

EDDIE STORM — ORDER OF AUSTRALIA MEDAL

Statement by Member for Mandurah

MR D.A. TEMPLEMAN (Mandurah) [12.54 pm]: I rise to acknowledge local Mandurah citizen, Mr Eddie Storm, who was awarded an Australian honour on Australia Day this year. I have known Eddie for many years and I believe he epitomises the sort of person who deserves to be recognised through our Australian honours system. Eddie Storm's Medal of the Order of Australia recognises his outstanding contribution to the entertainment industry in Australia. Eddie began his career in the entertainment industry in England in 1952 as a young band member with the Ted Coleman Orchestra and commenced performing in Australia in 1967. Eddie was selected for two tours of Vietnam in 1969 and 1970 to entertain Australian troops fighting in the Vietnam War. His memory of these tours are particularly special to him in his long career, and he remembers with great fondness the special bond he created with our diggers and the other entertainers who toured Vietnam with him at that time. Eddie Storm later established himself in Western Australia and was a very popular act throughout Perth. He then worked as a solo performer in Melbourne where he became one of Melbourne's top entertainment names, winning "Australia's New Faces" award in 1971.

Over the last few years, Eddie Storm has been living in Mandurah and he is much loved by seniors' groups across the state for his wonderfully entertaining shows. I call him Mandurah's most prolific performer; he engages and endears himself to his audiences and loves performing. Eddie Storm is a remarkable Australian—a gentleman—and I am so proud to call him a friend. Eddie Storm, OAM, thoroughly deserves his Australian honour.