

## HANSARD

### MRS EDIE HOY POY — CONDOLENCE

*Statement by Member for Riverton*

*11 August 2011*

**DR M.D. NAHAN (Riverton)** [12.52 pm]: I would like to pay tribute to Mrs Edie Hoy Poy, a long-time leader of the local Chinese community, a friend of many, including a personal friend of mine, and a caring and loving person, who passed away in June this year. Edie did not have an easy life, but her contribution to this state has been profound.

She was born and raised in Port Hedland, where her father ran a series of businesses. They were one of the few Chinese families in that then isolated community, and of course she and her family stood out as being different. She accepted this difference in her stride and set about working to build a strong relationship within the Chinese community not only in Port Hedland, but also more widely.

That led to her taking a leading role with the Chung Wah Association for more than 60 years; in fact, she became known as the "Mother of Chung Wah". Throughout her life, Edie championed issues including multiculturalism, citizenship, housing, health, aged care, community safety, and educational opportunities.

She and her husband, Royce, became strong advocates for multiculturalism and its benefits and set up the Royce and Edie Hoy Poy Foundation to promote multiculturalism in our society. Edie received many accolades over the years and all were deserved. Her contribution to the Chinese and wider community has been profound, and her unwavering concern for the welfare of others made her a great Western Australian who we will sadly miss.