

The Greens (WA) 'Annual' Report 2012-2014



2014 Senate by-election campaign launch with Christine Milne, Scott Ludlam, Rachel Siewert, candidates Jordon Steele-John, Judith Cullity, Sarah Nielsen-Harvey, Ian James and Christine Cunningham (Stuart Bunt)



The 4 Pillars

SOCIAL JUSTICE

A fair, equitable and humane society is based implicitly on equal justice for all.

PARTICIPATION

An open system that allows meaningful participation by the whole community is the basis of true democracy.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Our economic and environmental management must be founded on sustainable practices to guarantee a viable future for our children.

PEACE AND NONVIOLENCE

Nonviolent methods of conflict resolution, with a focus on nuclear disarmament, are essential as we work towards a world at peace.



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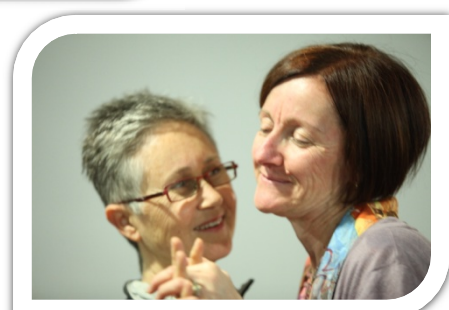
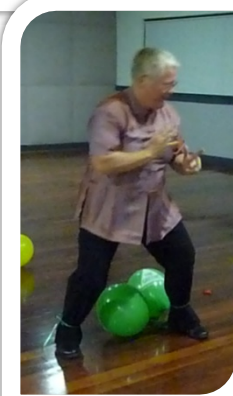
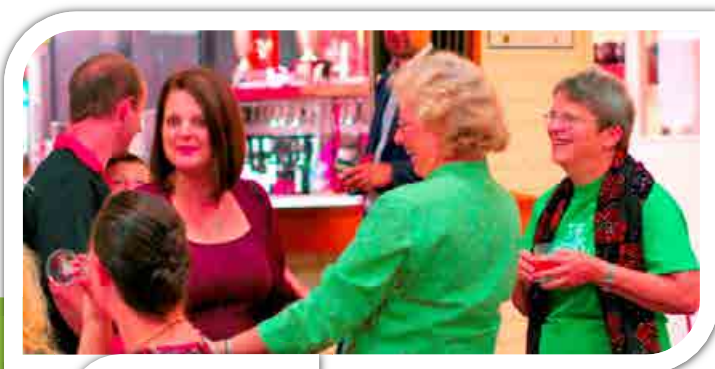
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The Greens (WA) 2014 Annual Report

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Farewell to Giz Watson and Alison Xamon from WA parliament mid 2013 (Pippa Tandy and Robin Chapple)



Co-Convenors Report

Adam Duncan (2012-13) and Giz Watson (2013-14)



2012-2013

At the last AGM of The Greens (WA) I stated that we were the only true party of the left and I think the events of the last twelve months have proved that over and over again. What has heartened me over this period is the fact that what started as a time of change and consolidation has turned into a time of expansion, renewed enthusiasm, increased capacity and a vigorous period of self-examination as we determine not only who we are, but who we want to become in the future. A spring after winter indeed.

Through this period we have campaigned in three ordinary elections and one extraordinary by-election. We began this cycle with the disappointment of the State election where we lost the services of two outstanding parliamentarians, Alison Xamon and Giz Watson. In the days following the election the light at the end of the tunnel seemed decidedly distant, and the associated loss of parliamentary tithes led to some difficult decisions being made around the staffing structures of GWA.

We then moved into the Local Government elections where a number of elected GWA members lost their positions on council, some to incredibly small margins, before we moved onto the Federal election where, as we know, we lost Senator Ludlam for a while. The tale of the recount and inspiring win belong properly in Giz's report so I will pass on detail except to note the exceptional role performed by "Gary" in the senator's damascene revival.

On a party level I have been particularly pleased by the growth in membership to record levels, the continued work of codifying our processes, including the grievance and censure by laws, the beginnings of a truly strategic plan and the resuscitation of GWA finances.

As this is my last missive as Co-Convenor I would like to thank some people as none of the above would have been possible without the extraordinary contributions of so many. Undeniably on the shoulders of giants we stand.

Firstly, my fellow office bearers and my colleagues on AWG without whose dedication the party would not function, our office staff and office volunteers who do so much without acknowledgement, the politicians and their staff who contribute so much to the direction of the party. And lastly, but certainly not least, the membership who

enable everything that the party does and provide constant enthusiasm, support and friendship. A better bunch of idealists I could not hope to become associated with.

Finally, I'd like to personally thank my political nursemaids Jess McColl, Rachel Siewert and Giz Watson. It has been an inspiration to benefit from such pedagogues.

I look forward to next chapters in GWA's progress in what I am sure will be halcyon days.

2013-14

What a tumultuous year it has been! The challenges of the Senate-election-without-end were many and varied and put us all under immense strain in time, resources and emotional energy. But what a triumph! The long and exacting task of scrutinising the recount saw over 200 members team up to find those elusive ballot papers and to show the ALP and PUP people we were a force to be reckoned with. It was a great teambuilding exercise. Then came the lost ballot papers schmozzle, the court appeal and ultimately the by-election. The energy and commitment that so many members put in was truly inspirational – giving us an emphatic win and saw Scott returned to the Senate. Plus we shouldn't understate what a huge boost for morale the win has been for Greens across Australia!

The unprecedented boost in our membership plus the desire to increase our skills and capacity has led to establishing the capacity building and training working group to develop a training strategy leading up to the next Federal election. Training and skill sharing is also vital to foster our Greens culture and improve our capacity to go on winning hearts and minds.

Adam and I have also been closely engaged in national Greens issues, particularly the review of the governance arrangement via the review of the Australian Greens constitution. I am confident we will soon be able to improve the workings of the Greens across the county.

So I think we're travelling pretty well!

Finally, I'd like to thank Adam for his work as Co-Convenor over the last two years and the enthusiasm he has shown to jump in and take on the work of the party.

How we work: Brain, Heart and Organs – An Anatomical View!

For a more conventional description of the party structure, see *The Greens (WA) Constitution*: <http://wa.greens.org.au/content/greens-wa-constitution>

Consensus building is the beating heart of this party

(Ruth Greble, Curtin Greens co-convenor)

The *brain* or management body of Greens (WA) is the Representatives Council (Reps). The ‘lobes’ of the brain are the ten Regional Groups (RGs), largely organized according to federal election boundaries. In 2014 Forrest-O’Connor RG has organized local groups around townships; Kununurra also has a local group.

New members join The Greens (WA) via their Regional Group. Most RGs meet monthly so that members can brief their representatives on the business to be discussed at Reps, which meets the second Saturday of every month (except January).

Each RG has two members on Reps: a Permanent Rep (who serves all year) and a Rotating Rep (ideally a different member each month to share Party decision-making).

Office Bearers are elected for one-year terms at the AGM. Up to four additional members are appointed by Reps to form the Administration Working Group (AWG) who undertake the day-to-day management of the Party. In this respect, AWG is somewhat like the *heart*, keeping the *blood* (activities) flowing to keep the body of the Party

functioning, but deferring significant decision-making to the brain.

To press the biological analogy perhaps too far, Working Groups, set up with the authority of Reps, have distinct functions, as do the various *organs* of the body. Working Groups report back to Reps on their activities and seek approval for initiatives outside their mandate.

Regional and Working Groups submit proposals to Reps who work by consensus, with any member having the ultimate right to block a proposal if consensus cannot be achieved. The state and federal politicians and the office-bearers are also members of Reps. Every member of the Party has the right to attend Reps meetings.

Consensus decision-making by a large group meeting only once a month is not always swift and timely. To overcome this problem, Reps appoints three members and the Office Bearers to the Quick Decision Making Group (QDMG). All members are eligible to nominate for QDMG, though members who are Permanent Representatives and have a good knowledge of Party determinations are ideal.

The blood of the Party is built on countless hours of unpaid commitment from more than 100 active volunteers, along with critical support at election times or for specialist tasks from thousands of members and supporters.

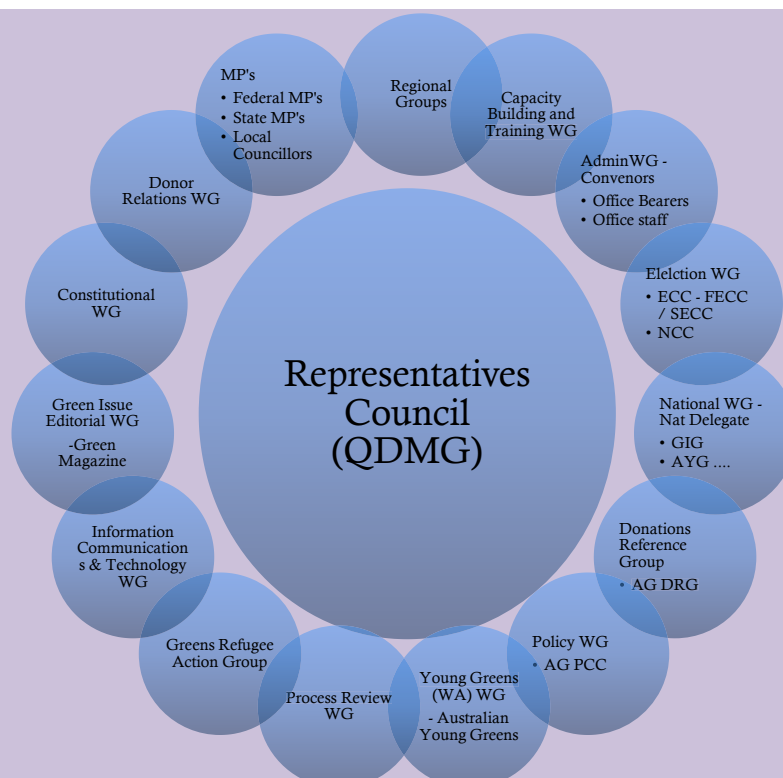
All this to build a peaceful, sustainable and socially just world for ourselves and those to come.

The Greens (WA) Structure Map 2014

New Greens members are hit with a daunting alphabet soup of acronyms when they join.

Even long standing members are perplexed with new acronyms that pop up continuously.

To help you through this minefield here is a quick guide.



Alphabet Soup – Your Guide to Greens Acronyms

GWA	The Greens (WA) Inc.		national policies
AG	Australian Greens – the confederation of all states and territory Green parties	YGWA WG	Young Greens (WA) Working Group – for young Greens up to the age of 30
RG	Regional Groups		
Reps	The Representatives Council – GWA decision making body, representative of each Regional Group	Election Related Groups and Committees (<i>Some groups exist only for election periods</i>)	
QDMG	Quick Decision Making Group – 7 members charged with making urgent decisions between Reps meetings	ECC	Election Campaign Committee - representative group for co-ordinating election campaigns
		FECC	Federal Election CC - representative group for federal elections
		SECC	State Election Campaign Committee - representative group for state elections
GWA Working Groups, Special Interest Groups and Committees:		(E)PWG	Preferences WG – negotiates between Regional Groups and other parties (constitutionally a closed group) (becomes EPWG during election campaigns)
AWG	Administration Working Group – manages Reps/Party business, staff and the office		
CPTWG	Capacity Building and Training WG – provides training and capacity building for GWA members	Australian Greens Working Groups and Committees (<i>a sample only – there are many more</i>)	
CWG	Constitution WG – reviews constitutional changes	AGCG	Australian Greens Coordinating Group – AG administration group
DRG	Donations Reference Group – ensures we keep to our Donations Policy – there is also an AG DRG	AGPCC	Australian Greens Policy Co-ordinating Committee
DRWG	Donor Relations Working Group – builds positive relations with our donors	AGOSSC	AG Online Systems Steering Committee
GIEWG	Green Issue Editorial Working Group – produces the official GWA newsletter 6 times a year	AYG	Australian Young Greens – national youth group (under 30s)
GRAG	Greens Refugee Action Group – special interest group advocating positive action for refugees	GIG	Global Issues Group – national issues and communications with global Green organizations
ICTWG	Information and Communications Technology WG – manages GWA database, web and online technologies	NCC	National Campaign Committee – national representative group (of states and territories) for federal elections
NWG	National WG – liaises with the Australian Greens and state and territory Greens parties – members may belong directly to an AG working group or be delegates of WA to an AG group where they report directly to NWG. See below for some of these groups.	AGFWG	National Fundraising WG – organises ongoing Australia wide fundraising campaigns
Process WG	reviews GWA internal policies and processes	Other acronyms:	
PWG	Policy WG – reviews all state and	PLU	Phone Link Up – for conference phone calls (being superseded by Teamspeak)
		OB	Office Bearer – Convenors, Secretary, Treasurer

Working Groups are always keen to have new members, particularly if you have skills in an associated field.

