

**CITY OF BUNBURY — MURRAY COOK**

*Statement by Member for Bunbury*

**MR D.T. PUNCH (Bunbury)** [12.58 pm]: At the recent council elections, City of Bunbury Councillor Murray Cook, JP, did not renominate after eight years of service. Although many councillors give greatly on behalf of their community, I mention Murray in particular because of his outstanding contribution in supporting many community organisations. Prior to entering council, Murray had been a State Emergency Service volunteer for seven years and a justice of the peace for 38 years. Murray was elected in 2011 and did not stop. He spent the next eight years advocating for his community and attending every possible function to show his support for the volunteer and not-for-profit sectors. I met Murray at numerous Apex sleep-outs raising funds to support groups like the Bunbury soup van, fundraising walks and community events. He was chair of Morrissey Homestead, a centre supporting people with different abilities; chair of the Bunbury–Harvey Regional Council, dealing with innovative waste-management strategies; a member of the Southern Joint Development Assessment Panel; as well as a member of Friends of the Big Swamp, Bunbury Senior Citizens Centre and Doors Wide Open. The thing I most admired about Murray was he never shied away. If he believed in something, he would fight for it, hang in there, and was never frightened of a backlash. If Murray backed an argument, he would always be there to support it. At every community event, Carol joined Murray to help and show support. They are now hitching up the caravan and setting off to discover Australia. I wish them all the best for their travels.

I would like to acknowledge Councillor Murray Scott, who continues with the Capel Shire Council but did not renominate for president. I thank Councillor Scott for his help and assistance in getting the Dalyellup surf club facilities built and in the development of a new family and community-support centre for Dalyellup—not to mention his extraordinary and down-to-earth sense of humour.

*Sitting suspended from 1.00 to 2.00 pm*