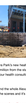

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Tom McIntosh MP
STATE MEMBER FOR
EASTERN VICTORIA REGION
Unit 1, 23 James Street, Pakenham VIC 3810
☎ (03) 5940 5010 TomMcIntoshMP

G'day Eastern Vic,

Last month major storms left over half a million people without power across Victoria, and tragically took the life of a man in Mirboo North.

Along with Premier Jacinta Allan, I visited Mirboo North to see firsthand the significant damage done by the freak winds, and to hear the personal stories of residents and understand firsthand the assistance required. We spoke to emergency services about the recovery efforts, and I attended and addressed a townhall meeting where locals heard updates from the authorities.

I've been back at Mirboo North talking to locals and community groups and working behind the scenes in Parliament and with my colleagues to get as much recovery support and information to the community as I can.

I took South Gippsland Shire Council Mayor Clare Williams and CEO Kerryn Ellis to meet with six different Ministers to advocate with them for more support. The Council continue to provide updates about the event and recovery on their website.

A contractor has been appointed for the clean-up and Emergency Recovery Victoria is on the ground assessing properties. Financial support is available through the state government and compensation is available through power companies.

Kerbside collections are beginning early next week and will continue as long as required. If you need assistance contact the Emergency Recovery Hotline on 1800 560 760

Pictured: Mayor of South Gippsland Shire Council Clare Williams, Emergency Services Minister Jaclyn Symes and CEO South Gippsland Shire Council Kerryn Ellis

Our communities deserve serious conversation about climate change, renewable energy, and the resilience of our power infrastructure.

I'm sick and tired of the opposition taking potshots but offering no solutions, which is exactly what I told them in Parliament, which you can watch here.

And true to form the Coalition are using a really tough time for locals, to play politics: proposing nuclear energy. They have already picked towns across Victoria to build small modular reactors. Last year, 38% of Victoria's power came from renewables, and that's on track to be 95% in just 11 years.

We have cheap abundant renewables and there is no need, and certainly no desire, for unproven, expensive nuclear reactors in our communities.

Sign my petition to make sure that your town isn't the next one picked for a nuclear reactor.

In addition to the storm response, it's been a busy month. On top of two sitting weeks, I've been out in regional communities for Legislative Council committee meetings. In the chamber, I've been talking about the government's work on education, Landcare, and energy. Links to these videos can be found later in this email.

Say No to Nuclear Reactors

Care Leavers Apology

"We are deeply sorry"

This month Premier Jacinta Allan historically apologised to every child that was abused, neglected or mistreated on behalf of this Parliament and every Parliament before it, and it was an incredibly heartfelt, well-received speech.

Every child has the right to a safe and secure home. This was an important step towards recognition for those who experienced harm and trauma while in institutional care.

This apology would not have been possible without the tireless advocacy of survivors and their supporters and is a tribute to their strength and courage.

Dunkley By-Election

Jodie Belyea
Labor for Dunkley
A VOTE NATHAN C
IS A VOTE F PETER DUTT

The by-election in Dunkley is tomorrow, so make sure your voice is heard. Jodie Belyea is an incredible candidate and one very deserving to continue Peta's unbelievable legacy in Dunkley.

Mornington

Alexandra Park

Alexandra Park's new health and sporting hub is coming along great. Made possible by $2.9 million from the state government, this new multi-use community building will feature four health consulting suites, a gym, and dedicated community meeting spaces.

Martin and the whole Alexandra Park Redevelopment Group have been working hard behind the scenes and it's great to see it paying off. Thanks for the tour Jonno.

Olympic Park Reserve Rosebud Lighting Upgrade

Lighting upgrades are complete all over the Peninsula, thanks to $1 million in funding for 10 reserves. I celebrated the new lights at Olympic Park Reserve in Rosebud with representatives from some of the many clubs that have benefitted from the project.

Chatting with community

SHOES
SALE
Tom McIntosh MP
STATE MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA REGION

I've been out around holding street stalls and mobile offices. If you're keen to join me, you can sign up here.