Please contact the office to get in touch with a group – *don't wait to be asked – you are needed!*

Working Group Reports

Administration Working Group (AWG)

Chilla Bulbeck and Rowena Skinner

	2012-2013	2013-2014
Co-convenors	Adam Duncan Chris Dickinson	Adam Duncan Giz Watson
Treasurer	Paul Davis	Mark Siford
Secretary	Chilla Bulbeck	Chilla Bulbeck
Membership Officer	David Letham	David Letham
Members	Kim Dravnieks Grahame Bowland Jess McColl	Grahame Bowland Jess McColl Sarah Nielsen-Harvey
Office Manager	Rowena Skinner	Rowena Skinner

The most difficult decision Administration Working Group was required to make over the period 2012-2014 concerned our paid position of Party Development Manager. After much soul-searching, in the light of the financial implications, changing circumstances and immediate needs imposed by the result of the state election, Adrian Glamorgan graciously resigned from GWA, a difficult process for all concerned. Praise for Adrian's contribution flooded in from all quarters, for example:

Adrian Glamorgan's efforts, energy and enthusiasm ... we have greatly benefitted from his legacy. He provided particular benefits for people with a diverse range of skills and passions. He was very good at general peace mongering, and fostered a good interface between office and election staff throughout the campaign (Curtin Regional Group)

Adrian undertook his role with a genuine commitment to building a positive culture within the Greens. He made an extra effort to be involved with the South West Greens and we thank Adrian in particular for his support and encouragement with our social media in the recent election. We wish him all the best with his focus on nonviolence and the practice of it within the party and look forward to being part of that process (then South West Regional Group).

Adrian was responsible for building a strong esprit de corps in the office. Busy staff always found time to welcome visitors and members and to deal patiently with the telephone calls that spike with contentious policy announcements, for example concerning asylum seekers.

The resilience of Rowena Skinner, Office Manager, Jenny Sullivan, book-keeper, David Letham, Membership Officer and the other volunteer and casual office staff was proven across three election campaigns, when office workloads expand dramatically and numbers of volunteers multiply. As longstanding office volunteer Jay Birnbrauer said of the senate by-election campaign:

My days in the office throughout the campaign were stimulating and heart-warming. Not once did I hear a raised voice unless it was a cheer. That must be some kind of record and a tribute to all the volunteers and staff many of whom were working very long hours.

Adrian embarked on the process of documenting and streamlining office procedures in an Office Procedures Manual. This reduced (a little) our collective anxiety should Rowena ever be hit by a bus (but not of course our concern for Rowena in such unfortunate circumstances!). Documentation continues, with our financial procedures presently undergoing this process. Kim Dravnieks, as convenor, applied her considerable governance skills to developing a comprehensive Administration Working Group manual and the Regional Group guidelines, recently revised by Co-Convenor Giz Watson. These will be made available on Greenhouse to all members.

With membership at a record high, we held our first new members' event in June 2014. Jess McColl, Giz Watson and Rowena Skinner



Right: Pride marchers 2013 (Nadine Walker)

produced a new members' kit: a booklet introducing the Greens and a 'how to be involved' booklet; we are redesigning Greenscheme and membership application forms. Membership engagement at the Regional Group level remains uneven, and a challenge for small groups. Moore-Cowan's dramatic increase in participation demonstrates what an energetic, dedicated and savvy Membership Officer (Mary O'Byrne) can achieve. David Letham suggested re-aligning Regional Groups to reflect the new membership patterns, and this will be undertaken when the electoral boundaries are redrawn before the federal election in 2016.

Kim Dravnieks, with Naomi Nation and Linda Johnson, put many hours into developing an 'Ethically Eco' online shop. The Admin Working Group decided that the shop was not a good investment of resources considering other opportunities for fundraising, and decided to close the shop for now, possibly re-opening it in the future to sell election merchandise. While membership soared, the proportion on Greenscheme, our regular giving programme, dropped. A Greenscheme sign-up drive is being organised for September 2014, with volunteers from most of Regional Groups supporting the drive by working the phones.

With three elections behind us, we have paused to imagine the future of the party with the professional support of Galen White, Organisational Architect, who is assisting us to develop a Strategic Management plan. From that we have established that we are unique as a political party because of our base in progressive advocacy groups, and we are unique in progressive advocacy because of our goal of parliamentary representation. From this our goals are:

Implement the Greens vision by electing Greens candidates to every level of government, with the ultimate goal of 'winning every level of government'

Implement the Greens vision by 'changing the conversation' in the Australian community, building understanding and support for Green policy solutions and breaking down Green stereotypes.

We know that enthusiastic volunteers make us uniquely strong as a party. However personnel to recruit, manage and develop volunteers for specific campaigns and activities are in short supply. Over the coming non-election years, we plan to build on the experience of two successful field campaigns run by Ogy Simic, who, sadly for us, left Rachel Siewert's office in September 2014. These were a climate campaign in late 2013-early 2014 (which morphed into the Senate by-election field campaign) and a Bust the Budget campaign in July-August 2014. In all our doorknocking and telephone campaigns, the enthusiasm and dedication of volunteers, many of whom had only joined the Greens in recent months, inspired all involved.

We have outgrown our present premises at 445 Hay Street, particularly chafing after tasting the vision of the 'Greenhouse'. The party was extremely fortunate that Norman Pater, a life member, donated the use of his warehouse and offices in Leederville for our three election campaigns. This gave us a huge space for preparing booth kits and cavorting in after-election parties (although the Senate by-election in April 2014 involved so many volunteers we had to party elsewhere). We slimmed down our phone bank from the Senate by-election, to a bank of eight phones for future outreach. As a result, Reps meetings could no longer fit in the office and we 'wandered lonely as a cloud' from venue to venue. A space solution is in the works – to be decided by Reps in October or November.

To improve the conduct of Representatives Council meetings, experienced facilitators offered their services in 2013. In 2014, Giz Watson called on members who had been recently trained in facilitation to practise their skills at Reps meetings.

We owe special thanks to our ICT volunteers. Connor Moran, while a member of AWG, ensured that the telephone and computer networks were sufficiently robust to support the campaign staff in the 2013 election campaigns. Grahame Bowland reskinned the website for the state and then federal elections, maintained interaction between Nationbuilder and Civi-CRM in the two federal elections, while ICTWG volunteers built a call centre for the federal by-election and maintained effective troubleshooting at all levels.

David Letham, as Membership Officer and member of ICTWG, maintains member and supporter records; trains volunteers in the use of the Civi-CRM database with equanimity and easy-to-follow manuals; prepares the Election Management System (EMS) in each election for Regional Groups to fill in their booth rosters, doorknocking and leaflet drop records; interfaces with Australian Greens concerning Civi-CRM and EMS. He answers endless queries: 'How do I change a person's family name?' 'Can you get me a list of people living near Subiaco Oval?' 'Who are the lawyers on our data base?' In his more specific role as Membership Officer, David has worked with Rowena Skinner to streamline membership application and renewal processes and joining Greenscheme.

I would like to extend heartfelt thanks to Rowena Skinner, Office Manager, who works many more hours than we can pay her, and whose prescience and troubleshooting has dramatically improved the capacity of a constantly changing group of volunteer office bearers to meet GWA's administrative and financial obligations.

The Office Manager would like to extend a very big Thank You to all the regular office volunteers –

David Letham, Jay Birnbrauer, Steve Yuen, Kym Wakely, Margo Beilby and Jean Le Quesne, former volunteer Bernard Mahon and federal election campaign volunteer Graham Ludlam. They are dedicated and invaluable, and contribute at least 2500 hrs a year; without a doubt the office wouldn't function without them!

Treasurer's Report

Mark Siford

The past year has been a challenging one for GWA's finances. It included funding: September 2013 Federal Election; the Court of Disputed Returns legal process; and the April 2014 Senate By-Election. Despite that, GWA finances are in much better shape now than at the beginning of such a momentous year.

2014 saw a significant impact on recurrent revenues from the loss of two WA MPs in the 2013 State election. Fundraising efforts were naturally diverted to the election campaigns and interest income was impacted by lower interest rates and the need to keep cash in at call accounts to pay election expenses. Aside from reconfirming Senator Ludlam's position in the Senate, the standout positive from having two back-to-back elections has been stronger membership revenues on the back of record membership. This was partially countered by higher expenses due to greater demands placed on office and staff resources.

In February 2014, GWA passed a divestment proposal away from banks supporting fossil fuel industries. GWA's new relationship with Police & Nurses bank had the unexpected but delightful result of boosting interest income. As part of divestment, GWA sold a small parcel of Bank of Queensland shares, inherited through a de-mutualisation process.

With so many new members coming into GWA, Greenscheme participation has fallen to around 25%. Accordingly there are plans to increase Greenscheme promotion to our newer members. Greenscheme is an automatic regular donation with the added benefit of the annual membership fee being waived. It is a vital part of running GWA operations and accounts for a third of our operational budget. Greenscheme is not restricted to members, GWA supporters may also join. All members and supporters are encouraged to consider applying for Greenscheme, if in a position to do so.

Going forward the focus is to strengthen GWA's finances and capabilities in a non-election year. One of our major expenses is office rent and outgoings. With the Perth office market showing signs of oversupply and GWA's office lease expiring in 2015, a review of alternatives has commenced.

I acknowledge the invaluable support of our hard working Office Manager Rowena Skinner, Jenny Sullivan's meticulous bookkeeping, fellow members of the Administration Working Group, the revitalized Donor Relations Working Group, and volunteers in GWA's office who keep the lights on. I also take this opportunity to publicly recognize all members and supporters who have contributed time and money during the last two years. Thanks to you, Greens WA is strengthening its financial sinews ahead of our next successful election campaign.



Adam Bandt joined Scott Ludlam and doorknockers in Subiaco for the 2014 senate by-election campaign (Chilla Bulbeck)



The Greens rise again – the phoenix was built under June Lowe's guidance for the 2013 Pride Parade and Fremantle Festival (Shane Guthrie)



Policy Working Group (PWG) Mark Cooper (Convenor)

Late 2012 and early 2013 constituted a busy time for the Policy Working Group, as we went into state election mode for March 2013 and reviewed nearly every state policy we had. You could be forgiven for thinking that things have been pretty quiet for the PWG since then, but we have been working away in the background for the past year and a half. We have some new policies to unveil now in late 2014.

This writer considers policy-building to be one of the most important things that a political organisation does. Policy is the expression of our party's philosophy and our hopes for the future. It's where we outline our vision and contrast our ideas with the alternatives. When the Greens write a policy down, it's a big commitment because it defines us.

One of the interesting developments of 2014 has been the influx of new members since the federal by-election. Shortly after joining the party, many of these new members ask to be placed on the PWG mailing list. It seems that people are recognising the defining nature of policy and they want to be part of the process. New members learn about our tradition of participatory democracy and want to put it into practice. This is very exciting and it bodes well for the future of the Greens (WA).

To better facilitate participation, the PWG mailing list has been split in two. The mailing list has always been where we get most of our work done. We can't have a hundred meetings to discuss each individual idea, but we can always throw a few emails around until we arrive at consensus. The process works, but it can be unwieldy, so now we have two lists – one for concrete policy proposals and one for policy 'chat'. The chat list is for discussion, hardcore political philosophy and throwing around ideas.

Despite its freeform nature, the chat list can produce concrete proposals when the process of deliberation has run its course.

So what have we been working on? We have primarily been occupied with our new state policy on voluntary euthanasia (VE). We took to the list a policy proposal that had been put forward several years ago. One of our concerns was that the new document should be congruent with a bill on VE that Robin Chapple will be introducing to Parliament. Once we had collected input from the list, we conducted a face-to-face meeting at the Greens (WA) office with Robin in attendance. The resulting document was put to the Regional Groups as a proposal. The message from the groups was one of broad support, along with a long list of suggestions.

The input from Regional Groups will be incorporated into a new version of the VE policy, which will once again be put to the Regional Groups. Nothing can become Greens (WA) policy without the approval of the local groups. Our local groups are the governing bodies of the party. The process is a long one, but the resulting policy document will be a superior one, having been examined and refined by all of us working together.

There are two types of policy that we deal with – state and federal. For quite some time now we have had a very successful arrangement where the PWG has had a pair of co-convenors. Anthony Blond has been taking care of federal policy while I have been dealing with state policy. Anthony is well known to everyone in the Greens (WA) as a tireless volunteer worker in what seems like a hundred different roles. Unfortunately for the PWG, Anthony has had to take off one hat in order to do justice to some others. Not only do we thank Anthony for everything he has done for the PWG, we thank him for everything that he continues to do for the party.

