

# Festival funds received

## Federal Government grant boosts South East Junction

THE South East Junction has received a Federal Government funding boost to hold a kite festival later this year.

Students at schools throughout the Limestone Coast will have the opportunity to take part in workshops and create their own kites in the lead-up to the October festivities.

Children will also be educated on how to keep mentally well in the hope of preventing mental illness later in life.

The South East Junction coordinator Nel Jans said the community group was looking forward to the Flying High event, which has been allocated \$15,882 through the Building Better Regions Fund.

"We chose a kite festival as they are something colourful and creative, but also give the message you can fly as high as you want," she said.

"Mental health is such a key thing for our youth, so having a day like this aimed at the younger generation is a great way to highlight that."

"We are hoping it will become an annual event if we are able to receive support from local businesses in future years."

Federal Member for Barker Tony Pasin said he hoped the event would allow children to learn new skills, make new friends and have fun, in



**FLYING HIGH:** Mount Gambier mental health activity and resource centre The South East Junction has received funding from the Building Better Regions Fund for its upcoming Flying High kite festival this October. Member for Barker Tony Pasin (third from right) and supporters of the group have welcomed the funding.

addition to raising awareness for mental health.

Also receiving funding through the program is the Limestone Coast Leadership Program - an initiative of the Limestone Coast Local Government Association - and Mount Gambier City Council also received \$20,000 for the Guides of Mount Gambier - An Inclusive Visitor Economy Project.

"Projects like these will drive economic growth and

transform communities, ensuring our region remains resilient and prosperous into the future," Mr Pasin said.

Regional Development Minister John McVeigh said the BBRF continued to deliver major benefits for rural, regional and remote communities throughout Australia.

"The community investment stream of the BBRF is another part of our plan for regional Australia," he said.

"It supports community activities from expanded local events and strategic planning to improving leadership and capability."

"Under round two, the Coalition Government is investing more than \$4m in over 100 community investment stream projects across Australia valued at over \$7.3m.

"This is expected to create more than 4000 jobs, which will boost up local economies."