

Dale Cottages Inc.

The First 50 Years

Forward

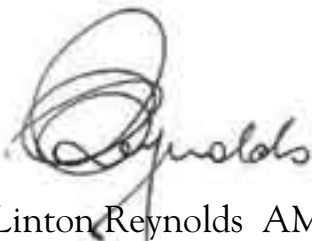
This updated story celebrates the first fifty years in the life of the Dale Cottages at Armadale. It is a valuable supplement to an earlier book written by Jack Murray, the long serving Chairman of the governing board from March 1957 to March 1995.

Long term supporter of Dale Cottages, David Allen, with assistance from Kim Fletcher, has created a version that speaks not so much about the cottages themselves, as about the people who have given so much of their time, to the group of volunteers and staff who provide the day to day roof over so many heads. They have done so in an exemplary manner, while also being flexible and far-sighted enough to be able to ride the huge changes that have occurred in the care of seniors over the last 50 years.

The story of Dale Cottages in many ways mirrors that of Armadale itself: one of growth, in the belief that in doing so it should provide the complete range of services for its residents without them having to turn to strangers in distant places. Thus has ensured a balanced, socially sustainable community that has remained in place amongst friends, family and familiar surroundings. (Not all of us want to rush off to the beach in our retirement.)

While the Armadale City Council is currently rewriting the history of the wider district, targeted thematic histories about key community organisations like Dale Cottages are important to the understanding of those who follow us. In this way our shared values, community bonds, and our current built form is able to be accurately understood by those who follow in another 50 years.

I congratulate all those who have been involved with the celebration of Dale Cottages' first 50 years.



Cr Linton Reynolds AM JP
Mayor
City of Armadale





Mr. John Edward Murray JP BEM (1911 - 1999)

Widely recognised as the founding force of the Dale Cottages (Inc.)

Genially known as Jack, he came to farm in Armadale in 1943.

He brought with him a remarkable spirit of civic service developed when left to fend for himself in Manjimup after the deaths of both his parents while he was still a teenager.

This community spirit and endeavour remains through Jack's record of 16 years of service in local government (5 years as president) at a time when many of the district's facilities were initiated. But Jack's leadership and support of Dale Cottages and the naming of the J. E. Murray Home in his honour will always remain his most rewarding legacy to our district.

A Special and Important Acknowledgement

The content of this booklet has to a very considerable extent been influenced and facilitated by the book “The History of the Dale Cottages” written and produced by Jack Murray back in 1990. It has proved to be a highly valuable and valued resource in putting together “Dale Cottages Inc. The First 50 Years” commemorative booklet.

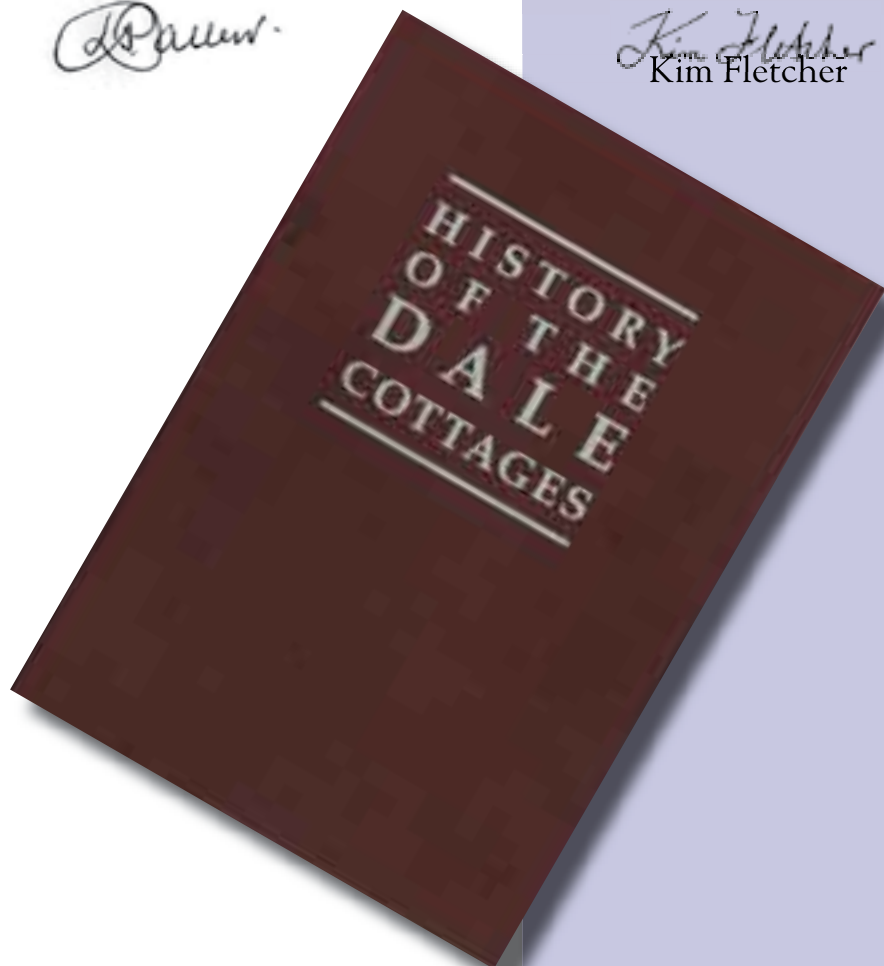
In many respects this present publication is simply a new, more contemporary version of the original, but of course updated to cover the 20 years that have elapsed since the earlier booklet was published.

That Jack’s efforts came to fruition was apparently very much due to his family’s encouragement and persistence. Much of it was dictated to one of Jacks’ daughters, who recorded it all in shorthand, and then sat down and typed it out ready for the printer to do his work. Throughout the earlier sections of our booklet, many of the lists, images and documents have been directly copied (often in reduced form) and the factual content of our accompanying text was very dependent on the information put together by him.

It would be very remiss of us not to express our sincere appreciation to Jack Murray for the effort he made in recording the happenings in those formative years of the Dale Cottages (Inc).

Jack Murray

Kim Fletcher
Kim Fletcher



A word before we begin....

1954-59

This year's celebration marks the 50th year of providing housing for our district's elderly citizens: but certain preliminaries must first be recalled. The story of Dale Cottages had its beginnings arising from social conditions within Western Australia following the 1930s depression and the five years of World War 2. Housing in general was in short supply, but two sections of the population were particularly disadvantaged - returning ex-servicemen, anxious to resume domestic life found that only shared houses, converted verandahs, garages or other high priced unsuitable housing was all that was available to them, while at the same time many retirement aged pensioners were in a similar position having been unable to provide themselves with a home during their working lives.

In the Perth Metropolitan area a community minded politician, Mr. Richard Cleaver, Member for Swan, took up the cause of his aged constituents, taking advantage of federally available funds to establish what was to become the Swan Cottage Homes (now known as Swan Care Group) in Bentley. In our lower South-West a similarly urgent need was evident: timber workers who had spent their lives living in milling company-provided cottages found that upon retirement those homes were no longer available to them and they had to move on, but where? So, in Manjimup, another community minded citizen took up the challenge of this local need, resulting in the establishment of their Dunreath Cottages.



1.

At the same time, in Armadale, a similar need had been identified where brick industry and rural workers were left upon retirement with no suitable housing. Indeed, the plight of one couple living in a condemned shack in very poor condition on the outskirts of the town was brought to the attention of members of the Armadale-Kelmscott Road Board in the early 1950s.

Although enquiries were made from other sources to assist the couple, it so happened that one of the board members, Mr. J. E. (Jack) Murray, had personal connections with Manjimup and those responsible for the establishment of their Dunreath Cottages, and in due course particulars of how that scheme had been put in place were presented by Mr. Murray to the Board on 20th September 1954 at a meeting of the Health Committee, a standing committee of the Armadale-Kelmscott Road Board. Strong support for the idea was given by his fellow members and a motion was passed to investigate possible sources of funding which might be available to get such a project up and running in the Armadale-Kelmscott district. The investigations obviously brought positive and encouraging results and these led the Board to call a public meeting in the Armadale District Hall on the 6th August 1956 with business listed as:- "To inaugurate a Scheme for the provision of Homes for Aged Persons, within the District". The meeting was attended by "about 70 residents".

