

GRANDPARENTS

Statement by Member for Mandurah

MR D.A. TEMPLEMAN (Mandurah) [12.55 pm]: I rise to pay tribute to the grandparents in our community who continue to make a positive impact on the lives of their grandchildren. I am aware of the vast number of grandparents in the Mandurah community and in the wider community who support their grandchildren in so many ways. Indeed, there are a significant number of grandparents who are parenting for a second time in our community; that is, they care for, or substantially care for, their grandchildren because their grandchildren's own parents cannot or are unable to do so. We also have many grandparents who, as foster carers, care for children, giving them the love and support they need so that they can have the best possible opportunity to enjoy a happy, safe and positive life. There are also grandparents who continue to share with their own grandchildren their wisdom, love, compassion and guidance. Grandparents support their own families in various ways so that their children and grandchildren can enjoy a good life. I am particularly fortunate that I have had remarkable grandparents who have left an undeniable mark on my life. My grandparents provided me with wonderful opportunities, love and great wisdom as I was growing up and right through my adult life. My only surviving grandparent, my nanna, Win Bates, celebrated her ninetieth birthday on 7 September. My nanna is a very special person. My nanna has always been there for her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. I am proud of her and am thankful for her life. Like so many people from my nanna's generation, she has seen great changes during her lifetime. With great gratitude, I thank her and all grandparents who have had, and continue to have, such a positive impact on the lives of their grandchildren.