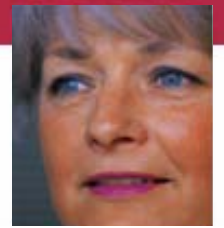




VASEY  
HOUSING



VASEY NEWS

*"for quality of life ... make the right choice"*

Summer Edition 2008, Issue 14

**Patron: Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO Governor of New South Wales**

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF VASEY HOUSING

The Association conducted a most successful Christmas Luncheon for all Residents and Members at the Epping Club on the 28th November. Photographs of the occasion are included in this edition. We were honoured by the presence of our Patron, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO, Governor of New South Wales, accompanied by her husband Sir Nicholas Shehadie.

Entertainment was provided by Mr David Cazalet with his Elvis Presley tribute show, and all present has an enjoyable afternoon of Christmas food, wine and music.

The gathering celebrated the 100th birthday of Lane Cove Resident Mrs Edna Palmer. Her Excellency presented Edna with congratulations from the Queen, the Governor General, the Prime Minister, the Premier and herself.

On the business front, all villages were presented for approval their individual budget for 2008/2009. The Association proposed in each case a small increase in recurrent charges of less than the CPI figure. All budgets were passed unanimously by the Residents and are thus in place until 31 March 2009.

The new balustrades are now installed at Waitara and have met with much approval. They have greatly improved the appearance of the Village.

At Hunters Hill, after a lengthy delay in obtaining Council approval and satisfying heritage issues, the installation of two lifts has commenced. These are due to be in operation by late April. At the same time new balustrades will be provided, the design being similar to those now at Waitara.

We welcome to our staff Mrs Chris Williamson. Chris will take over from Nell Firth the Sales and Leasing functions at Head Office. We wish Nel and Allan Firth all the best in their forthcoming retirement.

Following the retirement of Mr Art Tolentino, we welcome as our Accountant Mrs Jessie Mitchell. Jessie, as well as her accounting degrees, is a registered nurse and has wide experience in the aged care sector.

### *Bruce Trimble*

Brigadier Bruce Trimble OAM RFD  
Chairman



Vasey's Patron Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir, AC CVO, Governor of New South Wales and Vasey's Chairman Brigadier Bruce Trimble OAM RFD with Mrs Edna Palmer.

*The Vasey Newsletter is designed primarily for residents of Vasey Villages, as well as local communities and friends of The Vasey Housing Association, N.S.W.*



## NEWS FROM THE GENERAL MANAGERS' DESK

I am pleased to advise that Vasey has been successful in its application for funding from the Federal Government, through the Department of the Environment and Water Resources' - Australian Government Community Water Grants programme. This funding totalling \$229,697, will allow the Association to install water tanks throughout all its villages, for the harvest of both rainwater and stormwater for use in common areas, such as laundry facilities and gardens. We acknowledge the assistance that we received from local community representatives who supported our application.



As the end of our financial year draws near, there is currently a great deal of activity from a maintenance point of view, taking place within our villages. Between now and the end of March, high pressure cleaning of all pathways and walkways will be undertaken, as well as the cleaning of windows and pest control to all common areas.

As well, we currently have underway the refurbishment of 8 units at the Waitara & Maroubra villages, which we hope will be completed by the end of March.

We continue to receive a large number of enquiries for rental accommodation. At present, we have only 1 unit each available at the Epping and Waitara villages for rent. However, with 23 current enquiries these units will soon be occupied. With this demand, I see Vasey's core business being financially assisted, by the provision of rental accommodation for single persons over the age of 55 with limited financial means.

I also join the Chairman in welcoming both Mrs Chris Williamson and Mrs Jessie Mitchell to Vasey's small but dedicated team.

*David Elkins* - General Manager

## DIRECTORS PROFILE - Colonel Kenneth L. Duncan



Ken Duncan grew up in Melbourne and joined the Australian Regular Army in mid-1952. He was commissioned into the Royal Australian Engineers, but was selected for training as an Army Ships Master. The roles of the Smallships were related to coastal support of Army exercises, resupply of outstations in Papua New Guinea, Target Towing for coastal Artillery as well as support to the civilian infrastructure.