1. Hovea Cottage, built 1955 and Sutton Cottage, 1954 were the first two units at the Dunreath Cottages, Manjimup. The establishment of these homes for the aged inspired Jack Murray to have a similar project developed in his local district.

2. An extract from the A-K Road Board Health Committee's meeting of September 20th 1954, showing the motion passed supporting the building of Homes for the Aged in the district.

3. The Board and staff members of the 1956 A-K Road Board. On August 6th 1956 the Board sponsored the public meeting which appointed a steering committee to set up homes for the aged. Standing L-R: F. L. Leaver, W. W. Rogers (Engineer), P. Spaapen (Accountant), Miss R. Mauger (Typist), W. J. Harrison (Asst Secretary), E. J. Burrows (Hlth Insp & Bldg Surveyor). Sitting L-R: I. E. Locke, J. E. Murray, R. Blackburn (V. Chairman), W. G. Savage (Chairman), S. Gwynne (Secretary), R. D. Ridoutt, W. L. D'Arcy.

2. OLD AGE PENSIONER HOMES.
Mr. Murray at the Board's request submitted a Report on the Dunreath Cottage Scheme now in operation at Manjimup.
Mr. Ridoutt moved,
Mr. Blackburn seconded, That Mr. Hamilton M.H.R. be requested to advise the Board on the amount the Commonwealth Govt. is prepared to assist to provide homes for Old Age Pensioners and enquiries be made from the Lotteries Comm. as to the amount they are prepared to contribute, to such a Scheme. **CARRIED.**
Mr. Leaver moved,
Mr. Blackburn seconded, That a letter of thanks be forwarded to Mr. Doust for the information supplied regarding this matter. **CARRIED.**



1.

STEERING COMMITTEE:- 1956.

Comprised the following people.

Mr E.G. Mc Donald.	Chairman.
Mr P. Verrill.	Secretary.
Mrs Avar.	
Mrs Fletcher.	
Mrs Hamilton.	
Mrs Hills.	
Mrs Nicholls.	
Mrs Pries.	
Mrs R. Ridcutt.	
Mrs Thatcher.	
Mrs Tunney.	
Miss Mauger.	
Mr N. Baxter. M.L.C.	
Mr Boucaut.	
Mr H. Bradshaw.	
Mr A. Camm.	
Mr A.W. Carson.	
Mr C. Davey.	
Mr B. Gibbons.	
Mr A. Green.	
Mr W. Green.	
Mr H. Hazell.	
Rev. R. Hobby.	
Mr R.H. Lewis.	
Mr F.J. Maynard.	
Mr I. Michael.	
Mr E.E. Mills.	
Mr J.B. Murray.	
Mr H.E. Nairn.	
Mr J.H. O'Meagher.	
Mr C. Rodgers.	
Mr W.G. Savage.	

Following the election of a Steering Committee there appears to have been no shortage of enthusiastic and energetic townspeople to embrace this prospect. Immediately a Homes Appeal was formed under the leadership of Mr. E. G. McDonald, Manager of the local branch of the Bank of New South Wales (now Westpac) and fundraising began with a house-to-house "doorknock" raising an initial £669/5/7d (\$1338.55) on one afternoon from 750 families throughout the district. It had been suggested that each household donate ten shillings (\$1.00). Subsequent fundraising involved many community organisations and activities including street stalls on the Co-op corner in Armadale and in Byford (then part of the Armadale-Kelmscott Road Board), auctions and admission fees from picture nights at the District Hall were donated by the operator Mr. Perrie.

During March 1957, the name Dale Cottages as proposed by Mr. Bernie Gibbon and Mrs. Jessie Thatcher, had been adopted and a Committee of Management appointed. There were seven members from local organisations, two represented donors to the funds and the one appointed by the Armadale-Kelmscott Road Board as their delegate was Mr. Murray. When Mr. McDonald resigned as the Cottages chairman, Mr. Murray was elected as his replacement, and immediately began the process of making the project a reality.

A Certificate of Incorporation was issued on 29th July 1957 and the Committee quickly set about establishing its goals and organisation so that by early 1959 land had been obtained upon payment of £1 to the Road Board for a portion of land in John Street which had been forfeited through non-payment of rates. This £1 was subsequently donated by Mr Ray Blackburn. Accumulated funds had now reached £2190 and necessary Government approvals for subsidy had been obtained so that a start could be made.

2.



3.



Local building contractors, Green and Saw were the successful tenderers to build a brick and tiled double unit, designed by Mr. E. J. Burrows, the Health and Building Inspector of the Road Board. The cost was £2870/0/0. A Lotteries Commission grant assisted with the provision of built-in cupboards, wood stoves, septic tanks, laundry (external and shared), floor covering and window treatments.

The ground work had now been done..... The value of this enterprise was about to unfold.

This Committee met Wednesday, 31st October, 1956, to arrange for a District Collection on November 10th 1956. The appeal Chairman was Mr E.G. McDonald, Manager, Bank of New South Wales, Armadale and Mr F.D. Verrill, retired British Civil Servant, of Lefroy Road, Kelmscott, Honorary Secretary.

720 Families Contributed.

Total Contributed:-	£669-05-7.
Armadale	£268-13-6.
Roleyston Karragullen	£134- 4-6.
Byford	£110- 2-0.
Kelmscott	£ 90-13-1.
Bedforddale	£ 35-14-0.
Forrestdale	£ 16- 0-0.
Gleneagle	£ 5-15-0.
Others	£ 8- 1-6.

4.

6.

ORIGINAL Receipt No. Z N° 45547

GENERAL RECEIPT

Local Authority.

Date 2-11-1957

Received from Mr. Dale Cottages Inc.

by Cash the sum of one pounds

for sale of land of Dale Cottages

£1-0-0

On behalf of Local Authority.

This receipt is issued without any alteration or addition, and no receipt will be recognised if produced with any alteration whatever.

7.

Copy from the minutes of the meeting of the Armadale-Kelmscott Road Board, held on 23rd October 1956. The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd October 1956, were read and approved. The Secretary read the letter received from the Armadale-Kelmscott Road Board, dated 23rd October 1956, in connection with the proposed development of the Dale Cottages site. The Board decided to grant the necessary permission for the development of the site, subject to the following conditions: (a) The development shall be carried out in accordance with the plans submitted to the Board. (b) The development shall be completed by the end of 1957. (c) The Board shall be kept informed of the progress of the development. The Board also decided to grant the necessary permission for the development of the site, subject to the following conditions: (a) The development shall be carried out in accordance with the plans submitted to the Board. (b) The development shall be completed by the end of 1957. (c) The Board shall be kept informed of the progress of the development.

1. List of members of the steering committee formed in 1956 to investigate the possibility of forming homes for the aged.
2. View from across the railway line towards the, as yet, undeveloped Dale Cottages site c.1958. The Manager's house of the old Armadale brickworks is shown in the background.
3. Jull St Armadale, the main thoroughfare as it was in 1954.
4. Opening page of the first bank book of the Dale Cottages (Inc.), showing the significant amounts raised during the public appeal for funds in November 1956.
5. Amounts collected in the various areas of the Armadale-Kelmscott Road Board district.
6. Receipt from the A-K Road Board for the purchase of Lot 170 John St, on which the first double duplex cottage was built. The cost was just one pound, paid by Board member Mr. Ray Blackburn.
7. Page from minute book, showing reference to the donation made by Mr. Blackburn.

"HOMES FOR THE AGED."

MINUTES OF THE ARMADALE-KELMSCOTT DISTRICT HOMES APPEAL COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 24th SEPTEMBER, 1956, IN THE ARMADALE HALL.

PRESENT:- Mr. H. Barber M.L.C.

