

CHOOSE RESPECT

RESPECT IS TO TREAT WITH CARE AND CONSIDERATION

Choose Respect Network Ltd
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RESPECT MATTERS

The Official Newsletter of the Choose Respect Network Ltd

Rally 4 Respect – Your support counts

An important message from the Choose Respect Management Team:

On Thursday 17 November 2011 we'll be holding a Rally 4 Respect, kicking off at 4pm.

The Choose Respect Management Team invites our supporters to gather at Anzac Park, next to the Bunbury City Library (on the corner of Victoria and Stirling Street). We'll be marching together to make our voices heard.

This is a chance for all those people, who want to see the return of a caring and considerate community, to come together to show their support for Choose Respect on the streets of Bunbury.

"The Rally 4 Respect gives us all an opportunity to take a stand and take a positive step towards being part of a community that thinks before it acts and considers how those actions would effect others and themselves" Mr Castrilli said.

"We all have the power to make a difference and I would strongly encourage everyone to come down, to be part of the Rally 4 Respect and be part of fostering a culture of respect in our community".

Bunbury Choose Respect project facilitator Sarah-Jane Smith said that now, more than ever, it was important that our communities were connected and respectful places to live.

"If we neglect our communities we risk creating greater divides between generations and social groups.

"When you consider the shocking reality of recent events in England we really can't afford to forget the importance of respect,"

This will be a fun family event so please bring your children, parents, grandparents and great grandparents. Balloons will be provided and we'll have music and entertainment in the park before we depart.

We'll march down Victoria Street, and back again, carrying Choose Respect placards and balloons and waving flags.

This event won't take up a lot of your time - we plan to be all wrapped up by 5.30pm. In order to make this work we need your support. Join us on our Rally 4 Respect.

More details will be available soon but please register your interest to attend now by e-mailing: sarah-jane.smith@chooserespect.org.au or phone **0409 167 804**.

Choose Respect in Bunbury is sponsored by:



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Choose Respect is proudly supported
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Bunbury Choose Respect Management Team Members: Peter Rigden, Sarah-Jane Smith, Heidi Martin, Adam Johnson and Leanne Maher in Anzac Park promoting the Rally 4 Respect (absent from photo: Karen Collins).

AMD Chartered Accountants put Choosing Respect First

AMD Chartered Accountants have taken a leading role in the business community by implementing Choose Respect, continuing to build on their positive working environment for new and existing clients and staff.

When AMD's Judy Parker, Manager of Taxation Services, heard about Choose Respect she thought it was something that could be of interest to her and the staff at AMD.

"Later we met with Gary and decided that Choose Respect would be worthwhile investing in. All parties involved agreed to implement it and it has been a work in progress since then." Ms Parker said.

"So far the reaction from staff has been very positive."

As part of this process all AMD staff heard a presentation from Choose Respect Managing Director Gary Butcher which was well received.

"We are aware that it will take time for this to permeate through the organisation and for this [Choosing Respect] to be something we all do on a regular basis," Ms Parker said.

AMD have already started using Choose Respect promotional materials around their workplace and have put up framed Choose Respect posters in their foyer and other highly visible work areas. They are also using the Choose Respect material in their induction manuals.



Choose Respect MD Gary Butcher with AMD Partner Steve Down, AMD Executive Secretary Angeline Marcus, AMD Manager of Taxations Services Judy Parker and Sarah-Jane Smith from Choose Respect.

Choose Respect Champion: Heidi's Great South West Bike Ride



Choose Respect volunteer and Management Team Member Heidi Martin rides her Choose Respect Bike in the Great WA Bike Ride.

In March, Bunbury Choose Respect Management Team member and volunteer Heidi Martin took up the challenge of the Great WA Bike Ride. Heidi rode part of the journey with other riders. Participants could ride from Manjimup to Pemberton across to Karridale and finish in Margaret River (a total distance of 270 Km).

Never one to let an opportunity to promote Choose Respect pass her by, Heidi took it upon herself to ensure that the 1250 riders were Choose Respect aware. Heidi stuck the Choose Respect bumper stickers on her blue and yellow bike, riding tops and luggage.

Not satisfied with simply promoting the message visually, Heidi decided there must be another way to get the Choose Respect message out there. After seeking approval from the Bike Ride Manager Heidi took to the stage after dinner at the camp and delivered a short Choose Respect speech which was well received. Heidi explains it best in her own words:

"...my third and last day ride certainly showed the value of getting the message out there, as the whole day I was recognised, cheered and acknowledged for Choose Respect by endless passing riders (I wore my Natural Temptations top with Choose Respect logo and bumper sticker). For the

day, I had a total of six individual riders, ride along with me to specifically question and request further Choose Respect info...The day's experience was certainly a WOW factor, very satisfying."

Well done Heidi! What a true Choose Respect Champion you are and an asset the Choose Respect Management Team.

Change Starts at School for Carey Park community

More positive behaviour and less violence and bullying are some of the changes that the Carey Park community have noticed since Choose Respect was introduced to Carey Park Primary School four years ago.

The Carey Park Primary School has been monitoring behavioural changes in students, since it first introduced Choose Respect in 2007, and Principal Peter Rigden says it is clear Choose Respect has had a dramatic effect on the culture of the school and the community.

The statistics show that not only has Choose Respect been able to reduce incidents of poor behaviour in the school by 55% it has also had an effect on the number of students behaving poorly.

