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# John Castrilli's Community News



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John Castrilli MLA - Representing the People of Bunbury

## OUT & ABOUT IN THE COMMUNITY

Last week the TS Bunbury Navy Cadets held a camp at their Bunbury headquarters, where 29 young people spent four days mastering the skills of sailing.

John Castrilli was instrumental in helping the cadet unit secure \$350,000 in State funding for its new headquarters which opened in 2010, and visited during the camp.

"Sailing teaches teamwork, leadership and decision-making skills," said TS Bunbury Commanding Officer Graham Napier.

Anyone interested in joining TS Bunbury, either as a cadet or a parent helper, can contact Graham Napier on 0422 685 315.



John Castrilli climbed into a rescue boat to watch the cadets in action, with participants from TS Bunbury, TS Cockburn and TS Anzac, Rockingham.



George Michelsen, the 'sifu' of Perth's Chinese Kung Fu and Tai Chi Academy, leads the group in a demonstration during Bunbury's Chinese New Year festival.

A lion dance, kung fu demonstrations and traditional costumes and dance were all part of the entertainment during a Chinese New Year celebration held in Bunbury on January 21.

The event, organised by the Bunbury Multicultural Group, attracted a big crowd to the Bunbury Trotting Club.

John Castrilli, who is also the Minister for Multicultural Interests, attended the event and said it was a great way to share different cultures with local residents.

"Congratulations to the organising committee for such a colourful and interesting festival to celebrate Chinese New Year and the diversity of cultures within our community," Mr Castrilli said.



Croquet players Dawn Robinson, Dale Jury, Wendy Tomasini and Pam Stubbs are looking forward to their club hosting the Moorabinda International Invitational.

John visited Moorabinda Croquet Club last week to check out their newly-levelled greens and have afternoon tea with members.

The playing greens were able to be laser-levelled thanks in part to a grant from the State Government's Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund.

The work to improve the playing surface comes ahead of the club hosting the Moorabinda International Invitational event on April 20-22.

Club president Murray Hawker said the event would showcase some of the world's best croquet players, and be a great opportunity for spectators to watch the game in action.

Anyone interested in finding out more or learning to play croquet can call Murray on 9721 9038 or email mandjhawker@bigpond.com.

## John is now on Facebook

John Castrilli now has his own Facebook page, and said he was "enjoying the challenge" of getting up to speed with social media.

"While I must admit I am a bit of a late-comer to the world of Facebook, I think it is a good way of staying connected with the local community of Bunbury."

"I want to be able to keep in touch with people's opinions on local issues and projects and it also be a handy tool to let people know about all the progress being made on important local projects."

To see John's page, go to Facebook and search for 'John Castrilli MLA'.

For photos of John out and about in the community, see the 'Community Events' album.

Regular updates will also be posted to the wall, where you can let John know your thoughts about what is important in the Bunbury area.

## Grants to aid youth projects

Community groups in Bunbury and the South West will benefit from State Government grants announced last week.

Bunbury MLA John Castrilli said the grants would help the organisers of several innovative youth projects in Bunbury, including a self-esteem workshop, community dinner and a band competition.

"This funding will help several local organisations to put on a range of events during National Youth Week in April, with the theme of Imagine, Create, and Inspire," Mr Castrilli said.

"The events will help young people show off their skills while improving their self-esteem, leadership skills and connection with our local community."

The Bunbury organisations funded with \$1000 each for their projects are Investing in Our Youth, Advocacy South West, Uniting Care West and the City of Bunbury.

# Facility dream close to fruition

The dream for a high-care accommodation facility for young people is just weeks from becoming a reality and adding a new level of services to the South West.

John Castrilli, who has been behind the push for the facility for the past 10 years, visited the Treendale site earlier this month, which will offer accommodation for young people with acquired brain injuries or degenerative neurological conditions.

"I am absolutely thrilled that this facility is so close to completion," he said.

"It will offer a great improvement in quality of life for its new residents, and also help family bonds to be maintained more easily.

"Support networks are vital for people with a disability, and having this facility open will allow people to

live in age-appropriate housing or have respite, while being able to stay closer to their families in the South West."

"This journey started with a promise to the local community, and the whole project has been a rollercoaster ride of emotions for everyone involved."

Previously, the only options for young people with neurological disabilities were to be housed in aged-care facilities which were not appropriate for their age and complex needs, or to live in Perth away from family and friends.

**Expressions of interest are now open to become a resident at the Treendale facility. To discuss eligibility, call Sue Shapland at the MS Society on 9365 4840.**



John Castrilli celebrates a tour of the almost-completed Treendale facility, with Jason Blackney from builder BGC, left, and MS Society CEO Marcus Stafford, along with local Rotarians.

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