

ROO GULLY WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Statement by Member for Collie

MR M.P. MURRAY (Collie) [12.53 pm]: I will take this time to mention a wildlife sanctuary in my electorate. The Roo Gully Wildlife Sanctuary is for injured and orphaned wildlife in Boyup Brook. It is run by a local couple, Roy and Carol Hands, and a willing band of volunteers with the intention of saving and then releasing any native creatures that come their way. For a number of years the Hands relied upon their own resources and the generosity and help of volunteers for assistance with food and supplies. In October last year, the Roo Gully Wildlife Sanctuary was classified as a charitable organisation, and I recently had the pleasure of presenting it with its first grant. This grant will improve the educational facilities and the on-line access of the group. They are gaining international recognition for their work and have played host to many international visitors and volunteers. In the future the sanctuary plans to upgrade the secure enclosure and add to the education centre. Although Roo Gully is not a commercial wildlife park it is open to the public through supervised tours. The park's emphasis is on assisting in the survival of native animals, education and research, and Carol and Roy Hands are recognised as experts in treating injured wildlife and are thrilled when a rehabilitated animal is released into the forest. I congratulate the keepers and supporters of the Roo Gully sanctuary. They have provided a valuable resource and an interesting tourist attraction for the Boyup Brook area. I recommend a visit to anyone travelling in the area.