More than 25% of students were involved in poor behaviour in 2005 but by 2010 only 9% of students were involved in poor behaviour.

The Choose Respect initiative has also helped to reduce bullying. Since introducing Choose Respect bullying has been reduced by 40% at the school.

The Community has noticed the difference with local stores such as the newsagency and the IGA reporting the change they have seen in the students.

The Pridmore family, who run the local IGA, agree. "Things have improved in the last five years," Alli Pridmore, IGA Front of Store Manager said. "We have definitely seen an improvement in the kids from the local school.

"The community is changing and the neighbourhood is changing for the better. A lot of young couples are moving here as it is affordable and they have a good school nearby in Carey Park.

"Most of the kids that come in here now are good kids but if they forget their manners we are happy to remind them."



Principal of Carey Park Primary School Peter Rigden with IGA Managers Alli Pridmore and Kay Pridmore and students: Sean Osborne, Angela Dawson and Nicholas Hansen.

Photo courtesy of the *Bunbury Mail*.

Respect still a priority for Maidens Park Primary

With a new name and new building works completed Maidens Park Primary school had a fresh start to 2011, although Principal Stuart Cumming says Choose Respect is still one of the schools top priorities.

Maidens Park Primary School adopted the Choose Respect Initiative in 2009 and Mr Cumming is keen to continue promoting the Choose Respect message in the school. He is a strong believer in Choose Respect and the powerful messages it promotes.

"The staff talk about the importance of Choosing Respect at school events and the students finish each assembly by singing the Choose Respect song, which they love to do," Mr Cumming said.

When you approach the school it is obvious it is a Choose Respect school. There are three main Choose Respect signs that are highly visible from the front of the school and more Choose Respect signs in student recreation areas.

The school also helps promote the Choose Respect message in the community and includes a Choose Respect article in each of its school newsletters.

Mr Cumming feels they will need to ramp up their Choose Respect promotions now that the school has gone through some other important transitions and they are heading in a new direction.

When Choose Respect was in full swing Mr Cumming says the results were obvious in the school and the surrounding community. Like other principals Mr Cumming has heard the kids talking about Choosing Respect outside of the school and using the Choose Respect language to help resolve conflicts.

Mr Cumming believes one of the most powerful messages of Choose Respect is to "resist your natural desire to pay back or take revenge" because it can help students avoid getting into serious conflicts.

Choose Respect is another way Maidens Park Primary School can teach their students important life skills that will help them deal with any challenging situations both in and out of the classroom.

Lessons of Respect Part of Business Enterprise Project

What do orangutans, Choose Respect and business enterprise have in common? They are all part of a unique project being taught at Adam Road Primary School.

Choose Respect Champion and teacher Ms Kaye Cogan is helping her students to develop life skills by creating their own business enterprise projects. The students recently held a Trade Expo to sell products they designed and made themselves.

Although the students will get to keep some of the money they make from the sale of their products, they have also decided to donate a percentage of their profits to the Humane Society to help the orangutans – demonstrating their respect for the environment.

Principal Larry Gleeson says Adam Road has a good student body that embraces respect.

“Choose Respect runs alongside our school vision and values which include ‘mutual respect’.

“It is also part of our school induction program for new teachers. As an independent public school we have the opportunity to employ teachers that are happy to adopt and promote the Choose Respect message.

The students in Ms Cogan’s class have shown they understand the value of Choosing Respect through their projects.

Student Caroline Souroup said it was important to promote a message about respecting the environment and produced “Save the Orangutans” bookmarks. Ky Williams is drawing and selling his own cartoons. He said that although his cartoons were fun they were not about making fun of other people.

These students will definitely be on the road to success with the practical learning they are experiencing.



Adam Road Primary School students Michelle Kowalczyk and Stephanie Tompsett work on their business enterprise projects.

Bunbury Courthouse Benefits from Choose Respect



JPs Kevin Coote and Alison Comparti with Choose Respect Project Facilitator Sarah-Jane Smith.

Photo courtesy of the Bunbury Mail.

The Bunbury Courthouse has put up Choose Respect signs around the Courthouse waiting areas as part of an effort to remind people of the importance of Choosing Respect. The request to put up the signage came from the South West Branch of the Royal Association of Justices.

The idea of putting up Choose Respect posters in the courthouse waiting areas was first suggested by Alison Comparti and Kevin Coote, both Justices of the Peace.

The Bunbury Choose Respect Management Team agreed to cover the cost of framing the Choose Respect signage. Southern Picture Framers framed the posters at a discounted price.

“The courthouse deals with a wide range of issues, people attending the Court are often under stress, hopefully the Choose Respect message can give those waiting in the court waiting area some tactics to deal with the stress they are feeling; being especially mindful of others around them. The Choose Respect philosophy provides a moral code to live by, and we would like to think that by providing the posters as a reminder, we may be able to encourage more to follow the philosophy in all their dealings with others”. President of the South West Branch of the Royal Association of Justices Alison Comparti said.

Kevin Coote stated that although Choose Respect commenced in a local Bunbury primary school to prevent bullying, it is a greater community project that should be promoted outside of schools and in the general community. “The Choose Respect Program should be promoted by all members of the community,” Mr Coote said. The Choose Respect Code of Behaviour poster will be hung in all three courthouse waiting rooms and two will also be placed in the Document Witnessing Centre, as a reminder to those waiting for a JP’s signature.