



**ROB MESSENGER MP – MEMBER FOR BURNETT
SHADOW MINISTER FOR TOURISM, REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT,
SMALL BUSINESS & INDUSTRY
SHADOW MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PARTNERSHIPS**

Your Messenger

AUGUST 2008

Queensland's Liberal National Party Launched!

Sunday, July 27, saw the launch of the formation of the new Liberal National Party (LNP) in Queensland.

The formation of the LNP marks the beginning of hope for the people of Queensland. It is the birth of a new era of sensible, pragmatic politics that unites Queensland, rather than divides it. The LNP will deliver to the people of Queensland what they so desperately deserve.

The LNP is determined to offer the people of Queensland good, strong, effective Opposition, a credible alternative to the current Government and a team with vision, built around the leadership of Lawrence Springborg and Mark McArdle. I would like to assure the people of Bundaberg and Burnett that the new LNP has **not** been formulated to be a party in Opposition. **It has been designed for one purpose only – to be in Government.**

The formation of the LNP is a historic event in Queensland politics. It marks the launch of a new party for a new Queensland.

I am personally very excited about the LNP, as there is a wealth of talent within the former party ranks, which will deliver the Opposition into Government. After all, I believe it is better to have a champion team rather than a team of champions. The LNP represents a united and progressive team who are committed to offering Queensland a true alternative.



Member for Hinkler Paul Neville, Rob Messenger, Queensland LNP President Bruce McIver and Member for Bundaberg Jack Dempsey at the official LNP Launch

Indigenous Celebrations



Rob at the Naidoc Week official Flag raising and awards ceremony, with representatives of "Goori Jets", Emmanuel Ambertel and his grandmother Veronica Roberts (above).

During the week of July 6 to July 13, Bundaberg-Burnett's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders got together for NAIDOC week, to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of the indigenous population and promote unification.

As the Shadow Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Mr Messenger was on hand to assist at the official Flag Raising and community awards ceremony.

At the Awards ceremony, Mr Messenger was honoured to receive a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition "of valuable contributions to NAIDOC Week 2008" and a certificate in recognition "of valuable contributions to the Murri Community in the field of Non Indigenous Person of the Year".



Helping out at the official flag raising and community awards ceremony

Out and about in the Burnett



Rob and his staff, Bron and Mel, (pictured left) cooked up a feast of sausages to raise funds for the Cancer Council QLD in May this year.

Rob regularly hosts free sausage sizzles to keep in touch with various community groups. Keep an eye on the Bulletin Board on Rob's website (www.robmessenger.com) for upcoming sausage sizzles.

Hope to see you there next time!

IWC (Indigenous Wellbeing Centre) Youth staff (right) were some of Rob's guests at the fundraiser.



Baffle Creek



Catching up with some of the locals in Baffle Creek. Rob is pictured with Ken and Dale Hicks (Dale is President of the Baffle Creek Progress Association) and Bevan Larsen, an active member of the Baffle Creek Lions Club.



The official handover of the new fire appliances to the Bingera Weir and Gin Gin Rural Fire Brigades and presentation of the National Medal to members of the Bullyard Rural Fire Brigade.

Boat ramp petition



A petition is up and running that seeks to have the boat ramp facilities at Burnett Heads and Riverview (Elliott Heads) urgently upgraded for the safety of the increasing numbers of recreational boats and tourists in the Burnett region.

Volunteer Marine Rescue member, Mr David Hayward, is pictured left at the launch of the petition.

Currently the facilities at both of these locations are unsafe and grossly inadequate.

Mr Messenger said "There are 6,000

recreational boats in our region who would benefit from these upgrades, and that number continues to grow. We need to ensure these boats have adequate and safe facilities".

This petition calls for floating pontoons, an upgrade of toilet amenities, a sewerage disposal unit for mariners to safely empty holding tanks and improved security lighting in the carpark.

The petition can be signed online via www.robmessenger.com, or at the Burnett Electorate Office.

The online petition closes next month, 19 September.

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