

SENIORS WEEK

Statement by Minister for Seniors and Ageing

MR M.P. MURRAY (Collie–Preston — Minister for Seniors and Ageing) [2.06 pm]: I rise to inform members of the house that this week is WA Seniors Week 2017, which runs from 29 October to 5 November. Seniors Week is a time to acknowledge and show respect for the thousands of older Western Australians who have contributed to and continue to contribute to this state. In order to acknowledge and celebrate their contribution, hundreds of seniors events will be hosted by local governments, community groups and businesses across Western Australia. This year, the Seniors Week community grants program, coordinated by the Council on the Ageing Western Australia and jointly funded by Lotterywest and the Department of Communities, has provided more than \$79 000 to support 86 events throughout Western Australia.

I was delighted and humbled to present this year's WA Seniors Awards to some very deserving recipients. The finalists and winners were recognised for their many years of commitment and dedication working to support and improve the lives of older Western Australians. In particular, I congratulate Lesley Balinski, the winner of the Juniper lifetime achievement regional award; and Mr Phil Paddon, the winner of the Juniper lifetime achievement metropolitan award.

I bring to the attention of members another major event in the Seniors Week calendar—that is, Have a Go Day, to be held this Wednesday, 1 November. Hosted by the Seniors Recreation Council, there will be a vast range of activities on offer for participants to experience. I encourage all members to get behind Seniors Week and show their respect and admiration for older Western Australians who have brought enormous talent, value and knowledge to Western Australian communities.