

**GOSNELLS STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE**

*Statement by Member for Gosnells*

**MR C.J. TALLENTIRE (Gosnells)** [12.52 pm]: I rise to acknowledge the tremendous work of the Gosnells State Emergency Service. The work of the SES is done by volunteers, who deserve full recognition. I especially acknowledge leading members of the Gosnells SES, Mark Geary and Paul Hollamby. In the past week two Huntingdale residents, Gerry McCourt and Wayne Fallows, represented Gosnells SES as part of a 24-member team sent to search for 72-year-old David Gilbert, who was reported missing from the De Grey River campground in the Pilbara. Typical of the nature of an SES call-out, there were only a few hours between the Saturday afternoon call-out and the team getting into action in the Pilbara. The initial request came late on Saturday afternoon and the team flew out from Perth on Sunday morning, and were out searching before 1.00 pm and until 10.00 pm, and up again at 6.00 am. Gerry McCourt is a search team leader, leading one of the Perth teams. A second search, this time in Perth, was initiated mid-afternoon on Sunday. Stan Day had been missing in Floreat since 7.00 am on Sunday. The Gosnells SES had a further team ready to begin searching. Mr Day was found just after 6.00 pm.

Gosnells SES has two more volunteers preparing to replace Gerry and Wayne in the search at the De Grey River camp. Graham Fixter and Joe Taylor are preparing for the search. Their experience as search team leaders and field search controllers will be greatly valued. None of the volunteers would be able to carry out their SES work without the support of their families and employers. I also pay tribute to the families and employers of SES volunteers.