

December 2025 Newsletter



Bondi Terrorist Attack

Australians are reeling from the horrific terrorist attack at Bondi Beach on 14 December.

This targeted violence towards Jewish Australians gathered in peaceful celebration of the first night of Chanukah was an attack on all Australians and our way of life.

The rise in antisemitism in Australia is unacceptable. Strong leadership is required, to set the expectation that Australia is a country of tolerance and peace.

I have written to the Prime Minister with some of my colleagues, urging a Royal Commission into the attack, some improvements to laws combatting hate speech and increased funding for the security of Jewish organisations. We all have a role to play in the necessary healing after this devastating tragedy.

As a civil and tolerant nation, we must hold tightly to the democratic values that enable and support our diverse communities. We must choose compassion over division because Australians deserve to feel safe and valued.

This is my hope for 2026.

End of Year Reflections

As 2025 draws to a close, I am proudly reflecting on the positive and constructive contributions our community has made since the start of the 48th Parliament this year.

As an Independent, I will continue to work constructively with the Government, and collaboratively with my Crossbench colleagues to further issues that are important to the people of Curtin.

Collectively, Community Independent MPs have introduced ten Private Member's Bills so far in this Parliament to push the Government to be more ambitious. My Bills to ban AI tools that generate child sexual abuse material and to end data harvesting from postal votes propose simple solutions the Government could easily deliver.

In the parliamentary sitting weeks since the federal election, the crossbench has introduced 160 amendments to improve ten pieces of legislation. By comparison, the Opposition has introduced only 18 amendments to five pieces of legislation.

I was the only MP in House of Representatives to have an amendment accepted on the recent environmental reforms, one out of 119 put forward by the Crossbench.

Together with the people of Curtin, I've made eight submissions to committee inquiries on aged care, economic reform, productivity, emissions reduction, freedom of information, electoral reform and support for kids with neurodivergence and developmental delay.

Sustained pressure from the Crossbench saw 20,000 home care packages delivered earlier, the dumping of plans to tax unrealised gains in the superannuation reforms, the creation of an AI Safety Institute, and long-overdue tax reforms finally getting some attention from the Government.

As democracies around the world are put under increasing pressure, I remain committed to enhancing the integrity of our electoral processes and improving the transparency and accountability of the Australian Government.

I am grateful for the opportunity to do politics differently and to represent the people of Curtin in Parliament.

Merry Christmas from my family to yours. Wishing you a peaceful and safe festive season filled with joy and kindness. Thank you for your support this year, I look forward to working with you in 2026!

Meeting His Holiness the Dalai Lama



Earlier this month, I visited the Dalai Lama as a guest of the Australia Tibet Council, as part of his 90th birthday celebrations. I travelled to Dharamsala in Northern India for a few days to meet with His Holiness and the Tibetan Government-in-Exile.

This visit, coinciding with International Human Rights Day, was part of a parliamentary delegation that included Senator Barbara Pocock, Sarah Witty MP, and parliamentarians from New Zealand, Fiji, Chile, France and the Czech Republic.

In honour of the milestone birthday and a lifetime of tireless advocacy, Tibet declared 2025 the year of compassion – a poignant reminder as we grapple with the grief, anger and fear perpetuated by the senseless violent terrorism on Australian soil.

It was a profound experience to meet such a revered, and humble, world leader who has dedicated his life to peace and non-violence. I will carry with me his messages of tolerance, respect and kindness. And a greater appreciation for the freedom we have thanks to our precious democracy.

Working Together on Law Reform



Following the passing of major environmental reforms through the Parliament, I held a community forum at Claremont's Bay View Community Centre to discuss how these significant changes to the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act will protect nature and their limitations.

I drafted 15 amendments to the laws, drawing on advice from a range of local experts, who joined me at the event to share their expertise. I'm proud that the people of Curtin contributed to these important changes, with one of my 15 amendments being accepted in the House of Representatives and two more substantially passed in the Senate.

