



THE FAWCETT FLYER

JUNE 2019



Since May 18's historic and largely unexpected election victory, Prime Minister Scott Morrison and our Government have been getting on with the job.

In the first parliamentary sitting week of the new term, we moved swiftly to pass our proposed tax relief legislation, putting more money back into the pockets of hardworking South Australians. There are more positive outcomes like this one to come as we get to work delivering on our commitments.

We recognise that now is not the time to rest on our laurels. Australians will expect a great deal from our Government and we must deliver on both this expectation and our commitments for the people of Australia.

I welcome your feedback, views and details of any Federal issues you would wish to have addressed.

Of the re-elected Government's priorities in this new parliamentary term, our engagement with our neighbours in the Pacific will be an intentional focus aiming to create security, stability and prosperity.

As the largest economy in the Pacific, Australia has a responsibility to encourage development and discourage instability. You can read more about our Government's Pacific Engagement in this issue.

In this issue of the Fawcett Flyer, I also write about my involvement in ensuring an almost forgotten piece of history takes pride of place in Adelaide Airport's \$165 million expansion.

It was a privilege to throw my support behind the relocation of the Vickers Vimy aircraft, the first aircraft to make a direct non-stop Trans-Atlantic flight in 1919 flown by local South Australians Sir Ross and Sir Keith Smith.

If you would like information on this, or any other issues of a Federal nature, please let my office know.

**SENATOR
DAVID
FAWCETT**



IN THE MEDIA



FLOW FM

I was recently interviewed on FlowFM, a regional radio station based in Kapunda, to discuss defence, rural health, and the election.

I spoke about the Federal Liberal Government's investment in the shipbuilding industry here in South Australia, and our plan for the long term capability program supported by a sovereign defence industry which will see 57 naval vessels built in Australia over the coming decades.

Thanks to our Government's strong economic management, we can restore Defence spending to 2% of GDP as well as investing in essential services like schools and hospitals.

On health, we also discussed rural

health and its vital importance to regional South Australians. Our Government has appointed Professor Paul Worley – a South Australian country GP – to the role of National Rural Health Commissioner.

With the assistance and guidance of Professor Worley, our Government has developed and committed to the implementation of the National Rural Generalist Pathway – an initiative that will make it more attractive for doctors to work in a rural area, and enact structural changes to make sure we have a long term sustainable rural medical workforce.

The full recording of my interview on FlowFM is available [here](#), or via the QR Code below.



YOUR MONEY

Since the need for the Integrated Investment Programme was identified in the 2016 White Paper,

Australia is making important investments into the enabling structures of the defence force.

I spoke with journalist Ticky Fullerton to discuss the \$286 million program which will deliver critical infrastructure remediation to the Garden Island Navy base in Sydney.



The programme's upgrades to the East Coast's principal Navy Base will redress past under-investment in defence infrastructure and strengthen its capability for raising, maintaining and deploying our naval force throughout the Pacific and beyond.

In my interview with Ticky, I addressed Australia's strategic partnerships with the US and Singapore and the impact that these partnerships are having, not only on the maturation of our

defence and security forces, but also boosting regional economies.

The US and Singapore will invest a total of \$2.25 billion in central and north Queensland to develop training areas, in addition to the US's ongoing partnership with the Northern Territory.

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 ”

As I explained to Ticky, there is a hive of activity at Osborne Naval Shipyard in South Australia as the design and construction of shipyards for the Hunter class frigates is now well underway. Not only is this generating more career opportunities for South Australians, but it is strengthening Australia's sovereign capability.

The transcript of my interview with Ticky is available [here](#), or via the QR Code below.





SUPPORTING OUR PACIFIC NEIGHBOURS IS IN OUR BEST INTEREST

Since federation, we have provided assistance and support to our neighbours in the Pacific.

This engagement continues to this day, however the 2017 Foreign Policy White Paper has led to a re-evaluation of priorities and perspective.

As a result of the report's recommendations, Australia's focus in our region becomes enhanced collaboration with our neighbouring island nations to see greater security, stability, economic strength and resilience.

From the extensive support provided and leadership demonstrated by Australian personnel in the Pacific during and since the World Wars, the strategic importance of the Pacific Islands to Australia remains to this day.

“Australia's focus in our region becomes enhanced collaboration with our neighbouring island nations to see greater security, stability, economic strength and resilience.”

The Pacific was a fiercely contested battleground in both World Wars, with Samoa and New Guinea becoming disputed territories in the First World War, and the Philippines, New Guinea, Guam and the Solomon Islands proving vital in the Second World War.

While the specific nations in the spotlight have changed throughout history, control of the Pacific allows its influencer the opportunity to restrict economic flow between many countries in Asia, Oceania and the Americas.

Now our attention turns to better equipping our Pacific neighbours, as Australian leadership in our region is an investment through which we will reap the benefits in decades to come.

