

A weekly e-newsletter from the Parliamentary National Party of Western Australia

### Construction begins on \$220million Ord-East Kimberley Expansion Project

The Royalties for Regions Ord-East Kimberley Expansion project took another step forward today as construction started on 22 new agricultural lots. Brendon was in Kununurra with the Premier to mark the event today. This project is a great demonstration of what can be achieved through a commitment to a vision that will provide great social and economic benefits to the East Kimberley and its residents beyond the initial construction phase. The Ord-East Kimberley Expansion Project will increase the Ord irrigation area from 14,000ha to 22,000ha. This project will diversify the economic base of the region and provide long term benefits.



Above: Brendon Grylls MLA launching the fuel card at Serpentine.

### Fuel card more inclusive

Regional Development Minister Brendon Grylls this week announced an expansion of the Country Age Pension Fuel Card scheme. From 1 July changes will be made to eligibility requirements. More than 15,000 additional country pensioners are set to benefit from this change. The Country Age Pension Fuel Card was a key commitment for The Nationals WA at the last election.

### Recommendations finalized for water project

The Gascoyne Foodbowl Consultative Committee met in Carnarvon this week to finalise recommendations about how additional land and water should be dealt with when the upgrade of the water infrastructure is completed. The Committee, chaired by Wendy Duncan MLC, has considered how expansion should proceed to bring the greatest economic and social benefit to the Gascoyne Region.

### \$4.9 million in NRM grants to community groups

Terry Redman MLA this week announced \$4.9 million from the State Natural Resource Management program to support 51 projects across Western Australia. These projects will help local communities protect and improve their renewable natural resources

### Funding contributes to historic Cue upgrade

Wendy Duncan MLC, Vincent Catania MLA, Grant Woodhams MLA and National's candidate for Durack Lynne Craigie met at Cue Parliament last weekend. While in Cue, Vince officially marked the completion of the main street upgrade and undergrounding of power in a ceremony with Shire President, Stephen Manning. Royalties for Regions contributed to the upgrade giving the historic town a real lift and enhancing the attraction of its magnificent stone buildings.



Above: Wendy Duncan, Grant Woodhams, Lynne Craigie, Stephen Manning (Cue Shire President) Vince Catania at opening of new street in Cue.

### NEWS HEADLINES

Multi-million dollar new neighbourhood centre for Karratha, Grylls

State Government provides \$4.9million in NRM grants to community groups, Redman

Fuel Card Scheme second year expansion set to benefit 43,000 country pensioners, Grylls

Mid West sustainability workshops agrees on new plan, Davies

Construction begins on \$220million Ord-East Kimberley Expansion Project, Grylls

Minister opens new harness racing facilities at Pinjarra, Waldron

For more information visit [www.wa.gov.au](http://www.wa.gov.au) or [www.nationalswa.com](http://www.nationalswa.com)

### WHAT'S NEXT

16 May - Wendy in Boulder

17 May - Phil attending Euthanasia briefing

17 May - Vince in Point Samson

18 – 20 May – Parliament sitting

20 May – State Budget delivered

21 May - Phil in Geraldton and Merredin

21 May – Mia in Cunderdin

21 May - Wendy in Esperance

21 May - Max in Northam

21 May – Grant in Moora

21 May Colin in Albany

22 May- Tuck in Woodanilling

## **Pilbara Cities Project transforms Karratha**

Regional Development and Lands Minister Brendon Grylls has announced the Tambrey Neighbourhood Centre, one of several significant Pilbara Cities projects that will transform Karratha into a modern city offering highly desirable amenities and lifestyle. The project delivers a variety of affordable accommodation including small lot townhouses, low-rise apartments, short-stay apartments and potentially a backpacker's hostel.

## **Duncan, Davies and Grylls at WACOSS Conference**

Mia Davies MLC and Wendy Duncan MLC attended the WA Council of Social Service Conference in Perth to hear Brendon Grylls MLA address delegates. Brendon challenged NGO's to make the most of partnerships available through Royalties for Regions and to make use of the new capacity in the Community Resources Centres in towns across regional WA.



Above: Brendon Grylls MLA, Sue Ash (CEO of WACOSS) Wendy Duncan MLC and Mia Davies MLC

## **Regional Chambers of Commerce and Industry WA AGM**

Brendon Grylls MLA and Wendy Duncan MLC hosted the annual Regional Chambers of Commerce and Industry WA AGM at Parliament House last week. Members came from all over the State to discuss current industry projects and the future involvement of the CCI in regional communities.

## **Vince's movements**

This week Vince Catania MLA travelled to Karratha to attend the official opening of the new Karratha Police Complex on Tuesday with Minister Rob Johnson. Vince then attended a branch meeting along with Nationals candidate for Durack Lynne Craigie on Tuesday night. Around 30 people attended the inaugural meeting.

## **Colin in the South West**

Colin attended a number of events in his electorate including the launch of the South West Regional Water Plan in Bunbury, and the 21<sup>st</sup> Celebrations of Landcare in Waroona. He was in Albany on Thursday to meet with community groups to discuss the progress of 'Prospect House,' a men's refuge forecast to open in Albany in the near future.

## **Royalties for Regions funds Pinjarra Paceway**

Racing and Gaming Minister Terry Waldron MLA this week launched the construction of a new \$2.9 million pavilion at the Pinjarra Paceway. The Royalties for Regions Regional Grants Scheme contributed \$745,000 to the project, which will not only offer local employment but provide ongoing business opportunities for those directly and indirectly involved in harness racing.

## **Mid West social sustainability workshop agrees on new plan**

Mia Davies MLC and Brendon Grylls MLA attended the 'Leaving a Legacy' workshop in Perenjori on Tuesday, to discuss how Mid West communities can capture the benefits of the resources boom in the region. Mia has been working with the Mid West Development Commission and the Shires of Perenjori, Mingenew, Morawa and Three Springs to plan the workshop and help hinterland communities get the most out of mining activity.

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