

party that looks after the poor and unfortunate people and those in low socioeconomic areas. However, when it comes to people who might be struggling to pay their university fees, it slaps them with another levy; another tax. It does not give a stuff about those people. Those government members who are present are mute. They do not have much interest in this Bill at all. They do not give a continental about those students. They could not care less about them. They want to trample and squash them and take away their freedoms, and then include in this Bill a sinister provision that means that universities will not be able to put a “no” box on the enrolment form. The university administrations will look at this provision and consider that including such a box would be unlawful. They will think that they could be taken to task for it. What will be the penalty for dissuading people from becoming a member of the student guild?

Mr A.J. Carpenter: We might have to reintroduce corporal punishment.

Mr J.L. BRADSHAW: Considering what is in this legislation, that would not surprise me. What will be the penalty for a university that discourages people from becoming guild members? This proposed subsection is disgraceful and will result in there being no box on the enrolment form that people can tick to indicate that they do not want to join the union.

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: As I said in my reply to the second reading debate, this provision has been included in the legislation because there were concerns that a university might at some stage deem it desirable to maximise the proportion of the fee payment it had at its disposal by discouraging guild membership. I said at the time that I did not consider that to be a likelihood. I do not believe it will eventuate. Because of the concern raised about the potential outcome, negotiations were held between the university administrations, the vice-chancellors, the guilds and the Government about whether such a clause should be included in legislation affecting public universities in this State. The University of Western Australia, Curtin University and Murdoch University agreed with their guilds and the Government that they would be comfortable having such a provision. Edith Cowan University and its guild agreed that it was not necessary for them. The member is quite right and I thank her for drawing it to my attention. Of course, I already knew that, as she would expect!

For that reason, the provision is not relevant to Edith Cowan as it did not consider it necessary. In consultation with their guilds, the other three universities agreed to the provision. I do not believe it will ever be necessary to invoke this provision. I do not believe that universities will discourage students from joining a guild. I cannot see why they would, and I have never believed that they would.

Debate interrupted, pursuant to standing orders.

[Continued on page 2833.]

## **SUPPORTING OUR SENIORS AND DISABLED**

*Statement by Member for Mandurah*

**MR D.A. TEMPLEMAN** (Mandurah) [12.51 pm]: I take this opportunity to highlight to the Parliament an organisation in Mandurah of which I am proud to be patron. Supporting Our Seniors and Disabled is a fantastic voluntary organisation that provides support for seniors and people with disabilities in the Mandurah and Peel communities. The volunteers are led by chairperson, Jim Elphick, and coordinator, Chrissy Boyer-Abbott. With the volunteer board of management they carry out small maintenance work around the homes of their senior and disabled clients. Many SOS volunteers are seniors, and their motto is “seniors helping seniors”. I have met many of the volunteers and know they are providing a vital service to seniors and disabled people in Mandurah. They are fantastic people. They not only help people with small maintenance needs, but also lend a welcome listening ear. Their many clients are very appreciative of the volunteers, who provide an important link between seniors and the disabled and their communities. More than 3 000 local residents have been assisted by the 40-plus volunteers of SOS. SOS is also a finalist in the “strengthening volunteering” category of the 2002 eighth annual community services industry awards. I congratulate Jim, Chrissy and all the volunteers at SOS and thank them on behalf of the Mandurah community for the tremendous work they do. I am very proud to be their patron.

## **NORTH BEACH PRIMARY SCHOOL, PEDESTRIAN OVERPASS**

*Statement by Member for Carine*

**MS K. HODSON-THOMAS** (Carine) [12.52 pm]: Last week I received a petition bearing 369 signatures of year 7 students from North Beach Primary School that did not conform to our standing orders, yet it needs to be noted by the Parliament. The students are concerned about a major intersection in Carine, at which one of their classmates was recently injured while riding her bicycle. The students request that Main Roads construct a pedestrian overpass on Marmion Avenue, north of the intersection between North Beach Road west, Reid Highway and Marmion Avenue.

