

News headlines

New reefs reeling in South-West recreational fishers, Grylls

\$1.5 million to improve Champion Lakes, Waldron

New academy brings education options, Grylls

Mid-West road upgrades to begin soon, Grylls

Three ex-Kojonup football players catch up at Hall of Fame induction, Waldron

Plan to keep the Great Southern working, Redman

World's top stadium builders on Perth shortlist, Waldron

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Coming up

April 21
Mia in Northam

April 22
Brendon in Paraburdoo
Tony in Wandering, Williams

April 23-25
Colin in Albany

April 23
Brendon in Karratha
Martin in Geraldton
Mia in Northam
Tony in Narrogin, Pingelly,
Brookton
Terry W in Narrogin, Woodanilling
Wendy in Menzies

April 24
Brendon in Port Hedland
Martin in Geraldton
Mia in Merredin
Wendy in Kalgoorlie

April 25
Brendon in Port Hedland
Dave, Tony and Wendy in
Kalgoorlie
Mia in Mukinbudin
Shane in Moora, Jurien Bay
Terry R in Bridgetown

April 26
Brendon in Karratha
Terry R in Denmark, Walpole
Terry W in Woodanilling, Mount
Barker
Tony at the Nullarbor Muster

The Nationals WA attend Merredin agriculture meeting

Nationals MPs Mia Davies, Martin Aldridge, Shane Love and Tony Crook travelled to Merredin this week to attend a meeting on the state of agriculture in regional Western Australia. Organised by the Muntadgin Farming Alliance, the agriculture in crisis meeting saw more than 1000 farmers raise concerns with State and Federal MPs, the banking sector and agricultural industry representatives. Twelve resolutions were passed by the meeting, aimed at providing additional support for farmers impacted by drought and natural disasters and to improve industry competitiveness. Mia Davies MLA said The Nationals WA will continue to work with the agricultural industry to ensure it is supported and remains sustainable into the future. O'Connor Federal MP Tony Crook promised to deliver the resolutions passed at the meeting to the Federal Government.

The Nationals sworn into Parliament

The first sitting of State Parliament since the election has seen newly elected MPs Wendy Duncan, Mia Davies and Shane Love sworn into the Legislative Assembly and Martin Aldridge and Dave Grills into the Legislative Council. Mia, Shane and Wendy addressed Parliament this week to outline their priorities for regional WA over the next four years. On May 22, Jacqui Boydell and Paul Brown will join the Legislative Council, giving The Nationals WA their greatest representation in Parliament since 1971 with 12 MPs.

Kojonup Football players reunited at Hall of Fame induction

Three former Kojonup Football Club players were reunited at the WA Football Hall of Fame induction night last week, as WA football legend Stephen Michael and Minister for Sport and Recreation, Terry Waldron MLA were on hand to induct Peter Bell into the WA Football Hall of Fame. Peter's formative football years were spent at the Kojonup Football Club, before going on to compete for North Melbourne in the 1996 and 1999 AFL Grand Final. Terry said he was thrilled to be part of the induction and enjoyed catching up with the former Kojonup players.



Above: Stephen Michael, Peter Bell and Terry Waldron MLA catch up at the WA Football Hall of Fame induction night.

Duncan attends smelter anniversary

The Kalgoorlie Nickel Smelter hosted a family-fun day to celebrate its 40 year anniversary this week, and Wendy Duncan MLA went along to enjoy the day's activities. The day featured market stalls, live music and tours of the smelter, which is now owned by BHP Billiton Nickel West. Many past employees returned to the Goldfields for the celebration and to reunite with old work-mates.



Above: Wendy Duncan MLA with 40-year KNS employee Brian Waldock and KNS General Manager John Malone.

Crook to retire from Parliament

Federal Member for O'Connor, Tony Crook MP, has announced his intention to retire from Federal Parliament at the September Federal election. Tony said it has been a privilege and an honour to represent the people of O'Connor in Canberra over the past three years. Tony has provided WA with a strong regional voice on issues such as GST distribution and the abolishment of the Wheat Exports Authority, and has helped to secure Federal investment into key projects such as PortLink and the Albany Centenary of Anzac commemorations. The Nationals WA are currently seeking nominations for candidates for all regional seats for the forthcoming Federal election.

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Grylls ready for Red Dog Festival

Newly elected Member for Pilbara, Brendon Grylls MLA, has been enjoying his time in the Pilbara as the region prepares for the inaugural Red Dog Festival Relay. Taking place from May 31 – June 2 the Festival will feature a multi-sport adventure relay covering more than 330 kilometres, social events, live music, dog shows and other activities. Brendon said the Festival was set to be a fitting way to commemorate the adventurous life of the Pilbara's famous kelpie, Red Dog.

Holt recognised for Foodbank contributions

Colin Holt MLC was recently awarded a Foodbank WA Regional Excellence Award by the Governor of Western Australia. These awards recognise the achievements of members of the WA community in working with Foodbank WA. Colin has been a strong supporter of Foodbank for several years, and holds an annual Foodbank drive across the South West to collect and deliver supplies for the charity.



Above: Colin Holt MLC receives an award from Governor of Western Australia, Malcolm McCusker AC CVO QC recognising his support of Foodbank WA.

Redman opens FACET conference

Terry Redman MLA was in Manjimup this week to open the FACET (Forum Advocating Cultural and Eco-Tourism) 2013 conference. The four day conference brought together the food and tourism industries and looked at ways to strengthen links between agriculture and tourism.

Royalties for Regions supporting South West reefs

Recreational fishers in the South-West now have two new locations to cast their lines, with the opening of artificial reefs near Dunsborough and Bunbury. Supported by \$1.86 million from *Royalties for Regions*, the State's first trial artificial reefs are set to enhance recreational fishing in the area and increase fish stocks.

Swim Thru raises RFDS funds

Wendy Duncan MLA and Tony Crook MP went along to the Royal Flying Doctor Service Swim Thru at the Oasis in Kalgoorlie on Saturday. Tony jumped in the pool with his family to take part in the 7-hour swim, helping to raise over \$27,000 for the RFDS, while Wendy enjoyed the event from the spectators stands.



Above: Karen, Cassie, Georgia, Jemma and Tony Crook MP with RFDS supporter and Order of Australia recipient Heather Crombie at the RFDS Swim Thru.

100 Years of Bruce Rock

Mia Davies MLA spent time in Bruce Rock over the weekend where she joined the town's centenary celebrations. Community markets, sporting events and activities were featured on Saturday, including the launch of a new book, *Bruce Rock – A Century of Memories*, before a family concert that night and a community breakfast and church service on Sunday. Mia praised the community for embracing the town's rich heritage.



Above: Mia Davies MLA and Lisa Cole catch up at the Bruce Rock centenary celebrations.

Catania in Gascoyne Junction

Vince Catania MLA travelled throughout his electorate this week, attending a Gascoyne revitalisation meeting with the four Local Governments in the region. Vince also toured local *Royalties for Regions* projects in the region, including the rebuild of the Gascoyne Junction Hotel and visited the Gascoyne Junction School to present the school with Australian and Aboriginal flags.