So what else are we working on? Watch this space for upcoming revisions of our waste and drugs policies. Currently we don't have a veterans' affairs policy at the state level. Start thinking about these issues, and if you want to be part of the discussion, drop us a line.



*Left: Nick Mortimer, float builder, leads Greens Fremantle Festival marchers, 2012 (Shane Guthrie)
Right: Scott rocks donated by Roc Candy for Senate by-election campaign (Robyn Williams)*



Donor Relations Working Group (DRWG)

Chilla Bulbeck (past convenor)

Donor Relations Working Group was formed in 2012 with the objective of providing substantial and predictable financial support to the party by developing and maintaining good donor relations. As part of the election campaigns we held three donor liaison events, inviting participants from the sustainable energy and other economic sectors and our own major donors. Although the two events held in Spacecubed generated enormous enthusiasm for Scott Ludlam's WA2.0 vision and some volunteers and members, donations did not recoup the cost of the events. We found our members to be far more generous, opening your wallets to provide the largest funding ever achieved in our two federal election campaigns. We thank all our donors, large and small, who reached deep into their pockets to get Scott elected and re-elected.

With the elections behind us temporarily, we are concentrating on diversifying the ways in which donors can contribute to the party. Trish Cowcher has been working on a bequest scheme, for which we can have no more appropriate patron than Jo Vallentine. Mark Siford (ex-officio member as Treasurer) and Norman Pater are developing a Greens Future Fund to allow supporters to contribute to our long term financial sustainability. Jess McColl and Chilla Bulbeck, with the assistance of Ciatriona Scully and Katie O'Connor, developed and implemented a Greenscheme signup letter and telephone drive. Kim Dravnieks, convenor, liaises with National Fundraising Working Group particularly in relation to regular appeal letters. She organised our first fundraising event at SpaceCubed and is documenting our donor relations practices, preparing information leaflets and website pages to encourage members and supporters to join Greenscheme, invest in the Future Fund, make a donation as a gift from another person or remember the Greens in their will. Rosalie Miles has been a consistent support at our donor liaison events and in making follow up phone calls. We would also like to thank Lisa Rossi, GWA member and fundraiser for Sea Shepherd, for providing invaluable training in asking for money!

We have been served well by the members of our working group. But we urgently need more volunteers to support us in this utterly essential aspect of sustaining and growing our party. We want to host more thank you events to acknowledge our outstanding donors and develop and implement more ways to encourage donors to join our cause. Contact Kim at kimdrav@iinet.net.au

Below: Robin Elden de Garis and Anthony Blond during the Senate by-election campaign (Grahame Bowland)

Information and Communication Technology (ICTWG)

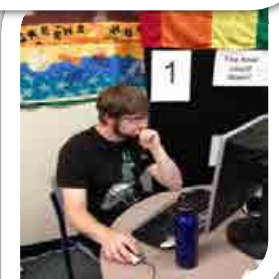
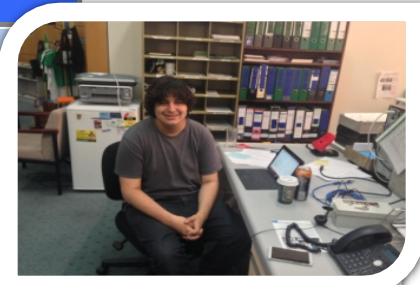
Pete Condon (convenor)

The Information and Communication Technology Working Group (ICTWG) has spent the last two years focusing on the elections – ensuring that the ICT infrastructure was available and met the rapidly evolving campaign requirements. In June ICTWG's convenor Grahame Bowland stood down, and Pete Condon took over the role. Grahame has been an extraordinary, long-term contributor to ICT within the party, and has spearheaded countless initiatives. We send Grahame our thanks for his efforts and wish him the best of luck for his ongoing contributions.

ICTWG members put in a huge effort during the elections, including Robin Elden de Garis and David Letham who seemed to live in the campaign office, keeping the phones running and synchronising the data between systems. Grahame Bowland and Anthony Blond were instrumental in targeting voters, and Anthony's gVIRS system is now being rolled out nationally to assist with campaign management.

Of course, there have been a lot of other odd jobs. ICTWG has also spent time chasing gremlins in office IT systems and improving ongoing capabilities. None of this would have been possible without our wonderful volunteers.

We would be remiss not to take this opportunity to seek new volunteers, especially for the website upgrade kicking off now and a number of other projects on the horizon. We are a small and energetic group, meeting roughly every two months. If you have IT skills and want to get involved, come along to a meeting. To find out when the next meeting is: contact Pete Condon – pete.b.condon@gmail.com – or the office.



Green Issue Editorial Working Group (GIEWG)

Chris Johansen, Rob Delves, Craig Chappelle (co-editors)

Green Issue is the official newsletter of The Greens (WA). It is published every two months, with the first issue of each year appearing in the first half of February. It aims to provide articles representing the range of our members' views, as well as reports from our parliamentarians and alerting members to upcoming events. Its contributing editors over the previous two years have been Chilla Bulbeck, Rob Delves and Chris Johansen, with design and layout by Craig Chappelle.

Green Issue is primarily distributed electronically but there remains a requirement for hard copy magazine format, which confines us to a prescribed number of pages – generally 16 or 20. However, contributions usually exceed that limit. Even with the loss of two “poli pages”, those of Giz Watson and Alison Xamon, after the last state election, there is frequently enough material to exceed 20 pages. It thus becomes necessary to pull out the editorial knives to delete paragraphs or phrases, omit entire articles or postpone them to a future issue. We apologise to contributors so affected and reiterate that it is a matter of limited space, not a value judgment on the input.

We have continued with the policy, introduced in 2012, of assigning a theme to each issue and inviting contributions around that theme. Recently, we have covered such themes as a “low carbon future”, “health” and “peace and nonviolence”. However, for most of 2013, the theme was “elections” – the state election in March and the federal election in September. Pre-election issues captured the enthusiasm and optimism of the campaign, while post-election issues recorded the commiserations accompanying disappointing results. But, the roller coaster ride was not over with the February 2014 issue reflecting the suspense of court appeals and a senate recount, and the determination of The Greens (WA) to retrieve the situation once a senate re-run was called. The April issue was truly a celebratory one, documenting how the west was won.

We really still have far to go in adequately reflecting The Greens (WA) happenings on a state-wide basis. Interesting things are going on outside Perth Metro – such as the high Greens vote in The Kimberley in the last state election and experimentation with Local Groups in the South West. We need to keep better track of these, so would value more regular contributions from the Regions.



Above: banner for Senate by-election 2014 issue; right: Jay Birnbrauer and Lynn MacLaren, Pride Fairday November 2012, (Shane Guthrie)

Constitution Working Group

Giz Watson (co-convenor)

The Constitution Working Group has been dormant over this reporting period primarily because there is a major review of the national constitution in train. As a number of the sections in the Greens (WA) constitution are related to the Australian Greens constitution it makes sense for us to wait for the outcome of the national review – due in November 2014. Meanwhile, a number of Greens (WA) members are closely involved in the national review and continue to play a strong role in reflecting the views of our WA members on the governance of our national body and developing a national consensus for a new constitution.

Green Issue (cont.)

Similarly, across Perth Metro, we seek out approaches being explored by different Regional Groups on how to spread The Greens message. To facilitate this wider coverage we also solicit more members to join GIEWG, for an expanded editorial perspective.

We would like more feedback from readers. Some articles raise issues that would be controversial even among Greens members, for which it would be instructive to have an ongoing conversation. We thus encourage “letters to the editor” and rejoinder or follow-up articles on particular topics.



Election Campaign Committee (ECC)

Trish Cowcher Tim Clifford
(co- convenors FECC and ECC)



Election campaigns are when the Greens come together to offer the public exciting and interesting candidates who represent our visionary policies to the electorate. It is a huge endeavour, taking vast amounts of the party's resources, time and energy. Luckily elections are also addictive, exciting and life changing as we contested three elections in the last 15 months.

How did we do it, you ask: Well, the Reps Committee of Greens (WA) authorises the formation of Election Campaign Committees to organise the running of elections. Election Campaign Committee are made up of representatives from each Regional Group, some of the candidates and election staff plus an enormous amount of expertise from our members, supporters and the general public.

Election Campaign Committees oversee all aspects of the campaign, including budgeting, messaging, media, legal responsibilities with the Australian Election Commission, public outreach, including door knocking and phone banking, developing candidates and training volunteers, fundraising and more.

The Election Campaign Committee (ECC) was formed as SECC (State Election Campaign Committee) to contest the state election on 8 March 2013. ECC worked tirelessly to contest all 6 Upper House seats of state parliament. We re-elected Lynn MacLaren for South Metropolitan Region and Robin Chapple for Mining and Pastoral Region. Unfortunately with the swing to the conservative vote Giz Watson, standing in South West Region, and Alison Xamon, standing for re-election to the East Metropolitan Region, did not retain their seats, while Cameron Poustie, standing in Giz Watson's 'old seat' of North Metropolitan, was also defeated by the conservative swing. This is a great loss to Parliament, the Greens and the community.

Immediately after the state election ECC reformed into the Federal Election Campaign Committee (FECC) and took on contesting the federal

election on 7th September 2013. We all know that the result was very close and Scott Ludlam lost by a handful of votes.

FECC picked itself up to oversee the recount, the Court of Disputed Returns challenge and the election on 5th April this year. The 2014 election campaign was breathtaking. Members and supporters Australia-wide rallied to ensure that Scott was re-elected to the Senate. It was exciting to be part of a victorious result where we achieved our highest ever Greens vote in a WA federal election.

We would like to personally thank all the members of ECC, SECC and FECC. As volunteers they gave up enormous amounts of time and shared with us their expertise and skills. Also, a big thank you to all the staff who worked on the last three elections. We could not have done it without you.

Also we pay tribute to our candidates who put themselves forward in a very public way. They are the face of our campaign, articulating our vision, meeting the voters and talking to the media. It is a demanding job and requires a huge amount of dedication and commitment.

Elections bring out the best in the Greens and our members. We work creatively and tirelessly together for a common purpose and aim to change the world. Congratulations to everyone involved in the three elections.

