

REGIONAL REPORT

e-newsletter

Edition 8 • 14th August 2009 • www.nationalswa.com



Wendy Duncan and Mia Davies on Barrow Island with an oil well in the background

News headlines

Hon Brendon Grylls MLA

- New partnership adds more funds for Pilbara health
- New chairman of the Mid West Development Commission board announced

Hon Terry Waldron MLA

- No forced amalgamations

Hon Terry Redman MLA

- Tour cultivates insight into agriculture and forestry

For more information go to www.wa.gov.au



A new mobile television screen worth \$1.3 million dollars was launched by Hon Terry Waldron at the Broome Cup on the weekend. The screen has the ability to be transported to other race rounds around the state and will bring significant entertainment and marketing opportunities for country race clubs.

What's on next...

15 Aug: Hon Mia Davies attending Beverley Show

15 Aug: Hon Philip Gardiner attending Perenjori Show

15-16 Aug: Hon Wendy Duncan in Newman for Fortescue Festival

18-20 Aug: Parliament sitting

Member for Mining and Pastoral Region tours her region

Hon Wendy Duncan spent several weeks over the winter break getting to know the Mining and Pastoral electorate. She attended the Carnarvon Tropicool Festival and visited Roeburne and Wickham to meet recipients of Royalties for Regions projects. With Hon Mia Davies she visited the gas

projects in the Pilbara including Barrow and Varanus Island and attended the FeNaCINg Festival in Karratha with Hon Brendon Grylls and Vince Catania MLA. She also toured Newman and Port Hedland and topped off the tour enjoying the Broome Cup with Hon Terry Waldron.

Local Government Amendment (Elections) Bill 2009

The Liberal-Nationals Government has responded to widespread sector dissatisfaction with the Preferential Proportional Representation (PPR) voting system introduced by the former Labor Government for local government elections. The new legislation will provide for local government elections to return to a first-past-the-post system. The PPR system was unpopular, particular with smaller Shires, as it was time consuming and unnecessarily complicated.

Light at end of tunnel for approvals processes

Nationals MPs have welcomed the Minister for Mines and Petroleum's announcement that the Industry Working Group formed to provide strategic advice about the best way to make the State's approvals process more efficient has completed its report.

Many projects that drive the economy of this State are based in regional areas and it's incumbent on Government to provide a structure that balances development with environmental and community considerations.

Property Council hosts lunch in Bunbury

Hon Brendon Grylls is in Bunbury today for a luncheon hosted by the newly formed South West Branch of the Property Council of Australia. Brendon will be discussing the delivery of Royalties for Regions funding into the South West and how local government, the community and private sector can maximise the benefits.

MPs promote foster caring

Hon Mia Davies and Hon Philip Gardiner have put their support behind the Minister for Child Protection Hon Robyn McSweeney MLC in her campaign to help find more foster carers. An advertising campaign is hoping to attract

new foster carers for the State's most vulnerable children. This problem is getting increasingly worse in not just city areas, but regional WA too. For more information contact the Foster Care Association of WA on 9388 1911 or contact Hon Mia Davies at - mia.davies@mp.wa.gov.au.

Minister for Agriculture inspects GM Crops

Today Hon Terry Redman and Hon Grant Woodhams have joined farmers from the Geraldton area to view progress of the GM canola trial. The trial, at the Department of Agriculture and Food's Northern Sandplain Research Annexe, is being opened to farmers as part of a field day to enable them to inspect the technology for themselves. Terry says the trials are the most sensible and cautious path to take and represent a real first for farmers who've been asking for access to the technology for years.

MPs briefed on Muresk closure

Two weeks ago Curtin University announced the closure of Muresk Agricultural College was imminent. The news has caused widespread discussion with many past and present pupils. Our MPs have been in regular discussions with representatives from the University and will continue to work with both them and the community to ensure people living in regional WA have access to tertiary education.

Pilbara health gets a boost

A new partnership between the Royalties for Regions initiative and major industries in the Pilbara will significantly boost funding for health services. Over the next three years, \$32.964million will come from Royalties for Regions, topped up with \$5.28million from industry members of the WA Chamber of Minerals and Energy's Pilbara Industry's Community Council.

For more information contact - mia.davies@mp.wa.gov.au