



Thursday 15 April 2010

## **CWA Celebrates Renewal with OPR**

The Country Women's Association of Western Australia Inc (CWA) is pleased to announce Oakajee Port and Rail (OPR) as major sponsor of the 2010 CWA State Conference to be held in Geraldton on 14 July 2010.

The OPR sponsorship will support CWA's 50th Anniversary celebration of the first country conference, held in Geraldton, the capital of the Mid West region of Western Australia, in 1960.

The conference also heralds a new era for the CWA with the creation of a new management structure directly representing members in CWA Branches in the community.

CWA State President, Mrs Alice Adamson said OPR's sponsorship befitted the occasion, endorsing the importance of regional centres in the development of Western Australian communities and their economies and the transformational and collective outcomes of focused change.

"Geraldton has hosted five country conferences since our first country conference in 1960 and at this important stage in the further expansion of Mid West economic development we welcome the backing of one of the major infrastructure development companies supporting this region," said Mrs Adamson.

"Just as the Oakajee port and rail project is designed to transform the way bulk export companies operate throughout the Mid West, this year's 86<sup>th</sup> CWA State Conference marks an operational management transformation for our organisation.

"This year we celebrate a new structure incorporating the election of our first State Management Committee by all members and also the first year of operation of our Strategic Plan which was adopted in 2009.

"Further, we note the entrepreneurial nature of several of our regions in establishing branches which are attracting younger members able to manage and progress vital issues affecting individual communities, our State and Australia as a whole."

OPR Community & Public Relations Manager Kim Pervan said OPR was proud to support an organisation so influential in supporting the wellbeing of communities and their progressive development.

“While advancing the development of the Oakajee port and new rail that will enable the broader Mid West region to link with our international communities, OPR recognises the critical support of the local communities in which we operate,” said Ms Pervan.

“We are delighted for this opportunity to acknowledge the mutual endeavours of organisations nurturing and sustaining the ongoing wellbeing of kindred neighbourhoods.”

OPR is the developer of the Oakajee deepwater port, 25 kilometres north of Geraldton. It will also construct 570 kilometres of rail linking regional mines and the port.

**ENDS**

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