And now FECC has morphed into the Election Campaign Committee (ECC) with the view of contesting the next federal election and then the state election (March 2017). But first the Vasse by-election, probably in October. I hope you can get involved in the next big green adventure.

~~~~~  
**Senate by-election candidates 2014:**

*Scott Ludlam  
Christine Cunningham  
Ian James  
Jordon Steele-John  
Sarah Nielsen Harvey  
Judith Cullity*

**2013 State election candidates**  
(we had a candidate in every seat)

**Patricia Armstrong (Dawesville)** was a nursing sister in an aged care hospital and is currently very active in Friends of Island Point and Men of the Trees.

**Marcus Atkinson (Riverton)** has worked with communities for more than twenty years to develop a sustainable future.

**Michael Baldock (Vasse)** is a structural engineering consultant in Busselton.

**Peter Best (South Perth)** worked on aid programs in Africa, the Goldfields and the Pilbara. He was a South Perth Councillor 2007-2013.

**Greg Boland (Cottesloe)** previously a long-term Cottesloe councillor, is a legal aid lawyer.

**Nerilee Boshammer (Warren-Blackwood)** works in Natural Resource Management.

**Iwan Boskamp (Kwinana)** is the support manager of a small IT company in Perth.

**Chilla Bulbeck (Mandurah)** had a career in research and teaching in sociology and women's studies.

**Peter Burrell (Forrestfield)** started his working life as an apprentice mechanical fitter in Paraburdoo and now works and consults in the mining industry.



**Jennie Carter (Bassendean)** serves on the Town of Bassendean Council and is a former director of the Batty Library.

**Nathalie Cattaneo (Carine)** has worked for Engineers without

Borders and the Myer Family Company's philanthropic activities.

**Tim Clifford (Mt Lawley)** has worked on the mines and is a former Infantryman in the Australian Army Reserve. He is a government auditor.

**Adam Collins (Hillarys)** works as a site fixer installing kitchens and shop fit-outs.

**Shirley Collins (Wagin)** has a family background in the wheatbelt. She works in Information Technology, is on the WA Masters Squash committee, plays music in a community band and is an active campaigner against GM agriculture.

**Paul Connolly (Geraldton)** spent six years as a Geraldton City Councillor, including two years as Deputy Mayor.

**Mark Cooper (Mirrabooka)** works for a consultancy promoting sustainable practices in the home. He was active in the Perth music and arts scene for many years.

**George Crisp (Nedlands)** has worked as a GP in Sydney, Perth and country Victoria and has been an



active member of Doctors for the Environment Australia since 2005.

**Judith Cullity (Scarborough)** has a Bachelor of Science from the University of Western Australia in Physics and Physiology and has worked for 20 years as a research assistant in the area of vision sciences.

**Christine Cunningham (Cannington)** is a lecturer in education at Edith Cowan University.

**Luke Edmonds (Gosnells)** is a lawyer and a union official with a blue collar union and the Chair of the Gosnells Community Legal Centre.

**Diane Evers (Albany)** is an accountant, currently working as the coordinator of Greenskills. She served on the City of Albany Council 1999-2003.

**Deni Fuller (Murray-Wellington)** has a long history of political activism, pioneering performing arts activities to engage the public on social and environmental issues, including anti-nuclear, and water and forest conservation

**Kingsley Gibson (Collie-Preston)** is a fourth generation farmer, local business owner/operator and Councillor for the Shire of Capel.

**Kate Gnanapragasam (Southern River)** is a primary school teacher also involved in Millennium Kids Inc, working on projects in Australia, South Africa and Indonesia.

**Tim Hall (Kalgoorlie)**

**Jonathan Hallett (Perth)** is a Lecturer and Research Fellow at Curtin University's School of Public Health and Deputy Chairperson of the Board of Management for the WA AIDS Council.

**Ros Harman (Alfred Cove)**, a former high school teacher, has managed her own business of 100 employees and served as a Board Director on one of the largest not-for-profit organisations in the disability sector in WA.

**Denise Hardie (Darling Range)** has worked in the social services sector, small business, the youth sector, health, local government, aged care and drug and alcohol services.

**John Haynes (Jandakot)** works for the Royal Life Saving Society, is a volunteer for the Fundraising Institute of WA, and is on the committee of a sustainable energy advocacy group.

**Shannon Hewitt (Cockburn)**

**Mitchella Hutchins (Bunbury)** developed the Waljin Consultancy, providing events and training packages to promote Indigenous Cultural Awareness.

**Dawn Jecks (Rockingham)** works as a Vocational Trainer in the Construction and Mining Resources sector.



She is well known for her involvement in the Hands Off Point Peron campaign.

**Georgia Johnson (Eyre)**

**Saba Kafami (Girrawheen)** is studying Civil Engineering at UWA. She grew up in Iran.

**Peter Leam (West Swan)** works as a safety advisor in the oil and gas industry and has worked as a qualified surveyor and Survey Examiner.

**Rebecca Leighton (Bateman)** is a law student at Murdoch University and youth advocate, involved with Freedom Centre, a support centre for gay and lesbian youth.

**Dominique Lieb (Swan Hills)**

**Diana MacTiernan (Kingsley)** works as a Principal Project Officer with the Equal Opportunity Commission.

**Chris Maher (Kimberley)** has worked in disability services, is a former Broome City Councillor and now runs a small arts business.

**Dee Margetts (Moore)** has been a high school teacher, State Coordinator for People for Nuclear Disarmament and Greens Senator for WA (1993-1999) and MLC for Agricultural Region (2001-2005).

**Julie Matheson (Pilbara)** lived in Port Hedland for 25 years before embarking on a career in financial planning. She is a Certified Financial Planner and a consultant to Aboriginal trustees.

**Sarah Newbold (Victoria Park)** has served in a variety of community-centered roles, worked for a range of State Government Departments, private sector, and not-for-profit organisations, e.g. manager of policy at RSPCA WA, and policy advisor at the Chamber of Minerals and Energy.

**Dee O'Neill (Maylands)** has been the owner/manager of two very successful small businesses, and is now Business Development Manager for publishing house OUTinPerth.

**Damon Pages-Oliver (Armadale)** is Senior Youth Program Co-ordinator with Armadale Youth Resources and has been studying Environmental Science (Sustainable Development) at Murdoch University.

**Sally Palmer (Morley)** is a licensed real estate agent, a former City of Bayswater Councillor, and Executive Marketing Secretary for the organisation which created the Tall Ship Leeuwin.

**Mary O'Byrne (Ocean Reef)** is a retired midwife with a degree in general sciences from the Open University in the UK. She has taught and lectured and is developing a career in writing.

**Rob Phillips (Wanneroo)** built a passive solar home, has a long history of involvement in community



organisations and is active in several choirs and performing groups. He is an internationally-recognised academic in the field of educational technology.

**Cameron Pidgeon**

**(Churchlands)** studied sustainable development at Murdoch University. He has worked as a bookkeeper, technician, nursing assistant and policy officer with the Department of Human Services.

**Des Pike (North West Central)**

**Alisha Ryans-Taylor (Willagee)** is a consultant in capacity development, community resilience and sustainability education. She lives in a housing co-operative and is the Convenor of the Federation of Housing Collectives (FOHCOL).

**Jordon Steele-John (Warnbro)** is a disability rights activist and believes he is the second youngest candidate ever to run for parliament in WA.

**Andrew Sullivan (Fremantle)** is a self-employed architect and has served on Fremantle Council for nine years.

**Pippa Tandy (Midland)** has worked as a high school teacher and is a well-known artist-photographer.

**Toni Warden (Kalamunda)** has worked in the solar industry and in mining. She has also supported local campaigns and community groups in Kalamunda.

**Tricia Waters (Central Wheatbelt)** worked with Qantas for many years and served as a Councillor for the Shire of York between 2007 and 2011. She is a Board member of the local Community Resource Centre.

**Thomas Webster (Butler)** has a building company, Makemake Designs, which specialises in low embodied energy and passive solar designs. He is a founding member of the Greens WA and has campaigned since the 1980s on peace and environment issues.

**Steve Wolff (Belmont)** is Deputy Mayor of the City of Belmont, holds a doctorate in Chemistry from UWA and has worked in a range of industries as a researcher and software developer.

**Brittany Young (Joondalup)** is nearing completion of a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Performance Studies through Curtin University.

**Sheridan Young (Balcatta)** is the 2013 Guild President at Edith Cowan University, studying Professional Writing.

From:

<http://www.abc.net.au/elections/wa/2013/guide/lectorateresults.htm>



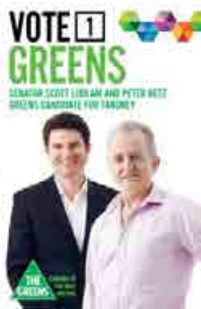
## LEAD UPPER HOUSE CANDIDATES

### State election 2013

Robin Chapple (Pastoral and Mining)  
 Andrew Huntley (Agricultural)  
 Cameron Poustie (North Metropolitan)  
 Lynn MacLaren (South Metropolitan)  
 Giz Watson (South-West)  
 Alison Xamon (East Metropolitan)



## 2013 Federal election candidates



Some of our 2013 federal election candidates stood as candidates in the 2013 state election – biographies above:

**Peter Best**  
 (Tangney)  
**Tim Clifford**  
 (Stirling)



**Adam Collins**  
 (Cowan)  
**Judith Cullity**  
 (Curtin)



**Diane Evers**  
 (O'Connor)  
**Jonathan Hallett**  
 (Perth)



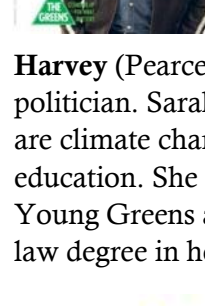
**Dawn Jecks** (Brand)  
**Damon Pages-Oliver**  
 (Canning)  
**Jordon Steele-John**  
 (Fremantle)



First time candidates in federal 2013 were:



**Ian James** (Durack) is a farmer and a father of four. He and his wife Jodi work together on their farm. Ian is against GMO companies entering Australia to destroy the lives of farmers and their crops.



**Sarah Nielsen-Harvey** (Pearce) is an aspiring politician. Sarah's driving issues are climate change, health and education. She co-convenes the Young Greens and is studying a law degree in her spare time!



**Gerard Siero** (Swan) is an ecological architect with over 40 years experience. He works with groups such as the Institute of Architects, Anglican EcoCare and church ministries, Kidsafe, Perth City Vision, Archicentre and Dads at Lifeline.

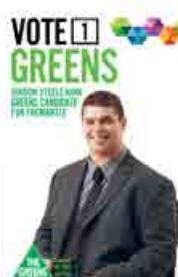


**Gordon Taylor** (Forrest) is a musician, music teacher, orchestral composer & conductor in the South West of WA. He is interested in Biodynamic gardening, has been a class teacher in a Rudolf Steiner Waldorf school, and is a member of an alternative lifestyle community.



**Peter Langlands** (Hasluck) was born and raised in Guildford and has always been fascinated with the local rivers and environment. Since completing his doctorate in ecology, he has been working as an environmental consultant.

**Louahna Lloyd** (Moore) is most interested in transforming the barriers of social difference that we all encounter from time to time and in removing the barriers that people journeying with disability encounter in everyday life.



### Senate candidates Federal election 2013

**Scott Ludlam** (see page 36 – if you haven't heard of Scott)

**Kate Davis** is Managing Solicitor of the Women's Law Centre, elected Vice President (Women) of the Australian Services Union in WA and Chairs the Women's Council for Domestic and Family Violence Services.

**Adam Duncan**, a chef, cares about people who are left out of our political system, the food we produce, and eat, from paddock to plate.



## National Working Group (NWG) / National Delegate Report

### Leonie Lundy (National Delegate, Convenor National Working Group)



Due to time demands of both the State and Federal Elections in 2013 and early 2014, NWG's Face to Face meetings were reduced to several times each year and to specifically deal with National Meeting proposals. Other matters were dealt with online, and more recently using TeamSpeak.

#### WA was well represented at National Meetings:

- 2012 (July) National Council / National Policy Conference in Adelaide – Christine Cunningham (then National Delegate), Cameron Poustie, Anthony Blond, Jess McColl, Alison Xamon MLC, Giz Watson MLC
- 2012 (Nov) National Conference in Sydney – Kate Davis, Jess McColl, Alison Xamon MLC, Di Evers, Christine Cunningham, Anthony Blond, Grahame Bowland, Leonie Lundy
- 2013 (March) National Council in Hobart – Kate Davis, Jess McColl, Anthony Blond, Leonie Lundy
- 2013 (July) National Council - Online – Anthony Blond, Leonie Lundy
- 2013 (July) Young Greens Forum (Melbourne) – Rebecca Leighton
- 2013 (Nov) National Conference in Brisbane - Giz Watson, Jess McColl, Grahame Bowland, Kate Davis, Anthony Blond, Leonie Lundy. Lynn MacLaren MLC and Robin Chapple MLC also both attended.
- 2013 (Dec) Special Online Systems Steering Committee (OSSC) meeting in Melbourne – Grahame Bowland and David Letham
- 2014 (April) National Council in Melbourne – Anthony Blond, Mark Siford, Adam Duncan, Jess McColl, Giz Watson (Constitution), Leonie Lundy

#### Key outcomes of the past two years:

- A complete Policy Review took place at the 2012 July and November National Policy Conferences, in view of the 2013 Federal election. Many thanks to Cameron Poustie and Anthony Blond (then WA AGPCC Reps) for ensuring WA's full participation in this.
- A revision of the WA-NWG Mandate – approved at Reps Council in May 2013.

- Update and confirmation of WA Reps on National Working Groups – see below.
- An extremely cost effective July 2013 National Council was conducted on line opening the way for future online meetings, if deemed feasible.
- Processes put in place to ensure effective NWG budget management
- 30% increase in NWG membership, which currently has 28 members.

WA members have held key roles at the National level: Christine Cunningham and Di Evers served as Co-Convenor and Treasurer respectively on the Australian Greens Coordinating Committee (AGCG) Nov. 2012-Nov.13. Both were re-elected for another year in November 2013. Giz Watson was elected AGCG General member. Chilla Bulbeck was elected to the Green Magazine Editorial team.