Schnapper Point Boat Ramp

Schnapper Point Boat Ramp renewal is underway with plans out now for your feedback. Plenty of people using it to get out on the water with this weather!

MERCURY
SAVAGE

Gippsland

Mardan and Arawata Landcare Visits

Landcare groups have been going for decades, and do an incredibly important job in looking after the environment - and keeping it clear from threats.

Along with Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos, I visited Mardan Mirboo North

Landcare Group and Arawata Landcare Group to see the amazing work farmers are doing to look after the environment.

Landcare was established in 1986 with the generous support of community members, late Joan Kirner, then Minister for Conservation, Forests and Lands and President of the Victorian Famers Federation, Heather Mitchell.

As we continue to face the challenges of climate change there is no better time than now to invest in the people and communities that must lead the way in building a strong future for Victorian Landcare.

There is consultation open at the moment about the Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program that you can access here - thanks Wendy for sending that link in!

Foster Show

The annual Foster Show is a celebration of all agriculture, community and local treasures. Great to get out with some volunteers to talk to locals.

Labor for the Environment
Labor Environment Action Network
Labor for the Environment
Labor Environment Action Network
Tom McIntosh MP
STATE MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA REGION

Hooked on Lakes

HOOKED ON
LAKES
SEAFOOD & FISHING FESTIVAL

This month Hooked on Lakes in Lakes Entrance is back for another year – this is the event for fishing diehards and seafood lovers. Make sure you get down on March 10th.

Southern Lights Festival

The Southern Lights festival will be coming back later this year in June, and the government will be supporting this event thanks to a $24,600 grant to the Korumburra Business Association. Keep an eye out for this event as it gets closer.

Parliament

Women’s Health in Parliament

EXIT
Sexual and reproductive health is not a luxury.
It is a human right.

Women’s Health Network Victoria held an event in parliament to promote the incredible impact our women’s health services make across the state.

I met with board member Sarah Race and CEO Kit McMahon from Women’s Health in the South East, and Kate Graham CEO of Gippsland Women’s Health.

Basketball Victoria U20 Championship Event

After Austin Rapp’s unforgettable buzzer-beater, the Victorian U20 basketball teams officially completed a clean sweep of the national championships, winning the men’s and women’s championships as well as both Ivor Burge championships for intellectually disabled players. Great to welcome representatives from the teams to celebrate in Parliament.

Constituency Questions

- Question to the Minister for Education
- Question to the Minister for Emergency Services
- Question for the Minister for Ageing
- Question to the Minister for Environment

Member's Statements

- South Gippsland Landcare Network
- Mornington Peninsula Sports Facilities
- Rye Infrastructure

Debates

- Victorian Energy - Motion

Newspaper Coverage

- Mayor Williams Welcomes Package of Support Measures for Mirboo North - South Gippsland Sentinel Times
- South Gippsland Shire Council Storm Recovery Advocacy Trip to Melbourne - South Gippsland Sentinel Times
- Premier Allan Hears of Need for State Government Assistance Clearing Hard Waste in Mirboo North - South Gippsland Sentinel Times
- No Shortage of Opportunities with Local Brigades - Lakes Post
- Bringing Drinking Water to Country at Knob Reserve - Bairnsdale Advertiser
- Minister Dimopoulos sees Landcare Work Firsthand at Mardan and Arawata - South Gippsland Sentinel Times

Media Releases

My office has been active distributing media releases for all the work the government is doing in Eastern Vic. Check some of them out below:

- Eastern Victoria Says No to Nuclear
- Early Win For Wy Yung Football Netball Club
- Working with Council to Prevent Family Violence
- Shining a Light for Peninsula Sport and Recreation
- Get Hooked, Line and Sinker at Lakes Entrance

Wrap-up

Thanks for reading my monthly update. For everyone out there still working through the recovery effort, please don't hesitate to reach out to my office and we will support you however we can.

Follow me on Facebook to stay up to date with everything I'm up to, and head to my website if you want to get involved with any of our events.

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