

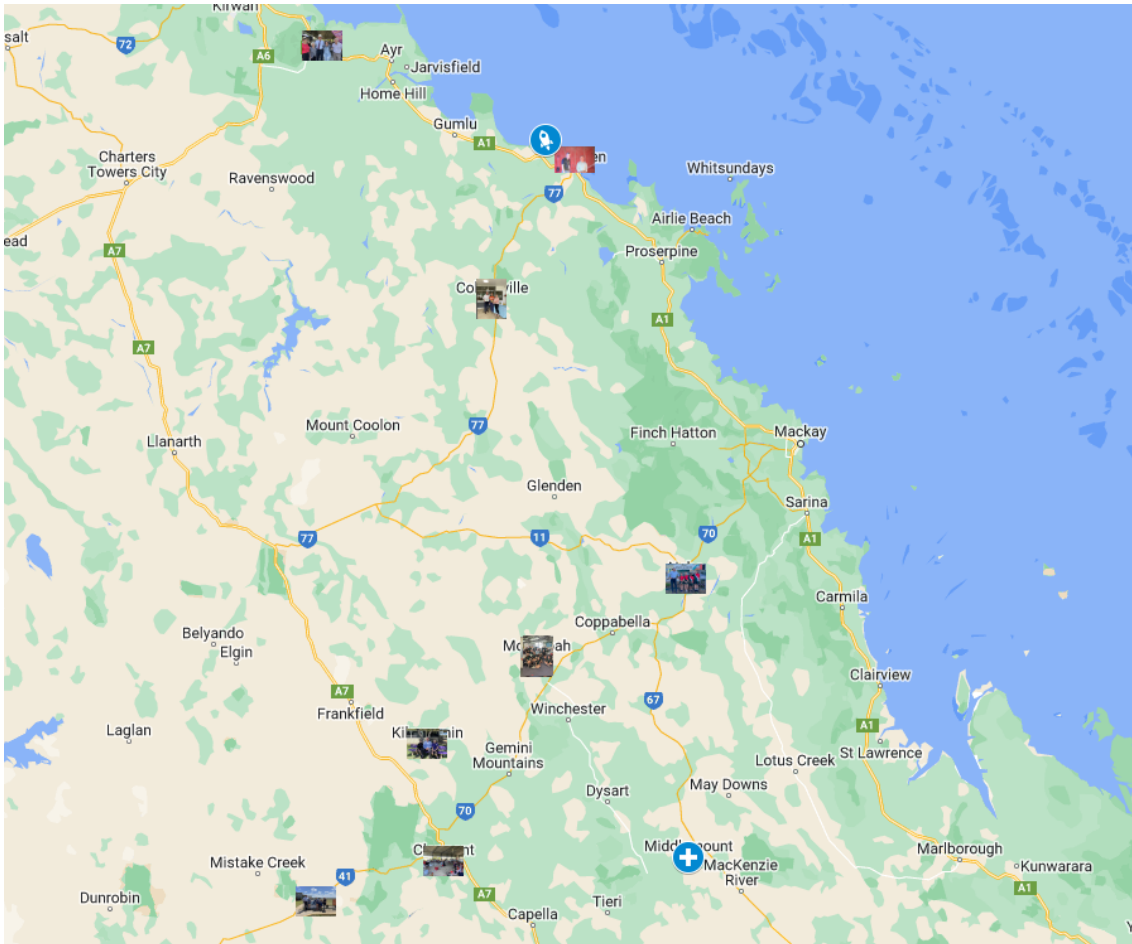


Dale **LAST** MP
Member for **Burdekin**

The Last Word

Regular eNewsletter

Working for you



September was a busy month, with plenty of community events, school visits and tours, I thought I would give you the chance to see a bit of a wrap up of where I have been so far.

[Catch up with where I have been this month here](#)

[Parliamentary Update](#)

I'd like to start by sending my condolences to the Royal Family and paying my respect to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, in recognition of her extraordinary contribution and life.

Parliamentary Sittings will officially resume on October 11 and I am looking forward to again being your voice on the floor of Parliament and prosecuting those issues that matter to us in the North of the State.

Over the past couple of weeks I have spent time travelling around the electorate visiting our schools and hospitals who do a fantastic job educating our children and providing essential health care.

Action on road safety starts with safe roads

During the earlier September sitting of Parliament, Transport Legislation amendments were debated and as the Shadow Minister for Rural and Regional Queensland and the Shadow Minister for Police I spoke about the impact of substandard roads and a sobering statistic that would send shivers up the spine of every Queensland.

