

Hon Mia Davies MLA

Member for Central Wheatbelt | Leader of The Nationals WA | Leader of the Opposition

NEWSLETTER

February 2022



MIA'S MESSAGE

Welcome to 2022 and the start of another year – I hope this message finds you safe and well. As we navigate these uncertain times my focus and commitment to represent the electorate is as strong as ever. After a long, and very heavy Parliamentary sitting schedule in 2021, it was great to attend school graduations, meet with businesses and community groups and spend some time on constituent meetings to wrap up the year. As I write this, the Premier has announced the

delay to our borders re-opening. There are many questions to be answered as to how we will manage these next few weeks and months. It is clear the Government was left with no choice – and they must now outline how they will use this time to prepare WA for the inevitable. COVID is in our community already and we need clear guidance on how we will manage this. And while COVID and its management remains a key issue, we must also keep the McGowan Government accountable on issues like education, affordable housing, access to aged care services, and road and rail safety – all issues that are high on my list for the electorate. I invite you to have your say and let me know what your priorities are by filling out the Community Survey enclosed. As always, I welcome your feedback.

ROLL UP FOR WA



Mia at the Northam COVID Clinic getting her booster vaccine

From 4 January, Western Australians who received their second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine more than four months ago are eligible to receive a third dose. Both Pfizer or Moderna are recommended for booster vaccines – and you can get your third dose at State run clinics, GPs, pharmacies and Aboriginal Medical Services. I got mine in Northam in January. By getting vaccinated you are protecting yourself and your family and friends, reducing the likelihood of getting the virus or getting seriously ill if you do get it. It also reduces the rate at which you pass it on – protecting our community and health system.

RAIL SAFETY

I continue to work with Lara Jenson and the families who lost their loved ones in rail crossing accidents. I moved a motion in Parliament calling on the State government to invest in initiatives to increase safety at passive rail crossings in regional WA. I have also raised the matter with the Federal Minister for Transport. We will continue the fight for funding and improvements – the request from the families is simple and can be achieved with co-operation between industry, State and Federal Government.

What they want:

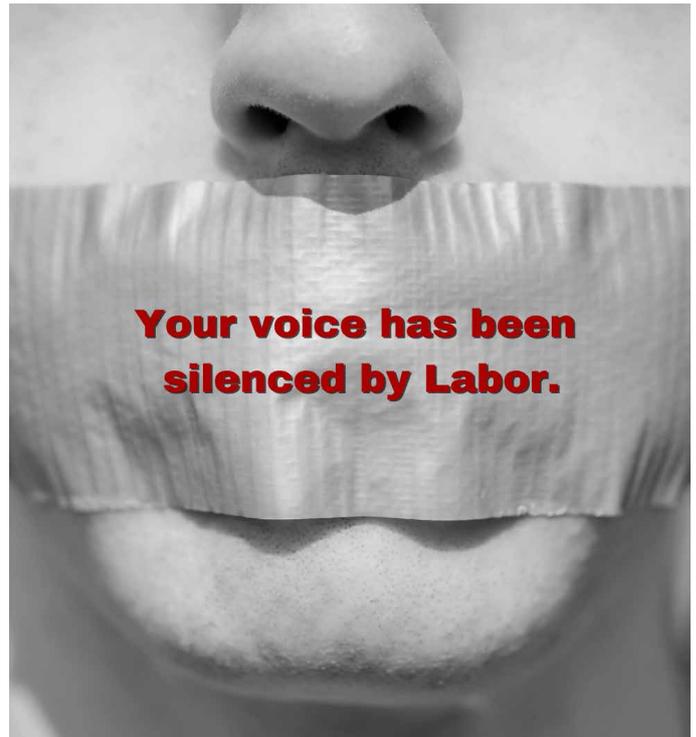
- Flashing lights on the front of trains, and LED lights on the side of carriages
- Ultra-high frequency radio communication for drivers to alert nearby trucks to danger
- Solar-powered flashing red lights at passive level crossings



Mia Davies and Opposition Shadow Minister for Transport Mr Shane Love at Parliament after the debate

ELECTORAL REFORM ROBS REGIONAL WA

In the last weeks of 2021, the McGowan Labor Government used their massive majority to push through electoral reform legislation. They gagged debate in the Lower House and forced the Upper House to sit and debate into the early hours - a disgraceful abuse of their power. At the next election it will slash the already small number of regional representatives in the Parliament, making it harder for the issues in country WA to get the attention they deserve. It will mean there will be less people in the Parliament fighting for you that truly understand what it's like to live and work in country WA. Every single regional Labor Member voted for these changes, blindly toeing the Party line instead of fighting for their electorate. Remember, the Premier told everyone before the election this wasn't on the agenda – and then did it anyway.



