

**Speech by Mrs Gina Rinehart
Executive Chairman of the Hancock Prospecting Group
Official Opening of Bannister Down's Creamery Facility
Friday, 5 October 2018, Northcliffe, WA, Australia**

Good evening everyone and welcome to our state of the art Creamery!

In 2010, I emailed Sue Daubney to congratulate her on winning the WA Business News 'First Amongst Equals' and we have been in contact ever since, enjoying shared values and friendship.

I met the Daubney Family for the first time at dinner in Busselton in January 2014, we enjoyed our dinner together greatly, went through lots of our favourite bannister milk, and later that same year I formed a partnership with them in Bannister Downs, a fantastic West Australian multi-generational family business with a vision and courage for expansion. It was a partnership based on top products, a top country family, and with vision to grow.

Today, isn't it fantastic to see some of that Bannister vision. We're here opening this new significant investment, an investment which will see increased Bannister production and many more job opportunities for this region, and which new facility cows have been choosing to enter since late last month, September. It's working!

I always say, happy cows better meat, but today I say, happy cows, better milk and cream!

And yes, that certainly is true for Bannister, which milk and cream and various other products have won not dozens of awards, but hundreds of awards, were very proud to say. Warmest congratulations team Bannister!

Indeed last year Sue and I were at the Australian Grand Dairy Awards over east which was on my birthday, and what a birthday pressie, this West Australian bannister cream won nations champion cream. Sue and I very happily toasted next to the bannister stand, with strawberries dipped in that very delicious Bannister Downs cream.

The entire Bannister Downs range of fresh dairy products are frequently awarded gold and silver medals at State and National Levels and this is testimony to the dedicated efforts of Mat, Sue and their family and team in a highly competitive market.

It's not me getting up every morning at around 4.30 am to start the farm day, but Matt, and the early morning staff shift, which often includes some of Matt's and Sues children. And as those from this part of the country know, those early mornings are often bitterly cold. And it's Sue too still on her laptop in the early hours, I know, because we often communicate then.

I'd like to give a huge round of applause please to hardworking Matt and Sue and their family, please join me.

This superb new Creamery is the vision of Sue and Matt, has already achieved accolades at the recent MBA awards in Perth and is a state of the art facility to produce fresh dairy produce of the highest possible quality. Investments like this as mentioned give employment opportunities in the region, important for youngsters especially so they can have jobs here, without having to move away from home.

I was down to see the progress of the creamery in December, and to be with the bannister family, staff and cows for filming us singing Christmas carols together. And I say cows because there we were in this very paddock surrounded by cows, indeed one calf agreed to wear reindeer horns. The cows were curious about this building still going up in their paddock, or, maybe they just liked having Christmas carols sung to them.

We are excited for the future of good quality dairy in south West Australia , and I have huge pleasure being with you today to open this creamery. I would like to wish the bannister staff and Creamery all the very best for the future - including happy cows and Aussies best fresh milk and cream!

Thank you.