

Uniting Communities

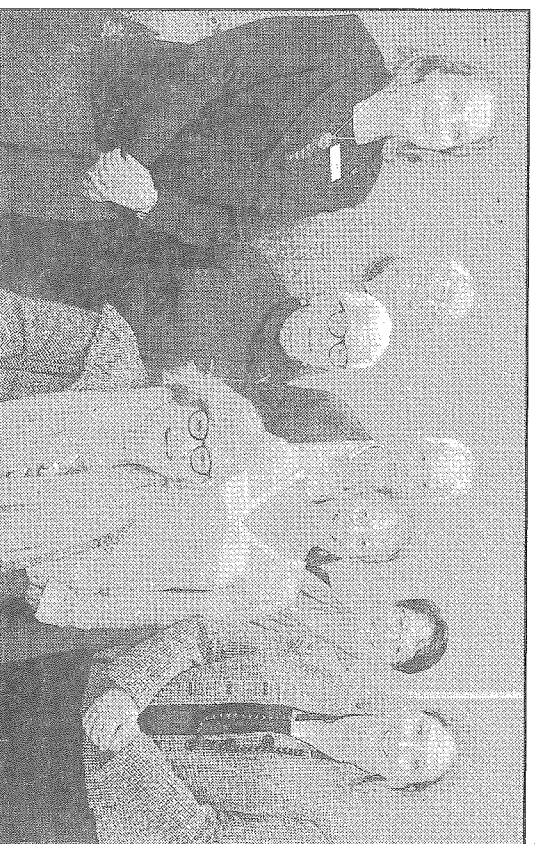
Murray Darling Basin

The carers meet regularly at the Summit Health centre in Mount Barker.

The group questioned Rebekha about the roll-out of the National Disability

Insurance Scheme and access to mental health support for people who

do not meet the criteria for the NDIS. Carers also talked about their concerns as elderly carers and accessing support through My Aged Care.



Federal Member for Mayo Rebekha Sharkie, far right, met with Uniting Communities Peer Support Worker Carly Udy, left, and Senior Co-ordinator of the Mental Health and Respite Service Cathy Smith, back row right, and members of the Carers Support Group - Clythe Greenwood, seated, Dawn Graham, Donald Lydod and Peter and Megs Drewitt.

Adrian Pederrick MP and the State Liberal Team are committed to ensuring the Murray Darling Basin Plan is delivered in full and on time.

Simultaneously, the State Liberal Opposition are in support of calls for a national judicial review into allegations of water theft in the Murray Darling Basin.

"I was extremely disappointed when learning of the alleged water theft from the Murray Darling Basin as this is an important resource utilised by many," said Mr Pederrick.

"The mistakes of a few cannot influence the utilisation of this resource for the greater majority and to ensure appropriate justice is upheld, myself and the Marshall Liberal Team support calls for a national judicial review."

"The Murray Darling Basin supports many states of Australia and all should be considered equally, which

is something Senator David Leyonhjelm fails to recognise. Statements which call for the Wellington Weir and the removal of the barrages are as ridiculous as suggesting that all the other 3,500 manmade structures should be removed from the system. "The comments by Senator David Leyonhjelm show he is misinformed and discount the fact, half a billion dollars' worth of produce is generated below Wellington annually.

"I am a firm believer of irrigation upgrades and improving water efficiencies throughout the Basin to return water to the system. The great work that has been undertaken in South Australia in irrigation efficiencies over sixty years could

well be replicated. "It is important to recognise the already legislated Murray Darling Basin Plan so that those who utilise this great resource, whether

Letter to the Editor

alone about 175 Gialgiltres of environmental water which the Basin Plan has made available.

Be angry about the illegal stuff, certainly, but the great majority of upstream irrigators, cotton farmers included, are complying with the rules and the river is not dying, but becoming healthier under the Basin Plan, every year.

The numbers tell the story, and the story is good.

