

MADGE HITCHINS

Statement by Member for Hillarys

MR P.A. KATSAMBANIS (Hillarys) [12.50 pm]: I wish to highlight the significant milestone reached by one of my constituents, Mrs Madge Hitchins, from Padbury. Madge turned 100 on 3 February this year. She is still a very active member of our community and, as a member of three dance clubs, she dances every week and still has great fun. I recently caught up with Madge for a cup of coffee to celebrate her great milestone and she told me some amazing stories. One of the stories that stood out to me was that when Madge turned 80, her family were concerned that she was living alone so they built a granny flat at the rear of her son's house. Madge stayed there for a few years but did not really enjoy living there. One day, aged 84, she asked her son whether he could swap his vehicle for a few days so that she could go for a drive in his large four-wheel drive. Madge returned the vehicle to her son eight months later! In that time, Madge drove around Australia, as far north as Cape York Peninsula, across the Birdsville Track—where she got a flat tyre—and back to Perth. Since returning from this joy ride, her family has not encouraged her to move out of her home. She is still happy living in Padbury. Madge has witnessed extraordinary events and done remarkable things in her lifetime. I wish Madge continued good health, happiness, many good years ahead and lots of dancing!