Rev. H. Hobbs	Anglican Church.
Mrs. Riddott	Kelmscott Agricultural Socy.
Mr. Bouscatt	Kelmscott Horticultural Socy.
Mr. McDonald	R.S.L.
Mr. Fitcher	Hospital Auxiliary.
Mr. A. Cann	Winnawarra.
Mrs. Hill	Seelystone C.W.A.
Mr. Michael	Bowling Club.
Mr. W.L. Carson	Armadale F & C. Assoc.
Mr. C. Rodgers	Armadale Clinic.
Mrs. B. Gibbons	Wongong Progress.
Mr. E. Bradshaw	Poultry Farmers.
Mr. V. Green	I.O.O.F. Lodge.
Mr. H. Wain	Byford Progress Assoc.
Mr. Roberts	S.S. Fruitgrowers Assoc.
Mr. J.E. Murray	Farmers Union.

APPOLOGIES: Mr. W.G. Savage
Armadale Red Cross Socy.
Mrs. Hamilton
Mr. Dwyer
Mrs. Tunney C.W.A.

MINUTES:

Mr. Bouscatt moved,

Mr. C. Rodgers seconded, that minutes of the meeting held on the 14th August, 1956, as read be confirmed.

CARRIED.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN:

Mr. Gibbons nominated Rev. Hobbs.
Mr. McDonald nominated Mr. Cann.
Mrs. Riddott nominated Mr. McDonald.
Messrs. Hobbs and Cann withdrew and Mr. McDonald was declared elected.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN:

Mr. Carson nominated Rev. Hobbs.
Declared elected.

ELECTION OF SECRETARY:

Mr. Bouscatt nominated Mr. Carson.
Declared elected.

COLLECTING DRIVE.

The following motion was proposed by Mr. Gibbons.
Mr. C. Rodgers seconded, and carried unanimously,
"That the method of raising money should be a house to house collection on the basis of 10/- per each adult. The collection to be arranged in conjunction with all represented organisations and to be preceded by a circular letter to all residents. Donation lists to be used."

Mr. Cann moved,

Mr. Gibbons seconded, the following motion which was carried unanimously.
"That the week-end of 10th, 11th and 12th November be allotted for the main collecting drive."

It was agreed that all organisations should be asked to seek

1. Minutes of Homes Appeal Committee Sept. 1956 listing the many community groups prepared to give support to the project.
2. Circular letter prepared and distributed throughout the district prior to the house to house collection to raise funds to start the project.
3. Signatures on the contract signed on April 1st 1959 for the construction of the first of the Dale Cottages.

ARMADALE - KELMSCOTT DISTRICT

HOMES FOR AGED PEOPLE

14th October, 1956.

Dear Sir or Madam,

At a meeting of Delegates from District Organisations held on 24th September, it was decided to launch an appeal to finance the erection of homes for Aged People. It was agreed to ask for a donation of 10/- from each adult person resident in the Road Board District, although larger amounts would of course be welcomed. To those who may find 10/- too much to give in one sum, we suggest that the amount could be contributed in instalments.

Our target is £3,000 and you will realise that this will only be reached with the wholehearted support of all in the district.

The week-end 10th-12th November has been chosen for the main collecting drive and a collector will call on you on one of those days. He will carry a letter signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Committee, authorising him to receive donations. Your contribution will be entered on a donation list, but if an official receipt is required, please notify the collector and one will be forwarded to you.

Donations will be allotted to the areas from which they are received, and as far as practicable, homes will be erected in each district where sufficient money is raised. It will be appreciated that people who may require assistance would be very much happier if housed in the vicinity of life-long associations, remaining among friends and relatives, instead of having to reside in a strange area in loneliness and isolation. Remember that happiness brought to men and women in the twilight of their lives is something not easily to be measured in terms of cash.

There may be married pensioners who have insufficient money to build a home under present conditions, who may be prepared to assist by donating a substantial sum which would give them the sole right to occupy a home so long as either may live.

The total sum raised by this appeal will be matched by an equal amount which has been promised by the Social Services Department. It is hoped that the Lotteries Commission will come in on the same basis, so that if our target of £3,000 is reached it will result in £9,000 being available for building.

We are sure that you will agree that this cause is worthy of your support. One of these homes might solve a problem for you in the years to come.

Yours faithfully,

E. G. MACDONALD, Chairman.

R. J. FORBY, Vice-Chairman.

F. D. WENRILL, Hon. Secretary.

P.O. Box 11, Armadale.

IN WITNESS whereof the parties hereto have hereunto set their hands on the day and year first hereinbefore written.

SIGNED by the Builder in the presence of

A. Haugen.

AND by the Owner in the presence of

A. Haugen.



4.



4. Receipt for the first payment on the cottage paid to the builders, Green and Saw Bros.

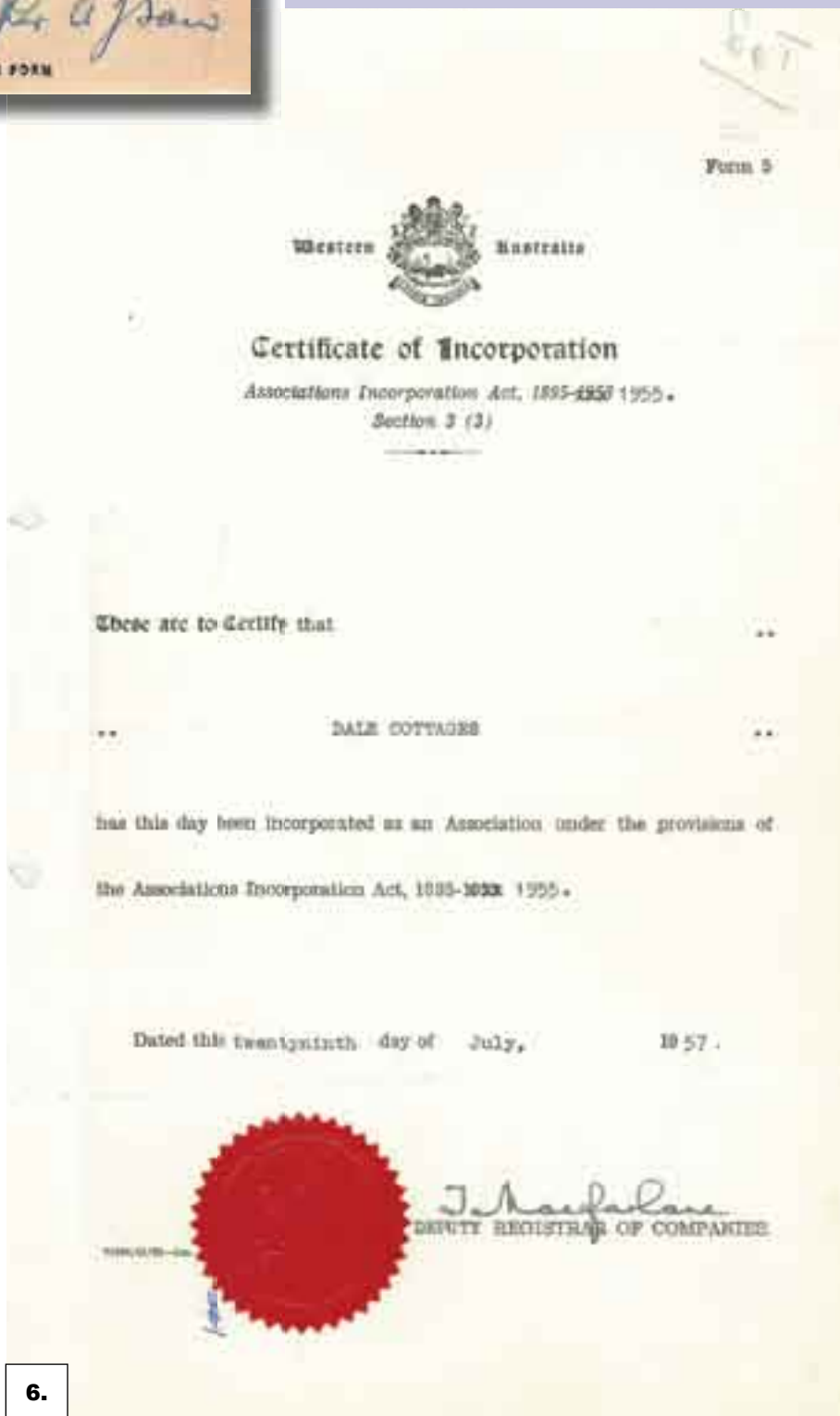
5. Notice inserted in the *Sunday Times* calling for tenders to build the first cottage. Five were received.