Do not over react because some journalists either don't understand the numbers or just chose to beat up a story.

Thankyou
Trevor Hardin
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Simpler BAS is coming soon

Watch out for tax scams

- The Right Advice -

The ATO is reducing the amount of information needed to be included in the business activity statement (or 'BAS') to simplify GST reporting.

From 1 July 2017, Simpler BAS will be the default GST reporting method for small businesses with a GST turnover of less than \$10 million.

In relation to GST, small businesses will only need to report:
G1 - Total sales
1A - GST on sales
1B - GST on purchases.

This will not change a business' reporting cycle, record keeping requirements, or the way a business reports other taxes on its BAS.

Simpler BAS is intended to make it easier for businesses to lodge their BAS. It should also reduce the time spent on form-filling and making changes that don't impact the final GST amount.

The ATO will automatically transition eligible small business' GST reporting methods to Simpler BAS from 1 July 2017.

Small businesses can choose whether to change their GST accounting software settings to reduce the number of GST tax classification codes.

Call our office if you need help with the transition to Simpler BAS or to decide whether your business will use reduced or detailed GST tax code settings in its GST accounting software.

Protected Fund:
• The age restrictions are met;
• The fund member notifies their fund in writing of the amount they intend to claim as a deduction; and
• The fund acknowledges the notice of intent to claim a deduction in writing.

Change to Deductions for Personal Super Contributions
Up until 30 June 2017, an individual (mainly those who are self-employed) could claim a deduction for personal super contributions where they meet certain conditions. One of these conditions is that less than 10% of their income is from salary and wages.

This was known as the "10% test". From 1 July 2017, the 10% test has been removed.

This means most people under 75 years old will be able to claim a tax deduction for personal super contributions (including those aged 65 to 74 who meet the work test).

Call our office if you need assistance in relation to the application of the work test for a client that is aged 65 to 74.

Eligibility rules
An individual can claim a deduction for personal super contributions made on or after 1 July 2017 if:
• A contribution is made to a complying super fund or a retirement savings account that is not a Commonwealth public sector superannuation scheme in which an individual has a defined benefit interest or a Constitutionally

tax time means a refund may be just around the corner, but it's a busy time for scammers too! Last year alone 48,000 Australians fell prey to tax scams between July and October.

Already this year, the Tax Office has registered over 17,067 scam reports with victims collectively losing \$1.5 million to fraudsters.

That makes it worth knowing what to watch out for to keep your money safe this tax season.

First up, be wary of emails, phone calls and SMS claiming to come from the Tax Office. Be especially cautious if a caller ID pops up with a genuine Tax Office number.

Scammers can easily get hold of these numbers from the Tax Office website, but the catch is outbound calls made by Tax Office staff don't project numbers on caller ID.

If you see one, it's likely you're being contacted by a scammer. One scam doing the rounds last year, involved aggressive phone calls where the caller claimed to be from the Tax Office demanding payment of a tax debt, and threatening police action.

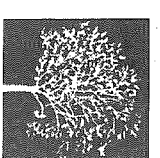
The giveaway was scammers demanded payment by iTunes gift cards; the tax man doesn't collect revenue this way!

That said, none of us like to think we're in trouble with the Tax Office, so some victims paid up.

Always bear in mind, the Tax Office doesn't cold call.
And if you owe money on tax you're likely to

Written by Paul Clitheroe AM, Co-founder and Executive Director of ipac securities limited, Chairman of the Australian Government Financial Literacy Board and Chief Commentator for Money magazine

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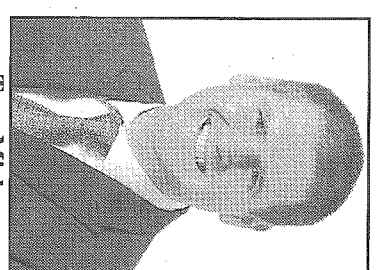
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Andrew Morris



Troy Mickan