope and parents from the Mudgeeraba Special School







# SUPPORTING *Our Schools*

## DEMONSTRATING OUR COMMITMENT

The Newman Government is absolutely committed to ensuring that schools throughout our State and in the Mudgeeraba electorate are given every opportunity to provide quality learning environments.

As part of this commitment, Mudgeeraba schools have received a total of almost \$1.5 million since we took office last year to fix ongoing maintenance issues that had been ignored under the former Labor Government.

In addition, St Michael's College in Merrimac was recently provided with a \$2.2 million subsidy under the Government's Flying Start capital assistance program and King's Christian College in Reedy Creek were provided with more than \$400,000 under two additional programs allowing them to build multiple learning areas for the benefit of their students.

With this funding assistance, our local schools will once again be a place of pride for students to learn, teachers to teach and communities to gather.

## CELEBRATING OUR TEACHERS

World Teachers' Day was held on Friday, 25 October 2013 to say thanks to our hardworking teachers and show our appreciation for all they have done for us.

Teachers' Day is celebrated in over 100 countries throughout the world. I was delighted to have been given an opportunity to celebrate with Robina State High School, and to do my part in acknowledging the important role that teachers play in our society and our local community.



▲ Ros with teachers and students of the Robina State High School community

## PRINCIPALS' FORUM



▲ Minister for Education, Training and Employment the Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP with Ros and our Principals and Headmasters

Earlier this year, I hosted the Minister for Education, Training and Employment in Mudgeeraba for a discussion with the Headmasters and Principals of schools throughout the electorate.

The Principals were given an opportunity to have a frank and fearless discussion with both the Minister and I about the educational needs of our students and schooling communities not just this year,

but into the future. It was a productive forum through which to discuss the direction in which our schools are heading.

It is wonderful to see so many passionate educators leading our schools and working so hard to give our local students a great education, and I am pleased to be able to work with them to improve the schools throughout Mudgeeraba.

## VISITS TO PARLIAMENT

Throughout 2013, I invited the School Captains and Vice Captains of local schools to Parliament House to show our young leaders the inner workings of our system of government in Queensland.

The student leaders of Emmanuel College, King's Christian College, Robina State High School, Somerset College, and St Michael's College were each given an opportunity to explore their Parliament. It was great to have the Premier, Treasurer, Attorney-General and Speaker of the Legislative Assembly each make time throughout the year to have lighthearted discussions with the students in the Legislative Assembly Chamber before the Captains and Vice Captains witnessed democracy in action during Question Time.

It was wonderful to have been able to show the students how their State Government works, and I look forward to maintaining my close relationships with all our local schools.



▲ Ros on the floor of the Legislative Assembly with St Michael's College students just minutes before Question Time