6. In July 1957, Dale Cottages became an incorporated body.

5.



6.



Armada-Kelmscott Homes for the Aged

The Editor

Sir,—As you are all aware, an appeal for funds was launched last November which resulted in nearly £700 being collected.

In March this year I was elected chairman at a meeting which adopted rules which would allow us to be an incorporated body. It is my pleasure to be able to inform you approval to our organisation has now been given by the Minister for Justice and incorporation should be completed by the end of July.

Under the rules, a committee will be elected at a meeting of delegates from district organisations to be held in the Lesser Hall of the Armadale Hall on July 25 at 8 p.m. The committee will compose of 10 members, seven to be elected from this meeting, one to be nominated by the Armadale-Kelmscott Road Board and two to be appointed by the first eight from a list of donors.

We have adopted the name of Dale Cottages (incorporated) and it is hoped to get our first home under way as soon as possible. As donations are still needed to further our project, these can be made

to Mr. Verrill of Kelmscott, our honorary secretary.

If any information is required, the following people will be only too happy to give this to you: Mr. Peter Nairn of Byford, Mr. W. G. Savage of Roleystone, Mr. C. R. Rodgers of Armadale, Mr. Verrill of Kelmscott, or myself, J. E. Murray of Armadale.—(Sgd.) J. E. MURRAY, J.P.

At the July meeting of the A.K. Road Board Mr. J. Murray was appointed as board's representative of the Dale's Cottages committee.

1. Letter in the local newspaper from Mr. Jack Murray notifying people of the intention to hold a public meeting to formally elect a committee of management for the soon to be incorporated Dale Cottages.

2. Copy of the first application form issued to intending residents, produced on a Roneo spirit duplicator.

DALE COTTAGES (INC.) ARMADALE.

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION.
Private and Confidential.

The Committee of Management will not divulge any of this information to any person, excepting Social Services Officials, if requested by them,

1. CHRISTIAN NAME AND SURNAME:
(Surname to be written in BLOCK LETTERS.)
- DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH:
- PRESSENT POSTAL ADDRESS:
2. NAME & ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN:
3. How long have you resided in the Armadale-Kelmscott Road Board District?
(State dates of residence)
4. Have you ever been refused accommodation in a home for Aged Persons, if so state reasons for refusal:
5. Description of present accommodation:
6. Are you single, married, widow or widower?
7. Have you any children or near relations with whom you can live if not admitted to the home?
8. Are you in receipt of an Old Age Pension or Invalid or Service Pension?
(If so, state amount and pension Cert. No.)
9. Are you in receipt of a War Pension, Superannuation or any other pension? If so, state amount:
10. When did you retire from work:
11. State what property you possess:
a. Money in Bank or other cash.
b. Investments.
c. Other property viz; house, land, motor car, or other realisable asset.
Have you any other source of income?
If so give particulars.
12. Are you insured? If so give particulars of amount insured, nature of insurance and name of company with policy number.
13. A Medical Certificate is to be supplied. Are you suffering from any contagious or infectious disease, locomotive disability, or any disability that precludes you looking after yourself.
14. Give the names and addresses of two responsible persons who would furnish references if required.

1.

2.

1959 - 1969

Over the threshold...

Building the Complex begins

1.



1. Guests at the official opening of the first Dale Cottage, on October 11th 1959.

2. The same building photographed in 1994 for inclusion in the City's first Municipal Heritage Inventory document.

2.



1.



MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SERVICES,

CANBERRA.

14th August, 1959.

Dear Mr. Verrill,

My friend, Mr. Len Hamilton, has told me of your very kind suggestion that, in the near future, I should open officially the first unit of your Homes for the Aged Project, John Street, Armadale.

Unfortunately, I have only recently returned from Western Australia and in the middle of a very busy Parliamentary Session it would be impracticable for me to visit your State again this year.

However, I would suggest that Mr. Hamilton should represent both the Commonwealth Government and myself at the function. He has kept both myself and the officers of my Department in touch with the progress of the work being done at Armadale and I could think of no more appropriate person to be associated with the official opening.

Please accept my appreciation of your Committee's kindness in extending the invitation to me.

Sincerely yours,

(Hugh S. Robertson)

F.D. Verrill, Esq.,
Lefroy Road,
KEIMSCOTT, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

From 50 years forward we can only imagine the sense of achievement, satisfaction and district pride which would have pervaded at the opening of the first cottage pair on Sunday October 11th 1959. Mr. L. W. Hamilton, representing the Minister for Social Security, the Hon. Mr. Wentworth performed the ceremony in the presence of many political figures and local supporters including 100 friends and helpers from the district. *"It was a proud moment for me when Mrs. Webster and Mr. and Mrs. Bingham were handed over the keys to the first cottage"* said Mr. Murray in a later interview. A weekly charge of 25 shillings (\$2.50) gave them security of tenure for the remainder of their lives.

There now followed a period of continued building activity with the construction of units endeavouring to keep pace

with the growing number of prospective tenants. By 1966 Lots 169, 170 & 171, at the bottom of John Street, purchased from the Road Board for a very nominal cost all had duplex units built on them.

2.



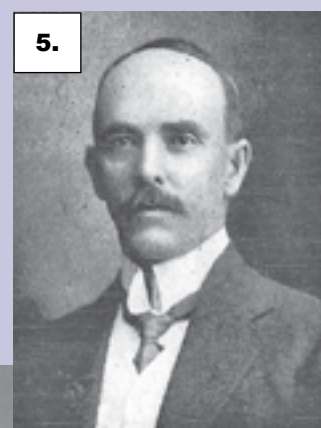
1. Letter from the Minister of Social Services, Mr. Robertson, expressing his inability to officially open the first cottage, suggesting instead he be represented by the local federal minister, Mr. Len Hamilton. The plaque that was affixed to the building, however indicated he opened it on behalf of Mr. Wentworth, Minister for Social Security.

2. Mrs. Webster (left) and Mrs. Bingham, first residents of the Dale Cottages, photographed at their duplex in 1979.

Expansion required more land, which fortunately lay right at hand - the adjacent old brickworks site. One of the first industrial undertakings in the area, the Armadale Brickworks had been established in 1903 and had operated continuously until 1929 but over the intervening thirty years it had remained an abandoned conglomeration of crumbling kilns, untidy gravel pits, rubble mounds, stagnant ponds and some remnants of the brick making process: a tall brick chimney stack, rusting machinery, the manager's house (the garden grape vine of which is still there) and of great interest, the head-frame and winding gear of the unique contrivance which brought the clay and shale down from the also abandoned quarry near Bedforddale Hill Road. This site would have presented a huge challenge to any real estate developer, but as it was seen to be so suitable by those who were considering the needs of our aged, the land was acquired and now forms the greater area of the Dale Cottages grounds.

Landscaping plans to overcome the inhospitable nature of the surroundings were prepared by Oldham, Boas, Ednie Brown and Partners. This allowed for the highlighting of the winding gear within a dedicated garden setting, as well as the internal roadways and what is believed to have been the first for WA, a locality of underground power connection.

- 3. Former gravel pit, once on Dale Cottages site, 1924.**
- 4. Workers at the old Armadale Brickworks 1908.**
- 5. R.O. Law, owner of the brickworks from 1914 to the time of its closure in the late 1920s.**
- 6. View across the brickworks buildings to the winding gear tower, where the tramway delivering shale from the hillside above, terminated c.1914.**
- 7. Manager's house and the Hoffman kiln, Armadale Brickworks, c. 1910**





The Manager,
Dale Cottages (Inc.),
c/- F.D. Verrill,
Hon. Secretary,
18 Lefroy Road,
KELMSCOTT.

In reply please ask for

Mr. Bradshaw Ref : 148/64

Address all Correspondence to the General Manager

Office Hours : 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Monday to Friday

24th May, 1965.

Dear Sir,

Re : Erection of 1 X 2 One Bedroom
Type Flat for Dale Cottages at
ARMADALE

Please find enclosed Certificate No. 7 being the
Final Certificate for this Contract.

