

CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Statement by Member for Joondalup

MR A.P. O'GORMAN (Joondalup) [12.57 pm]: Today I would like to talk about two organisations within my electorate that provide services to people with disabilities. The first is the Jaguars Softball Club for people with disabilities between the ages of 14 and 50 years. Last April, a team participated in a special Olympics summer state games held in Keysborough, Victoria. That team won gold for winning all four games in which it played. The athletes were Russell Nulligan from Joondalup, Paul McKendry from Narrabup, Peter Harman, Scott Needham and Lisa Honey from Kalgoorlie, Garth Rodgers from Kingsley, Kelly Myer from Clarkson, Robert Cole from Merriwa and Stephen Copley from Midland.

The second organisation I wish to acknowledge is the Belridge Buddies, which also provides assistance to people with disabilities. Every Saturday morning it meets at Craigie Bowl and has up to 350 people bowling there. Last year, it sent a team to the nationals and won. This year it sent a team consisting of Michael Vergona, Eamon Ryan, Bryn Daniels, Katie Craig, Matthew Doherty, Alexander Civitico, Damian Tierney, Paul Bird, Karl Morley, Kendra Saunders, Bronwyn Russell, Joel Groenendjik, Matthew Castell, Jessica Butt, John Stampalia and Veronica Joseph. This year in Brisbane they came second overall and are to be commended for their efforts.

The two people who helped those organisations were Trish McLean for the Jaguar Softball Club and Fran Tierney for Belridge Buddies.