

September 2025 Newsletter



Happy Spring Curtin!

I'm delighted to welcome September's warm sunny days and a calendar full of activity.

I kicked off the month in Canberra, meeting with 10 different Ministers over the fortnight on a wide range of issues raised by Curtin constituents.

In Parliament, I urged the government to be ambitious on its net zero climate targets (more about that later), questioned the government about AI regulation and gave speeches on procedural fairness and housing tax reform. I also called out some bad behaviour from Barnaby Joyce during Question Time – enough is enough!

Back in Curtin, I've attended citizenship ceremonies, volunteer events, farmers markets, met with constituents and held some pop-up offices. With the Royal Show in full swing and school holidays underway, I want to wish all Year 12 students the very best as they prepare for their ATAR exams next month. It'll be over before you know it!

Best wishes,
Kate

P.S. Happy belated Father's Day to all the Dads and Grandads - I hope you enjoyed precious family time with your loved ones.

Reforming laws to protect our kids



Artificial Intelligence presents enormous opportunities, but its successful roll-out will depend on our ability to put guardrails in place to manage the new risks it presents.

After my introduction of a Private Member's Bill to criminalise the downloading of AI tools that create child abuse material, this month in Parliament, I joined child safety advocates, senior law enforcement, fellow crossbenchers, and the International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC) at the AI and Child Safety Roundtable.

Back in WA, I joined the WA Police and Ashley from ICMEC during National Child Safety Week for a briefing on the tough work they do keeping kids in WA safe. AI makes it harder to identify and rescue victims and increases the severity of child abuse material being distributed.

As the WA Police told me: Our laws were designed for houses and cars, not the internet.

I'll keep working with the Government to address the new AI gaps in our current legislation.

Climate Update: Pushing for climate ambition and leadership

North West Shelf

The final approval of the North West Shelf extension wasn't surprising, but it was deeply disappointing.

While some gas may be needed during the transition, an extension to 2070 does not align with a decarbonised future. Our ancient cultural heritage and precious places must be valued more than corporate profits.

The timing was telling: just as the Prime Minister left the Pacific Islands Forum, Minister Watt announced the final approval. Our Pacific neighbours deserve sincere, purposeful, and transparent climate leadership, not mixed messages.

Australia must do better. An extension to 2070 undermines our climate commitments and global credibility.

National Climate Risk Assessment and 2035 Emission Reduction Target

The long-awaited National Climate Risk Assessment released this month was a dire wake-up call. The report projects that by 2050, Perth could see twice as many heat-related deaths and five times more coastal flooding. The forecast total economic cost could be \$40 billion per year.

Before and after the release of this report, I've been urging the Government to set an ambitious emissions reduction target of at least 75 percent by 2035 because that's what the science tells us is needed to keep 1.5°C of warming within reach.

This month, the Government announced its 2035 target range: between 62 and 70 percent reduction on 2005 carbon emission levels.

Having a national target for 2035 is a positive step, but 62 percent is too low. There is so much opportunity for Australia to attract investment to new industries if we aim for the top end of this range.

I'll be pushing the Government to legislate the target, so at least it's locked in, providing some certainty about our future direction.

The focus now shifts to how we will get there. A Net Zero Plan was released on the same day as the targets as well as sector plans for six sectors. I will keep pushing to ensure that this target range provides a floor, not a ceiling.

Gaza

The genocide in Gaza continues to be a devastating humanitarian crisis.

I continue to hear your concerns about the situation and pass on and share your calls for our Government to do everything it can towards an immediate and sustained ceasefire, upholding international law, the release of the remaining hostages, and distribution of food and essential aid to where it is most needed.

I support Australia's recognition of Palestine as an independent and sovereign state.

Australia joins more than 150 nations in formally recognising this legitimate request for statehood. There are many challenges ahead and Hamas must have no role in the future of the Palestinian state.

Electrifying with Dr Saul Griffith



Dr Saul Griffith is the rockstar of household electrification and the Chief Scientist at Rewiring Australia. I was thrilled that he joined me at the Claremont Hotel to share his thoughts earlier this month.

We unpacked some of the big questions around electrification: what's holding us back, how we can accelerate the transition, the huge savings for households, and the benefits for the climate. He's a great communicator and champion and makes it seem so obvious!

Big thanks to everyone who came along and joined the conversation.

**So much plastic in
our river!**



Thank you to the Team Chaney volunteers who joined us for a river clean-up on Sunday at the Claremont Foreshore!

We collected 22.5 kilograms of rubbish, including an extraordinary number of hard and soft plastic remnants.

