



8 March 2010

International Women's Day Celebrated

Dr Mike Nahan, the Member for Riverton hosted a morning tea for community members at the Willetton Sports Club to celebrate the important role that women play in our society.

The event was part of the celebrations held around the world for International Women's Day.

"International Women's Day has its roots in the socialist movement early in the 1900s. It started out with the aim of improving the status of women and that role continues to some degree today. The main focus now is to commemorate women's past achievements and to highlight the social and economic issues facing women in today's society," said Dr Nahan.

"Nowadays, it is celebrated in more than 40 countries around the world and in some countries, such as China, Russia, Bulgaria, Kazakhstan, Macedonia and Vietnam, it is a public holiday."

"More than 80 people from teenagers to seniors attended the morning tea to acknowledge the significant accomplishments that local women have achieved and to network with one another to share their experiences across the ages."

The keynote speaker at the event was Dr Nahan's wife, Dr Nyuk Nahan, a Senior Fellow in Law at UWA followed by Year 12 student Morgan Doty from Lynwood Senior High School and Mrs Mary Robertson, President of the Herald Avenue Senior Citizen's Club.

"Nyuk is a very accomplished woman in her own right and is my support base. She was able to give an insight into her life growing up in Malaysia, coming to Australia and continuing her career as a legal academic while raising our two children," said Dr Nahan.

"Morgan Doty is a very successful school student who plays in the State league in netball and in the State women's team in baseball. Even at her young age, she has found the correct balance for her studies and sporting achievements while working part time as well. Morgan is an excellent ambassador for young people in this area."

"Mary Robertson is also an exceptional leader within our community and together with her committee, she runs the very successful Herald Avenue Senior Citizens Club. Mary was a finalist in the WA Senior of the Year awards late last year and the Herald Avenue centre is so successful, that other seniors' centres have been inspired to improve their services to match."

"The event was highly successful and was an ideal way to honour the role of women within our society."

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