LOCAL HERO GRANTS



Kellerberrin Junior Fire Brigade Local Hero Recipients

My Local Hero Grants will continue this year, providing funding to support our volunteers and community groups that contribute to making the electorate a great place to live. It's easy to apply, but is becoming more competitive, so keep an eye out for the opening date! Successful groups in the last round included Friends of York Hospital, Brookton Swimming and Lifesaving Club, Yilgarn Motoring Enthusiasts Inc, Trayning Bowling Club and Gooda Judder Aboriginal Corporation.

YOUTH MENTORING

Congratulations to Karen Strange and Janine Dayman (Bruce Rock) who were recognised in the 2021 Community Achievement Awards for their work to support country students explore a diversity of education and employment opportunities. The Wheatbelt and Beyond Youth Mentoring Program (WBYP) serves more than 150 students from schools including Bruce Rock, Carnamah and Quairading District High Schools, and Babakin Primary School.

NORTHAM PCYC



Northam PCYC delivers Stepping Stones – an alternative education program for young people in year 11 or 12. I was pleased to attend the 2021 Northam PCYC Celebration of Achievement to acknowledge the students for their hard work during the year – well done to all that stayed the course. They have been working with Jane and the PCYC crew, Northam Senior High School and business partners to reach their potential.



Doug (Bushy) with students and Jane Atterby



Karen, Mia and Janine in Bruce Rock

GOVERNMENT FAILS FIRIES

In December, Nationals MP Hon Martin Aldridge MLC revealed that only two of twelve mechanical technicians employed by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services were available to work ahead of the fire season commencing. These technicians are responsible for the maintenance of critical firefighting appliances. On top of this, there are significant delays to fleet replacements; a failure to respond to the Royal Commission into the 2019/20 Black Summer bushfires; and a six-month lag on commencing the Woorlooloo bushfire inquiry. These challenges are frustrating for firefighters and other emergency service workers and volunteers. The State Government has clearly taken its eye off the ball this bushfire season.



Martin Aldridge MLC, Woorlooloo Bush Fire site

KULIN BUSH RACES

The communities of Kulin, Cuballing and Wickepin all came into the electorate of Central Wheatbelt at the March 2021 State election – and I'm pretty excited to have Kulin Bush Races as one of the key events on the calendar! I joined the 4,000 spectators and hundreds of volunteers for a weekend of fun camping out and enjoying these iconic bush races. Congratulations to Tom Murphy (Chair) and his committee for an amazing weekend. Hon Colin De Grussa, Hon Martin Aldridge and I are pleased to assist with sponsorship each year.



Martin Aldridge MLC, Mia and Kulin Shire President Barry West

AGED CARE FORUM

The Quairading Seniors group invited me to attend and present at a forum to discuss access to services and support for seniors in their community. Like many other communities in the Wheatbelt many families are faced with moving away because they can't get the support they need to stay at home. We talked about strategies to assist ageing in place, what models of care would work for Quairading and what other towns (like Pingelly) are trialling. This is one of my priorities for the electorate and I'd welcome the opportunity to speak with other groups and individuals in the electorate. Are you getting the support you need? Do you need help navigating the system? Have you had an experience you'd like to share? Please reach out to my office – every little bit of information helps us make the case for greater investment and change.



Quairading and Aged Retired Residents and Seniors (QARRAS) aged care forum

HEALTH & HOSPITALS IN CRISIS

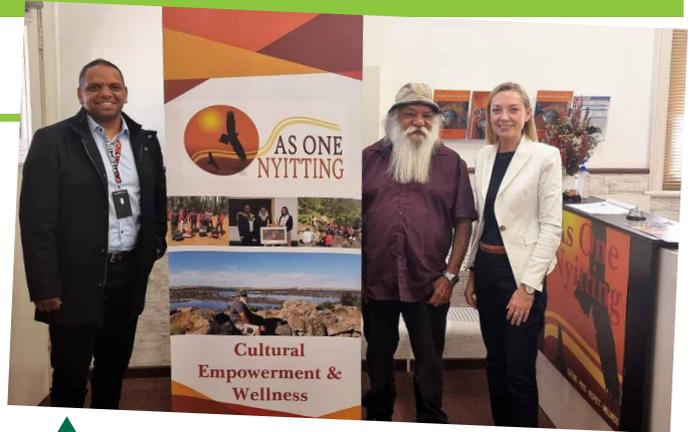
Our hospital system is facing one of the worst crisis's we have seen in WA history. We went into the pandemic with a run-down health system, the lowest number of ICU beds in the country, and ambulance ramping at record levels, yet with no COVID crisis here, the health system is in an even worse state. The McGowan Government has failed to prioritise funding for health and hospitals – over five years they have cut corners and ignored health professional's pleas for support.



