

*Hugh Delahunty MP
Shadow Minister for Sport and Recreation*

*Christine Fyffe MP
Member for Evelyn*

Lobbying for Lilydale Pool

Liberal Member for Evelyn Christine Fyffe invited Nationals MP and Shadow Minister for Sport and Recreation Hugh Delahunty out to the Yarra Valley last Friday to discuss the sporting needs in the area. One of the issues of focus included the Lilydale Pool and the need for a facility upgrade.

“Pools are incredibly important facilities for communities, because unlike land based sporting activities they offer an excellent physical workout to keep people fit, while limiting the stress on ligaments and joints,” Mrs Fyffe said.

Mr Delahunty agreed, commenting on the social and health benefits of participating in and staying physically fit.

“Not only do you make new friends, I have always believed that competitive and recreational sporting activities help to keep young people out of the criminal justice system,” Mr Delahunty said.

“Dipping your toe into a cold pool is not for the faint hearted during the cooler months of the year, which is why demand is growing in our region for a heated aquatic facility,” Mrs Fyffe said.

Mr Delahunty, a former Essendon Footballer, is all too aware of the benefits of staying physically fit, but says that more needs to be done to encourage participation from our youth through to our seniors.

“An outdoor pool mainly attracts young people because it is a place they can go especially in the summer to meet friends and have fun splashing about. However, there needs to be more recognition of the needs of older people who may require the use of a pool for twelve months of the year,” Mr Delahunty said.

“Many older residents have to travel to Croydon Leisure and Aquatic Centre to access the indoor heated pool for hydro-therapy after operations and injuries. We currently don’t have that on offer in Lilydale,” Mrs Fyffe said.

“We must investigate the opportunities for increasing participation which includes improving aquatic facilities in the area. It is something that I will be lobbying for to give residents of the Yarra Valley better access,” Mrs Fyffe said.

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