



Budget Edition

# Holt Herald

Australians are doing it tough and I have been working hard in Canberra to support families in our community.

The Albanese Labor Government has just delivered its third budget—one that truly delivers for Australian families and sets a vision for our nation's future. At its core is a priority to ease the cost of living for families across electorates like Holt.

On 1 July this year, the Albanese Labor Government will deliver a tax cut for every Australian taxpayer. That's 13.6 million people, including 83,000 people in Holt who will receive an average tax cut of \$1321.

We are also providing \$3.5 billion in energy bill relief for all Australian households and one million eligible small businesses. From 1 July 2024, households will receive a total rebate of \$300 and eligible small businesses will receive \$325 on their electricity bills throughout the year.

We are investing to help nearly 6500 households in

Holt with the cost of rent by increasing the maximum rates of Commonwealth Rent Assistance by 10%. This will mean that the rate has increased by 43% since Labor came to government in 2022.

We are investing another \$6.2 billion to build more housing across Australia to address the housing crisis and build 1.2 million homes by the end of the decade.

I am proud to be part of a government that has handed down a responsible and practical Budget that delivers relief to the people who need it most.

I know there's more to do, and I will keep working every day in Canberra to deliver for the families that I am elected to represent.

**If you want to chat, please contact me via phone (03 8790 0556) or email (Cassandra.Fernando.MP@aph.gov.au).**

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**Cassandra**  
**Fernando MP**  
*Here to help*

☎ (03) 8790 0556  
✉ cassandra.fernando.mp@aph.gov.au  
📍 Shop 7, 1060 Thompsons Road  
Cranbourne West VIC 3977  
📱 @CassandraFernandoMP

# Support for university students



One of the most exciting aspects of the Federal Budget is the new support for university students.

Across many fields, students must undertake hundreds of hours of unpaid work placements to finish their degrees. From July 2025 students studying nursing, teaching, social work and midwifery will be paid \$319.5 per week while undertaking their placement.

The government also announced it will wipe \$3 billion in student debt and change the indexation of loans so that student loans will never increase faster than wages.

**Labor will always support young Australians to pursue their dreams.**

## \$1.5 million for local school upgrades

**The latest round of the Albanese Government's Schools Upgrade Fund will deliver more than \$48 million in vital infrastructure projects for Victorian public schools.**

Under Round 2 of the Schools Upgrade Fund, 67 public schools across Victoria will each benefit from funding to build or upgrade infrastructure.

Congratulations to Cranbourne Primary School, which will receive \$499,251 and Kilberry Valley Primary School, which will receive \$1,000,000.





# \$6,500 to recommission the elevator at the Warneet Motor Yacht Club

I was pleased to award a grant of \$6,500 through the Stronger Communities Program to the Warneet Motor Yacht Club.

During the refurbishment of the club's building in 2019, a lift was installed to support people with

disability and mobility issues but due to constant problems, it was decommissioned soon after.

With my support, the lift has been repaired and is now working again for everyone, young and old.



# \$165,000 for Community Language Schools in Holt

The Australian Government announced that nearly \$15 million will be allocated to over 600 Community Language Schools (CLS) as part of the Community Language Schools Grant program.

The funding provided will directly assist over 90,000 students learning 84 different languages and enable more school-aged children to connect to

the languages of their parents, grandparents and broader communities.

Congratulations to Al Mustaqbel Arabic Community School, Al-Hussein Arabic School, Cranbourne Gyanjyoti Pathsala, KC Korean Language & Culture School, Payam Dari School, Sankalp-Ek Nishchay and Sikh Community Gurmat Centre on being successful recipients!





# \$128,000 for supporting our community volunteers since the election

I was pleased to award nearly \$62,000 this year to community organisations in my electorate through the Holt Volunteer Grants program, to strengthen community functioning by supporting and increasing participation in volunteering. This is on top of the \$66,000 in grants from last year.

Hearty congratulations to the volunteers at Vinnies Hampton Park, Cranbourne Casey Mens Shed, Hunters Green Residents Association, Compassionate Hands, Clyde Phoenix Basketball Club, MAA TV, Community for Humanity, Narre Warren South Scout Group, Casey2Community, Devon Meadows Scout Group, Malayalee Association of Victoria, Hampton Park Cricket Club, Gethsemane Charity, Pulari Victoria, Warneet-Blind Bight CFA, Devon Meadows Football Club, Australian Society of Graduate Tamils, Clyde Football Club, Freedom Christian Church, Knox City Mavericks, Warneet North Boat Club, St John Ambulance, Casey Crusaders Rugby Club and SLGTTI OBA.

Thank you for all the work you do!



## Out and about in the community





## Securing our borders



I had the privilege of being part of Operation Resolute and learning about the Australian Defence Forces' work in protecting our northern border.

Operation Resolute covers Australia's exclusive economic zone and protects Australia from security threats including illegal maritime arrivals, maritime terrorism, piracy, robbery, biosecurity risks and smuggling.

Every day, the men and women of the ADF put their lives on the line to defend our borders. I thank them for their service.

## Remembering and honouring our ANZACs

On ANZAC Day, we gathered across Australia to honour the spirit of our ANZACs.

A day of remembrance, reflection, and reverence for the sacrifices made by the brave men and women of the Australian Defence Force.

On this day I had the privilege of attending services held by the Hampton Park Progress Association, Dandenong-Cranbourne RSL and Tooradin Football Club. Thank you to all who volunteered and attended these services. Let's not forget.



## \$17,750 for installing nets at Hampton Park United Sparrows

Hampton Park United Sparrows FC was granted \$17,750 from the Stronger Communities Program to install nets behind the goals of their soccer pitch at KM Reedy Recreation Reserve.

These nets will create a safer environment for players, volunteers, and spectators by creating an adequate barrier to prevent balls from travelling outside of the field.





My office can assist with information about Federal Government services, including:

- Veterans' Affairs
- Immigration, citizenship and customs
- Centrelink
- National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)
- Medicare
- Australian Taxation Office (ATO)
- Passports
- Pensions, and My Aged Care
- Child support

## Get in touch

☎ (03) 8790 0556  
✉ [cassandra.fernando.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:cassandra.fernando.mp@aph.gov.au)  
📍 Shop 7, 1060 Thompsons Road  
Cranbourne West VIC 3977  
📱 [CassandraFernandoMP](#)

## Come meet me

**Saturday, 22 June**

*The Avenue Village Shopping centre*  
10:00AM – 10:45AM

*Selandra Rise Shopping Centre*  
11:00AM – 11:45AM

*Shopping on Clyde*  
12:00PM – 12:45PM

**Saturday, 20 July**

*Coles St Germain*  
10:00AM – 10:45AM

*Sandhurst Centre*  
11:00AM – 11:45AM

*Botanic Ridge Village SC front of Coles*  
12:00PM – 12:45PM

**Saturday, 24 August**

*Hunt Club Village*  
10:00AM – 10:45AM

*Cranbourne SC near Boost Juice*  
11:00AM – 11:45AM

*Cranbourne West Woolworths*  
12:00pm - 12:45PM



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