



Mayor David Smith, Julie Christian, Carly Jabs, Allan Birrell, Marguerite Monagle, Jean Shine, Adele Farina, Graeme Olsen, Shamara William and Posy Barnes at a presentation of grants.

# Grants to boost local events

By **BIANCA MARTIN**

LAST Tuesday South West MLC Adele Farina presented South West Events grants totalling more than \$20,000 to eight Bunbury groups.

These groups included The SW Opera Company, The SW Business Association, The Bunbury Floral Art Society, Edith Cowan University Regional Professional Studies Faculty, Oxygen Youth, Stirling Street Arts Centre, Jobs South West and the Bunbury Multicultural Group.

The grants, administered through the South West Development Commission, are part of the Government's

South West Events Fund which will see the distribution of \$69,500 to groups across the South West for events in 2008.

Ms Farina said that small grants to local groups can often make a large difference to the community.

"Sometimes these funds form a large part of a community group's event budget and can make the difference between an event going ahead or not," she said.

"These eight events represent just a small snapshot of the rich smorgasboard of social, cultural and sporting events in Bunbury."