

Town puts on quite a show

■ Kendall O'Connor

Shire of Katanning staff and councillors made the most of showing off the town to the high-profile guests who attended the sheep saleyards official opening.

Following the opening guests were invited on a bus tour of current projects in town.

Guests included Premier Colin Barnett, Agriculture Minister Ken Baston, Member for O'Connor Rick Wilson, Member for Wagin Terry Waldron, Members for the agricultural region Jim Chown and Darren West, Great Southern Development Commission chairman Peter Rundle and Dome Coffee executive director Nigel Oakey.

Bus tour stops included the Piesse Lake Development, the Heritage Precinct, including the site of Dome Cafe and new administration building, the main street revitalisation and the leisure centre.

The tour concluded at the new

sheep saleyards with a lunch and presentations.

Shire president Alan McFarland described the day as productive.

"All the big issues for Katanning, including maternity, structural reform, everything was raised," he said.

"It was a good day, very productive. The Shire of Katanning has certainly a lot of kudos because of it."

In a surprise announcement, a donation from the Premier and his wife Lyn was made to the Friends of the Katanning Library.

Joyce Mader collected the \$500 cheque and a children's book to be donated to the library.

"It's very good for the district and the library. We rely on donations from the community, so this is a big contribution," she said.

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Men's Shed members Arthur Todd and Rick Dewson and president Ron Smith with Premier Colin Barnett. Picture: Kendall O'Connor

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