



# TOM VENNING

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR GREY

## Grey Gazette



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM** *Tom Venning* 

As the holiday season arrives, it's time for family, reflection and festive cheer. I want to acknowledge everyone in Grey. Congratulations on making it through the year, the resilience and regional pride that I see out in the community each day is inspiring.

This year, we've faced some challenges such as the drought and the algal bloom. In the New Year, it is a priority of mine to continue to take these matters to Canberra, but I remain hopeful that things will soon change for the people and towns impacted.

In this first year as your Federal Member for Grey, I've had the opportunity to attend many country shows across Grey, including shows in Crystal Brook, Port Lincoln, Kadina, Whyalla, Yallunda Flat, Balaklava, Jamestown and Clare. At the Yorke Peninsula Field Days, I had the pleasure of spending three days speaking to locals and even got to hold Betty, one of the bettongs that are making a comeback on the Yorke Peninsula.

Though the towns in regional SA may be small, they are big on community spirit. This Christmas, I encourage you all to embrace this festive season and buy local, support your clubs and groups, and connect with your neighbours.

That's what holds us together.

From my family to yours, I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy, and successful New Year.

As always, if there is anything I can do to help you, please get in touch with me.

**Tom Venning**  
Federal Member for Grey

**SCAN HERE**  
to complete my  
survey online



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# Tom is getting things done in *Grey*



- ✓ Successfully advocated for Port Lincoln and Ardrossan to be visited by the algal bloom Senate Inquiry.
- ✓ Advocated for people in Port Pirie by urging the Government to ensure long-term viability of the Nyrstar smelter on a national stage.
- ✓ Took the Regional Childcare Desert Advocacy Project fight to Canberra.
- ✓ Worked with Senator Anne Ruston and was part of the team that forced the Government to release 20,000 new aged care packages.
- ✓ Advocated for extra drought support for farmers.
- ✓ Stood up for small rural towns like Coober Pedy and brought them to the forefront in Canberra.



## Fighting for better aged care

Grey has an ageing population, making aged care a critical issue for many.

Regional South Australia faces many unique challenges when it comes to aged care delivery that those in cities do not.

We took the fight to Canberra, and the Coalition has been successful this year in securing the immediate release of 20,000 new Home Care Packages after they were withheld by the Albanese Government. As a result of this, the full 81,000 will be released by the end of the financial year.

Our elderly deserve dignity, care and support from this Government.

Shadow Minister for Health, Aged Care and the NDIS Senator Anne Ruston and I have been advocating for older Australians and listening to our communities. Many of you have shared your concerns with me over the new Support at Home Program that was implemented from November 1.

The Coalition supports sensible reforms for a dignified, world-class aged care system. However, we are seriously concerned about Labor's poor implementation and the uncertainty it's causing.

Further information on these controversial changes is available at: [www.myagedcare.gov.au/support-home-program](http://www.myagedcare.gov.au/support-home-program) or scan the QR code.

Rest assured, I hear you, and I am fighting for you.



**SCAN HERE**

to find out more about  
the new Support at  
Home Program



## A fair go for Coober Pedy

Recently I took an important trip up north to Coober Pedy. I had the privilege of spending a few days meeting the great people that call this true Australian gem home, and let me tell you, its spirit is as bright as its stunning opals.

For decades, Coober Pedy has been a beacon of outback grit and enterprise, famous worldwide for being the home of beautiful opals and a unique subterranean lifestyle. It's a town of incredibly resilient Australians, hard workers who are passionate about their community, and the invaluable skills of opal cutting and mining.

However, I saw first-hand that this community is being held back, not by their work ethic, but by neglect and red tape from Canberra and Adelaide. They're facing huge hurdles: crippling costs for essential services like water and power, ageing infrastructure, and the lack of their own local government. It's simply not good enough.

That's why I've pledged to take this fight straight to Canberra. I'm proud to be standing alongside the dedicated Liberal Candidate for Stuart, Leon Stephens, who knows this region intimately. As Leon says, "The people here are dealing with something they do not deserve." We're demanding Plans, Not Promises for Coober Pedy.

Scan the QR code to watch my speech in Canberra on this very issue.



**SCAN HERE**  
to watch my  
Coober Pedy speech



## My maiden speech

“Australia is the lucky country, but luck runs out. I don't want us to just be lucky, I want us to be smart. We have the institutions, we have the resources, and we have the people. What we need now is courage. The courage to act, to lead, and to build the kind of country our grandchildren will be proud of. We need to lead with conviction, grit, and determination to rise to every challenge that comes our way. Just like I backed the B-double down the bunker all those years ago, I'm backing the people of Grey, and I won't let them down.”

**SCAN HERE**  
to view my full  
maiden speech



# About TOM



As the Member for Grey, I will be a strong voice in Canberra, advocating for the things that matter to you. I come from a farming background, having been raised on a property near Bute. After learning as much as I could as a young man on the farm, I branched out into the study of Economics and Mechanical Engineering.



This led me into a career as a strategic consultant, where I gained valuable insights into national and global decision making through my work across the government, public, and private sectors. Importantly, I continued to return home each harvest to work on the farm.

After years of balancing both these worlds, I returned to Bute to farm full-time, before deciding to dedicate my life to public service. I understand that strong communities, whether supported by the CFS, the local sporting clubs, or the Men's Sheds, are truly the backbone of regional Australia.

I am proud to have originated from a small regional community and am deeply honoured to represent the people of Grey in the Australian Parliament. Grey is one of the largest electorates in Australia, covering 92.4% of South Australia. Within our boundaries are 28 councils, 139 schools, and 39 hospitals, but most importantly, we are home to almost 200,000 people. As the Member for Grey, my first and foremost priority is to serve each and every one of those people with distinction and commitment.

## Since I was elected in May, I have travelled over 40,000 kilometres across Grey.



APY Lands

Cooper Pedy

Andamooka

Roxby Downs

Hawker

Ceduna, Port Augusta, Quorn, Orroroo, Melrose, Booleroo Centre, Jamestown, Port Pirie, Peterborough, Wudinna, Whyalla, Clare, Burra, Gladstone, Elliston, Cape Hardy, Wallaroo, Cummins, Wangary, Kadina, Paskeville, Port Lincoln, Adelaide Plains, Stansbury, Ardrossan, Port Vincent

