

**FISHING INDUSTRY COUNCIL AWARDS, AND AUSTRALIAN YOUNG RURAL AMBASSADOR**

*Statement by Member for Greenough*

**MR J.P.D. EDWARDS** (Greenough) [12.56 pm]: I draw the attention of the House to the 2002 Western Australian Fishing Industry Council awards for the Geraldton-Greenough region. Fisherman of the year was Gary Parker, a rock lobster fisherman from Dongara. The research and development award was won by the Geraldton Fishermen's Cooperative Ltd, and the media award was won by Grant Woodhams of ABC radio. I congratulate all those people for their efforts.

Karl Suckling is a young man from Northampton who is currently employed as an agronomist. He was nominated as a young rural ambassador for the northern region a year ago. He was successful and went on to contest the state title. Again he succeeded, and in October this year he competed in Hobart, Tasmania for the national title of young rural ambassador. Karl won that title and is now the young rural ambassador for Australia. I extend my congratulations to him for his dedication and achievement in winning this very important role on behalf of young country people.