

**MR TOM WARD, COMMUNITY SERVICE RECORD**

*Statement by Member for Greenough*

**MR J.P.D. EDWARDS** (Greenough) [12.59 pm]: I speak in recognition of Tom Ward, honorary freeman of the Shire of Mingenew. Tom Ward is a former farmer from Mingenew. He came to Mingenew in the 1960s and settled on a property in the Yandanooka area. He has been a successful farmer and community leader. He was elected to the Mingenew Shire Council and remained a councillor for 17 years. He was deputy president for 11 years and president for three years. His energy, drive and community responsibility saw the Mingenew Shire grow and thrive through his years of office. He served for two years as the president of the northern ward of the Country Shire Councils Association. He was instrumental in forming a local Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils of seven local councils which served the area well. He was one of the influential supporters of the regional road funding groups, and through his commonsense and strong personality, we saw the local regional road group become one of the leaders in the State. He sat on the Mid West Development Commission for four years as a local government appointee and as a ministerial appointee. On Friday, 8 November 2002 Tom Ward was very properly bestowed with the award of honorary freeman of the Shire of Mingenew. I am privileged to put his record of service before this House.

*Sitting suspended from 1.00 to 2.00 pm*