



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Julian Hill MP FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BRUCE



Meet up with Julian

Julian regularly attends local shopping precincts as a convenient way for you to raise any issues.

Drop by if you're in the area and have a few minutes to chat.

Saturday 7 September

- Brady Road shops, **Dandenong North**
8:45am to 9:45am
- Autumn Place shops, **Doveton**
(outside FoodWorks)
10:00am to 11:00am
- Endeavour Hills Shopping Centre
(near Woolworths)
1:45pm to 2:45pm
- Spring Square Shopping Centre, **Hallam**
(outside Coles)
3:00pm to 4:00pm
- **Dandenong** Coles, Princes Highway
4:15pm to 5:15pm

Sunday 8 September

- Casey Central Shopping Centre,
Narre Warren South (outside Coles)
12:30pm to 1:45pm
- Parkhill Plaza, **Berwick** (outside Coles)
2:00pm to 3:00pm
- Marco's IGA, Oakview Boulevard,
Narre Warren North
3:15pm to 4:00pm

Strengthening Medicare

The federal Labor government is strengthening Medicare with the biggest ever investment in bulk billing in Medicare's 40-year history.

After a decade of harsh cuts and neglect from the Liberals, the GP bulk billing rate is now improving each month.

More Australians in more locations, including Narre Warren and Dandenong, can now walk into urgent care clinics – open late seven days a week. And get fully bulk-billed care for urgent, but not life-threatening, conditions.

To ensure pathology tests stay bulk-billed, Medicare rebates are being indexed for many common medical tests for the first time in 25 years. And the number of fully Medicare-eligible MRI machines has almost tripled since Labor was elected.

Labor created Medicare. Only a Labor government will always strengthen and protect Medicare.



Julian Hill MP being sworn in as the new Assistant Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs by the Governor-General. Human diversity is the distinguishing characteristic of our local community. Julian is keen to now engage right across modern multicultural Australia.



Congratulations

Julian can arrange congratulations for special birthdays and wedding anniversaries.

Depending on the occasion, messages of congratulation can be arranged from the Prime Minister, Premier of Victoria, Governor of Victoria, Governor-General, and the King for:

- 90th birthdays
- 100th birthdays
- 50th wedding anniversaries
- 60th wedding anniversaries
- 65th wedding anniversaries
- 70th wedding anniversaries.

Please contact Julian at least four weeks prior to the event.

Pensions Guide

Free information for older Australians

Julian Hill's Pensions Guide booklet contains up-to-date details about current entitlements, payments and services. Including:

- Age Pension
- Aged Care
- Carer Allowance
- Centrelink
- Seniors Health Card
- Concession cards
- Grandparent carers
- HomeCare Packages.

To get your free copy of the Pensions Guide, just call Julian on 9791 7770, or email julian.hill.mp@aph.gov.au

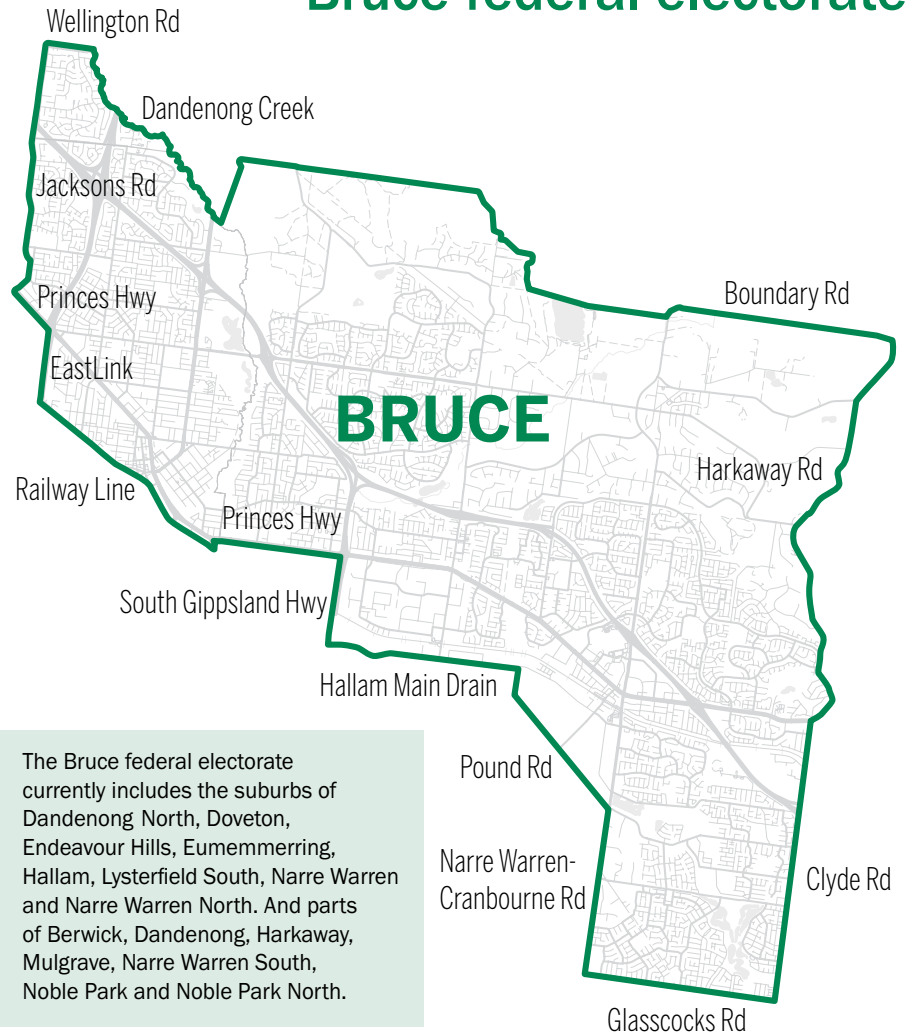
Please contact Julian anytime you want assistance, to discuss a local or national issue, or make a suggestion.