These reforms are long-overdue, and while the laws are not as strong as I would like, they are an improvement on the broken system that was failing to protect our natural environments.

Staying Safe on the Water



With the support of my office, Paddle WA was a successful recipient of a Commonwealth Volunteer Grant to purchase six new radios to keep paddlers safe in the water. Paddler Trevor shared with me how he recently used a radio to communicate the close proximity of a shark!

I was also delighted to meet WAIS athlete and elite sprint paddler Belle McBennett, and local paddling enthusiasts Robyn, David and Trevor.

Thanks to Rosalie and Leanne for inviting me along to Matilda Bay this week to see the radios in action.

For more information about Volunteer Grants visit:
www.dss.gov.au/volunteering-initiatives/volunteer-grants

End of Year Community Catch-up



My last Community Catch-up of the year was held earlier this month.

About 60 constituents gathered at Matilda Bay to reflect on the work undertaken in the final weeks of parliament for 2025 and celebrate the role the Curtin community has played in legislative reform and advocacy since the start of the 47th Parliament.

The most important parts of my work are to ensure the voices of our community are heard in Canberra and your lived experiences inform policy and decision-making. I look forward to working with you, and catching up, in 2026.

Galup Naming Celebration



The official restoration of Lake Monger's Whadjuk Noongar name is complete. The much-loved local wetland and reserve will now be officially known as 'Galup' (pronounced Kaarlup), meaning 'place where the home fires burn'.

The occasion was marked with the planting of a Swamp Paperbark which is endemic to the area.

Nine years after the idea to restore the traditional name first emerged, and four years after I first saw Ian Wilkes (pictured) in Same Drum's 'Galup' at Perth Festival, I was delighted to join Traditional Owners (Aunty Lois, Aunty Glenda and Aunty Liz) and the Town of Cambridge at the re-naming ceremony on 1 December.

The request to restore the name was guided by in-depth consultation with Traditional Owners and extensive community engagement undertaken by the Town of Cambridge.

The Galup Arts Project, produced by Same Drum, played a crucial role in raising community awareness of the cultural and historical significance of the site.

2026 Calendar



The 2026 Curtin Calendar is ready and waiting for you to pick up from my office!

Thank you to everyone who submitted a photo or artwork for consideration, there were so many wonderful entries.

My Floreat office is open until 5:00 pm tomorrow (Tuesday 23 December) and re-opening from 9:00 am on Monday 5 January.

Events

Community Forum

Join me for a community catch-up following the first parliamentary sitting of 2026.



Monday 16 February 2026



5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

FOUND, 399 Hay Street, Subiaco

Save the Date:

Who do you trust and what can you believe?

Save the date for my first 'in conversation' event for 2026! This discussion will be about information integrity in a world of misinformation and deepfakes with Executive Director of the Centre for Public Integrity Dr Catherine Williams.

 Thursday 19 February 2026

 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Location and additional details will be released closer to the event date.

Grant Opportunities

Men's Shed – Grants opening January 2026

Round 4 of the National Shed Development Programme (NSDP) provided by The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing is opening 12 January 2026.

Individual Men's Sheds in Australia can apply for a range of financial support across five funding categories. [Click here](#) to view full guidelines and to apply.

If you would like a letter of support to accompany your grant application, please contact my office: kath.dawson@aph.gov.au.

You can find more information on grants, and sign up for my monthly Grants Newsletter [here](#).

Be part of the fun!

We're always welcoming new volunteers to the team.

[Sign up here](#)

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!



Instagram



Facebook



TikTok



Bluesky

Contact Us

E: Kate.Chaney.MP@aph.gov.au

W: www.katechaney.com.au

P: 08 9388 0288

Electorate Office

Cnr The Boulevard and Floreat Ave

PO Box 186

Floreat WA 6014

We acknowledge the Whadjuk Noongar Peoples as the Traditional Custodians of this land and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Authorised by Kate Chaney MP, Cnr The Boulevard and Floreat Ave, Floreat WA 6014

If you would like to unsubscribe from these emails,