

Market raises ambulance funds

THE Australian Order of Old Bastards raised \$3190 for Kalbarri's St John Ambulance at last week's market day.

During and after World War II, the American and European soldiers were fascinated by the question "How yer going you old bastard?" — a term Aussies later used as an endearment.

This term was later registered as the formal name for the "Order", which aims to raise money for charities with a little bit of fun along the way.

The Australian Order of Old Bastards' Gary Finlay said 56 groups around Australia had raised \$12m in total for charities.



The Australian Order of Old Bastards auctioneer Gary Finlay takes bids from the crowd at foreshore fundraiser last week. Picture: MAC HOLT

He said joining the group itself was a good cause.

"You can become a lifetime member for the joining fee of \$15, which is donated to the Westmead Children's Hospital in NSW.

"The local groups raise funds for charities they nominate.

"In Kalbarri we started in 2005 and provide funds for the Royal Flying Doctor service, Kalbarri St John Ambulance and other local and national charities".

Mr Finlay said an auction was held with over 60 items donated from Geraldton and Kalbarri businesses and

individuals.

He said the market day on Kalbarri's foreshore attracted many locals and visitors, enabling it to be a huge success.

Many people are OBs — but those that join the Australian Order of Old Bastards have a membership card to prove it.

— **Mac Holt**