



Media Release: 25 October 2010

Choose Respect Community Event Brings Champions Together

Cliff Reeve and Nay Pearce from Radiowest will be among the speakers sharing their views on the topic of “respect” at a free community event on November 10, 2010.

The event, being held at Carey Park Primary School, starts at 7pm. A light supper will be provided after presentations and performances from local students and artists.

The Bunbury Choose Respect Management Team has been working with the Managing Director and Creator of Choose Respect, Gary Butcher to help “foster a culture of respect in our community”.

Other speakers include Brian Kennedy, a long-term supporter of Choose Respect and a finalist in the 2010 WA Seniors Awards, and Kate Wilson, local Slam Poet.

Brian Kennedy began promoting Choose Respect in 2008 and is working with other Champions of Choose Respect to help make Bunbury the first Choose Respect City.

As a Champion Brian has used Choose Respect to encourage positive behaviour at the Runners Club with the younger members he mentors.

Brian is currently organising South West Bike Week (from 22 to 28 November) to raise money for South West people who would benefit from attending Balya Cancer Retreat.

As a cancer survivor Brian strongly believes in the virtue of respect, the importance of treating people with care and consideration, and in giving back to your community.

Slam Poet Kate Wilson is a performance poet and children's entertainer. Kate has twice been a state finalist in the Australian Poetry Slam competition and has since become a hit on the YouTube website with the video of her poem, "Sisterhood" (professionally produced by David Meadows) receiving more than 1600 views in less than three weeks. "Sisterhood" also screened at the Poetry Underground Film Festival in Sydney recently.

As part of the event Choose Respect is also running a poetry and short story writing competition for people under the age of 18. By writing a poem or short story on the topic of "respect" young writers will be in the running to win prizes donated by local Choose Respect businesses, including a double pass to the Grand Cinemas and a \$25.00 book store voucher donated by Treendale.

Choose Respect Managing Director Gary Butcher said the event will be an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of the Champions of Choose Respect.

"Those people attending the event will find out how anyone can use the Choose Respect Code of Behaviour as a tool, at home or in the workplace to build better relationships with others," Mr Butcher said.

"They will also learn about how they can become Champions of Choose Respect in their circles of influence to help make the community of Bunbury a better and safer place to live."

To RSVP for the event or enter the poetry competition contact Sarah-Jane Smith by calling 0409 167 804 or e-mailing sarah-jane.smith@chooserespect.org.au

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