Other unusual tasks were his involvement in the procurement from the US Navy in Japan and later steaming to Australia, of Army Landing Ships. He also served with the British Army in the U.K., Cyprus, Libya and the NATO areas, but always related to port and beach operations and beach working.

He served in South Vietnam in 1968 - 69 and is a graduate of the Australian Army Staff College and the Joint Services Staff College. Ken resigned from the Army in 1980 after thirty years service. He then spent three years as the Manager of a Bus and Coach Company, before becoming the Executive Director of The Chartered Institute of Transport in Australia. During this period he also held, for some seven years, the honorary Army appointments of Honorary Colonel and Colonel Commandant of the Royal Australian Corps of Transport.

He is married to Dawn and they have two children and five grandchildren and he now pursues his interests in the garden and in his workshop under the house. Other interests include being the Official Custodian of The Army Mariners' Memorial on Middle Head, the Patron of both the wartime "Australian Water Transport Association" and the post-war "32 Smallship Squadron Association" and is a Past President of the Australian Institute of Navigation. He is a member of Legacy and Secretary of the Killara Probus Club.

**CHRISTMAS FUNCTION HELD ON THE 28TH NOVEMBER 2007**



Mrs Agnes Andrews of "Parkview" and Mrs Edna Palmer with Her Excellency and Sir Nicholas.



Mrs Audrey Dalla and Mrs Margaret Vermeesch of "Northcott Gardens".



Mrs Mildred Endicott and Mrs Dorothy Waghorn of "Ivan Court" enjoy a brief moment with Her Excellency.



Mr David Cazalet with his Elvis Presley tribute entertained residents, members and guests.



Vasey Members Mr & Mrs Brian Owles with guest Mr Stephen Patfield from the Office of the Governor.



Miss Gwen Illidge and Mrs Marjorie Rule of "Wurley Court" with Her Excellency.

## BOER WAR MEMORIAL

### NATIONAL BOER WAR MEMORIAL PROJECT



**YOU ARE INVITED TO HELP  
COMMEMORATE THE FALLEN SOLDIERS OF  
THE BOER WAR**

The Prime Minister, as Chairman of the National Capital Memorials Committee, has allocated a site in ANZAC Parade, Canberra to the Royal Australian Armoured Corps Association for the funding, design and construction of a Boer War Memorial to commemorate the soldiers and nurses who left Australia between 1899 and 1902 to serve in South Africa.

The Boer War is significant because apart from World War 1 and World War 11 the nation lost more soldiers there than in any other conflict, including Vietnam.

It is estimated that some 23,000 Australians and 6,057 New Zealanders served in the Campaign with 606 and 232 respectively dying in South Africa.

During the Boer War, six Australians and one New Zealander were awarded the Victoria Cross.

The British made political scapegoats of three Australians, Harry 'The Breaker' Morant, Peter Handcock and George Witton, sentencing them to death. Morant and Handcock were shot and Witton gaoled in England. Due to the furious reaction of the Australian Government, Witton was later released and pardoned.



**THE MEMORIAL WILL FEATURE A  
MOUNTED TROOPER CAST IN BRONZE  
WITH PLAQUES**

**For more information on how you can assist with this project you can:**

**Telephone:** (02) 9339 3309  
**Website:** [www.bwm.org.au](http://www.bwm.org.au)  
**Email:** [bwmthree@bigpond.com](mailto:bwmthree@bigpond.com)

### THE VASEY HOUSING ASSOCIATION, N.S.W.

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Mrs Chris Williamson - New Residents	SYDNEY NSW 2000	Colonel Ken Duncan Director
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We warmly encourage and welcome contributions to the Vasey Newsletter. Interesting photos, incidents, anniversaries and stories of special experiences that can be shared are most desirable.

**Please send us your contribution to "Vasey News" GPO Box 3640 SYDNEY NSW 2001.**