The data from our clean-up have now been submitted to the Tangaroa Blue Australian Marine Debris Initiative and Keep Australia Beautiful WA.

I am pushing the Environment Minister to get on with the much-anticipated plastic packaging reform.

The river clean-up was a good reminder about why our submission and 12,000 signature petition last year was focused on reducing the amount of plastic in packaging, not just recycling it.

Regulation allows people to make better choices. In the meantime, next time you're at the beach or the river, pick up a few bright bits and pop them in a bin.

**Your old phone
could be a lifeline**



I'm pleased to support The DV Safe Phone initiative, which collects, repairs and distributes free mobile phones through a nationwide network of more than 1,200 mobile phone drop-off locations.

If you have an old phone lying around, you can drop it off to my office. Donated phones will then be securely wiped of any remaining data and repaired before being given to trained DV support organisations to distribute to victim-survivors.

Since the program began in 2020, more than 42,000 phones have been donated, supporting more than 15,000 victim-survivors.

Not only are old phones being reused to connect and empower women and children in need, but it's also a sustainable technology solution. Phones that are not suitable to be distributed are used for parts and recycled.

[Find out more](#)

Big Run for Little Brains



Jacob Byrne is a pretty impressive human – ultramarathon runner, medical researcher, and champion fundraiser.

For Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, Jacob launched his Big Run for Little Brains campaign to raise money for childhood brain cancer research and awareness.

Every day in September, Jacob is running a marathon distance (42.2 km) in a different Perth local government area – that's 30 marathons in 30 days in 30 LGAs!

Brain cancer is the leading cause of disease-related death in children. Treatments for brain cancer are brutal on children and haven't advanced much in the last 30 years.

He ran past my office to tell me about it. Thank you Jacob for taking on this mighty challenge and for the important work you do in medical research.

[Find out more](#)

Amplifying future voters

This month I finished up with our 2025 Youth Advisory Group - the 2026 group will have our first meeting before the end of the year. They finished

with an incredible range of inspiring speeches about issues they care about, some of which I will share in Parliament. These included youth mental health, discrimination, housing and racism.

The election interrupted our flow a bit this year, but I have really appreciated this group's input on issues like AI and social media regulation.

I've just been appointed to the Parliamentary Education Office's Advisory Committee and I will be taking what I've learned from our Youth Advisory Group to inform the parliament's work in civic engagement. Well-informed voters are vital to a functioning democracy and I remain really proud that at the last election, Curtin had the lowest informal vote of any Australian electorate in 34 years!

Floreat Toy Library



I met some very enthusiastic toddlers at the Floreat Toy Library, which was one of the recipients of the 2025 Volunteer Grants. It is oversubscribed for members, who borrow toys on Saturday mornings, but is accepting donations and volunteers. It's a lovely atmosphere and a great way to support a circular economy and connect with your community.

Thriving Kids - Curtin Submission

SURVEY CLOSES SOON!

The Federal Government is changing how governments support kids under 8 with mild to moderate developmental delay and autism, and their families, through a new Thriving Kids initiative. I want to hear from Curtin families, health professionals and educators who will be impacted from the change.

Deadline: By COB 1st of October

Fill out survey by COB 1st October

2026 Calendar



It's that time of year again! The 2026 Curtin Calendar is in the works. Do you want your work to be featured? Could you be Mr January? We would love to receive any photos, paintings, or any artistic representation of what you love in and around Curtin.

Please make sure your submission is landscape oriented.

Deadline: By 26th of October [See my events](#)

Send to: kate.chaney.mp@aph.gov.au

Social Media

Don't forget to follow me on social media. It's the best way to keep up-to-date and find out about my upcoming events!



Join Lizzie O'Shea, Peter Lewis, Dan Stinton, and me on Friday 10 October

Instagram

Facebook

TikTok

Bluesky

Date: Friday 10 October

Contact Us

Get FREE tickets

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Woodside vs the Planet

We acknowledge the Whadjuk Noongar Peoples as the Traditional Custodians of this land and pay our respects to their Elders past and present. I'm looking forward to joining author **Marian Wilkinson** and **Jessica Panegyres** (Director, Solutions for Climate) in a conversation led by **Meri Fatix**, where we'll explore the courage and collaboration needed to tackle the climate crisis.

If you would like to unsubscribe from these emails,

Date: Tuesday 14 October

Time: 6:30pm - 7:45pm

Location: Octagon Theatre

Get tickets

Community Forum

Bring your questions or issues and hear what's been happening in Canberra!

Date: Thursday 16 October

Time: 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Location: Albion Hotel, Cottesloe