Hon. Julian Hill MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BRUCE
ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR CITIZENSHIP AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

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Bruce federal electorate



The Bruce federal electorate currently includes the suburbs of Dandenong North, Doveton, Endeavour Hills, Eumemmerring, Hallam, Lysterfield South, Narre Warren and Narre Warren North. And parts of Berwick, Dandenong, Harkaway, Mulgrave, Narre Warren South, Noble Park and Noble Park North.



Julian is here to help you

As your representative in the Australian parliament and the Albanese government, Julian Hill is available to assist you with anything involving the federal government.

Julian is also here to help if you or your family encounter problems with government services.





Labor's reliable renewables plan

The Albanese Labor government is delivering reliable renewable energy to drive down power bills, lower emissions and create thousands of new jobs.

A decade of inaction under the Liberals left Australia with an energy system that's too old, too unreliable, and too expensive.

Labor's plans to fix it are already underway with a 25% increase in renewable energy in the national electricity grid and record investment in batteries and storage. As well as over 330,000 rooftop solar installations in the last year.

Australia is lucky to have an abundance of sun and wind, with the best solar and among the best wind opportunities in the world.

Labor's plan will deliver reliable renewables, firmed up by gas, storage, and pumped hydro, to secure cheaper power for homes and businesses.

Labor's renewables plan

- maximising cheap, clean energy and getting our energy grid to 82% renewables by 2030
- investing in battery storage and transmission to ensure reliable power everywhere
- ensuring everyone shares in the benefits of reliable renewable energy
- creating thousands of jobs with a Future Made in Australia.

While Labor invests in the cheapest energy now, Peter Dutton wants to serve up the most costly, nuclear reactors, in twenty years' time. And make Australians pay for it. Risking nuclear is too expensive and too slow.

The Liberal Party's anti-renewables obsession ignores the fact that renewables are the cheapest form of energy and getting more renewables into the system will bring prices down.

Future made in Australia

Australia has everything we need to build our future. We've got leading industries, world-class resources, and the smartest workers on earth.

The Albanese Government is committed to building skills training and supporting businesses to capitalise on our competitive advantages to create secure, well-paid jobs.

A future made in Australia is about seizing the opportunities of renewable energy to build a prosperous economy and makes things here again.



Cutting the ribbon at the official opening of a new local kebab business.



Students at Southern Cross Primary in Endeavour Hills are excited about their new basketball and netball courts.



Catching up with the wonderful volunteers at the State Emergency Service Dandenong Unit.

Fee-Free TAFE exceeds targets

The Albanese government's Fee-Free TAFE initiative continues to exceed targets, with half a million Australians enrolling in courses of high skills demand since 1 January last year.

More than 118,200 people enrolled in Fee-Free TAFE courses in the first three months of 2024 alone.

That follows on from more than 355,000 enrolments in 2023, almost double the 180,000 places originally pledged at the 2022 Jobs and Skills Summit.

Fee-Free TAFE, delivered in partnership with the state government, removes financial barriers for people to learn skills in areas of demand that are experiencing significant skills shortages.

From 1 January 2023 to 31 March this year there were over:

- 120,800 enrolments in the care sector
- 45,800 enrolments in the technology and digital sector
- 32,100 enrolments in the construction sector
- 31,900 enrolments in the early childhood education sector
- 19,600 enrolments in the agriculture sector.

It's another way the Albanese government is easing cost of living pressures.

