

SENIORS RECREATION COUNCIL — HUGH ROGERS

Statement by Minister for Seniors and Ageing

MR M.P. MURRAY (Collie–Preston — Minister for Seniors and Ageing) [9.15 am]: I rise to inform the house of the retirement of Mr Hugh Rogers from his role as state president of the Seniors Recreation Council of Western Australia. The Seniors Recreation Council is a fantastic organisation strongly committed to encouraging older Western Australians to stay active, healthy and involved in sport and recreation. Mr Rogers first joined the Seniors Recreation Council back in 1992 as the indoor bowls coordinator. He has since risen up the ranks to become treasurer and, eventually in 2001, state president. A former member of the Royal Air Force in the United Kingdom, Mr Rogers' discipline and attention to detail were invaluable elements of his leadership style. Mr Rogers has been involved with the Seniors Recreation Council for nearly 30 years and has led it for 19 years. During his tenure as state president, Mr Rogers led the Seniors Recreation Council with passion and determination. With his steady hand guiding and managing the organisation, it is now highly regarded in the community with its tech-savvy seniors' forums and other classes always oversubscribed.

Mr Rogers has been a central figure, along with his daughter Dawn and son-in-law Martin, in bringing together the aged-care games.

Mr D.A. Templeman interjected.

The SPEAKER: Leader of the House!

Mr M.P. MURRAY: The games bring together residents from aged-care facilities, encouraging them to get out and get active with fun but sometimes physically demanding activities. Mr Rogers also presided over the extremely popular Have a Go Day. Taking place in November each year, Have a Go Day attracts over 15 000 visitors, with hundreds of stalls and activities to encourage seniors to get involved in their communities.

Although Mr Rogers is stepping down in an official capacity, such is his generosity and work ethic that he has agreed to remain an accredited volunteer and mentor, assisting whenever possible and supporting the organisation's many events. Mr Rogers has truly left a lasting impression on the Seniors Recreation Council, with a strong legacy of working hard to improve the lives of seniors in Western Australia. He certainly leaves big shoes to fill. I wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement and thank him for his service to the Western Australian community.