The main areas of review and concern for the past two years (apart from the Policy Review) have been National Finances and a review of the Australian Greens Constitution – both will hopefully be finalised at the 2014 National Conference. Many thanks to Jess McColl, Mark Siford, and to Christine Cunningham and Giz Watson, respectively, for leading WA's drive in these key areas of concern and reform.

#### Future meetings:

The 2014 July National Council is to be held in Sydney and National Conference in Canberra in November. National Council Meetings are currently held in either Sydney or Melbourne – introduced at November 2013 National Conference to facilitate delegate accessibility – unless deemed suitable for one per annum to be held on line. The frequency of future Council Meetings depends on the outcome of the proposed revised Constitution at November Conference. WA has flagged an interest in hosting the 2015 National Conference.

The Australian Young Greens also plan to hold a Young Greens Conference in October.

## NATIONAL WORKING GROUPS and COMMITTEES: GWA REPRESENTATIVES ( 25.08.2014)

| WG Name                                                                           | GWA Rep                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Constitutional Committee (AG -ConCom)</b><br>NB Also Constitution Review Panel | <b>Giz Watson (also National) Adam Duncan</b>        |
| <b>Country Greens Network (AG -CGN)</b>                                           | <b>Ian James, Shirley Collins</b>                    |
| <b>Convenors Group</b>                                                            | <b>Adam Duncan, Giz Watson</b>                       |
| <b>Donations Reference Group (AG-DRG)</b>                                         | <b>Adam Duncan</b>                                   |
| <b>Fundraising Working Group (AG-FWG)</b><br>NB now includes Membership group     | <b>Jess McColl, Kim Dravnieks</b>                    |
| <b>Global Issues Group (AG-GIG)</b>                                               | <b>Leonie Lundy, Rathi Ramanathan, Shane Guthrie</b> |
| <b>Local Councilors Group</b>                                                     | <b>Samantha Jenkinson</b>                            |
| <b>National Delegate &amp; WA-NWG Convenor</b>                                    | <b>Leonie Lundy</b>                                  |
| <b>National Election Campaign Committee (AG-NECC)</b>                             | <b>Jonathan Hallett, Alt Rep: Jess McColl</b>        |
| <b>Online Systems Steering Committee (AG-OSSC)</b>                                | <b>David Letham, Grahame Bowland</b>                 |
| <b>Policy Coordinating Committee (AG-PCC)</b>                                     | <b>Mark Cooper</b>                                   |
| <b>Strategic Planning Committee - On Hold</b>                                     | <b>Interim: Leonie Lundy</b>                         |
| <b>Treasurers Group</b>                                                           | <b>Mark Siford</b>                                   |
| <b>Young Greens (AYG)</b>                                                         | <b>Jordon Steele-John, Sarah Nielson- Harvey</b>     |

### On the Asia Pacific and Global front:

The proposed 2014 Asia Pacific Greens Congress was postponed due to the cancellation of the Aus Aid funded Australian Political Parties for Democracy Program (APPDP), following the Federal election. This program has since been reintroduced under the Department of Finance. It is intended the APGF Congress will take place in 2015.

A current key priority is finalising a proposed APGF Constitution and the operating structure, as a Public Company Limited by Guarantee registered in Australia.

Special thanks are extended to Kate Davis for her many years as a diligent and effective key NWG member and National Election Campaign Committee Rep. Kate has recently stepped back. Our gratitude to Jonathan Hallett for taking on this important role.

### Looking towards the future:

Given the timing of national proposal submissions, presentation of Urgency Proposals, and our WA Regional Group meetings and Reps schedules, it has often been difficult to obtain effective grass roots participation in national decision making. I'd like to suggest a review of this

process within the next review of the GWA Constitution.

I'd also like to encourage consideration of co-convenors of NWG/National Delegate as the role/s now have various facets, can be quite time consuming, and I suggest it would be ideal for more members to up skill in this area. Similarly I suggest it would be good for all Working Group Reps to have Alternate Reps both to ensure WA's full participation on these groups and again enable new members to engage and upskill.

I also encourage other WA members to take an interest in the national and global aspects of our party and Greens community.

It has been an honour and rewarding experience to serve as National Delegate for the past two years. We have had a strong and cohesive delegate team of which WA can be proud.

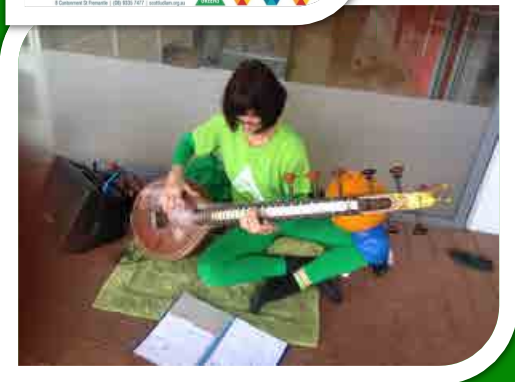
My sincere appreciation and thanks to all delegates, working group Reps, and all NWG members.



*Global Greens delegates at Congress in Dakar, Senegal 2012 (Dierck von Behrans)*

# The year of election campaigns

## March 2013, September 2013, April 2014



## YOUNG GREENS (YGWAWG) Sarah Nielsen-Harvey and Jordon Steele-John (co-convenors)

The biggest and greatest thing to happen to the WA Young Greens in the past two years is of course the establishment of us as a Working Group of The Greens WA.

A massive thank you to everyone involved in getting us off the ground and supporting us since.

Our first event was held at Senator Scott Ludlam's office in late May 2013 – a think tank on how young people can help in the election and make sure we were branching out into the demographic. Something incredible happened this night, something unpredictable, which changed the discourse for the way the Young Greens went about their work. One bright young spark, in the heat of repartee and Scott appreciation said something so brilliant that we have never looked back. "Green Me Up Scotty" was thus created, and so our thanks and gratitude must go to Paul Melville. So our first event was a hit, friendships were created with people we had never met before and the campaign to get Scott re-elected was officially on the agenda.

The election was called – and our first official campaign event was The Green Me Up Scotty Quiz Night. A night full of fun, pizza, amazing people and politics was promised – and delivered in style at the Warehouse in Leederville. With prizes donated from Katrina Bercov and Meegan Overstone, we owe a sincere thank you!

A photo with most of our participants with a sign was taken, saying why they were voting Green and put up onto the Greens WA Facebook page; it got quite a fantastic response! On the night, we didn't just quiz the night out of politics, but we also managed to sign up twenty new people to the election effort either in doorknocking or handing out how to votes. Success!

With elections taking over almost every aspect of our lives we made sure we attended rallies, and other campaign events such as Rock The Vote where our very own Harrison Engstrom managed to get up and do an improv rap about voting for Scott – unfortunately we weren't quick enough to get it on video.

With the coming and going of the election, we got into preparing for Pride. With the results of the State election in our mind, and the then recount of the 2013 election, our theme was the Phoenix – coming back stronger than ever was what it was all about. The Pride Parade was a brilliant spring day. We danced and paraded down William Street while just next door in Northbridge we were awaiting the results of the recount. It was on the walk back to Senator Rachel Siewert's office that we finally got the news from Scott's twitter – all he said was "we won." Well, we said quite a bit more - okay, maybe vehemently and emphatically and loudly said ... okay, okay, shouted quite a bit more! Plus some jumping up and down. And lots of hugs. All the while, Perth Glory fans were walking past thinking what on earth are these people on about – but the happiness was contagious.

Now we have a WA Young Greens banner – the first Young Greens specific banner in the nation! When designing the banner we embraced the traditional Greens triangle and the peace symbol, to make our own logo. It has now seen a few rallies and university events. We are also sitting just under 300 likes for our Facebook page, and approximately the same for our group – so remember to like and join to keep updated on events!

*UWA Clubs Day (Chilla Bulbeck); First Young Greens focused event with Scott Ludlam (barman); Young Greens banner (Ogy Simic)*





## Capacity Building and Training Working Group

Katrina Bercov (events co-ordinator) and Chilla Bulbeck



2011 saw the launch of the Greens WA Training Program, designed to help the Party with capacity building, knowledge and skill sharing towards retaining our new members and re-engaging older ones. The program continued in 2012-14, with a range of workshops and seminars, for both Greens WA members and our wider activist networks.

During 2012, 12 workshops were held, with attendance an average of 15-40 people. Entry to all these Greens Workshops was by donation.

Workshops for everyone – including newbies and non-members:

**Greens 101:** Intro to the party, policies + people.

**Introduction to Consensus**

**Politics 101:** All about our political system.

**Law for Activists:** half day seminar run by solicitors  
For experienced members and 101 “graduates” only:

**Advanced Consensus:** Troubleshooting, diving deeper and extending consensus-forging skills

**Calling Candidates:** What’s involved in running for a lower house seat

**Facilitator Training:** How to facilitate Reps/Greens meetings and guide the decision making process.

In approximately the course of one year, WA faced a state election, a federal election and a federal Senate by-election. So from late 2012 until first quarter 2014, the WA campaign offered training opportunities in a more organised and extensive way than was the case in past campaigns. During the state and federal elections almost 1000 people received training in 38 training sessions, delivered in diverse locations on topics including Greens 101, Consensus skills, Communicating the Greens Story, Federal Policy Overview, Doorknocking Skills and Digital Campaign Skills. This included the Outreach Coordinator taking trips to deliver training in Albany, Balingup and Bunbury.

Two-day Candidate Training weekends were held for both the state and federal elections with approximately 50 people attending each one.

Overall, the workshops received positive participant feedback and played a key role in developing the campaign skills of our supporters.

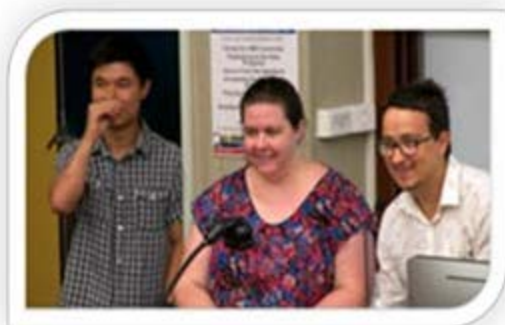
A series of new or updated PowerPoint presentations were developed for use in future campaigns, as was an electronic version of the Booth Worker Training package.

During the Federal by-election, Tim lo Surdo and Ogy Simic, working with trainer and GWA member, Barb Frey, and Holly Hunter, an experienced trainer who joined us from ‘over east’, provided training associated with field campaigning. This included training days for neighbourhood co-ordinators and doorknockers, training before the phone banking sessions for volunteers and debriefs after doorknocking.

300 volunteers led by 35 team leaders knocked on 28,000 doors, walking 9000 miles (our goal was 14,000 miles!) 250 phonebanking volunteers made 50,000 calls at two WA sites and twelve interstate locations.

Following the by-election, Giz Watson initiated the formation of a Capacity Building and Training Working Group. Half a dozen enthusiastic and marvellously skilled trainers joined our stalwart Katrina Bercov to form the WG, which Robyn Williams kindly agreed to convene. In August Sam la Rocca (Adam Bandt’s office, Melbourne) offered a training day for like-minded advocacy groups and a ‘tell your story’ training for Greens members.

*Doorknocker training (below) by Tim lo Surdo, Jess McColl and Ogy Simic (left) (Shane Guthrie)*



## Greens Refugee Action Group (GRAG)

Nick Averbuj (Convenor)

The last two years have been a disastrous time for refugees and asylum seekers in Australia. Not only is the world seeing a dramatic increase in the number of displaced people, but the past Labor and current Liberal governments seemed to have become proportionately less compassionate. The icing on this inhumane cake has been “Operation Sovereign Borders” – a campaign whose title reveals the shift away from the people suffering and on to a detached border policy.

This was even more explicitly demonstrated by our government’s response to the death of Reza Berati. His death in the Manus Island detention centre and the subsequent shoulder-shrugging of the government showed us just how entrenched this dehumanising policy is.

However as these policies become less and less caring, an equal and opposite reaction has resulted. Many new members to the Greens WA have cited the treatment of refugees as a central reason for joining us in 2013-2014. This has seen a very large increase in the membership of the Greens Refugee Action Group and caused us to be more involved than ever in helping the plight of these vulnerable people.

This energy has translated into our participation in rallies and protests. The biggest of these was our presence at this year’s Palm Sunday ‘Walk for Justice’ in the centre of Perth. This saw dozens of Greens members come together (along with

hundreds from the rest of the community) to show our support for those indefinitely imprisoned by our government (even though they have committed no crime). Our banners were held high and in the sea of people, the Greens stood out as the party committed to providing a compassionate and safe solution to this growing issue.

Here, I feel a need to specifically mention Anita Lumbus and Leonie Lundy who, though they always respond in self-deprecating phrases, need acknowledgement for their ongoing commitment to refugees and the Greens Refugee Action Group. Through our group (and many other outside organisations), they have guided our involvement and action through to mid-2014 when I took over as Convenor. They were a key part of, or directly organised, all of our involvement in refugee action in the past two years and their energy is a central asset to our cause.

The Greens Refugee Action Group recently had a face-to-face meeting to discuss the future of our group and the issues that are important to us. The outcome of this was eight statements on which we came to consensus. The main theme of these statements was that education of the public and shrewd political responses to misinformation is what's needed. Providing this in 2014-2015 will be our aim.



