

VOLUNTEERS — ALBANY

Statement by Member for Albany

MS R.S. STEPHENS (Albany) [12.58 pm]: Today, in advance of Thank a Volunteer Day next week, I give special thanks to volunteers in Albany who make a collective difference in our community. As a long-serving volunteer of the Albany Surf Life Saving Club and many other organisations, I know and value what our many selfless volunteers provide for our community. It is people like Alice Rule, who volunteered for 50 years with Keep Albany Beautiful. For 48 years of those years she was president, and played a huge part in Albany's recognition as a Tidy Town. It was fantastic to see that the Albany Youth Advisory Council had won the Young Legends Award in the Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards 2022. Rhonda Appleton and the Rubbish Warriors are responsible for the orange bags full of rubbish on the side of Albany roads. The Rubbish Warriors encourage the public to stop dumping rubbish and create positive change to address roadside, bushland, ocean and beach rubbish tossing. John May, Ed Szydlowski and Maureen Hannan were acknowledged at the annual Fishability Awards for their work in getting people with disability hooked on fishing.

Thank you to our 16 volunteer bush fire brigades who, as many people in my community experienced yesterday, are often the first called when fire threatens. It is volunteers like Kenneth Johnson, who was recently acknowledged for 60 years of service to Highway Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade—an incredible achievement for his selfless dedication to keeping our community safe. Thank you to the volunteers of Albany for your service. Our community is so much richer for what you do.

Sitting suspended from 1.00 to 2.00 pm