

News headlines

- Agreement with Royal Agricultural Society to boost profile of WA food and agriculture, Redman
- Catania criticises job fund, Catania
- Perth to host Digital Earth Symposium, Grylls
- Catania congratulates Gorgon on final go ahead, Catania
- Waldron welcomes community conservation groups funding, Waldron

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Nationals' Gala Ball attracts huge crowd at the Burswood



The Nationals WA hosted the Balance of Power Gala Ball last Saturday 12 September at the Burswood Entertainment Complex. 500 guests attended the event, which was an important opportunity to celebrate and reflect on the first year of government. Guests enjoyed diverse entertainment, including a string quartet from the WA Youth Orchestra and the Disco Divas.



Top left: Hon Mia Davies, Steve Drake-Brockman, Veronica Trenorden
Bottom left: Aleisha, Hon Terry, Marie and Ben Redman
Bottom right: Belinda Stotter, Emma Davies, Richard Goodall

What's next ...

- 19 September – Mia Davies attending the Kellerberrin Show
- 19 September – Grant Woodhams and Philip Gardiner attending the Moora Show
- 19 September – Terry Waldron attending Kalgoorlie Cup
- 20 September – Colin Holt attending the opening of the Kwinana Freeway Extension and Forrest Highway
- 20 September – Grant Woodhams attending Geraldton Football League Grand Final
- 20 September – Terry Waldron attending WA Football League Grant Final
- 22–24 September – Parliament sitting
- 23 September – Wendy Duncan to open the Gold and Wool Park in Sandstone
- 25 September – Brendon Grylls and Mia Davies in Merredin, Dowerin and Wyalkatchem for community meetings

Agreement to boost profile of agriculture in WA

Agriculture and Food Minister Terry Redman this week announced an agreement between the Department of Agriculture and Food and the Royal Agricultural Society (RAS) to boost the profile of agriculture in Western Australia. The Perth Royal Show will provide an opportunity for rural communities to display the contribution they make to the State. Terry and the RAS hosted a cocktail party at Parliament House this week, to raise the profile of local produce. Prime produce was showcased at the cocktail party, including Q Lamb, Cambinata Yabbies, fresh oysters and pastries from the Miami Bakehouse. Terry said agriculture and food in WA generates \$13bn annually and is our second biggest export sector after mining.

Business Breakfast looks at the year in Government

Hon Terry Redman MLA hosted this year's final National's Business Breakfast on Wednesday 16 September. Terry reflected on the achievements of the Nationals WA over the past year and spoke about key issues in the agriculture and food portfolios. He emphasized the importance of agriculture and discussed the exciting

opportunities the industry offers.

Gorgon signals huge opportunities for WA

Hon Brendon Grylls MLA this week welcomed a historic agreement to proceed with the Gorgon project in the State's north. The agreement between all key stakeholders will boost the Australian economy and provide thousands of jobs, particularly in regional WA. Member for the North West Vince Catania also welcomed the project, saying it will reinforce the Pilbara's role as the 'engine room' of the State and Federal economy.

Grylls looks at regional development in India

Minister for Regional Development Brendon Grylls travelled to India last week to meet with industry leaders, government officials and bankers. India is WA's fifth largest export market, with the annual value of goods exported from Australia estimated at \$6million. During the visit to New Delhi, Mumbai and Agra, Brendon advocated the expansion of WA's trade relationship with the subcontinent. He said India continues to look to our state as a major supplier for its energy needs. India also has a growing interest in sourcing WA iron ore from the Pilbara and Mid West.

Contact your local Nationals Member of Parliament

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MPs discuss key rural issues

Member for the Agricultural Region Philip Gardiner and Member for the Mining and Pastoral Region Wendy Duncan met with the vice president of the WA Rural Doctors' Association this week to discuss issues facing doctors in regional areas. Philip also met with the Guild presidents of Perth's four major universities and the WA representative to the National Union of Students to discuss student accommodation issues. A loophole in the Residential Tenancies Act is creating difficulties for students, from within Australia and overseas, to access quality student accommodation.

Latham celebrate their centenary

Member for Moore, Grant Woodhams travelled to Latham in the north of the Agricultural Region on Saturday to help Latham celebrate their 100 year anniversary.

Member for the South West meets Treasurer on key issues

Hon Colin Holt MLC this week met with the Treasurer and Minister for Housing and Works Troy Buswell, regarding funding for South West hospitals and housing for essential workers in the region. Colin also met with representatives from the Environment Minister's office to discuss the development of a new management plan for the Yalgorup Lakes National Park, an important park in the region.

Member for North West helps mark the start of major project

Hon Vince Catania MLA attended the ceremony marking the start of construction for Apache Energy's Devil Creek domestic gas plant near Karratha this week. Vince said the project was a major milestone the region, representing a significant investment in the State's energy market.

GM disallowance motion quashed

Hon Mia Davies MLC spoke against a Greens motion to ban GM crops this week in Parliament. Mia said farmers should be able to make their own choices about what they grow. She told the Parliament that producers would make investment choices in the same way they make all choices—after careful consideration of the environmental, community and economic factors—which included potential markets.

Aviation Taskforce in Wyalkatchem

Hon Max Trenorden MLC and Hon Mia Davies MLC attended the Aviation Taskforce Public consultation meeting in Wyalkatchem on Monday 14 September. The Aviation Taskforce, which Max chairs, will be holding a series of meetings in wheatbelt communities to discuss development opportunities for aviation. The Shire of Wyalkatchem briefed the Taskforce on the funding the Shire received from Regional Airport Development Scheme for the redevelopment of their airstrip and associated infrastructure.



Above: Hon Max Trenorden and Cr Susan Bruse, President of the Shire of Wyalkatchem

Mingenew Expo

Members for Agricultural Region Philip Gardiner and Mia Davies and the Member for Moore Grant Woodhams attended the Mingenev Lions Midwest Expo this week. Members were kept busy discussing key issues with constituents.

Karara project receives approval

Member for Moore Grant Woodhams has welcomed the announcement of final State Government environmental approval for the Gindalbie Metals for the Karara Iron Ore Project. The decision moves the project one step closer and will ensure Gindalbie is able to create new opportunities in the Mid West region.

Golden Grain to the Coastal Plains

Member for Wagin Terry Waldron has officially opened Hotham Way Tourist Route, which was six years in the making. The route is 160 km and stretches from Pinjarra to Pingelly. Terry said the project will help develop local communities.