*March against refugee detention August 2013 (left); Labor Day March Fremantle, May 2013 (above) (Simone Pesson)*

## REGIONAL GROUP REPORTS

### Brand Regional Group

Jordon Steele-John

Convenor: Jordon Steele-John  
Treasurer: James Mumme  
Membership Officer: Tracey Steele-John  
Permanent Rep: Sunny Miller



*Brand volunteers handing out how to vote cards at the Senate by-election: Eryn Wilson (13 yrs old) and Cory Hay*

2013-14 has been a fantastic year for the Brand Greens. Having faced the challenges of both the state and federal elections, we have bounced back stronger than ever!

During the by-election, we campaigned hard and knocked on over 1000 doors, distributed 2000 leaflets at local train stations and achieved full coverage across all polling booths. Our efforts culminated in a 13% vote overall which went as high as 19% in some booths.

Our membership is growing steadily, bolstered by the many wonderful people who have joined us since the election (the youngest of whom is 13!). This has enabled us to run many local campaigns simultaneously. These include a grassroots community campaign against the 'Waste to Energy' plants proposed for Rockingham and Kwinana, continuation of the Hands Off Point Peron campaign against the canal estate development planned at Point Peron and the very successful six week #BustTheBudget campaign against the Abbott Budget.

Outside of the local area, Brand members have attended rallies, events, workshops and meetings, ensuring that we always have a voice at the table. Also, as Convenor, I have enjoyed building a closer relationship between Brand and other Regional Groups, such as Curtin and Fremantle-Tangney.

We have refocused our efforts on providing a social aspect to the group. To this end we've organised several social events including very well attended Christmas and post-election parties with more planned for the future. We are also making use of social media via a members only Facebook Group and have recently found a permanent home in a community facility.

Although I'm sure there will be further challenges in the years to come, I believe the future of the Brand Greens is very bright indeed.

### Canning Regional Group

Kim Johnson

Convenor: Kim Johnson  
Secretary and Treasurer: Margo Beilby  
Permanent Rep: Kim Johnson and Margo Beilby  
Membership Officer: Colleen Townsend

Margo and her husband, Mike Beilby worked in Alison Xamon's office until the end of 2012. Margo attended East Metro campaign meetings and both Margo and Mike packaged leaflets for letterbox drops.

Margo became the overall booth coordinator for East Metro, organising pre-polling and polling booths. Sadly, Mike passed away in July 2013. Our hearts go out to Margo who has battled like a champ.

Damon Pages-Oliver was selected to run for The Greens (WA) in the Canning Division in the 2013 State Election (March) with Margo Beilby and Naomi

## Canning Regional Group (cont)

Nation being the mainstay of his support team. The September 2013 federal election and the 2014 by-election saw the addition of myself, Ian Rudd and various other members join Margo and Naomi in handing out HTV cards at pre-polling booths and staffing booths on polling day. Members also attended various training sessions in preparation.

In the months preceding the September election, several members wrote 'letters to the editor' of their local newspapers. These were usually printed but little action came of them. We like to think that these letters made people think. While Damon didn't win his seat, the overall outcome for The Greens was (eventually) hugely successful.

Early in 2014 Naomi arranged a public presentation by Assoc. Prof. Rod Giblett, secretary of Friends of Forrestdale, in February and held at the Armadale City Library. The Canning Greens got behind this cause in a bid to save the Anstey-Keane damplands – an area of greater biodiversity than Kings Park - under threat of partial destruction. Letters were written, in support of conservation of native land, to the Armadale Council as Greens members and supporters of Friends of Forrestdale, expressing our concerns. It is with great pleasure that I can inform everyone that the Anstey-Keane damplands are officially safe from interference – at least for now.

We also have a Facebook page – Greens for Canning. It was originally administered by Damon and Naomi, who have subsequently passed the torch to Linda Johnson. With the federal election approaching, and some dedicated networking the page increased by around 13% without using any paid advertising.

The Ethically Eco site is another initiative strongly contributed to by Canning's members, officially launched on 1 January 2014. The site is intended as a source of fundraising for The Greens (WA). Should the right demographic be introduced to this site some form of steady income is possible, but for the moment the site is in hibernation.



Our members represented Canning in events, marches and rallies, e.g. Perth March Against Refugee Detention (August 2013), Greens literature distribution at the Mundijong Fair, Selection of the order of Canning ballot papers in Armadale, Ban Live Export Stall in Armadale, Apology to John Pat (Demand for a Royal Commission into Indigenous Deaths in Custody) at Parliament House, scrutineer training in Perth, Walk for Constitutional Recognition at Cottesloe Beach, Steve Marsh (anti) GMO rally at Supreme Court Gardens, Rally Against Manus Island in Forrest Chase and the (anti) TPP March through Perth in March 2014. My younger son, Cayle Johnson (who took many of the rally photographs to be posted on the Greens for Canning's Facebook page) and I attended and provided photographs to Linda who kindly created a film-clip posted on Youtube for public viewing and can be seen here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YMqDEXflhkY>.

Margo has also been working at the Greens office archiving records as well as doing her regional duties.

The Canning Regional Group continues to meet monthly although attendance has dropped markedly. The difficulties of finding a convenient time, lack of transport and child-care all contribute. In order to increase participation in monthly meetings an online voice conferencing system will be examined.

It's been a rocky year or so but we'd like to thank everyone for all their efforts and look forward to continued support.



*Far left:  
Naomi Nation  
and Kim  
Johnson  
distributing  
literature at  
the Mundijong  
Fair*

*Left: Naomi  
Nation and  
Kim Johnson  
on Greens  
stall in  
Mandurah*



## Curtin Regional Group

Ruth Greble and Jane Ralls

### Overview

Curtin is the largest single-electorate Regional Group. A big influx of new members in the last 12 months accounts for about one third of current membership. The rise in attendance means that, after many years, we will be moving from Earthwise Centre because the seating circle needed for consensus building is now almost impossible to arrange. Using a projector for the meeting documents has averted consuming reams of paper and ink cartridges.

### Elections

State Election Campaign: Candidates: Greg Boland – Cottesloe; Rebecca Brown - North Metro #2; Chilla Bulbeck – Mandurah; Shirley Collins- Wagin; George Crisp – Nedlands; Cameron Pidgeon –Churchlands.

Other roles were David Letham – EMS Coordinator; Jay Birnbrauer – Curtin Booth Coordinator; Kerstin Beckman – leafleting and assisting booth coordination; Dinny Lawrence – events; doorknocking – Chilla Bulbeck. Ruth Greble – East Metro Region Leafletting Coordinator.

Federal: Jude Cullity- Curtin’s candidate; Adam Duncan - no.3 Senate candidate.

Of the many people who contributed time and energy in abundance, leading roles were:

Irma Lachmund – State Campaign Manager; Greg Sawyer - Campaign Coordinator on North Metro ECC; Rebecca Brown – Curtin Campaign Manager; David Letham - Finance Coordinator, State EMS Coordinator; Jay Birnbrauer - Polling Booth Coordinator; Dinny Laurence - campaign research; Chilla Bulbeck - Door Knocking Co-ordinator; Richard Thomas - EMS contacts, doorknocking data recording system; Lee Hemsley - EMS Co-ordinator; Robin France -FECC Rep; Kerstin Beckman - events research.

Many of the 206 volunteer scrutineers for the recount in October came from Curtin - a train station opposite the AEC Recount Centre did not hurt recruitment. Greg Boland served on the Court of Disputed Returns Working Group when experienced legal skills were sorely needed.

Jude Cullity was one of six Greens Senate candidates for the historic Senate By-Election. Curtin’s core campaign team was: Greg Boland - Coordinator, David Letham - Booth Coordinator, Jude Cullity – FECC Rep.

Curtin members and supporters travelled way outside their electorate to ensure the best possible coverage at every polling booth.

### Local Government:

Currently Lee Hemsley serves on City of Subiaco Council; Jay Birnbrauer serves on Town of Cottesloe. Due to forced amalgamations, new elections are expected in approximately October 2015.

### Continuous Campaigning:

Curtin committed itself to Continuous Campaigning two years ago, a direct result of the work of the Curtin Membership Engagement Group (MEG) convened by Chilla Bulbeck. Since then and, in addition to conventional election cycles, Chilla organised - doorknocking before the 2013 State Election; Laurie Scott - A Walk in The Park; Terry Olesen – garage sale; Katie O’Connor, Nicole Harvey and Behrooz Eslam – assisted Climate Change Rally;

### Office Bearers:

|                |                                                                            |                                     |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|                | 2/8/13 to 23/8/14                                                          | 1/8/2012 to 2/8/2013                |
| Co-convenors:  | Jane Ralls, Ruth Greble                                                    | Robin France                        |
| Secretary:     | Robin France                                                               | Cameron Pidgeon                     |
| Treasurer:     | David Letham                                                               | Mark Siford                         |
| Permanent Rep: | Mark Siford (Aug –Dec)<br>Robin France (Dec–Apr)<br>Nick Averbuj (Apr–Aug) | Jo Somerville<br>Robin France (Dep) |
| Co-Membership: | Mark Twiss (Aug –Dec)<br>Ruth Greble, Katrina House<br>(Dec –Aug 2014)     | Judy Blyth                          |

*Right: Katie O’Connor, the national face of doorknocking (Ogy Simic)*

*Far right: Ego Lemos talk with Ruth Greble, Leonie Lundy (Fremantle-Tangney RG) (front) Robin France, David Letham, Lesley Letham, Claire Bowen, Ego Lemos, Jane Ralls (Michael le Page)*



Curtin members - Transforming Perth Forum. There were stalls at farmers' markets and Orientation Days at the universities, while Judy Blyth took over organising Breakfast at Barnett's outside Colin Barnett's electorate office every Friday morning for at least a year prior to the State election in March 2013. Letter writing, doorknocking and phone-banking all ramped up to a high pitch for the by-election and Curtin members were everywhere. Judy Blyth encouraged us with her Get REAL letter writing campaign, Curtin members achieving great success in The Post. Doorknocking is a runaway national success and its symbol on the Australian Greens website is the Curtin volunteer with a great smile, Katie O'Connor. Members engaged in the Bust the Budget Campaign.

Enjoyable events included Curtin hosting Ego Lemos the internationally acclaimed Timor-Leste Permaculture activist and musician on July 27 as part of his Australian speaking tour. Earlier this year, Behrooz Eslam organised another great picnic at Sculptures by the Sea and Curtin member Frauke Chambers gave the Sunday group an excellent tour. Frauke is Cottesloe's 2014 Citizen of the Year.

Members with other roles in the work of the party were/are:

Adam Duncan - GWA Co-convenor, Admin Working Group, Constitution WG, Donor Reference Group, Policy WG;  
 Chilla Bulbeck - GWA Secretary, ECC, ICTWG, Donor Relations WG, GI editorial group, Co-Convenor Election Research Group;  
 David Letham - ICTWG, GWA Membership Secretary on Admin Working Group, WA rep on National Online Systems Steering Committee;  
 Greg Boland - Convenor of Local Government (LG) councillors group, LG rep on Reps;  
 Mark Siford - Finance WG, Treasurer, Admin WG, Donor Relations WG  
 Nick Averbuj, Greens Refugee Action WG



## Forrest O'Connor

Michael Baldock

Convenor: Michael Baldock  
 Secretary: Nerilee Boshammer  
 Treasurer: Peter Eckersley  
 Permanent Rep: Michael Baldock  
 Local Group convenors:  
 Peter Eckersley (Bunbury region)  
 Ruth Watson (Albany/Denmark)  
 Michael Baldock (Buss/Dunsborough)  
 Karen McKeough (Margaret River)

The last two years started with a disappointing state election result and has culminated in a sense of the new with a new regional group name and new local groups.

In 2012 the South West RG was meeting quarterly and in August 2012 it was Margaret River's turn. Having already preselected Giz as our South West UH candidate, campaigning had begun. Over 60 members and supporters joined us to hear from Giz and Scott Ludlam at Glenbrook Estate. Our November 2012 AGM in Bridgetown was to be our last quarterly South West meeting, as we prepared for state and federal elections in 2013 and eventually changes to our regional group.

The highlight of the 2013 state election was the Art Auction held in Margaret River at Cullen Wines in Willyabrup. A hugely successful fundraiser and fantastic evening. The generosity of the artists who gave so much time to produce the works that made the evening possible was inspiring.

By the time the March election hit we had our full contingent of lower house candidates with Hsien Harper supporting Giz on the UH ticket. Ultimately we were unsuccessful and the State Parliament lost one of its most respected politicians in Giz.

The Federal Election campaign was on us before we had time to recover and gather our thoughts. Gordon Tayler in Forrest and Diane Evers in O'Connor were our candidates and their willingness to step up when needed was vital in moving our group out of the disappointment of the state results and negativity evident at the Donnelly River post-election debrief.

The federal result was disappointing and followed by the WA senate result emotional roller coaster. Our 2013 South West AGM in Margaret River at Tingrith Meeting house was a time for reflection and an acknowledgment that change was needed. Our state South West UH vote of 7.92% had barely risen from the 7.51% achieved in 1996 and we were having difficulty finding members who would take on roles with the regional group. At the AGM, we agreed to move focus from the South West Greens to local groups.

