



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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MEDIA RELEASE

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“Ground breaking” in more ways than one for Bundarra Aged Care Facility

Independent Member for New England, Tony Windsor is describing the “Ground Breaking” Ceremony for the new Bundarra Aged Care Facility at 11.00am on Wednesday morning as “Ground Breaking” in more ways than one.

“The Ground Breaking Ceremony is not just the commencement of the construction of the new 11 bed Grace Munro Centre but also ‘Ground Breaking’ in the way that this new Aged Care Facility has been achieved and will be run.

The new facility is a first in terms of the partnerships of the three levels of Government and the community and also with external private sector administrative support from McLean Village from Inverell which is renowned Australia wide for its knowledge and high quality aged care services.

I congratulate the community of Bundarra through their Committee for their commitment and persistence, Mayor Brian Eichorn and his Uralla Shire Council and staff and in particular Clr Bruce McLean.

The excellent support of the Bundarra Lions Club, Peggy Weiss and the Bundarra Community Action Group, the Country Womens’ Association and that of the State and Federal Governments with their very kind contributions is enabling this very valuable community asset to be built,” Mr Windsor said.

“I also recognise the former Minister for Ageing – the Hon Kevin Andrews for his recognition of the unique problems faced by smaller communities in the provision of aged care and his encouragement to pursue this project,” Mr Windsor said.

Mr Windsor further recognised the new Minister, the Hon Julie Bishop, for her support of not only the Bundarra Aged Care Project but also for her support for the Tingha MPS which has recently been announced.

The State Government support for the project has also been welcomed by Mr Windsor with strong representation by Richard Torbay, Member for Northern Tablelands to the State Minister, the Hon Morris Iemma, and his predecessor Minister, the Hon Craig Knowles.

“All in all, it has been a great effort by many people over a long period of time however it will be one that will become a model for other small communities to follow to provide services to their community members.

This facility demonstrates that you don’t need to be a big town to be able to look after the aged members of the community locally,” Mr Windsor said.

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For further information contact Tony Windsor, Ph (02) 6761 3080

The following is a list indicating the major sources of funding in no order of importance as every dollar from every source is vital to the success of the project.

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| Local Community Fundraising | over | \$75,000 |
| Department of Veterans' Affairs | | \$30,000 |
| Department of Ageing and Disability | | \$34,000 |
| Country Womens' Association | | \$25,000 |
| Lions Club of Bundarra | | \$35,000 |
| Lions International Grant | | \$50,000 |
| Regional Solutions Grant | | \$100,000 |
| Department of Ageing | | \$140,000 |
| Inverell District Legacy | | \$10,000 |
| Anonymous | | \$10,000 |
| Interest Free Loan – Maclean Village | | \$100,000 |
| Donation of 11 beds by Maclean Village | over | \$15,000 |
| Uralla Council loan funds | | \$400,000 |