



## Safer bridges in northern Wheatbelt

FOUR bridges in Moora and surrounding districts will be refurbished and upgraded with funding announced last Monday.

Agricultural Region MLC Brian Ellis, a former deputy president of the Moora shire, said the improvements would be welcomed by local governments and residents alike.

Bridges funded under the current program include those on the Waters Brook over the Toodyay-Bindi Bindi Road; Nambling Brook over the Toodyay-Bindi Bindi Road; Moore River-Hospital Bridge over Dandaragan Street and the bridge over Yadgena Brook in Midlands Road; bridges over Kalguddering Creek – Northam-Pithara Road and Hornsby Creek – Northam-Pithara Road in the Wongan Ballidu Shire.

The upgrades follow \$800,000 provided mid last year to refurbish the Round Hill Bridge on the Moora-Miling Road.

Mr Ellis, who helped evacuate Moora during the devastating floods just over decade ago, said it was important bridgeworks were not overlooked during periods of



**Welcome:** Agricultural Region MLC Brian Ellis with Stephanie Bates, wife of former shire president Michael Bates (deceased), at the 10-year anniversary of the Moora floods.

drought.

“This work will increase the lifespan of the bridges and make it safer for farming families and local communities,” Mr Ellis said.

Other work in the current program includes work in the Northam shire, Toodyay and Goomalling.

The state government has awarded Regional Bridging Pty Ltd a \$900,000 contract to undertake repair and refurbishment works to

the 24 timber bridges across the northern Wheatbelt.

The work includes repairing bridge substructures and superstructures, as well as routine and specific maintenance on 22 bridges and constructing approach slabs and upgrading the off-bridge guard rails on another two bridges.

Works are already underway and should be completed by March next year.