

**VOLUNTEERING — GEORGE LEATHLEY**

*Statement by Member for Gosnells*

**MR C.J. TALLENTIRE (Gosnells)** [12.53 pm]: I rise to acknowledge the wonderful contribution of longtime Gosnells resident George Leathley who was recently awarded the Lifetime Contribution to Volunteering at the annual Clubs WA Awards for Excellence. George has been involved with Gosnells Football Club for over 50 years. After arriving in Australia as a child migrant in 1953, George was fortunate to be fostered by the Dominish family. His foster-father, Matt, introduced him to Gosnells Football Club, where, in George's own words, he was not the best footballer to ever pull on the boots, but his love for the game and his beloved Gosnells Football Club was born. George has held many positions at Gosnells Football Club, including secretary, treasurer and bar manager, and for many years he was the fundraising guru, running bingo and the legendary post-match chook raffles. George is still actively involved as the registrar, doing the club accounts, and he is club statistician. If it involves numbers, George has it covered. It has been said that George is the backbone of Gosnells Football Club, and indeed he is, but the football club is not the only recipient of George's voluntary time: George also works tirelessly for the Multiple Sclerosis Society and our local Addie Mills Centre for senior citizens. It is often the unsung heroes who contribute behind the scenes to fulfil the duties that no-one else wants to do, and that is what this award and acknowledgment is about. To George, thank you for your continued voluntary contribution to Gosnells Football Club and the greater Gosnells community. On that note, I would like to wish Gosnells Football Club all the best for its game against Bassendean this Saturday!