Please make payment within seven (7) days to the
Contractors, Messrs. Holmes and Evans of Armadale.

Yours faithfully,

R.B. MacKenzie
R.B. MacKENZIE
GENERAL MANAGER

THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS (W.A. CHAPTER)

CERTIFICATE

FOR PROGRESS AND FINAL PAYMENTS

SERIAL No. 7 (FINAL) 21-5-1965

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF CONTRACT
DATED 8th APRIL 1964

BETWEEN DALE COTTAGES (INC.) PROPRIETOR

AND HOLMES AND EVANS BUILDER

FOR THE ERECTION OF 1 X 2 UNIT ONE BEDROOM
TYPE FLAT FOR THE NEEDLE HILL ESTATE.

THERE IS DUE AND PAYABLE TO THE BUILDER THE SUM OF ONE
HUNDRED AND NINETY THREE POUNDS.

(£193 - 0 - 0)

ARCHITECT

P. H. H. H.
THE STATE HOUSING COMMISSION
CNR. HAY & PLAIN STS. EAST PERTH.

PREVIOUSLY CERTIFIED £ 4047-5-3
THIS CERTIFICATE £ 193-0-0
TOTAL CERTIFIED £ 4240-5-3
TO DATE HEREOF

TRIPPLICATE

2.

1. Correspondence from the State Housing Commission notifying the Dale Cottages management that the financial details for the building of the cottage, on Lot 169, had been satisfactorily finalised. With 3 cottages now erected on John St, the embryo of what was to develop into a flourishing complex of homes for the aged had been well established.
2. Certificate authorising Dale Cottages to make the final payment to the builders, Holmes & Evans, on completion of the duplex on Lot 169, in 1965.
3. Article from the local newspaper publicising the completion of the second duplex to be built on the Dale Cottages site. It was erected on Lot 171 John St, beside the first cottage (shown on left).
4. Commemorative plaque from the cottage made from bricks donated by the local Rotary Club. One of the first of the cottages to be built on Verrill Way in 1968 and completed as part of phase 5 in the building programme.
5. Receipt received by Dale Cottages from Holmes & Evans, builder, acknowledging the final payment for the construction of the third duplex on John Street.

The cottages built in this area behind John Street were now designed by the state Housing Commission and all built by B.N. Holmes. Connection to the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board's system enabled the individual leach drains of earlier units to be up-graded; a higher capacity of electric power switch room was needed and around this time residents had been granted permission to erect their own laundries if they wished at their own expense! This was a time when Armadale remained rather rural in character. The original convenors of the Dale Cottages scheme maintained their commitment and enthusiasm under the leadership of such persons as Jack Murray and Carl Rodgers who were to play such vital roles over an extraordinary number of years, as well as Mr. F Verill who maintained the Secretary's position for the vital first 10 years, retiring in 1965 when his place was taken by Mr. K Sharp. Other Committee changes of this period included the appointment of Mr. L Hughes as auditor, replacing Mr. C Marsh, Mrs. L Ridoutt replacing Mr. R Thompson and the place of RSL representative, Mr. D Cumming being filled by Mr. R (Dick) Wilson, who remained on the Committee (later becoming Vice President and Secretary) for 24 years. By the close of the 1960s a further one and a half acres (0.6ha) of land leading in a narrow strip along the upper end of John Street and backing onto the dis-used gravel pits had been bought from the Metropolitan Brick Company. That plans were immediately prepared for the erection of a further seven double units in this area is an indication of both the strength of need for retirement accommodation as well as the district's recognition of the abilities of Dale Cottages to fulfill that need.



3.

For a donation of £800, aged people can have rent-free use during their life-time of a £2,175 home unit at Armadale, similar to the units shown above.
The units have been built for Dale Cottages Incorporated, under the supervision of the State Housing Commission.
Organisation president J. E. Murray said that the double-unit (right) completed for a total cost of £4,750 had been made possible by donations from new tenants.
For a donation of £800, single units would be built for men over 65 and women over 60.