Our renewed focus will be evident through initiatives such as:

✓ \$2 billion towards the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP)

✓ \$1.3 billion in aid to nations throughout the Pacific

✓ The continuation of the Pacific Labour Scheme – a program which assists Pacific islanders to

obtain employment supporting Australian farmers during peak periods – building on the success of the Seasonal Worker Programme

✓ \$300 million towards disaster and climate resilience over 4 years from 2016

✓ The Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations (PACER) Plus free trade agreement will facilitate greater trade in the region, unlocking previously explored markets between 14 Pacific countries in a mutually beneficial fashion.

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In addition to economic support, the security component of our refocused approach will take advantage of Australia’s recent investment in our defence force and security agencies.

Many of the smaller Pacific island nations have limited capacity to

respond individually to security challenges such as transnational crime or natural disasters.

21 new Guardian class Pacific Patrol vessels (*ceremony pictured, below*), redevelopment of PNG's Lombrum Naval Base and investment in an aerial surveillance program will combine to provide greater security in the Pacific.

The Boe Declaration, signed in September 2018, underpins the mutual commitment to democratic values, basic freedoms and human rights throughout the region.

To ensure these values and freedoms are upheld, Australia has established 11 bilateral security partnerships which include

transnational cooperation and joint law enforcement with nations like Tuvalu, Solomon Islands, Nauru, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste.

In the coming editions of the Fawcett Flyer, I will update you on Australia's engagement with specific nations within the Pacific region.

More information on the Australia's Pacific Islands engagement, available [here](#), or via the QR Code below.





PIECE OF SA HISTORY SOON TO BE PRIDE OF PLACE

Ensuring that the aviation and defence sectors in South Australia receive sufficient funding and support from the Federal Government remains one of my priorities.

I recently worked with colleagues to obtain a commitment of \$4 million from the State and Federal Liberal Governments to Adelaide Airport for the preservation of The Vickers Vimy – the first aircraft to fly between England and Australia a century ago.

South Australian army pilot Sir Ross Smith led the team which made the first flight from the UK to Australia in the small modified Vickers Vimy bi-plane, now located at Adelaide Airport. Ross, his brother Keith (also a pilot) along with mechanics James Bennett and Wally Shiers made the historic flight.

I recently joined current defence personnel for a commemorative service in Adelaide's St Peter's Cathedral (*pictured, next page*) to mark the centenary of this historic occasion.

The new funding will go towards the process of safely dismantling the historic aircraft, before it is reassembled in a prime location at the new Adelaide Airport terminal.

This \$165m terminal expansion will significantly upgrade the international arrivals and departures areas, create more dining and retail options, and generate more than 200 jobs during the construction



phase.

Passenger numbers through Adelaide Airport continue to increase and its crucial for infrastructure to keep up with this growth, as the airport is a major economic generator in South Australia.

The Airport contributes \$2.98 billion (or 3.1 per cent) towards our Gross State Product, and directly and indirectly employs more than 22,800

people. It is vital to South Australia that it receives Government funding and continues to expand.

Mark Young, Managing Director of the Adelaide Airport, has thanked the Liberal Government for its commitment to help fund the relocation of the Vickers Vimy.

“...its crucial for infrastructure to keep up with this growth, as the airport is a major economic generator in South Australia.”

I am pleased to have contributed towards the relocation of the Vickers Vimy, which will not only benefit the Adelaide Airport and our state, but also the millions of future passengers that can learn about its rich history.

You can see footage of the Vickers Vimy from the National Film and Sound Archive [here](#), or via the QR Code below.



OUT AND ABOUT



It was my honour to attend a Legion of Honour award ceremony for Mr. Robert David Biggs who received the insignia of Chevalier in the French National Order of the Legion of Honour for his participation in the Liberation of France.

It is a timely reminder of the service and sacrifice that were, and continue to be, required to protect the freedoms that we have enjoyed for so many years here in Australia.



Joined by the Hon Neil Andrew, my predecessor as the Member for Wakefield, at the Adelaide pre-poll booth during the election campaign as I supported Shaun Osborn, candidate for the seat of Adelaide.



I enjoyed supporting Dave Sharma in Wentworth and responding to questions about our Government's \$200 billion investment in Defence capability, industry and innovation.



On April 29th, I spoke at the official launch of Georgina Downer's campaign for the seat of Mayo.

I was pleased to announce the Federal Liberal Government will invest \$8.4 million the in South Coast District Hospital for extensions to accommodate additional acute beds and dialysis chairs.



To mark the 98th Anniversary of the formation of the Royal Australian Air Force, I paused to reflect on the service of those who have gone before us at a commemorative ceremony in Canberra.



The Coral Sea battle was one of the decisive victories of 1942 which ultimately led to the total defeat of Imperial Japan. Strategically, the hard-earned victory in the Coral Sea enabled critical Allied success.

Joined fellow ex-serviceman and President of the South Australian Legislative Council Andrew McLachlan at the 77th anniversary ceremony which commemorates the service and sacrifice of those who fought and died to keep Australia free.



Supporting Laura Curran, candidate for the seat of Kingston, on election day at Coorara Primary School in Morphett Vale.



Newly appointed Director of Adelaide Rural Clinical School, Dr Lucie Walters met with me to discuss how we can collaborate to progress the important work of rural doctors to ensure the health of rural South Australians.

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