

BRABHAM — NAMING CEREMONY

291. Mr F.A. ALBAN to the Minister for Lands:

The Minister for Lands recently announced a new locality in the City of Swan named after motor racing legend Sir Jack Brabham, OBE. I was proud to be part of that announcement. Can the minister please outline the significance of this area?

Mr B.J. GRYLLS replied:

It was a great day out at Caversham when we named the new locality Brabham. I thank the member for Swan Hills for his advocacy of that issue. He is a very active local member and he has had me out there on a number of issues over the past few months. There has been a very strong response to the member from his local community, which is probably why the mayor of the City of Swan, Charlie Zannino, wanted to talk to him and to the Minister for Transport about the road up north!

It was great that Sir Jack and Lady Brabham made their way out to Caversham to attend the ceremony for the naming of the suburb. The area is part of the City of Swan's urban growth corridor and is bordered by Park Street in the north, Murray Street in the east, Harrow Street in the south and Lord Street in the west. Interestingly, the Geographic Names Committee does not normally name a suburb after someone who is still living. I welcome the fact that they were prepared to consider naming that suburb where the grand prix track was located as Brabham. The time to name something Brabham is now, and it is excellent that the committee came to that decision. The Vintage Sports Car Club of Western Australia played a key role in that, as did Hon Alyssa Hayden. They and the City of Swan were all involved in making sure that we respect the wonderful motor racing history of that area by naming the suburb Brabham. I thank the Geographic Names Committee for making that happen.

The old Caversham raceway site is located within the suburb of Brabham. Sir Jack raced there in his younger days when he won two Australian titles. He went on to become a triple formula 1 world champion. He was named Australian of the Year in 1966. He was awarded the Order of the British Empire in 1967, and knighted for his services to motor sport in 1979.

The locality of Brabham has significant historical links and motor racing connections for many Western Australians. Members of the Vintage Sports Car Club were out there in force with all of their fantastic cars, celebrating the fact they had won this recognition. I hope that when the development is done and the streets are named, the Geographic Names Committee will continue to reflect the history of motor sport in the street names. All in all, it was a great day for the member for Swan Hills to have Sir Jack remembered on the same day that the V8 supercars returned to Wanneroo after the excellent work of this government to facilitate touring cars coming back to WA. To be able to meet Sir Jack in the morning and see the touring cars in the afternoon was a great day for motor racing lovers in Western Australia.