At the February 2014 GWA Reps Council meeting, the proposal to rebadge the South West Regional Group as the Forrest O'Connor Regional Group was approved. At the same time the first local group, the Busselton Dunsborough Greens, was recognised by the WA Greens. Meeting monthly alternating between Busselton and Dunsborough, the group has been able to maintain an ongoing presence with convenor Michael Baldock and committee of Nerilee Boshammer and Jeremy Baker.

The Senate Election re-run was uplifting in not just the final outcome but what it has helped activate locally. No better example is Bunbury Against Coal Exports (BACE) which continues its campaign driven by Greens members and is gaining support from those outside the party.

The Margaret River Greens Local Group with Alistair Spong as Convenor and assisted by Sabine Lane and Neroli Carlton on the committee were approved at the June Reps Council Meeting. Alistair and the Margaret River Greens were active doorknockers, including a session with Rachel Siewert travelling up to Carey Park in Bunbury.

Albany and Denmark members met in Albany on the 17<sup>th</sup> of June 2014 and agreed to the formation of the South Coast Greens Local Group and the committee of Karen McKeough (Convenor), Catherine Moore and Hugh Watkins. The South Coast Greens covers Walpole to Esperance, including the towns and hinterlands of Walpole, Denmark, Albany, Mt Barker, Bremer Bay, Jerramungup, Ravensthorpe and Hopetoun.

The change to becoming the Forrest O'Connor Greens has resulted in a number of areas now becoming part of our Regional Group, in particular Kalgoorlie and Esperance. Our Esperance Greens membership had fallen to zero, but is now starting to

grow again and their desire to be part of the South Coast Greens is a great outcome of recent changes.

#### What Next?

Having set up three local groups, the question is now how to foster their development and what are the next groups to form. At the Forrest O'Connor Greens AGM in Albany later in 2014, this will be at the centre of discussion.

[Stop Press: 'What next' turned out to be the Vasse by-election – all hands to the wheel]



*Nino Birch, Peter De Cuyper and Angie Caldwell at the Yallinup Booth where Greens outpolled the ALP and Libs (Jenny Hanson-Birch)*

*Felicity Haynes addressing the Shark Rally at Meelup (Michael Baldock)*

*Margaret River Greens PB Foreman and Neroli Moore handing out at the WA Senate election (Alistair Spong)*

# Fremantle-Tangney Regional Group

Rob Delves

|                      |                                            |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Convenors:           | Rob Delves and Heath Adams                 |
| Secretary:           | Linda Oliver                               |
| Membership Officers: | Ted Griffin and Peter Best                 |
| Treasurer:           | Tim Gamage                                 |
| Permanent Rep:       | Kim Dravnieks                              |
| Newsletter Editors:  | Rob Delves, Chris Johansen and Julia Jones |
| Events:              | Robyn Williams, Leonie Lundy               |

The Fremantle-Tangney Greens meet on the Thursday before Reps usually in the upstairs Council Reception Room at the Fremantle Town Hall, with about 20 members attending most meetings. Like many other regional groups we have enjoyed a stunning increase in membership over the last 12 months. Some have jumped right in with full-on enthusiasm for monthly meetings and activist campaigns. Others, however, have disappeared and we are aware of the need to do much more to make use of their talents and interests.

Several of these new members came through the same door – involvement in the election campaigns, especially the recent Senate by-election. This campaign was an inspiring blend of central organisation and grassroots activism. Our three local team leaders - Robyn Williams, Matt Grimbley and Shane Guthrie - each coordinated large and enthusiastic groups of people who knocked on thousands of doors in the Fremantle region. Door knocking teams were in action again for the Bust the Budget campaign.

Fremantle-Tangney's Events Team continued to organise an exciting array of activities. These included social events for our own members and events to connect with the electorate. The Fremantle Refugee Welcome Fiesta and the Fremantle Festival Parade have been highlights of our annual calendar for at least three years now. Both events were very well supported and presented The Greens in an exciting and dramatic manner to the Fremantle community.

Chris Johansen and Rob Delves have been putting together a lively monthly newsletter for several years; recently they have been joined by new member Julia Jones who has contributed much-needed IT skills.

Leonie Lundy (2013) and Kim Dravnieks (2014) have done a great job in ensuring that our online discussion system works well in dealing with Reps Proposals. We feel that this gives many more

members the opportunity to have their say about the proposals and it also streamlines the discussion process at each monthly meeting.

For the last two years we have made it a priority to set aside at least 30 minutes of every monthly meeting to discuss a major policy or area of interest. Topics are suggested by members who have a passion for a particular issue. It is an important opportunity for members to educate themselves about Greens policies and to improve their skills in communicating the Greens' values and positions on important issues. This initiative has been much appreciated and on some occasions the discussion has run for nearly half the meeting. A wonderful recent example was the discussion on peace and nonviolent conflict resolution led by Adrian Glamorgan and Elizabeth Po.

We are attempting to increase the number of members taking on the leadership roles by having teams rather than individuals take on each role. This applies particularly to the roles of Membership, Events and Newsletter. Our hope is that at least 20 people will be part of this expanded version of office bearers in the Fremantle-Tangney Regional Group each year.



*Marching in the Refugee Welcome Parade in Fremantle 15 June 2014;  
After a #BustTheBudget blitz on the streets of Fremantle on 22 June 2014:  
Matt Grimbley, Lucinda Crimson, Rob Delves, Dianne McGinn, Steve  
Kepert, Emma Haynes, Peta Bowden and two other fabulous volunteers  
(Chris Johansen)*

## Moore-Cowan Mark Cooper

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Convenor:           | Mark Cooper      |
| Secretary:          | Ben Hermann      |
| Treasurer:          | Diana MacTiernan |
| Permanent Rep:      | Mark Cooper      |
| Membership Officer: | Mary O'Byrne     |

This year the Moo-Cows have been very active, both with campaigning in the federal by-election and with our continuing tradition of having open meetings with guest speakers. This year has seen our membership grow too. I had a look back at our report for 2011-2012, and back then we were concerned about attendance at regional meetings. This has ceased to be a problem!

The by-election has obviously prompted a surge in new memberships, and there are other factors driving people to take the plunge and join up. The Abbott government's policies are pushing more people our way, and there seems to be a growing awareness of the Greens in Moore and Cowan. This may have a lot to do with our doorknocking efforts during the election, and it may also reflect changes in demographics.

The northern suburbs are growing, and different kinds of people are moving into the area. Our Greens (WA) election mapping software identified a section of Padbury that is as Green as Fremantle! Voting patterns are changing, and politically aware people are being moved to action. It's been great to see people joining up and then wanting to know about the different working groups. People want to contribute. It's also been great to welcome new members from many different age groups.

There are Moo-Cows working in events, policy, coordination, and campaigning roles within the various working groups at a state level. We have the policy of giving new members something to do when they join - or at least we try to find something that they might find interesting or inspiring.

One of the most interesting open meetings we had involved a presentation by Claire McKinnon from No Fracking Way. She updated us on where the debate surrounding hydraulic fracturing for natural gas stands in W.A. and Australia as a whole. Our state's beautiful Kimberley region is severely threatened, and W.A. will need to build a strong movement to protect it. It was inspiring to hear about farmers working together with Greens to protect agricultural land in the eastern states.

*Clean up Australia Day, August 2014: Adults: Robyn Treacy, Verena Homberger, Soraya Casla, Ben Hermann, Mark Cooper; Children: Lorcan Treacy, Liadan Treacy, Jacinta Hermann, Kimberley Hermann Mary O'Byrne, site supervisor)*

In May, our own Rob Phillips gave a presentation about the Helena and Aurora Range (Bungalbin) in the Great Western Woodlands near Yilgarn. This is a truly beautiful place and a biodiversity hotspot, threatened with a proposed iron ore mine. Members were keen to do something to help, and many of us made submissions to the E.P.A. requesting that the proposed mine be classified as 'A.P.I. category B – environmentally unacceptable'.

In August we got together with Clean Up Australia and organised a clean-up morning for Callander Park in Kinross. We found an unbelievable number of plastic bottles and made that little part of the world a lot cleaner. This kind of hands-on work is great for team building, so we might be doing a bit more of this kind of thing. Some tree planting next time perhaps?

And I have to mention our social event at the Sovereign Arms in Joondalup. We ate some very nice food, drank some very nice drinks and had some great conversations. Unfortunately, everybody was having such a great time we forgot to take any photos of the event. Our Facebook page is bereft of party shots.

Next on the agenda for Moore-Cowan is the approach of local government elections. Some of our members have expressed a strong interest in running for the Joondalup and Wanneroo City Councils. We will be working closely with the Election Campaign Committee to make this a successful venture. Other plans for the future include a public presentation on the power of divestment. There is no shortage of enthusiastic people wanting to make next year our best year.



## Durack, including the East Kimberley Local Group

(Compiled by Chilla Bulbeck, based on June Lowe's senate by-election report and conversations with Maria Mann, Chris Maher and Jade Wade – Convenor East Kimberley WG)

In one of the largest electorates in the world, it has been difficult to maintain support for our Greens members and supporters in Durack, despite the tireless criss-crossing of the electorate by Robin Chapple, our MLC for Mining and Pastoral.

Chris Maher, the lower house Greens candidate for Kimberley in the 2013 State election, almost secured an historic victory – achieving a swing of 10% compared with the state wide swing against the Greens and missing out by less than 370 votes. Congratulations to all the members and supporters: who came out again in force to achieve an additional swing for Scott Ludlam in the senate by-election campaign.

June Lowe worked in Robin Chapple's office to identify Greens members and supporters for the 2014 senate by-election campaign, innovatively contacting people in likely professions such as teacher, social worker, environmental officer. As a result, many people across Durack came to learn they were not 'the only Green in the village'. All major booths were covered, with the exception of Tom Price, Newman and East Carnarvon, as well as most medium priority booths. Scott Ludlam was skyped into Kununurra, a Greens Facebook page was set up by Geraldton Greens, and community Facebook posts were used elsewhere. Kim Dravnieks successfully co-ordinated the booths in Geraldton. June Lowe suggests 'adopt a town' for the next election, in which metropolitan Regional Groups adopt difficult to staff towns and descend en masse – as Robin Chapple does in Kalgoorlie at each election.

In March 2014, Kununurra members formed the East Kimberley Local Group, modelled on the by-laws developed by Michael Baldock, Forrest-O'Connor convenor, for successful local groups formed around townships in the south-west. Local groups encourage face-to-face meetings and a focus on activism in relation to local issues. Conversations continue with key members to form a West Kimberley local group centred on Broome. Plans to build more connections between Greens in Durack, via Skype, Teambuilder, local groups and support from Robin Chapple's and Rachel Siewert's offices lack an enthusiastic organiser with the time and energy. If you might be that person, contact Rowena Skinner in the office: [office@wa.greens.org.au](mailto:office@wa.greens.org.au) or Phone 08 9221 8333.



*Left: Tamela Vestergaard, Andy Grady and Rick Stanley on Fitzroy Crossing Booth (April 2014); below: Giancarlo Mazella, East Kimberley Local Group, at NAIDOC week, July 2014*

## Pearce/Hasluck

### Sarah Nielsen-Harvey

Convenor: Sarah Nielsen-Harvey  
Secretary: Joanne Hoareau  
Permanent Rep: Luke Edmonds  
Membership Officer: Mark Holland

Well, what has Pearce-Hasluck done over the last two years? It is such a hard question and I cannot possibly think of any major events that may have pre-occupied our wonderful group from the normal month to month meetings. No. Nothing exciting really.

Of course I'm just being facetious; one state election, one federal election, a local government election and even a Senate by-election. We had our work cut out for us!

Going back to this time two years ago, the group was becoming more and more preoccupied with the upcoming state election. Praise must be given to Alison Xamon and Grahame O'Byrne-Bowland who handled the whole election like a well-oiled machine. Especially in regards to the quality of booth materials and central organisation by Grahame, it was the best it has been in years.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Alison and her team for all of their brilliant work throughout Alison's time as East Metro Member for the Legislative Chamber. And to wish her all the best in her current role as President of the Western Australian Association for Mental Health.

As we all know, we barely got time to catch our breath before the Federal election came knocking on our doors. Or did we go knocking on its door? It is so hard to tell now!

