

**COOKERNUP — POSTCODE**

*Statement by Member for Murray–Wellington*

**MRS R.M.J. CLARKE (Murray–Wellington)** [12.53 pm]: I was deeply honoured to be invited, along with the Premier, to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the town of Cookernup. Cookernup is a majestic agricultural town located in the Shire of Harvey. It is home to a dedicated and passionate community, which I have the privilege of representing. Just after being elected in 2017, I discovered that Cookernup did not have a town sign on the South West Highway, nor did it have its own postcode after it was removed in 1974, when it was merged into the nearby Harvey postcode of 6220. The community had been asking for many years for both the sign and the postcode to be reinstated, to no avail. A Cookernup town sign was secured with the assistance of the Minister for Planning, Hon Rita Saffioti, in 2018. Premier Mark McGowan then stepped up and wrote to Australia Post, seeking the reinstatement of the 6219 postcode for this great regional town. It was through the hard work of Jac Taylor, the Cookernup Progress Association, the general store and post office, community members and Australia Post that, at the anniversary celebrations on 3 August 2019, the Premier and I announced the return of the illustrious 6219 Cookernup postcode.

To reinstate a postcode is no easy task; apparently, according to an Australia Post representative, it has not occurred before. Enthusiastic Australia Post representatives also attended the presentation, revelling in the small town excitement and spirit of camaraderie. This is perhaps something only the small and close-knit community of Cookernup understands; however, it speaks volumes about the commitment and strength of the people living in the town. I thank the town of Cookernup for letting the Premier and I be a part of its community, and wish it many long years with its newly returned postcode—6219.