I raised this issue in the House in a grievance on 24 October 2002. While I thank the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure for her sympathetic comments, I must continue to support my constituents in their request for the construction of an overpass at the location.

In their petition the students specifically request that funding for the project be derived from part of the proceeds from the sale of the Carine TAFE campus. It would mean that although the local community has lost a well-regarded local

educational facility, it would at least be assured that part of the significant proceeds from the sale of the land would be returned to the community. I am sure that the wider community in the Carine electorate will also support the request of the North Beach Primary School year 7 students to build a facility that will protect the safety of children and the community at large.

Once again, I commend the action of the year 7 students who are campaigning in such a vocal and constructive way.

### **OCEAN REEF PRIMARY SCHOOL**

*Statement by Member for Joondalup*

**MR A.P. O’GORMAN** (Joondalup) [12.54 pm]: I speak today to commend one of my local primary schools, SSS Ocean Reef. SSS stands for state school ship. Ocean Reef Primary School opened in 1988, with John Thompson as its principal. Mr Thompson dreamed up the idea of giving the school a theme by which to operate. Of course, it was a nautical theme due to the location of the school in the beachside suburb of Ocean Reef. The theme has served the school well. The administration block is described as the bridge and the three teaching blocks are described as the port, starboard and stern. This nautical theme continues today under the stewardship of the current principal, David Bryant. The theme has proved so successful for the school that it now has a traditional naval drum corps. The corps practises weekly under instruction from Australian Navy band member Leading Seaman Peter Cobb, and has performed at a number of events, including the school’s Anzac Day ceremony, interschool sporting events, Education Week 2001 at Arena Joondalup, the district principals’ breakfast and the Joondalup festival parade. The corps now marches and drums behind its drum major, who holds the mace donated by the inmates from Casuarina Prison. Last Friday night the corps held a fundraiser, again in typical naval tradition of a ceremonial sunset and wardroom dinner. The corps consists of Drum Major Kristen Plati, and Drummers Joshua Thevarajoo, Kallum Bryan, Jack De Groot, Jarem Edwards, Rhys Booth, Cassie Hasan, Amanda Fenlon, Ben Lloyd, Tara Saumba and David Fasalo. This group of young people is a credit to the school and should be commended for its efforts.

### **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.

### **“UNHIDING VISIBILITY” PROJECT**

*Statement by Member for Albany*

**MR P.B. WATSON** (Albany) [12.57 pm]: I had the pleasure last weekend to witness the end results of the Unhiding Visibility through the Arts program at the Vancouver Arts Centre. This program was developed by the Lower Great Southern Community Living Association, the Vancouver Arts Centre, Disability and Disadvantage in the Arts, Australia and the Unhiding Project Reference Group to give people with disabilities the opportunity to play an active and meaningful role in a range of community arts. It was organised under five categories. Lochie McDonald guided participants through workshops from creating poetry to performance, culminating in a public performance. Frances Italiano provided a fantastic opportunity for people to work in pairs to create portraits and tell their stories of caring, working and living together. Cheryl Stephens, a visual and graphic artist, helped participants conceive, design and produce 12 posters on the theme of unhiding, which were displayed in businesses around Albany and will be produced as a calendar. Teresa Hughes established a choir to create and sing original music for the closing event of the unhiding project. Simone Newton, a local dancer and choreographer, helped develop, rehearse and perform an original movement piece. Andre Steyl involved participants in filming, script editing and projection, which culminated in a short film. Artist Michelle Frampton involved participants in sand sculpting, painting and model making, using the theme of disability, and built giant sand sculptures. The end result was magnificent. Albany is a very caring community, and I congratulate Cathy Hough, Caroline O’Neill and all the wonderful volunteers who gave their time to make this such a wonderful success. Over 400 people were involved in the project, and to see the smiles on all concerned, both during and after the final performances, would have been most satisfying for all concerned. I congratulate all of them.

*Sitting suspended from 1.00 to 2.00 pm*