

**WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME — CELIA WAUGH**

*Statement by Member for Albany*

**MS R.S. STEPHENS (Albany)** [12.55 pm]: At Government House last week, my mum and my biggest supporter, Celia Waugh, was inducted into the WA Women's Hall of Fame in the sport category, along with 15 other incredible women. The WA Women's Hall of Fame was established in 2011 in recognition of the centenary of International Women's Day, which is held annually on 8 March. The purpose of the WA Women's Hall of Fame is to recognise and celebrate the achievements of Western Australian women past, present and future. To date, 247 inspiring Western Australian women have been inducted into the WA Women's Hall of Fame.

My mum has been involved in the surf lifesaving movement in WA at the highest level for over 30 years. She was awarded a life membership to her local Albany Surf Life Saving Club and to Surf Life Saving WA for her years of service and passion for education and training in surf lifesaving.

Having held numerous positions with the Albany club, including as its president, she has achieved multiple surf lifesaving qualifications and was awarded the surf lifesaving trainer and assessor of the year. Celia's current role at the Albany Surf Life Saving Club is mentoring the club's youth through surf lifesaving pathways. Mum became involved in the Albany Surf Life Saving Club when my sister and I decided to try the surf club. Like many parents, mum agreed to volunteer. She had no idea of the journey and the opportunities that surf lifesaving would provide.

Mum has held many roles in the club, but I think her greatest achievement was gaining her bronze medal, as she could not swim prior to that. She continues to encourage new members to gain their bronze medal. As a dedicated volunteer, mum's passion for training extends beyond Albany, with regular trips to assist other clubs both regionally and internationally. She is still heavily involved in the club. As a proud grandma, she loves nothing more than cheering on and inspiring the next generation. This month, she volunteered, alongside my son, as a carnival official at the Country State Championships at Sorrento while my daughter competed. Mum was beaming with pride. I acknowledge the Albany branch of Soroptimist International for the thoughtful nomination of my mum, Celia Waugh. I am one very proud daughter!