

**ANZAC BELL**

*Statement by Minister for Culture and the Arts*

**MR D.A. TEMPLEMAN (Mandurah — Minister for Culture and the Arts)** [9.04 am]: I would like to inform the house of a significant and historic event: the dedication of the commemorative ANZAC Bell at the Swan Bell Tower on Sunday, 21 October 2018. The dedication ceremony included an Aboriginal smoking ceremony and welcome to country before receiving a blessing by the Anglican Archbishop of Perth, the Right Reverend Kay Goldsworthy, AO, and the Vicar General of the Catholic Church, Perth, the Very Reverend Peter Whitely. The bell was given a guard of honour for the duration of the ceremony comprising members of the Australian Defence Force and the ceremony was attended by representatives from government, the Swan Bells Foundation, the City of Perth and the Returned and Services League of Western Australia. The ANZAC Bell is the largest bell cast in the Southern Hemisphere, at 6.5 tonnes. The bell includes a symbolic artistic frieze depicting people from all cultures and conflicts set together in a landscape with a setting sun, symbolising the spirit of the Anzacs and recognising their enormous contribution to our community. The bell has been designed by Whitechapel Bell Foundry. Prior to the closure of its foundry operations in June 2017, Whitechapel Bell Foundry was one of the oldest bell manufacturers in the world and manufacturer of the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia and Big Ben in London. The bell was cast earlier this year by VEEM, a Western Australian firm based in Canning Vale. Following casting of the bell, a representative of Whitechapel Bell Foundry fine-tuned the bell on a lathe at Willis Engineering in Welshpool to ensure the correct sound prior to installation. The ANZAC Bell is now scheduled for installation in the bell tower in readiness for its first planned ringing on Remembrance Day on November 11, 2018. Installation of the bell is being jointly managed by the Swan Bells Foundation, the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, and the infrastructure team at Culture and the Arts (WA). I would like to congratulate the Swan Bells Foundation, Lotterywest, the City of Perth, the Creasy Group and the RSLWA for their support for this project, and all involved in the design, casting and dedication of this symbolic ANZAC bell for all Western Australians.

Lest we forget.