



Hon Brendon Grylls at the Dowerin Field Days with young supporters

Member for Central Wheatbelt opens the Dowerin Field Days

Hon Brendon Grylls opened one of Australia's largest agricultural expo's this week. People from right across the agricultural region made their way to Dowerin to see some of the best innovations in their industry. Brendon and several other National MP's were there to meet with their constituents and hear their issues and concerns.

It has been nearly one year since the Nationals gained balance of power and not surprisingly, The Nationals tent was a hub of activity. The main issues being discussed were genetically modified crops, local government reform and the future of The Muresk Institute of Agriculture.

News headlines

Hon Terry Redman MLA

- Mullewa field day NEAR strategy announcement
- Mid West farmers take first-hand look at GM canola
- New resource in the fight against pests, diseases and weeds
- Landmark new strategy to help farmers prepare for drought

Hon Terry Waldron MLA

- Funding boost for South West Academy of Sport
- Waldron welcomes road funding increase

Hon Max Trenorden MLA

- Local government fact finding tour

For more information go to www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au or www.nationalswa.com

What's on next...

30 August: Mia Davies, Grant Woodhams and Phil Gardiner will be at the Central Midlands Coastal Football/Netball Grandfinal

31 August: Brendon Grylls is going to the Munda Biddi Trail Event in Mundaring

1-3 Sept: Mia Davies and Wendy Duncan will travel to Gladstone, QLD, with representatives from Horizon Power

2-3 September - Terry Waldron and Philip Gardiner attending Newdegate Field Days

Trenorden to visit SA and QLD on local government fact finding tour

Hon Max Trenorden will be heading to South Australia and Queensland next week, to investigate collaborative models of regional governance. He will meet a range of local government representatives in SA, where a subsidiary model of regional government has been introduced, and in QLD, where amalgamations were forced by the State Government. The Nationals are keenly aware that Local Government Councillors are engaged in the reform process and that this process has caused a great deal of angst. The aim is to return with credible and practical solutions. Contact Max for more information on 08 9622 2871.

Skeleton weed program to continue

Agriculture and Food Minister Terry Redman has welcomed the announcement that the skeleton weed program will continue. Terry said the Government would continue to fund the program over the next three years, with a transition to industry funding over that time. Terry said that following that time, industry would be able to make decisions about supporting the program themselves.

Significant grants received

Sport and Recreation Minister Terry Waldron presented the South West Academy of Sport with a cheque for \$136,000 from the Royalties for Regions program. The Academy is the first regional sports academy in WA and it has helped to transform sport in the region. Also this week, the Gnowangerup Community Resource Centre received a cheque for \$485,000. Terry presented the cheque with Lotterywest for the construction of the Community Resource Centre.

Online resource helping to protect WA from pests, diseases and weeds

A new online resource that's designed to

help protect the State from serious pests, diseases and weeds was launched this week. The internet resource is called the 'Common Regional Pests of WA' and includes more than 40 of the State's most common biosecurity threats. Anyone who has the slightest concerns about biosecurity threats should contact the Pest and Disease Information Service on 1800 084 881. 'Common Regional Pests of Western Australia' can be downloaded from www.agric.wa.gov.au.

Petition gaining momentum for hospital

Member for the South West, Hon Colin Holt MLC was in Busselton this week, to meet with members of the Busselton Hospital Action Group. People in the region have been pushing for a new hospital and Colin Holt has shown his support for this cause by tabling a petition in the Legislative Council. The petition calls for a new hospital and so far 1600 signatures have been collected. Contact the Action Group at www.wherisourhospital.com if you would like to show your support.

Busy week in the South-East

Member for Mining and Pastoral, Wendy Duncan has spent the week in the south east. She attended a meeting of the Ravensthorpe Shire where local government structural reform was discussed. She also addressed the Esperance Mother's Encouragement Group (MEGS) on lessons she has learned as a mother of four with a busy life. Wendy assured the young Mums present that there was plenty of time for a career after the kids have grown, having launched her own political career after her four children were well into their teens. To cap off the week, Wendy celebrated Meals on Wheels Week, by visiting the MOW kitchen and helping to load up the cars of volunteers.