

Regional Report

e-newsletter

A weekly e-newsletter from the Parliamentary National Party WA

New facilities in wheatbelt

Hon Brendon Grylls MLA and Hon Mia Davies MLC are attending the opening of the Cunderdin Day Care Centre today. The new day care centre will open three days a week for children aged 0 – 6 years. Brendon and Mia will also officially open the new Small Business Centre Offices in Merredin, attend the ten year anniversary of the Dowerin telecentre and the Wyalkatchem Rose and Heritage Art Show.

Greater access to water catchments to be explored

Sport and Recreation Minister Terry Waldron announced the State Government would examine the possibility of greater recreation access to dams, water courses and catchment areas. A Parliamentary committee will investigate the quantity of water that can be used without jeopardising drinking water. Terry said numerous activities could take place in the catchment areas, but the first priority is to ensure we have quality water for the future. The committee will make recommendations by July 2010.

Royalties for Regions Bill passed in Lower House

The Nationals' election promise to bring Royalties for Regions into law came one step closer to fruition after it was debated in the Lower House this week. Hon Brendon Grylls MLA introduced the Royalties for Regions Bill to the Lower House of Parliament in June. It now needs to pass the Upper House. The Bill will give Royalties for Regions a legislative base.

\$5.4million allocated to natural resource management projects

Agriculture and Food Minister Terry Redman has announced \$5.4million

for 15 projects to protect and better manage our natural resources. The projects were allocated up to \$500,000 to deliver on ground results that involve local and community groups. Terry said the projects tackle the Government's five key priority areas for managing our natural resources - biodiversity, biosecurity, water quality, climate change adaptation and NRM interaction with planning.

Exploring sustainable energy

Member for the Agricultural Region Phil Gardiner met with academics from Curtin University this week to discuss sustainable energy. Phil said sustainable energy has an important role in regional areas of WA and is looking to add to the debate in Parliament this year. He is interested in the technology relating to biofuels and the high calibre professionals working on the project.

Royal Flying Doctor Service gets boost from Royalties for Regions

Member for the Agricultural Region Mia Davies attended the blessing of four new aircraft to the Royal Flying Doctor Service in Jandakot this week. The new planes are single engine, turbo prop Pilatus PC-12s, able to accommodate two patients on stretchers and a medical crew of

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NEWS HEADLINES

Spotlight on the Pilbara, Grylls

Race legislation to provide even field, Waldron

WA Farmers leading the world, Redman

Community input sought to drive vision for South Hedland town square, Grylls

Greater access to water catchments to be explored, Waldron

\$5.4million allocated to natural resource management projects, Redman

Funding for residential college falls short, Duncan

Royal Flying Doctor Service gets boost from Royalties for Regions, Davies

WHAT'S NEXT

26 Sept – 10 Oct Grant Woodlams attending 55th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference, Arusha

26 Sept Sam Hama opening 38th Lions District Convention in Albany on behalf of Colin Holt

27 Sept Terry Redman attending Augusta Volunteer Sea Search and Rescue Group's Open Day at Augusta

27 Sept Brendan Grylls attending York Racing – Gala Fundraising Day

27 Sept Terry Redman attending Northcliffe's 85th Anniversary celebrations function

doctor and nurse. As a gesture of appreciation for the much needed funding, the RFDS has applied the Royalties for Regions logo to the tail of VH-OWA. Mia said the new planes will greatly improve access to health services for people in regional WA.



Above: Mia Davies and Tony Crook.

Spotlight on the Pilbara

Member for the Mining and Pastoral Region Wendy Duncan visited Karratha to open the Pilbara Dialogue, an initiative by the Pilbara Development Commission bringing together representatives from major resource companies, government agencies, local authorities and non-government agencies. Wendy provided an update on Royalties for Regions, the Pilbara Revitalisation Plan and housing initiatives.



Above: Wendy Duncan in Karratha to launch the 'Spotlight on the Pilbara' project.

While in the Pilbara, Wendy also launched "Spotlight on the Pilbara," a series of web-based reports to assist in the planning and delivery of

services in regional WA. Each 'Spotlight' will provide up-to-date data on issues such as population, health, education and training, community and the environment, local government areas and information particular to each region. Minister for Regional Development Brendon Grylls said the Pilbara has been chosen as the pilot program, due to its unique status.

'Spotlight on the Pilbara' is available at www.regionalspotlights.com.au.

MPs enjoy Kalgoorlie Cup

Glamour and glitz was the order of the day when Hon Wendy Duncan MLC and Hon Terry Waldron MLA attended the Kalgoorlie Cup last weekend. Tuck presented the Cup and Wendy enjoyed typical Goldfields hospitality and even had a win on a couple of races.



Above: Suzie Williams (GEDC Board), Lloyd Morley (Telstra), Robert Hicks GEDC CEO and Wendy Duncan.

Congratulations to the Kalgoorlie Boulder Racing Club for a wonderful Round. The weekend was topped off by joining the crowds at Coolgardie.

New highway benefits regional WA

Member for the South West Colin Holt and Members for the Agricultural Region Phil Gardiner and Max Trenorden attended the opening of the new Forrest Highway on Sunday 20th September. A large crowd gathered to witness the opening of a major community asset. Colin was

29 Sept Max Trenordan attending Wheatbelf District Police Remembrance Day Ceremony in Northam

30 Sept Phil Gardiner attending a meeting on Regional Development in the Royal Agricultural Society President's Lounge

3 Oct Brendan Grylls, Terry Waldron, Mia Davies and Phil Gardiner attending Kulin Bush Races.

Contact us...

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particularly pleased to finally see the highway open as it will mean safer travel for all motorists, less traffic through Mandurah and safer travel on the single lane parts of the Old Coast road that has seen too many tragic road accidents. The highway will also provide South West businesses with new economic and tourism opportunities.

WA farmers leading the world

Agriculture and Food Minister Terry Redman said new analysis has shown WA farmers lead the nation in running profitable farming businesses, with the least amount of government assistance. A new study undertaken by the Department of Agriculture and Food has looked at the value of government assistance received by farmers in WA compared with farmers in the Eastern States and in other major agriculture producing nations. Terry said this research highlights the importance of reducing regulation and ensuring future government policies do not place unnecessary constraints on the industry.

More information can be found:

www.agric.wa.gov.au/PC_93618.html

Funding for residential college a good start

Member for Mining and Pastoral Wendy Duncan has welcomed the announcement of \$1.5 million to the Esperance Residential College. However Wendy warned that this would be insufficient to bring the accommodation up to an acceptable standard. The allocation will be used to provide an additional 12 student bedrooms and a new staff unit, which boosts the number of separate bedrooms for senior students from 14 to 26. Wendy said this is only the beginning and the Esperance Residential College will require at

least another \$10 million dollars to ensure the dining facilities, ablutions and staff accommodation are suitable for students from remote regions.

Community input sought to drive vision for South Hedland town square

Regional Development and Lands Minister Brendon Grylls has announced the development of a new Community Design Reference Group to help drive a detailed plan for the heart of the South Hedland. South Hedland is a key part of the State Government's Royalties for Regions program with \$23million being injected to help change the face of the town. The works will improve the public spaces and the general amenity of the town and link in with the new hospital. Brendon said it's important the community have their say on how South Hedland is developed. People can nominate to be part of the reference group at:

www.landcorp.com.au/southhedlandtowncentre

by 10am, Friday, October 2.