

**GEOFF BRIERLEY — NATURALISTE VOLUNTEER MARINE RESCUE GROUP**

*Statement by Member for Vasse*

**MS L. METTAM (Vasse — Leader of the Liberal Party)** [12.53 pm]: It was my great pleasure to join members of the Volunteer Marine Rescue, WA police, Department of Fire and Emergency Services and the many family and friends this month to acknowledge the retirement of one of our community's longstanding volunteers as commander of the Naturaliste Volunteer Marine Rescue Group, Geoff Brierley. Geoff was honoured for providing over 30 years of outstanding leadership and service to one of the region's most valued clubs. He has been instrumental in building the Naturaliste Volunteer Marine Rescue from very humble beginnings to where it is today. The extent of people gathered to celebrate with Geoff was a testament to how far his contribution has stretched within Volunteer Marine Rescue and the broader community. Thirty years of service is an absolute credit to Geoff, who has so willingly and generously given his time. Geoff has brought together volunteers and dealt with the administration and bureaucracy, always with integrity and professionalism. Geoff contributed volunteer hours to the Fire and Emergency Services Authority consultative committee and as an assessor for individual groups undertaking a recreational skipper's ticket, travelling as far as Hopetoun—an over 1 000-kilometre round trip. Geoff worked hard on fundraising to replace private vessels with dedicated state-of-the art vessels. His commitment to ensuring the safety of boating facilities included many hours of work to upgrade both the Quindalup and Canal Rocks boat ramps. The members will sorely miss him and his contributions.