

PRIMARY SCHOOLS MASSED CHOIR FESTIVAL

Statement by Member for Yokine

MR R.C. KUCERA (Yokine) [12.58 pm]: On Wednesday, 5 September I was again privileged to represent the Premier at the 2007 WA Primary Schools Massed Choir Festival, held in Winthrop Hall and sponsored by the Department of Education and Training. It was a joyful experience, particularly for someone who grew up in Wales, where being a member of a choir as a child was virtually compulsory. The festival brings together hundreds of children from state primary schools who, after only three hours of rehearsal, present a full choral program together with professional and high school accompanists and volunteer adult choral groups. Over a five-day period, choirs perform a different concert every evening. It was a delight to see pupils from Nollamara Primary School, their music teacher Kim Richmond and principal, Steve Lockwood, singing their hearts out on Wednesday, when pupils from 12 primary schools formed the mass choir. They were accompanied by primary school soloists, such as Kathleen Blackburn (Kewdale), Evie Lee (Poseidon) and Zachary Robinson (Lake Gwelup); pianist Jacinta Jakovcevic; musicians Louise Conroy, Luke Devenish, Marcus Perozzi, Faye Saunders, Felicity Woods; and the Shenton College swing band directed by Lindsay Timms. I congratulate the organising committee Allison Conroy, Mary Anne Goyder, Graham Jamison, Geoff Jones, Stephanie Lines, Erin Lysle, Kirstin Mclean, Tim Marshall, Barbara Southern and Sandra Waring, who were supported by countless music teachers, school principals and parents. Finally, a special accolade to the guest conductor, David Jackson. His engagement with the children has seen him return every year since 1999 to create a fantastic experience for each and every child. It was a very special experience, and my thanks to everyone for a wonderful evening.

Sitting suspended from 1.00 to 2.00 pm