Already this year 75 per cent of road fatalities have occurred in rural and regional Queensland. While driver behaviour plays a significant role, it is up to the state government to ensure the roads that we drive on are actually safe.

Currently around Bowen is a 30km section of road works on the Bruce Highway that has sat dormant for seven months because this state government failed to do its due diligence with contractors. Seven months of inaction on a 30-kilometre section of the Bruce Highway is not good enough and I have ramped up the pressure on the Government to secure a Contractor to complete this project.

If we are going to get serious about addressing the road toll in Queensland, our roads need to be up to scratch, and unfortunately at the present time in many parts of Queensland that is not the case.



A year of promises in health

September marked a year since the National Rural Health Commissioner Ruth Stewart conducted a 1000km road tour of the Burdekin electorate, hearing directly from our community about issues we face accessing primary medical assistance.

Prof Stewart, toured Bowen, Collinsville, Moranbah, Clermont and Dysart, hearing from stakeholders as well as those working on the front line.

While we still have a long bringing about adequate access to health professionals in places like Dysart and Clermont or returning maternity services to Bowen it's important to recognise the level of community advocacy that has gone on over several years, at all levels of government and from the community.



Basics need to be ticked to ensure resilience

Living in the North brings with it some of the best opportunities to get outdoors and explore, but when it comes to our storm and cyclone season it's important that we are prepared. The state government has released its new Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience,. This is a document that aims to focus on ensuring we, as North Queenslanders are resilient and ready for times of disaster, but it also highlights the need for getting the basics right.

After all, in order to be resilient and ensure our communities can withstand a natural disaster, we need to have the road networks that won't wash away during a flooding event , we need the ability to ensure we can access medical help not just immediately after a natural disaster and more importantly, we need to know that the services provided by all levels of government are available without question or hesitation and with what ever resources are needed in every Queensland town.

A strategy document has been created for each region in Queensland, so if you would like to know more about your region's disaster resilience strategy visit <https://www.qra.qld.gov.au/regional-resilience-strategies>

Moranbah victims deserve support too

A plan by the state government to leave a vital support service for victims of domestic violence in Moranbah, operating on a month-to-month basis is absolutely disgraceful.

This month it was suggested that MDSS provides the service on a month-to-month basis and that is simply unacceptable. For five years MDSS has provided support for victims of domestic violence in various areas of the Isaac region.

I have recently written to the Attorney General regarding the funding and calling for a long-term funding agreement immediately.

This state government pockets billions of dollars in royalties from the Isaac region each year and to leave some of the most vulnerable in that community with nothing but uncertainty is something that every Queenslander would find completely reprehensible.

Bowen centre of the universe for space travel



Many said it would never happen but progress is being made at the Bowen Orbital Space Port and, all things going to plan, we will see blast off in March 2023.

Thank you to [Gilmour Space Technologies](#) for the recent tour and your efforts to make Bowen the centre of the universe when it comes to Australia's adventure into the space industry.

Community events remind us how lucky we are



The Burdekin electorate is home to some great events and great people that make them happen so it was my pleasure to take the opportunity to talk about two of them in parliament.

Here to help

If you or someone you know has an issue that you need help with, please remember my job is to represent you. I may not always be able to fix the problem... but rest assured I will always do my best.

If you need assistance, please email burdekin@parliament.qld.gov.au or call 1800 817 594.

How Dale Last can help you!



**As your State MP
I am responsible for:**

Agriculture	Sport and Recreation
Health and Public Hospitals	Racing
Main Roads	Energy and Water Supply
Education and IAHE	Transport
National Parks	Public Housing
Disability Services	Community Services
Police and Emergency Services	Tourism
Attorney-General	Planning and Infrastructure
	State Government Land



**Your Federal Member
is responsible for:**

Aged Care	Telecommunications and NBN
Centrelink	Trade
Child Support	Indigenous Affairs
Aviation	The ABC and SBS
Defence	Environment
Foreign Affairs	Bureau of Meteorology
Immigration and Visas	CSIRO
Medicare	



**Your Local Council
is responsible for:**

Local Roads	Rubbish Collection
Footpaths	Council by-laws
Animal Control	Water, Drainage and Wastewater
Parks and Recreation	Feral Pest Control
Rates	Local Planning and Building Approvals

Until next month, stay safe and well.

Dale.