Upgrades for Chisholm TAFE

A \$1.95 million federal government grant will enable Chisholm TAFE to replace and upgrade equipment to provide engineering students with advanced production and operation skills.

Chisholm Institute continues to be at the forefront of skills training. Bolstering job-readiness for young people and workers retraining for new jobs.

The Albanese government is upgrading and expanding TAFE facilities across the nation. Including workshops, laboratories, and simulated learning environments.

The growing number of people studying and training at TAFE is helping to meet skills shortages and prepare for our country's future.

Relief for student debt

Changes to HECS will wipe \$3 billion in student debt for more than 3 million Australians.

An individual with an average HECS debt of \$26,500 will see around \$1,200 wiped from their outstanding HECS loans this year.

Legislation will cap the HELP indexation rate to be the lower of either the Consumer Price Index (CPI) or the Wage Price Index (WPI) backdated to 1 June 2023.



A federal government community childcare grant will help Hallam Learning Centre provide short-term care for kids so mums can focus on working and learning.



South East Community Links student support services are now available onsite every fortnight at Chisholm TAFE Dandenong campus.



Pashto language welcome to Australia class for new arrivals from Afghanistan.



Discussing the challenges of making ends meet, and balancing study and work with local university students.



A Stronger Communities grant helped Berwick Springs Junior Football Club get their new scoreboard.



Congratulations to the winners and all the girls who competed in the Dandy Cup.



Senuka wrote a terrific book! Then another! And now he's writing another.



Welcoming His Grace Bishop Yolious at St. Mina and St. Marina Coptic Orthodox Church, in Hallam.

Stay safe with the latest travel advice

Smartraveller, provided by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, helps Australians travel overseas safely, reduce their risks and avoid problems.

The www.smartraveller.gov.au website provides:

- official travel advisories for 178 destinations, with an advice level for each
- a subscription service for updates to travel advice
- general advice on a wide range of travel topics before you go
- general advice for while you're away, especially when things go wrong overseas
- information about Australia's consular services.

Updated travel advisories are available for most countries around the world. With an overall advice level to each, based on the level of risk Australians may face there.

You can subscribe to get an email when the advice for your destinations is updated. It's a free service.

For 24-hour consular emergency assistance for Australians abroad, call **+61 2 6261 3305** from overseas or **1300 555 135** from within Australia.

Simplifying veterans' compensation

The Albanese government is simplifying and harmonising Australia's veterans' rehabilitation and compensation system.

This is a huge step forward for Australia's veteran community and will benefit our current and former service personnel for generations to come.

Under the new legislation, all claims from 1 July 2026 will be dealt with under a single piece of legislation regardless of when or where the veteran served.

This is another important step in responding to the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide's Interim Report and is the result of significant community consultation.

After decades of piecemeal change built on top of a century of different veterans' entitlements legislation, these reforms will deliver a system that is easier for veterans and families to understand.

The legislation will enable the Department of Veterans' Affairs to process claims quicker. So the veteran community can receive the benefits and support they need and deserve in a timely manner.

Easing cost-of-living pressures

Cost of living relief, while putting downward pressure on inflation is the Labor government's number one priority.

A tax cut for every taxpayer

Every Australian taxpayer is now getting a tax cut. Labor's cost of living tax cuts are about rewarding hard working Australians. The tax cuts also create opportunities for people to take on more hours of work and keep more of what they earn.

Power bill relief

Every Australian household will receive an electricity bill rebate of \$300. These rebates will help families pay their bills, while putting downward pressure on inflation. The credits will be automatically applied to electricity bills in \$75 quarterly instalments.

Cheaper medicines

The maximum cost of PBS prescriptions will be frozen for 12 months. For Australians with pensioner or concession cards, the price will be frozen for five years.

More help for renters

The first back-to-back increase to Commonwealth Rent Assistance in more than 30 years will deliver a further 10% increase on top of the 15% increase in last year's budget.

Getting wages moving

When the Liberals were in government, low wages for workers was their deliberate policy. The Labor government has got wages moving again. So you can earn more and keep more of what you earn.

Pay rise for early childhood workers

The federal Labor government will fund a 15% wage increase for early childhood education and care workers.

Fee increases by child care services will be capped at no more than 4.4% per cent over the next year. So workers can be fairly paid without the costs being passed on to families.

Significantly, the wage increase also applies to workers in outside school hours care services, helping parents of school aged children as well.

Labor's reforms have already reduced the cost of child care by 11%.

If we want to be a wealthier, smarter country in the future, it's the smartest investment the government is making.

Early childhood education is good for the economy, good for families and amazing for our youngest Australians.



Talking with local police officers who help keep our community safe.



Always a delight to have a cuppa and chat with locals at the Bruce Community Morning Tea.