

John Castrilli MLA



Representing the people of Bunbury

Community spirit shines through

This year's Australia Day celebrations in Bunbury yet again offered a wonderful display of community spirit. From the breakfast to the fireworks, the festivities were a true celebration of what makes our local community special.

The Silver Chain's dedication to organising the breakfast each year, along with the Runners Club's fun run, help to unite our community as well as raising important funds. I congratulate all involved in organising the Australia Day events, including the staff at the City of Bunbury for their mammoth effort in scheduling a wonderful program.

I also wish to take this opportunity to congratulate those who were honoured as our Citizens of the Year.

Keaton Widmer's commitment to the SES and Arthur Taylor's dedication to helping young students with their reading are truly inspirational, as are the efforts of St John of God Hospital's palliative care volunteers.

I also offer my congratulations to those who became Australian Citizens and hope you all enjoyed a memorable day.

Awards to recognise service

We are indeed fortunate in Bunbury to have such a wide range of community service organisations and individuals providing invaluable assistance to our local residents.

The State Government's Community Services Excellence Awards are another way in which outstanding community service by groups and individuals can be recognised.

The Department for Communities and WA Council of Social Services provide the award to WA's not-for-profit community sector.

There are three categories in the awards – for organisations; individuals; and for partnerships with business or Government; plus the new Sector's Choice Award.

Winners will each receive a \$5000 grant from Lotterywest.

Information and nomination forms are available from the Department for Communities at www.communities.wa.gov.au or from WACOSS at www.wacoss.org.au

Disease awareness needed

February is Ovarian Cancer Awareness month and an important time for women to think about this aspect of their health.

There is no reliable screening test for ovarian cancer so awareness of symptoms is vital.

A symptom diary can be downloaded from the Ovarian Cancer Australia website so women can keep track of what they are experiencing and be in a better position to discuss concerns with their GP.

More information is available by calling 1300 660 334 or at www.ovariancancer.net.au