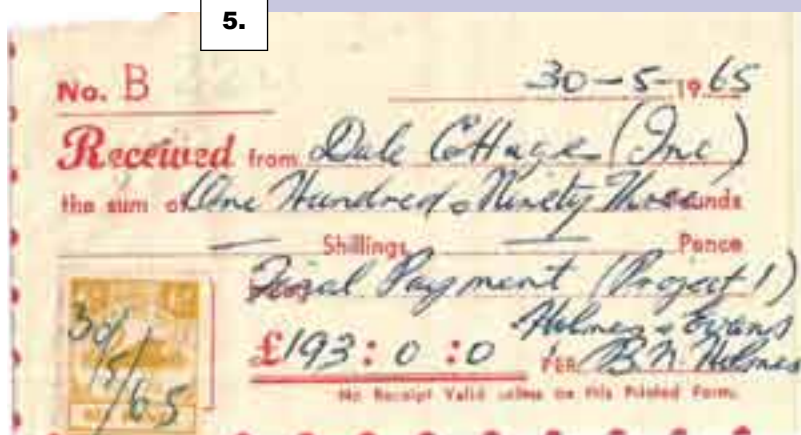
Homes For Aged At Armadale

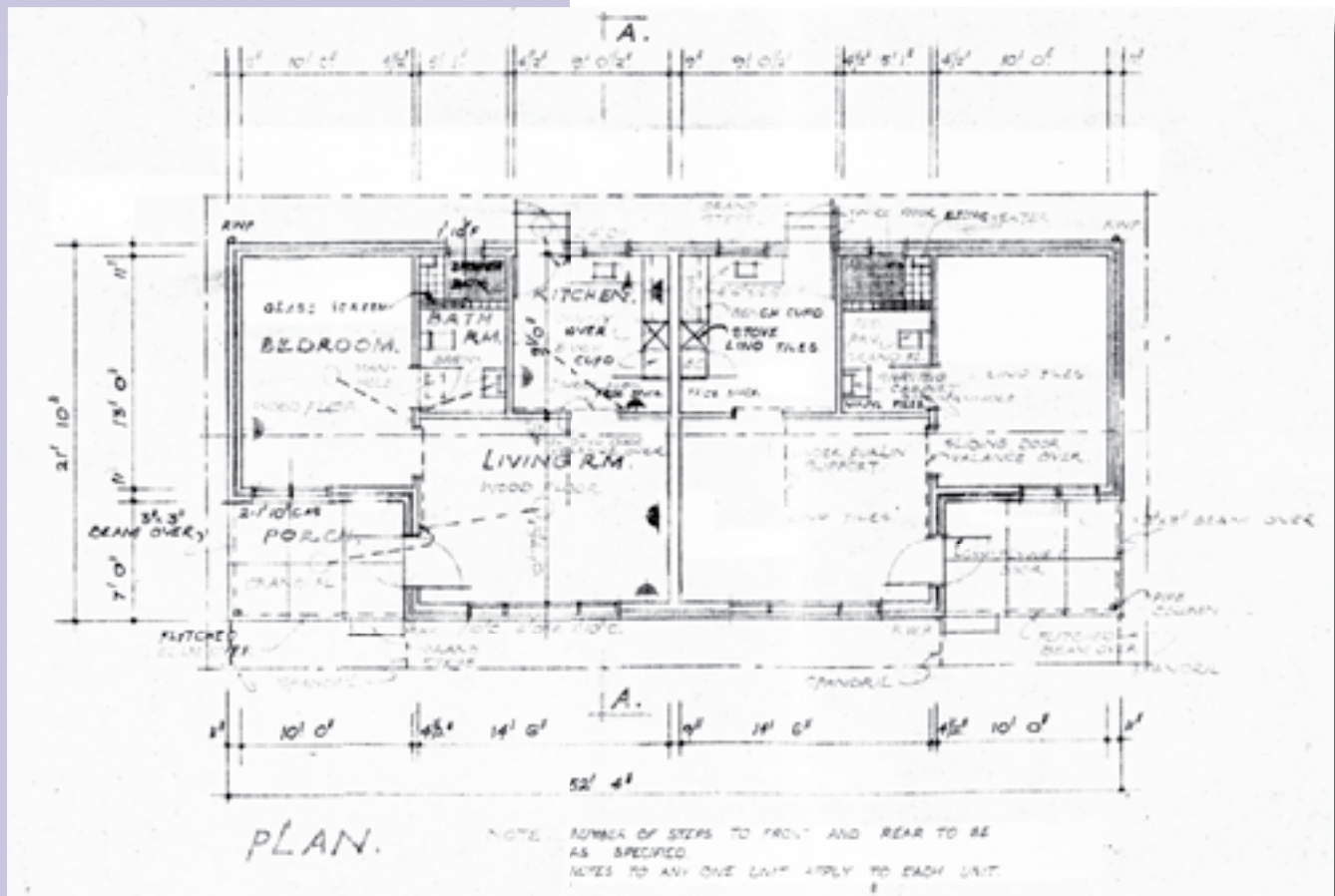
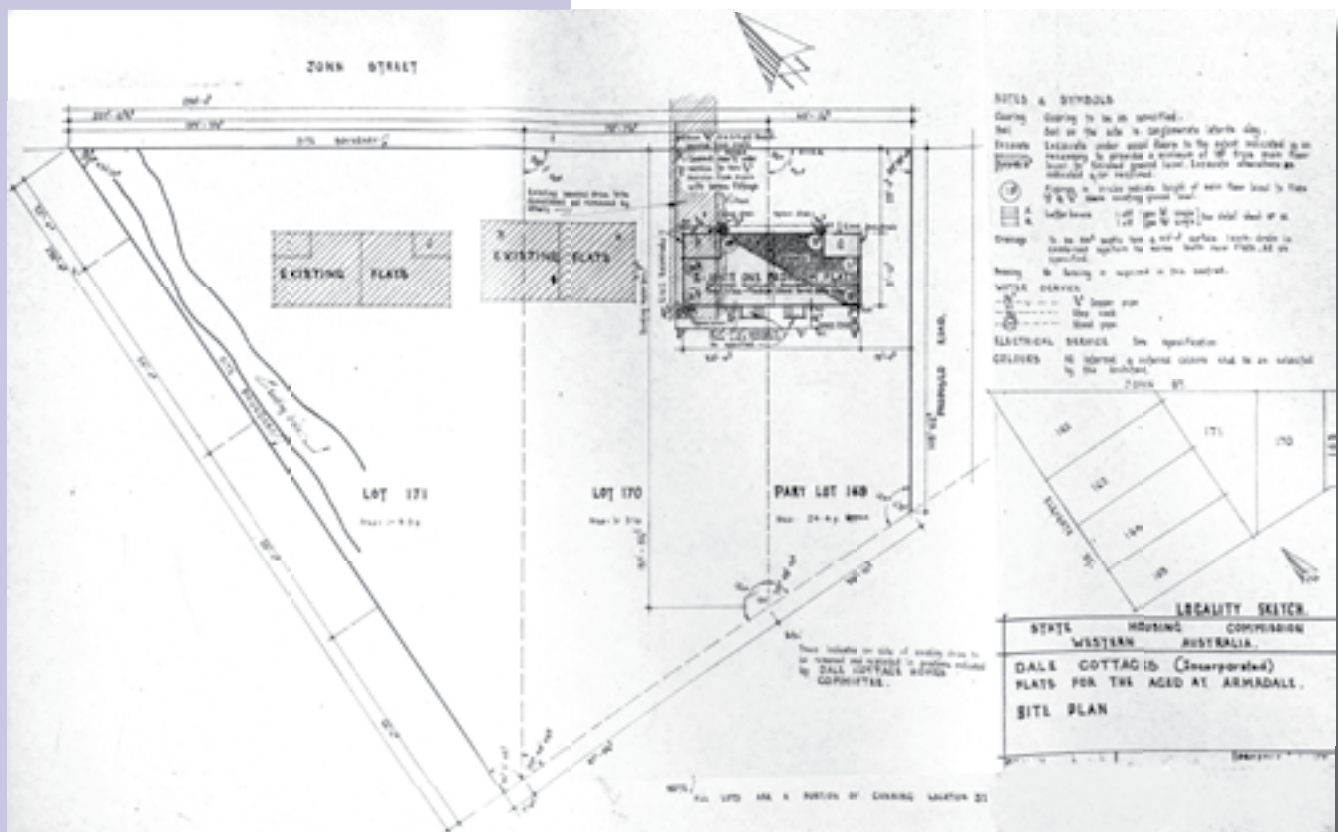
Two more home units for the aged have been built at Armadale, under the supervision of the State Housing Commission.

4.



5.

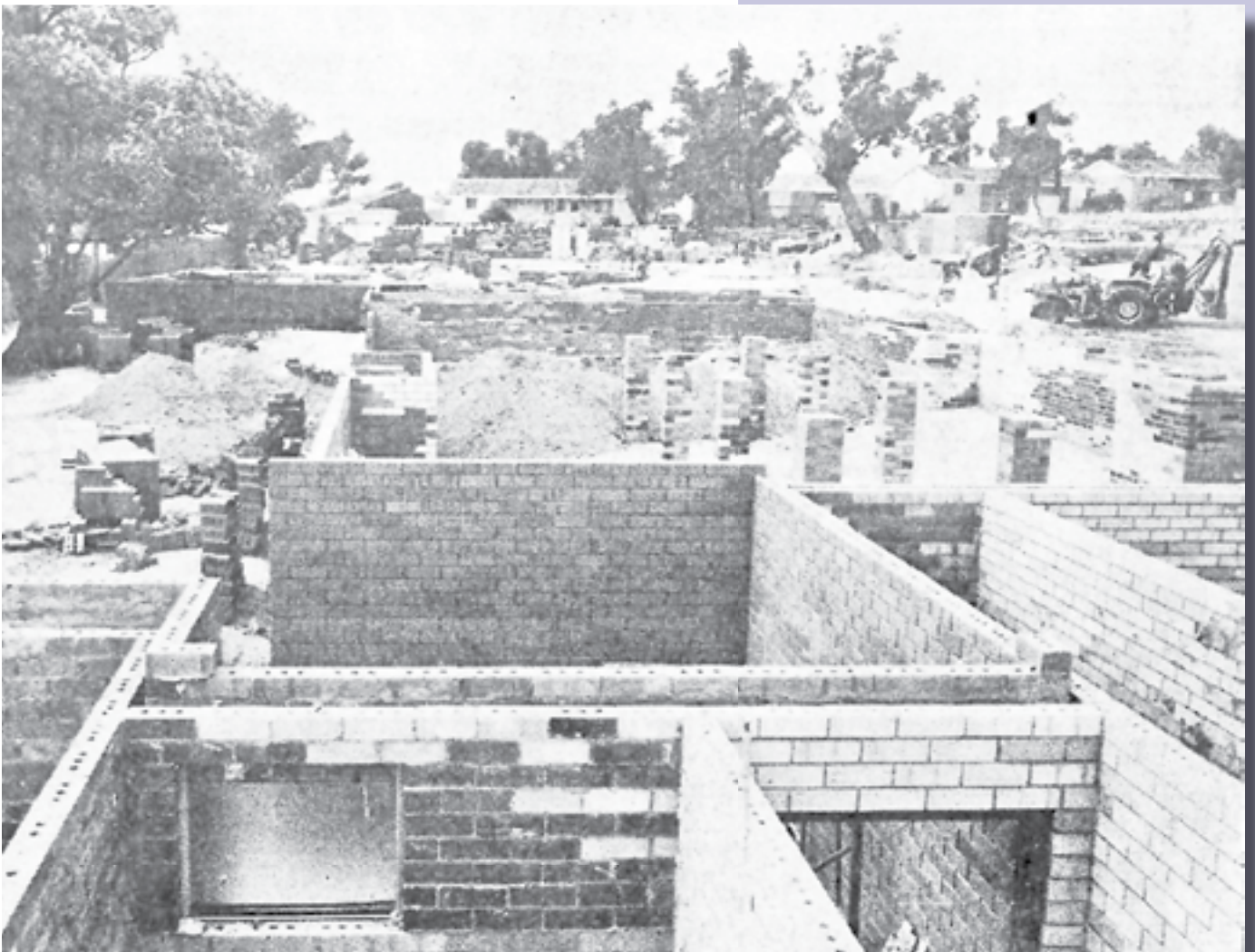




Drawings from plans prepared late 1964 for the construction of the third cottage on Lot 169 John Street.

