



Dianne Langford-Fisher, Darren Ginnane, Ian Mumford, Gary Willcox, Derek Gruending, Dane Hendry, Linda Varnavides with St John clinical governor manager Deon Brink and paramedic Kingsley Ford with baby Lachlan Campbell try out the new pods.

Pod a boost to baby stability

St John Ambulance Busselton will be able to boost their care for sick and injured babies with the addition of a specialised baby pod.

The pod was one of five purchased through a Channel 7 Telethon grant and delivered to ambulance sub centres in the South West, including Margaret River, Collie, Warren and Bridgetown.

St John Ambulance staff have been trained to use the pod, which consists of a lightweight carbon

fibre outer shell lined with a shock absorbent foam inner layer.

The unique metal-free construction ensures it is X-ray translucent and MRI compatible.

St John Ambulance clinical service director Ian Jacobs said it was a great addition for Busselton.

"The baby pod provides a stable thermo environment and it is designed to safely transport babies weighing between 2kg and 9kg," he said.

'Thank you' grants

Seniors and Volunteering Minister Tony Simpson is calling on West Australians to nominate remarkable seniors and those who excel in working and volunteering with seniors for the WA Seniors awards.

"It's an opportunity for us to recognise the incredible work in the community for and by seniors," he said.

The awards encourage support for seniors, raise awareness of the many ways seniors contribute to society and recognise those who work with seniors.

"WA is on the cusp of a major demographic change, with many communities now having almost 20 per cent of all residence over the age of 65," Mr Simpson said.

The minister encouraged groups to apply for grants of up to \$1000 for "thank you" seniors events. Download forms from communities.wa.gov.au.

Solar funds secured

The City of Busselton has secured \$20,000 in external funding as part of the Local Government Energy Efficiency Program, managed by the Australian Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism.

The funding will be used to install one commercial solar hot water system at the Kookaburra Caravan Park and seven domestic solar hot water systems at aged care units in Winderlup Court.

These new solar hot water systems will replace the old and inefficient hot water systems and will achieve energy savings in the order of 60 to 80 per cent per year.