

Tuesday, February 02, 2010

## **Bunbury holiday house opens for people with special needs**

**Opening Event:** Friday, February 5, 2010; 10:30 am @ 247 Ocean Drive, Bunbury.

**Please notify if attending:** Yvette Willison Rock, 9282 8664 or 0429 086 146

**Dignitaries in attendance:** Hon Simon O'Brien MLC, Minister for Disability; John Castrilli MLA, Member for Bunbury.

Baptistcare's new Bunbury holiday house, located across the dunes from the back beach at The Maidens, will not only offer accessible holiday accommodation for people with disabilities and their families; it also allows these people the opportunity to have a fabulous holiday by the beach!

The Bunbury holiday house is the newest venture of Baptistcare, working with the Bunbury Housing Association and made possible through assistance from Lotterywest, who are looking to fill a big shortage of holiday respite options in WA for people with disabilities and their friends, family and care workers.

Baptistcare Executive Manager, Community Services, Rob Douglas said that extending Baptistcare's services to regional areas of WA is a priority.

'Through our work with people with disabilities in the south west we have become aware of the need for additional services that will assist these people in having a better quality of life. This house is a good start in achieving that goal.'

'It is also a great opportunity to provide a service to people from other parts of WA who are looking for a break away from home with the availability of support services', Mr Douglas said.

People using the house will be able to book the house in advance, just like booking a holiday house, and take their own carer for the duration. They may also hire Baptistcare staff on a fee for service basis if it is required.

Baptistcare's CEO Dr Lucy Morris will make a short speech for the opening and the house will be officially opened by the Hon Simon O'Brien MLC, Minister for Disability.

This project would not have been possible without a great number of people and organisations. Baptistcare would especially like to thank the Bunbury Housing Association, and Lotterywest.

For more information on Baptistcare visit [www.baptistcare.com.au](http://www.baptistcare.com.au)

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**For further information please contact:**

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