



# Wellington's Way April 2015

Keeping the electorate of Nicklin up to date  
on local and State issues.



Parliament is getting ready for the second sitting for the year as this newsletter goes to print and what an eventful month it has been.

Since being elected to the position of Speaker I have been incredibly busy with my time divided between the electorate and Brisbane.

April began with meeting with the new Minister for Public Works and Housing to push the case for security of Payment for our Subbies.

Jenny and I got along to Kenilworth Celebrates over the Easter weekend and it was straight back to work on the Tuesday with a meeting with Mayor Jamieson to discuss issues of concern to Council. This meeting was followed by a meeting with various representative from groups in favour of the introduction of a Bill of Rights.

After a meeting with Drew Hutton from Lock the Gate and receiving a great deal of correspondence from people who have been impacted on by mining in the Darling Downs I headed off to have a look at the issue for myself, as well as to inspect the area of Grantham that was affected by the floods of 2011.

This trip was a real eye opener and I have asked the Premier's Office to look into the need to preserve our good agricultural land and whether there were man made features that contributed to the Grantham flooding.

It was a pleasure to attend the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Nambour Garden Club and to be able to share Morning Tea with members and special guest Dr Nina Lester before meeting with constituents in the office.

Pic: (Club Members and Dr Lester)



Speakers Office commitments had me meeting with the Consul General from China and the Northern Territory Deputy Speaker and Chair of Committees.

It was great to be able to put time aside to attend a graduation at the University of the Sunshine Coast and to wish the graduating students all the best in their future endeavours.

## How to contact Peter

Telephone: 07 5406 4100 E-Mail: [nicklin@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:nicklin@parliament.qld.gov.au)

My Home Page: [www.peterwellingtonmp.com](http://www.peterwellingtonmp.com)

Twitter: @pwellingtonmp

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PeterWellingtonMp>



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A meeting with the CEO of the Sunshine Coast Health Services gave me the opportunity to find out where we are at with our delivery of Health Services and what is planned for our Hospital once Kawana comes on line.

The Opening of the New Nambour Men's Shed was a much anticipated event and I congratulate all those involved in getting it up and running. It has been a long hard road but I am sure the members will agree that it was worth the wait.



Photo's: Above with Founding Members of the Nambour Men's Shed and to the right current President Ian Ellis



It was back to Brisbane the following day where I had the privilege to launch the YMCA Youth Parliament Program during National Youth Week. This year marked the 20th anniversary of the program and its role of actively engaging the youth of Queensland with their Parliament – and I congratulated the YMCA board members on that milestone.

Throughout the Youth Parliament Program our youth Members will be exposed the rich traditions of Westminster parliamentary practice and procedure as it applies here in Queensland.  
It was also a pleasure to meet Chinmay Sonawane, the Youth Member for Nicklin.



Pictured at Parliament House with YMCA Youth Governor William Lane

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The following week was mostly taken up by Speaker's duties but I did manage to put time aside for the opening of the Nambour Heroes Walk War Memorial (at Quota Park). I believe this is a must see for every member of our community and I congratulate everyone involved in this project for this fitting tribute to our servicemen and women.

This was a very fitting lead up to our ANZAC services the following day where once again Jenny and I tried to attend as many services as possible. It was an honour to represent the people of Nicklin at the Nambour Dawn Service, followed by the Memorial Service and then onto the Memorial Service in Cooroy. It was heartening to see so many members of our community showing their respects in this the 100th Year of the ANZACs.

Jenny and I managed to share the Sunday together before I once again headed off to Brisbane. This time to meet with representatives from the office of the Hon Jackie Trad Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister for Trade and Queensland Rail to discuss the Woombye Stabling Yard proposal.

The Woombye project promises extra train services to the Sunshine Coast upon completion, but the Community is still seeking answers to a number of questions. This was followed by a meeting with representatives from the Local Government Association and Speaker's duties involving the Governor of Bougainville Province in PNG.

The remainder of the week was taken up with duties shared between the Nambour and Brisbane offices, as well as a meeting with the Premier to discuss a few matters that I am still keen to have addressed.

As I said earlier, we are now back in Parliament and I will cover how the week has gone in my next newsletter.

Peter.

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Telephone: 07 5406 4100 E-Mail: [nicklin@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:nicklin@parliament.qld.gov.au)  
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