



# Scott Barrett MLC

Member of the Legislative Council

## Fortnightly Wrap: February 6 – February 19

With the campaign officially launched, things are moving at a rapid pace as we move towards election day. The launch was a fantastic event and it was great to have everyone together at Taree. The enthusiasm and passion in the room was inspiring and showed the strength of our team taking us towards March 25.

I have spent time with some of our new candidates recently, sharing with their communities some of the great things being done by the NSW Nationals in Government.

In Cessnock, Ash Barnham and I met with Lifeline in the town to announce funding for continued service provision in the area. We joined the Mayor of Cessnock to announce upgrades to the town's skate park. We also visited some of the amazing local facilities supported by the Stronger Country Communities Fund. This is a program we as Nationals should be proud of as it's delivering great results for our regions. Ash is a committed local candidate, keen to ensure the best for his community.

In Oxley, Michael Kemp and I visited a number of local businesses, all benefiting from the investment and support from the Nationals. This included a local timber mill, part of a critical industry to the entire state, particularly our regional communities. Michael is doing a great job on the ground, meeting with a number of community groups and individuals to continue the work of Melinda Pavey.

In the far north coast, I spent time with Geoff Provest in Tweed who was joined by the Minister for Health Brad Hazzard to celebrate the work involved in the new Tweed Hospital. A massive win for Geoff and the people of the area.

Josh Booyans joined me in Mullumbimby where we presented a Stronger Country Communities grant to the local community theatre. SCCF is one of my favourite programs and one we should be particularly proud of as Nationals. Josh is doing a great job – he is a genuine member of the community and this drives him to want to represent this area. I saw this first hand when I joined him for a Park Run in Ballina as well as other community events like the Wardell Community BBQ.





We had a great weekend in Orange when the NSW Breakers brought two of their Women's National Cricket League games to town, delivering a wide range of benefits to local sports fans and business owners alike.

While NSW won both games, the biggest winners were the fans and businesses of Orange and the surrounding region. School kids travelled from hours away to see these games and throughout the entirety, kids were racing around the boundaries chasing autographs from the stars. One benefit easily overlooked and hard to measure, will be the boost in reputation for the Central West as a destination. I have no doubt people who came for this event will return home and tell people what an amazing place it is, driving new and return visitors to the town.



The recovery continues in Eugowra a couple of months on from last year's floods and it was great to get out there again and see some of the progress that has been made. While there is still a long way to go, you can't help but be uplifted by the community strength and resilience. This was demonstrated by the reopening of "Craft on the Creek", a volunteer organisation selling locally made goods, that I was able to visit again just after they reopened their doors.

Parliamentary Committee work is continuing, compounding what is already a very busy period. It's a shame when these hearings appear to be purely politically motivated, but I believe voters are smart enough to see this and will not be distracted by these partisan games. Nonetheless, it still takes up quite a bit of my time as it is important the Government is represented and defended in these hearings.

With only a few weeks till the election, I'll be continuing to support our local candidates right across the state and working hard to promote the Nationals and all we have to offer for regional NSW.

**Scott Barrett** Member of the Legislative Council

@ e-mail [scott.barrett@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:scott.barrett@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

☎ phone (02) 9230 3728

🏢 office Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000

Authorised by Scott Barrett MLC, Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

**THE NATIONALS**  
for Regional NSW

