

## The Nest needs you!

Together with Roz Fenson founder of The Nest Community Inc, I recently hosted an event to celebrate International Women's Day and raise much needed funds for this important volunteer run, not-for-profit organisation which is making a real difference to the lives of many in our community.

The Nest helps women and children who want to be part of a supportive, nurturing community by providing free and low-cost workshops, events, social groups and services.

Each weekend, around 100 women and children of all backgrounds and ages learn new skills, connect and create at The Nest.



You can support The Nest by purchasing a place for marginalised women in the community to attend The Nest's public workshops free of charge. For information about these vouchers, to volunteer, or book yourself, friends or family into a workshop and discover this wonderful community go to http://www.thecraftnest.net



I have been advised that construction work will commence this month on a new \$5.5 million development at Leitchs Road, Albany Creek to provide much needed local accommodation for young people with disabilities.

I turned the first sod for the project in November 2014 when I was the Minister for Housing and Public Works, after securing State Government land and \$1 million in State Government funding.

Youngcare, which is dedicated to helping young people get out of aged care, will partner with MS Queensland to build the complex.

While I was disappointed the project stalled in 2015 while negotiations took place between Youngcare, MS Queensland and two State Government departments, it is wonderful news that eight deserving young people will have a place to call home come January next year.

## Fighting for local road funding

Unfortunately, the State Government's recently announced \$500 million State Infrastructure Fund will deliver nothing for residents living in Brisbane's North West, who battle daily with congested roads and unsafe intersections.

I have been fighting hard for funding to fix the diabolic traffic congestion at **the intersection of Stafford and South Pine Roads, Everton Park**. My pleas to the State Government continue to fall on deaf ears.

I was pleased that my campaign to install traffic lights at the intersection of Old Northern Road and Explorer Drive, Albany Creek resulted in a State Government investigation confirming that lights are necessary to make this intersection safe. Despite this recognition, there is no sign of funding.

I continue to fight for a desperately needed right-turn arrow to be installed so that vehicles heading outbound along Samford Road can safely turn into **Prospect Road at Mitchelton** during peak periods. While the LNP committed to installing this right-turn arrow during the 2015 election campaign, the current State Government will not allocate funding.

I need your to help convince the State Government to fund these important local road upgrades. Please contact my office and share your experiences of the frustration or danger when traveling through these intersections or any others in the Everton Electorate.



## Upcoming **Listening Posts**

If you would like to catch up with me, but can't easily come to my office during business hours, you might like to drop into one of my Listening Posts. I'm always keen to help you with any issue, or hear about your concerns.

**Thursday 14 April 4.00 – 5.30 pm**Brook Hotel, Osborne Road, Mitchelton

**Thursday 28 April 4.00 - 5.30 pm** Arana Hills Plaza

**Thursday 5 May 4.00 - 5.30 pm** Wruck Crescent, Albany Creek

**Saturday 7 May 9.30- 11.00 am** Brookside Shopping Centre

**Thursday 9 June 4.00 - 5.30 pm** Eatons Hill Shopping Centre

Tuesday 21 June 3.30 - 5.00 pm Osborne Road (opposite Teralba Park) Mitchelton

## **Grants bonanza for local clubs**

It has been wonderful to see so many local sporting clubs and community groups be successful in obtaining grants to upgrade their facilities and purchase new equipment.

The tenacity of one local club has particularly impressed me. *Build the Future Foundation*, based at Mitchelton, works to empower young people from diverse backgrounds and experiences, to support them in their discovery and fulfilment of their potential.

Build the Future recently received a \$35,000 Gambling Community Benefit Fund grant to turn an old disused shed at Mitchelton into a gym for young men, as well as doubling as a new site for a Men's Shed. I was thrilled to hand over a cheque to Managing Director Melanie Minichiello (below left) and Youth Development Officer, Lori Cramer (below right).

