Investing in Alice

Since coming to Government, the Country Liberals have been working hard to invest in Central Australia and ensure it is truly open for business.

For 11 long years the former Labor Government ignored Alice Springs and Central Australia and neglected local businesses. By contrast, the Country Liberals live and breathe Central Australia and will do everything in our power to see it prosper.

The streets are cleaner and the Mall is thriving with new businesses opening where vacant shops once were.

We’ve put 20 extra police on the streets to make families feel safer. Property crime is down 23 per cent and commercial break-ins at their lowest levels since 2006.

We fast-tracked the long-awaited Kilgariff subdivision which will mean more jobs for local businesses and a huge boost for the local economy.

Expressions of interest are now open for people to buy these new blocks.

We’ve helped bring Tiger Air back to Alice and our investment of an extra $8 million into tourism is starting to pay off with international visitor numbers to Alice Springs up 1.6 per cent – the first increase in six years.

We’ve put Central Australia on the world map with events like the Darwin Symphony Orchestra performance at Uluru and the England cricket team visit last year, generating money-can’t-buy international exposure for the region.

Under the Country Liberals Government, the future of Central Australia is looking bright.

Alice Springs Town Councillor, Kylie Bonanni, Stoyan Ostojic, Managing Director, Ostojic Group, Doug Fraser, Managing Director, LJ Hooker, Chief Minister Adam Giles and Robyn Lambley, Member for Araluen.
The Territory Government is continuing to invest in the Alice Springs economy by leasing two new Supreme Courts in the town’s Justice Precinct.

The Territory Government recognises that Alice Springs has urgently required new additional court facilities for years and we now have the opportunity to balance this need by stimulating private sector developers to supply these facilities in the town. We have decided to move the Supreme Court out of the existing building and allocate it for exclusive use by the Magistrates Court. The Supreme Court will then be moved elsewhere in the precinct, doubling in size from one courtroom to two.

Instead of the government building a new Supreme Court facility, we want to facilitate private sector development. We’ve decided to rent the space for the new courts from a developer via a long term lease. The promise of a long-term foundation tenant will encourage a private developer to proceed with a significant new building project in the Alice Springs Justice Precinct.

The new Supreme Court facilities will go out to tender in March.

ANZAC Oval Upgrade

The Country Liberals Government is making sure Alice Springs residents have access to more top quality sporting events than ever before and the NRL Trial Match at the newly developed Anzac Oval was a great way to start the year.

Last year, we signed a historic partnership with the Parramatta Eels NRL Club that will secure rugby league action in the NT for the next four years.

On February 8 the ‘Territory Eels’ played their first game in their new home-away-from-home against the Wests Tigers in Alice Springs.

The game was a fantastic opening for the new-look Anzac Oval, which includes new grandstands to seat 500 spectators, kiosk, VIP area, refurbished club house, change rooms and administration centre.

The $3.3m project was an election commitment of the Country Liberals.

New Office

I recently relocated my Electorate office from Anangu House to the Centrepoint building on the Corner of Hartley Street and Gregory Terrace. All of my other contact details remain the same.

My office can be accessed from the corner doors near the roundabout on Hartley Street and Gregory Terrace.
We've just celebrated the 10th anniversary of the AustralAsia Railway which is a significant milestone in the development of Northern Australia.

The 3000 kilometre railway line links the whole of the Territory with the rest of Australia and is a vital trade corridor for the future.

The completion of the Alice Springs to Darwin railway line a decade ago was a truly nation-building project.

It was made possible by the support of the then Prime Minister John Howard who realised the Country Liberals’ vision of a north-south cross-continental rail link.

Infrastructure is the key to the Territory’s development and the rail line has transformed the economy over the past decade.

The rail line moves more than five million tonnes of freight each year. It also connects mine sites with the Port of Darwin, transporting more than three million tonnes of bulk minerals each year.

As demand for our energy, raw materials and food increases in Asia, the importance of the rail line in getting these goods to market is only set to grow.

Connecting the Territory

### Kilgariff

**Expressions of Interest are now open for Alice Springs’ newest suburb Kilgariff.**

Our Government continues to make affordable housing a key focus and I was thrilled to be on hand recently for the start of headworks in Kilgariff with the Member for Araluen Robyn Lambley.

Affordable residential lots, averaging between $160,000 and $180,000 per lot, will soon be released to the local housing market.

Kilgariff will provide extra housing for Alice Springs at a price that is within the reach of those struggling to break into the market.

### Community Benefit Funding round opens

The next round of Community Benefit Funding grants are now open.

Gambling Amelioration Grants provide funding support for interventions that reduce problem gambling and minimise the harm that results from gambling. Intervention can include the promotion of community awareness and education about problem gambling or the delivery of counselling, rehabilitation or support services to problem gamblers and / or their families.

The Small Grants Program provides funding support to approved non-profit Territory-based organisations.

Vehicle Gifts and Long Term Loans provide a gift of a vehicle that is surplus to government requirements and that is available only to not-for-profit charitable, volunteer or community based non-government organisations (NGO) that are incorporated.

The Community Benefit Fund receives money from levies imposed on the operation of electronic gaming machines operated by licensed hotels throughout the Northern Territory.

Applications close 1 March 2014. For more information and grant eligibility and guidelines go to www.nt.gov.au/cbf
The Northern Territory Government’s Back to School Payment Scheme provides financial assistance to parents or guardians of children enrolled in a Northern Territory school or registered for home-schooling.

The scheme helps to offset the cost of purchasing educational items such as school uniforms, textbooks, stationery, school excursions and student ID cards.

At the beginning of the school year, parents or guardians are entitled to receive $150 of educational goods and services per student:

- Transition to Year 12 Territory students enrolled in Term 1 (entitlement is only valid for Term 1)
- Preschool students enrolled in a Territory school throughout the year (entitlement is only valid to the end of the term in which they first enrol)

For more details go to: www.education.nt.gov.au

National Youth Week (NYW) is the single largest celebration of young people on the Australian youth calendar.

The annual initiative provides young Australians, aged 12-25 years, with the opportunity to express ideas, raise concerns and act on issues.

NYW 2014 is fast approaching and will run from 4-13 April. The theme for next year is Our Voice. Our Impact.

In 2014, the Office of Youth Affairs (OYA) would like to invite young people across the Northern Territory to become a Roving Reporter in their region.

The OYA is offering up to $500 for an individual or group of friends to take photos, conduct interviews, film, edit and produce short videos about NYW in their community.

For more information and to download the application form visit www.youth.nt.gov.au/national_youth_week.html

The Country Liberals Sport Voucher Scheme ensures that all young Territorians have access to sporting activities.

Under the Scheme, every enrolled, school-aged child across the Territory will receive a Sport Voucher up to the value of $75 to help cover the costs of playing organised sport. In remote areas with limited access to sporting clubs, Sport Voucher funding will be allocated to schools to support sporting activities.

Sports Vouchers were distributed to schools in mid January for collection by parents. Don’t forget to take advantage of the sports voucher to help your child become involved in sport. The web link is sportvoucher.nt.gov.au and contains information for parents and sporting clubs.

2014 Todd Mall Markets Calendar

February 16
March 2, 16, 30
April 13, 27
May 11, 25
June 8, 22
July 6, 13, 20
August 3, 17, 31
September 14, 28
October 12, 26
November 9, 23
December 7 (Christmas Special)