1969 - 1979

New directions... extending the household



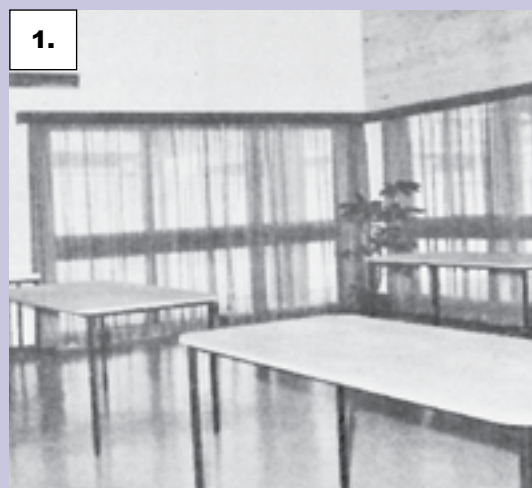
Foundation works of the J.E. Murray Home under construction 1974.

By 1970, a wider need for comprehensive Aged Care facilities was commanding attention throughout Australia. At our local level, the Dale Cottages provision for that need was firmly established and indeed, well equipped to accept the challenges of allowing our own aging residents stay close to home in their declining years. Significant developments were completed during this next decade, the most valuable of which was the building of the long awaited frail persons hostel. Land in Deerness Way had previously been



1971 plan of Dale Lodge, a double storey building, the first to be erected on the Dale Cottages site.

purchased with this in mind. In 1974 the 38 bed hostel, again with Bert Holmes as builder and at a cost of almost \$400,000 was up and running. Planned with much assistance from the Extended Care section of the WA Health Department, the hostel represented all desirable features of a contemporary hostel for its purpose. In the words of Mr. Carl Rodgers *"It has been designed to cater for frail-aged people who could still walk and look after themselves, but needed someone to make sure they cared for themselves"*. Admission to the hostel at this stage was largely voluntary and families eagerly embraced the opportunity to keep their elderly relatives close to home for as long as possible. The Armadale-Kelmscott Shire Council had assisted with finance for the furnishings and Mrs. Diana Murray and Jack's family were of great help in the choosing and application of the interior décor. Local commitment continued from a fund-raising committee led by Mrs. Marjorie Smith providing many amenities including our first (colour!) television, as well as setting up a conveniently located kiosk to cater for residents' minor shopping needs which it has now done over the past 35 years. As well as continuing to build cottages, two ventures into higher-density and two-level units were undertaken. Dale Lodge, facing Eleventh Road (now Hobbs Drive) was completed during 1972, providing 40 units (flats). This block was designed with shallow ramp access to upper areas and to sheltered internal courtyards. With shared laundry facilities supplied with hot water space was saved within the units. The weekly service charge was now \$3.50.



Some of the rooms at the J.E. Murray home as they were furnished at the time the facility was opened in November 1974.

- 1. The craft room, described at the time as 'spacious'.**
- 2. The dining room area. Pictured are Mrs. Standring (right) and Mrs. Cook, two of the people responsible for the running of the Murray Home at that time.**
- 3. One of the 36 bedrooms.**
- 4. Example of one of the several lounge areas available for the comfort of the residents.**

1.



2.

On the Occasion of the Official Opening of
The J. E. Murray Home
 the
 Committee of Dale Cottages (Inc.)
 request the pleasure of the company of

at the
 J. E. Murray Home, Deerness Way, Armadale
 on
 Saturday, 16th November, 1974
 at 2.30 p.m.

R.S.V.P.
 12th November, 1974
 Hon. Secretary, Dale Cottages (Inc.)
 Box 22, Armadale, W.A. 6112

J. E. MURRAY, J.P.,
 President.
 C. RODGERS, W.B.E., J.P.,
 Hon. Secretary.

4.

J.E. MURRAY HOME.

First residents in November, 1974.

LANGSFORD	F.V.	Mr.
LANGSFORD	Vida	Mrs.
HOLMES	Alice M	Miss.
BUTLER	Annie	Mrs.
MARSTON	M.	Mrs.
ASHBY	Doris M.	Miss.
BRIGGS	Vera	Mrs.
BROWN	S.A.	Mrs.
MC BRIDE	M.P.	Mrs.
DOYLE	P.C.	Mrs.
BETT	P.C.	Mrs.
SHEARN	O.S.T.C.	Mrs.
SHEARN	S.J.	Mr.
DEWAR	J.	Mr.
DEWAR	E.	Mrs.
YOUNG	A.	Mrs.
LYSTER	C.S.	Mrs.
WHITAKER	S.J.	Mrs.
WEBSTER	A.C.	Mrs.
MC KENNA	E.	Mrs.
GUNNINGHAM	M.	Mrs.
OAKLEY	L.W.	Mr.
OAKLEY	C.E.	Mrs.
PLUMB	A.W.	Mrs.
MARTIN	I.M.	Mrs.
ROCKEMANN	I.L.	Mrs.
DOUGLAS	I.E.	Mrs.
LANKESTER	E.P.	Mrs.
GRIFFITHS	D.G.	Mrs.
SHAW	P.B.	Mrs.
COX	W.F.	Mr.
BLYTHE	H.A.	Mr.
MERCER	J.P.	Mr.
LINSMAN	K.	Mrs.
JENAWAY	J.W.	Mr.

3.



5.



Opened in 1979, Rodgers Court was a more modest undertaking. These 10 units were built completely self contained and for the first time resident car-ownership and parking needs were recognised within the planning, with a nearby block of 10 brick, lock-up garages provided. Hitherto, as car ownership among residents had gradually become more common, small groups of rather incongruous asbestos garages had sprung up in spare corners of land, often at an inconvenient distance from the resident using it.

By 1973, a small parkland had been developed in the centre of the complex encircled by Law Crescent. The site (once part of an earlier gravel pit) contained a large fishpond with a bridge over it and a fountain as well as facilities for lawn bowls. Native trees had been largely retained at this stage (sadly, most of the marri red-gums have since had to be removed) making the grounds quite a show place, popular as a backdrop for wedding photos and earning a second place in the 1977 section of the Keep Western Australia Beautiful competition. Activities within the Senior Citizens Hall built within our estate by the Shire Council, proved a great asset in helping supply many recreational needs of our residents.

1. Mrs. Diana Murray, wife of Dale Cottages President, shown laying the dining room tables in the J.E. Murray Home in 1974.
2. Invitation card to attend the J.E. Murray Home opening ceremony.
3. Cake made and decorated by Mrs. Olive Etheridge for the opening of the J.E. Murray Home. The wording reads "Bless this Home. Let kindness, thoughtfulness and understanding of our fellow men be our guide"
4. List of the people who were the first to take up residence in the J.E. Murray Home. Source: "History of the Dale Cottages"
5. Although not part of the Dale Cottages complex, having been built by the town of Armadale Kelmscott and opened in 1973, the Senior Citizens Hall in Coombe Ave soon became an important facility for the residents to use.



Of course such a growing enterprise could not continue to be run entirely by volunteers, dedicated though they continued to be. Operating the JE Murray Home required the appointment of a Supervisor supported by a number of semi-professional and caring staff, with a consequent increase in financial accounting and record keeping. Mr. Beales continued his fortnightly walks around the “village”, knocking on doors and collecting, in cash, the service charges as well as maintaining invaluable contact with individual residents. (Collecting the cash payments of service charges was to continue until 1993 when it was deemed that the lone female staff collector could have been somewhat put at risk). Mr. Murray attended daily to manage the General Accounts until Mrs. Eileen Snow was engaged in 1975 to keep the office records in an ad-hoc space (intended as a minor treatment room) in the new hostel building.

Prior to this time, any business affairs as well as Committee meetings had been held in the Armadale District Hall, the Lesser Hall, the Infant Health clinic, the old Road Board office and some officers’ residences. The activities room in the new hostel then provided ideal space for Committee meetings over the next fifteen years. Outside matters also required that staff be engaged. From 1974, a caretaker position was created. Mr. F Kempton and Mr. K Priddle were early appointments.

