

DENIS RAYMOND MARSHALL

Statement by Member for Warren-Blackwood

MR P.D. OMODEI (Warren-Blackwood) [12.50 pm]: I rise to pay tribute to a person from Pemberton who recently died prematurely. Denis Raymond Marshall was a legend in his lifetime in Pemberton. In 1971 he joined the Forests Department in Manjimup, in 1972-73 he went to the Northcliffe gang and in 1976 he went to Pemberton. He was an outstanding person working for the Department of Conservation and Land Management and was in charge of a range of sections. He was an outstanding overseer, a faller, a mechanic, a truck driver and certainly an outstanding bulldozer driver. He could do anything; his words were as good as his actions and not many could match his skill. Denis was known as a legendary bulldozer driver, and many farmers in the area can vouch for that. He leaves behind a family. He also pioneered the burning of coastal heath and flats in the winter. His proudest achievement was the burning of approximately 4 000 to 5 000 acres of flats in the Chesapeake block in July 2001, in which the use of the helicopter drip torch was pioneered.

Denis will be sadly missed in the Pemberton area. He certainly went before his time but he leaves a legacy that many people within CALM and the forest industry and his family can be proud of.