

# Jeffrey Baker's art in Parliament



*Luke Hartsuyker and Nationals leader and Acting Prime Minister Mark Vaile discuss the Jeffrey Baker painting which now hangs in Luke's Parliamentary office in Canberra*

**A piece of artwork by one of the Coffs Coast's most well known artists is attracting a lot of attention in Canberra after being placed on display in Parliament House.**

The artwork by Coffs Harbour's Jeffrey Baker was mounted on the wall in the Canberra office of Federal MP Luke Hartsuyker last week.

Mr Hartsuyker purchased the piece at an auction on September 9 which raised funds for six month old Ava Neville, who suffers from a rare

disorder, tuberous sclerosis.

Mr Hartsuyker said he welcomed the opportunity to help Ava and at the same time acquire the Jeffrey Baker piece titled 'A Place To Be'.

"The costs associated with seeking overseas treatment for Ava are substantial so I decided to support the fundraising auction and at the same time showcase one of our most outstanding local talents," Mr Hartsuyker said.

"It certainly attracted a lot of interest in my par-

liamentary office with many Members of Parliament passing comment."

One MP who enquired about the piece was Nationals leader Mark Vaile.

With John Howard representing the Government in New York last week, Mr Vaile was Acting Prime Minister when Luke met with him to discuss a range of issues. "The Acting Prime Minister commented on the artwork and asked about its origins," Mr Hartsuyker said.

"The piece has a coastal

theme and with Mark also from the North Coast it caught his eye.

"Jeffrey Baker is one of a number of talented artists who call the North Coast home. This particular piece of art has captured many of the features which make our region such a great place to live."

Donations to the Ava Neville fundraising campaign can be made by sending cheques to P.O. Box 6302, Coffs Harbour. Cheques should be made payable to the Rotary Club of Coffs.