With the amazing help of Pippa and David – we couldn't have done it without you - we set up at the Midland Markets every Sunday morning in the rain and in the shine. It was most heart-warming when the parents of children beguiled by the blue balloons would come over, grab a "Green Me Up Scotty" or "Abbott Proof Fence" sticker, and cover the other party's name.

Covering over 14,500 square kilometres, the thought of doorknocking was daunting. However with the assistance of Grahame's maps, the group managed to doorknock areas of Darlington, Quinns Rocks, Mundaring, Guildford and the Helena Valley. An enormous thank you also needs to go to Troy Treeby and Paula Samson who ventured from Tangney to assist our doorknocking efforts, we are incredibly grateful and were lucky to have you on our team.

Election day dawned, and we all got out in the (mostly) rain, and some sun – I know there was a certain amount of defrosting to do that night! Without the dedication of members and volunteers from all Regional Groups who travelled on the day, or helped transport booth materials, Pearce-Hasluck wouldn't have done nearly so well.

Two elections down and another was on our doorstep. Pearce-Hasluck member Peter Langlands additionally ran in the City of Swan Midland/Guildford ward in the local government elections and managed a very respectable 800+ votes, just behind the standing councillor Joe Marino.

The story doesn't end there though! The by-election brought its game, and so did we! More doorknocking was well and truly on the agenda and Ellenbrook didn't know what had hit it! An absolutely amazing and solid team of about 12 people routinely turned up at a meeting spot, and then we hit those streets! Our weekly debrief included at the very least a coffee, but towards the end with the cooler evenings, we headed to the local Indian and Thai restaurants for dinner instead.

After we had managed a small reprieve where we were able to go a weekend or two without doorknocking, and get back into the football season, we hosted a 'Thank you barbeque'. To recognise and congratulate all of our volunteers over the past eighteen months, we gathered by the river with our very own newly re-elected Senator Scott Ludlam. It was a beautiful day among the trees, ducks and with the sun shining down on us.

Since the election, Pearce-Hasluck has been trying Loomio as an online decision making tool, so our members who are unable to attend can still participate in Regional Group meetings. Our recent activity has been great and it is starting to work quite well. So well in fact, we are going to attempt to revolutionise our meetings into something more exciting and more active in grassroots.

So stay posted for some Pearce-Hasluck news!



*Left: Pearce-Hasluck  
Federal election door-knocking in Mundaring – Peter Langlands, and  
Paula Samson (Sarah Nielsen-Harvey)  
Sarah Nielsen-Harvey, Pippa Bromfield, and Peter Langlands (David  
Bromfield)  
Senate by-election Ellenbrook doorknocking team*

*Below right: Perth  
Federal election campaign 2013, Kyilla Markets with Jonathan  
Hallett (Laurie Scott)  
Tim Clifford at ECU Mt Lawley Open Day, July 2014 (Grant Boxer)*





## Perth Regional Group

Tim Clifford

Convenor: Tim Clifford  
Secretary: Lian Fletcher  
Permanent Rep: Grahame Bowland  
Membership Officer: Rosalie Miles

Perth is a large and diverse regional group, beginning in the CBD and then heading north-east to encompass Perth's inner north-eastern suburbs. Perth RG membership has grown to almost 150 – our ranks have been swelled considerably by the recent succession of elections.

### **Our (amazing) last year**

It's hard to believe how quickly the year has flown by. It is even harder to find words to describe the amazing response of Perth members to the challenge of the two elections, following closely upon 2013's State Election.

*The vibe of the nation right now is something you can't quite put your finger on but it's there, it's real, it's powerful, and it's building* (Senator Christine Milne, April 1, 2014)

Christine Milne tapped into something special in April when she addressed the National Press Club. She left nothing on the table as she enthused about the vibe of the campaign, how people could sense the rapid change in the political climate. That same vibe brought us over the line during the senate by-election.

During the elections Perth regional group members took on many roles. Our office bearers, members, supporters and volunteers gave freely of their time. Keeping the group functioning while our office bearers were playing key roles was a struggle at times, but the re-election of Senator Scott Ludlam was all the reward we needed.

Interestingly, many of our new members came from the field campaigns of the 2013 and 2014 elections, brought in by our efforts to get out there and talk to people. These members' first interaction with the party wasn't with their regional group – they started running, in the bustle and energy of a political campaign. This is

a reminder that people join our Party to campaign and to work as agents of change!

In 2013 we rallied behind fantastic Perth lower house candidate Jonathan Hallett and lead senate candidate Scott Ludlam. In support of Jonathan and Scott we knocked tentatively on our first few doors - and then discovered we were good at it, and it was fun! In 2014 the amazing field campaign architected by Jess McColl took this to the next level, with Perth RG members joining with every other regional group to staff stalls, knock on doors and telephone voters.

This report can end on a cheerful note, with a shout out to some people who played key roles within the Regional Group. Tim Clifford was our Convenor, Lian Sinclair took on the role of Secretary, and Grahame Bowland was Permanent Rep. Rosalie Miles took on the vital and huge role of Membership Officer. Patrick Hyslop was our representative on the Election Campaign Committee, and Eloise Rosenstein organised our voter engagement efforts during both senate elections. They all did amazing work: our thanks to them!

Perth RG extends its thanks to everyone in the Party who contributed to this hard but wonderful year. To Scott Ludlam for contesting the senate, albeit one more time than he'd have liked! To the co-convenors, Giz Watson and Adam Duncan, for keeping the party going through the bustle of the campaigns. To state Membership Secretary, David Letham, for his indefatigable support of our group month on month. And finally to our members, who got Scott back where he belongs. Bring on 2016, and bring on the 11th of March 2017.

## Stirling Regional Group

Tom Webster

|                     |                             |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Co-convenors:       | Tom Webster, Andrew Woolley |
| Secretary:          | Andrew Woolley              |
| Permanent Rep:      | Shaun Newman                |
| Membership Officer: | Nick Wilson                 |
| Treasurer:          | Ian Stevens                 |

We have had a very busy couple of years (with the Federal election and Senate rerun), and our band of wilderness warriors have done a Stirling job, if you don't mind the pun.

The Scott Ludlam Senate by-election really focused our entire group and brought in a lot of new members, many of whom were sitting on the fence of becoming active Greens members. The sudden loss of our Senator brought these people into the fray, and then of course the result was Scotty being voted in so comprehensively. We are now more aware of just how fragile and capricious the voting public are, and how much we must put in resources of time and energy to remain a force in politics.

The Federal election of 2013, in which we had Tim Clifford stand for Stirling, was another intense time. A big effort was put in by the entire group against an extremely wealthy opponent, who threw money around like a drunken sailor. We rallied the troops and produced a result which was over 10% of the vote, not bad under the circumstances. Much credit to Tim, who was running on adrenalin for almost the entire campaign.

We have had guest speakers: Tanya Maxted from 350.org inspired us; the Transition Town crew who are also active in Stirling did a great job in talking about digging in the dirt ways of helping the environment. We are looking forward to a diverse range of speakers over the next year, who help us network into allied green groups.

City of Stirling (Perth's largest Council) has had problems with its waste contractor Atlas when it closed its recycling facility due to a Department of Environment order: the council was sending ALL its rubbish to landfill! This was not revealed to the public for some time. When we discovered this we immediately set about finding alternatives, and contacting councillors. Through Fiona's and Stuart's concerted effort and the support of the group, three bin recycling has been introduced in Stirling: a great victory for Stirling Greens, and one of the many reasons why a group like ours is so important for the local issues.

The future is about remaining committed and active, encouraging new members, keeping monthly meetings interesting and fun, and doing the more nitty gritty with a sense of enjoyment.



*Top: Stirling doorknocking team Senate by-election: Andrew Woolley, Helene Fisher, Natasha Annan, Nathan Jakovich, Fiona Brown, Fred Radl and Patrick Hubble (Peter Wilmot).*

*Centre: 2013 Pride Parade (Nadine Walker)*

*Bottom: 2012 Pride Parade 'living proud at any age' (Shane Guthrie)*



## Swan Regional Group

Kieran Massie

Convenor: Kieran Massie  
Treasurer: Rowena Skinner  
Membership Officer: Connor Moran  
Permanent Representative: Kieran Massie

Two years can be a long time in politics, but the period between 2012 and 2014 must surely have broken some new records for cramming in so many ups, downs and everything else in between.

A period in which two federal election campaigns, a state election campaign and local council elections took place, a strong core group of campaign volunteers and local activists arose within Swan. They proved more than willing to hit the streets and stand up for what matters.

A particularly successful Senate by-election door-knocking campaign in early 2014 drove an increase in the Green vote from 11.48% to 19.39%, with some individual booths recording a Green vote as high as 30%!

The electorate is clearly ready for progressive change, citing local issues such as stronger public transport links and increased funding for social infrastructure along with a desire for stronger action on climate change and challenging the Government's appalling treatment of refugees as priority concerns.

The Swan Regional Group will definitely be setting its sights on lower house seats at the next state and federal elections, with some excellent groundwork having already been laid during the recent Bust the Budget campaign. One Term Tony and his cronies better watch out!

Despite experiencing a significant influx in membership over the last few years (particularly over the last 12 months) the Swan regional group has at times struggled to maintain consistent quorate attendance at meetings. While acknowledging that this may be partly attributable to campaign fatigue, the Swan group is very keen to maintain and build upon the momentum of the last two years and move forward to the 2016 Federal election in the best possible position to rid the electorate of regressive politics.

Monthly Swan Greens social events with guest speakers are planned for the next 12 months or so, and strategies aimed specifically at engaging new members are a particular priority for the group.

There may be a lot of uncertainty around how the next 12 months will pan out in Australian politics, but Swan Greens are looking forward to the challenge. Green for 2016!



*Top and centre: Senate by-election doorknockers: Dee Margetts, Julia Skinner, Russell Moffet, Georgia Blackburn, Kieran Massie (Jasmin Shaw)*

*Bottom: Gerard Siero (Swan candidate) with Scott Ludlam and campaigners, Federal election 2013*

## Greens (WA) Members of Parliament

All our MPs work on a broad and ever changing range of issues  
Below is a snapshot of their work.

### Senator Rachel Siewert

[rachel-siewert.greensmps.org.au](http://rachel-siewert.greensmps.org.au)

Some of Rachel's current campaigns include standing up against the welfare cuts proposed by the Abbott Government, opposing the shark culling, and working towards food security and better agricultural practices in WA.

Portfolios: Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Issues, Ageing, Agriculture, Family, Community & Disability Services, Fisheries & Marine, Native Title, Natural Resource Management, The Kimberley & Northern Australia

### Senator Scott Ludlam

[scott-ludlam.greensmps.org.au](http://scott-ludlam.greensmps.org.au)

Some of Scott's current campaigns and legislation include fighting for a better housing and homeless policy, campaigning for a Perth light rail, speaking out against state surveillance and opposing the Muckaty nuclear waste dump.

Portfolios: Assisting on Defence, Assisting on National Security, Broadband, Communications & the Digital Economy, Burma, Heritage, Housing, Infrastructure, Mining (WA), Nuclear, Sustainable Cities

### Lynn MacLaren MLC

MLC for South Metropolitan Region

[maclaren.org.au](http://maclaren.org.au)

Some of Lynn's current campaigns and legislation include the Safe Passing Distance Bike Laws, Better Labelling of Free Range Eggs, opposing the shark culling and calling for equal rights in marriage for same sex couples.

Portfolios and Regions: Animal Welfare, Biodiversity and Conservation, Forests, GM Crops and Food, Health and Wellbeing, Housing, LGBTI Equality, Recycling and Metro Waste, Social Inclusion, South West Region, Sustainable Planning, Swan River, Transport, Urban Bushland and Wetlands, Urban Water Sustainability, Women's Issues

### Robin Chapple MLC

MLC for Mining and Pastoral Region

[robinchapple.com](http://robinchapple.com)

Some of Robin's current campaigns and legislation include speaking out against fracking in the North-West of WA, standing up for the Burrup and supporting local councils in the fight against amalgamation.

Portfolios and Regions: Aboriginal Issues, Agricultural Region, Climate Change, Democracy, Heavy Industry, Mines and Petroleum, Kimberley Issues, Local Government, Marine and Ports, North West issues, Nuclear Issues, Regional Issues, Regional Water Sustainability, Renewable Energy, Waste Management



### Valé Mike Beilby

Mike Beilby died at home, peacefully and with dignity on July 31, 2013, Margo by his side. He gave many years of service to the Greens, in Canning Regional Group, in election campaigns and in the Greens office.

Mike, along with his wife Margo, had been bestowed the rare honour of Life Membership in recognition of their exceptional contribution of voluntary work within the party.



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