

# Courage powers our battling Pat

CLAIRE BICKERS

**PATRICK** Majewski is determined to live life to the full.

The 10-year-old, who we can today reveal is one of this year's Telethon children, lost the use of his legs in a tragic accident three years ago, but has refused to let it hold him back.

Patrick was walking along a bush track in the Karijini National Park with his dad when he fell down a gorge.

His father, Chris, went after him and died saving his life.

Patrick broke his back in multiple places, suffered internal bleeding and a brain injury.

He was in a coma for two weeks and was initially unable to speak or eat.

Now, the sunny Bunbury kid attends mainstream school, has embraced wheelchair sports and does daily weights to strengthen his upper body.

"If people are doing things with their legs, I do it with my arms,"



Patrick told *The Sunday Times*. "You can still do fun stuff like the flying fox and canoeing like I did on camp.

"It's heaps of fun and you get to get cool attachments."

He's also able to race around the park like any other kid - only he does it with a motorbike attachment for the wheelchair.

He loves maths, arts, sports and aims to either be a DJ or an architect when he grows up.

Mum Helen, who won a Pride of Australia Award for Courage in 2012, said Patrick recovered to his old self rapidly after the accident.

This year's Telethon Weekend will be held on October 25-26.



On the move: 2014 Telethon child Patrick Majewski, right, and with mum Helen Majewski, left. Picture: Ross Swanborough