

LESLEY MARION COUZENS

Statement by Member for Mandurah

MR D.A. TEMPLEMAN (Mandurah) [4.10 pm]: I rise to acknowledge the sad passing of a much loved and cherished Mandurah identity, Lesley Marion Couzens. Lesley spent her early years in Northam and moved to Mandurah in the early 1980s with her husband, Les. Lesley became actively involved with the Mandurah Little Theatre and became famous for her popular theatre restaurant productions. She was awarded life membership of the Mandurah Little Theatre in the 1990s for her contribution to local theatre. Theatre was Lesley's life, and after resigning from Australia Post she was employed for the past 10 years as the production manager at the Mandurah Performing Arts Centre. Lesley Couzens had a special gift: she was able to engage with people of all ages and backgrounds and introduced so many people to the theatre experience. Lesley's contribution to the arts in the Northam and Mandurah communities is immeasurable. Her energy, enthusiasm and love for people were special measures of her tremendous character. Lesley Couzens was a remarkable Australian woman. She made such a positive difference to the projects in which she was involved, the people whom she met and loved and the communities in which she lived and worked. My condolences go to her husband, Les, and her family. She was a dear friend of mine and she will be very sadly missed.