Photo credit Angie Roe Photography



| OUT AND ABOUT |



▲ I joined the community in Merredin to celebrate 50 years of the Prospector Rail Service. We had former railway workers, community members, Merredin Railway Museum and visitors to mark the train coming through - sharing memories and enjoying the spread put on by the Merredin Community Resource Centre and volunteers.

▲ I dropped in for a yarn with Trevor, Nancy, Rob and Zoe at As One Nyitting in Northam to catch up on their work and vision. Also had a chat about the cultural on country experience Trevor runs through Koorah Koorah Cultural Tours.



▲ Mia with Dennis and Kathy Saunders, Rob and Dianne Tinetti, Tony Crook (State President), Murray and Heather Giles at The Nationals WA 2021 State Conference held in Northam.

▶ As Vice Patron of the Royal Life Saving Society (WA) I had the pleasure of presenting awards to members that have provided long and committed service to the Society. Both Colin Hassell (Bakers Hill) and Wendy Smith (Northam) have contributed to keep our communities safe around water.



◀ I attended the opening of the upgrades to Pingelly's Memorial Park – what a fantastic space for locals and visitors. The project was made possible with funds from the Federal Government Drought Communities Program. Pictured is Cr Karmvir Singh, Deputy President Jackie McBurney, Mia, President William Mulrone, Hon Rick Wilson MP, CEO Andrew Dover.



Hon Mia Davies MLA

 Member for Central Wheatbelt | Leader of the Nationals WA | Leader of the Opposition

Merredin Office

The Old Town Hall
Mitchell Street
Merredin WA 6415

Ph: 08 9041 1702
Fx: 08 9041 2554
Freecall: 1800 673 914

Northam Office

171 Northam Boulevard
Fitzgerald Street
Northam WA 6401

Postal: PO Box 92, Northam
Ph: 08 9622 2871
Fx: 08 9622 1668

mia.davies@mp.wa.gov.au
facebook.com/MiaDaviesMLA
@MiaDaviesMLA
@miadaviesmla

THE NATIONALS for Regional WA

COMMUNITY SURVEY



As the State Member for Central Wheatbelt I'm interested in your views and priorities for the electorate and I'll always do my best to get out and about and engage with our communities directly.

My office and I are here to help. We will do our best to assist you, and if we can't we'll find out who can. This survey lets me know what issues are important to you – so please take five minutes to fill it out and send it back.

Hon Mia Davies MLA

Member for Central Wheatbelt

I genuinely want to hear your views and issues. Here's how to contact me:

- 1 Fill out this community survey form and send it back to my office
- 2 Contact my office directly on 08 9622 2871 or 08 9041 1702
- 3 Email my office at mia.davies@mp.wa.gov.au

Please return this by folding in thirds and taping all loose ends together with the Reply Paid panel outwards. Postage is FREE

Hon Mia Davies MLA

Member for Central Wheatbelt

THE NATIONALS *for Regional WA*

mia.davies@mp.wa.gov.au

www.miadavies.com.au

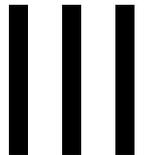
 [facebook.com/MiaDaviesMLA](https://www.facebook.com/MiaDaviesMLA)

 [@MiaDaviesMLA](https://twitter.com/MiaDaviesMLA)

 [@miadaviesmla](https://www.instagram.com/miadaviesmla)

Delivery Address:
PO Box 92
NORTHAM WA 6401

No stamp required
if posted in Australia



Hon Mia Davies MLA
Reply Paid 84294
NORTHAM WA 6401

MIA DAVIES' COMMUNITY SURVEY

I'm genuinely interested in hearing what issues are important to you.

What issues are most important to you (please nominate your top five):

- A strong local health and hospital system
- Investing to strengthen our education services
- Safer towns with fully staffed Police stations
- Improving Road infrastructure and safety (nominate road)
- Cutting red tape and supporting small business
- Access to mental health services
- Improving aged care and disability services and support
- Access to housing
- Support for our emergency service volunteers
- Caring for our environment
- Other

What is a critical issue of concern for you?

Name

Address

Mobile

Email

*I normally vote for: Labor Liberal The Nationals Other I change my vote depending on the election

* Optional