Scenes from around the Dale Cottages grounds 1971-1978 period:

- 1. The embankment below the Grove, with the winding gear tower remnant from the old brickworks in amongst the trees.**
- 2. Cottages along Law Crescent 1971.**
- 3. The ornamental bridge over the lily pond established c. 1972-73**
- 4. Attractive garden bordering a section of the Murray Home. In 1977 the well landscaped and colourful setting gained an award in the Keep Australia Beautiful Competition.**



1.



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3.



4.



1. Senator Margaret Guilfoyle Minister for Social Security congratulating Mr. C Rodgers at the opening of Rodgers Court in May 1979. Named in his honour, this small double storey block of units was the 23rd stage of the building complex.

2. Carl and his wife Mercy immediately after the unveiling of the plaque, Rodgers Court 1979. Mrs. Rodgers was responsible, in collaboration with Mrs. Lorraine Ridoutt and Mrs Murray for the planning and planting of the gardens at Dale Cottages during the early years.

3. Mrs. Eileen Snow, in her office c.1978. Mrs. Snow was the first to be appointed on the administration staff.

4. Courtyard area, Dale Lodge probably late 1970s.

5.



5. The plaque mounted on Rodgers Court.

6. Jack Murray inspecting the remains of the old brickworks winding gear tower as it was in the 1970s. The caption for this local newspaper photograph states that the Armadale works closed due to the opening of the brickworks at Cardup. Actually both were operating simultaneously for nearly 30 years, although competition may have eventually helped bring about the demise of activities at Armadale. The heading at the top is certainly appropriate; the homes being built for the aged were indeed, by this time, completely transforming the old brickworks site.



6.

1979 - 1989

Consolidation...

Achieving a well established and distinctive place in the community.

Dale Cottages 25 Years Old

1.

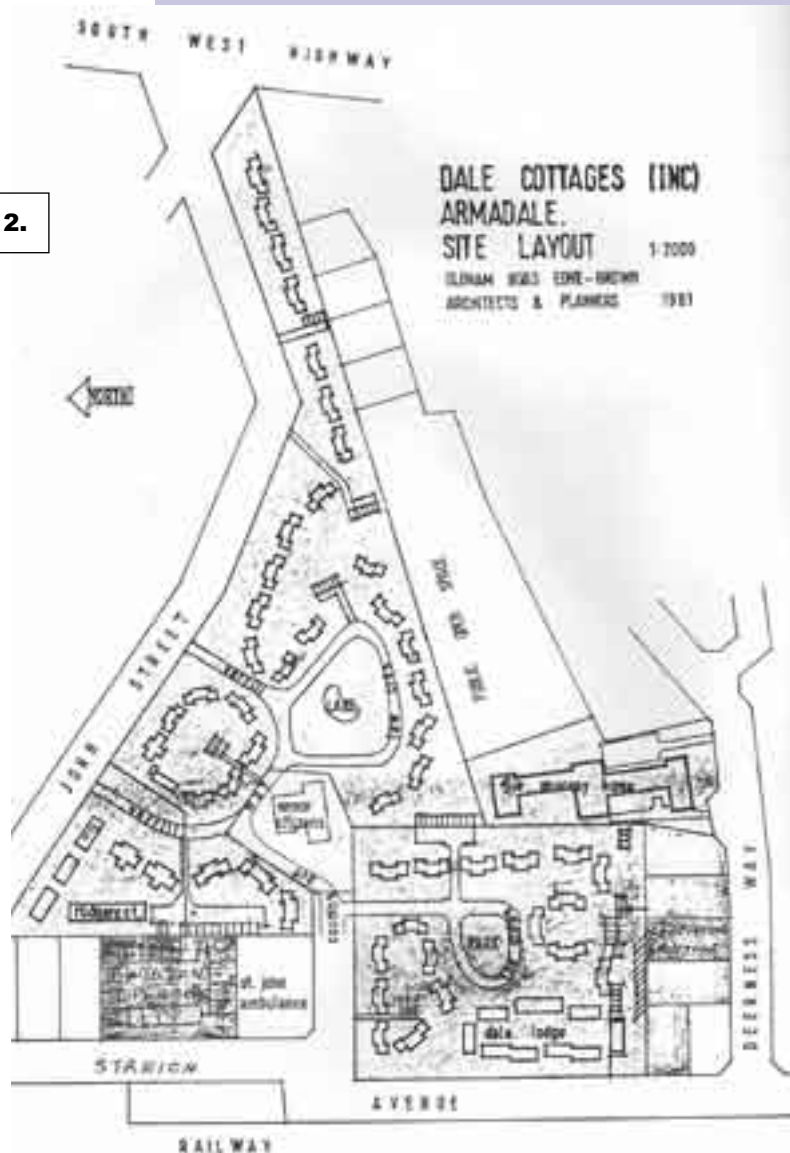


1. Headline and photograph that appeared with an article in the Comment News in August 1981 reporting on the fact that the Dale Cottages has been in existence for a quarter of a century. Shown in the photograph are (L-R) Jack Murray, Carl Rodgers and Dick Wilson.

2. Map of the complex prepared in 1981 by the consulting architects, showing the extent of development achieved by the Dale Cottages (Inc.) since 1956. Note, however, the year date has been altered and Wilson Place has been drawn in (not built until 1984).

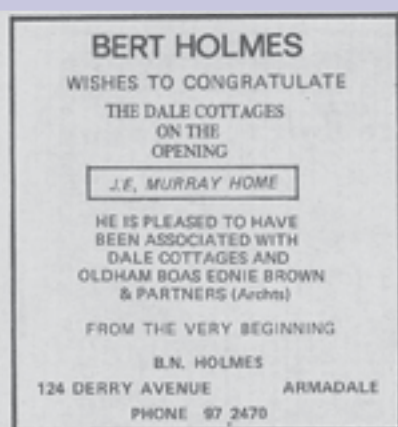
3. Mr. Murray inviting Mr. Richard (Dick) Wilson to officially open Wilson Place on the 24th November 1984. Pictured (L-R) are Mrs. Kitty Wilson, Mr. Dick Wilson, Mr. Jack Murray, and Mr. Carl Rodgers.

How Armadale and surrounds had changed by the time we moved into the 80s! Gone were the small orchards, piggeries, dairies and poultry runs of west Armadale and Kelmscott (and with them the confusion of numbered roads and avenues) to become the broadacre lots of 'instant' housing, new schools and new neighbourhoods. The pleasantness of living in the foothills of the Darling Range had seen the Canning valley and Roleystone surrender many rural aspects to semi-rural developments. This swelling of population resulted in the old Armadale-Kelmscott Road Board morph into firstly the Shire of Armadale-Kelmscott in 1961, then the Town, 1967, and finally the City of Armadale in 1985. The particular environs of the outer Metropolitan hills areas, especially from Kalamunda to Armadale seemed to have an attraction for more-elderly English migrants who had been influenced by the enthusiastic reports of their younger families who had come to Western Australia in the 1960s and 70s. So it was that during this period, the complexion of applicants for accommodation at Dale Cottages was no longer predominantly of local relationship, but included many from England. These blended happily into the lifestyle offered. The diverse talents, interests and energies of the now-substantial community are reflected in the wide range of activities which have flourished within the village



and the Senior Citizens Centre: carpet and lawn bowls, art classes, co-operative insurance, coach tours, a monthly news sheet "The Dale News", keep-fit sessions, and perhaps many more. Meanwhile, the Dale Cottages site continued to expand. On land fronting Streich Avenue (Hobbs Drive) purchased from a local medical practitioner, Dr Noel Colyer and his wife, supplemented by an adjacent area purchased from the Town of Armadale, a new 16 unit, town-house style project was proceeding. The design plans were again prepared by Oldham, Boas Ednie Brown, with Bert Holmes continuing as our builder, who at that stage had built all our buildings, apart from the first duplex. This Federation style group of housing was opened in 1984 by Mr. R (Dick) Wilson, Vice President and RSL representative since 1966, for whom it was named 'Wilson Place'.



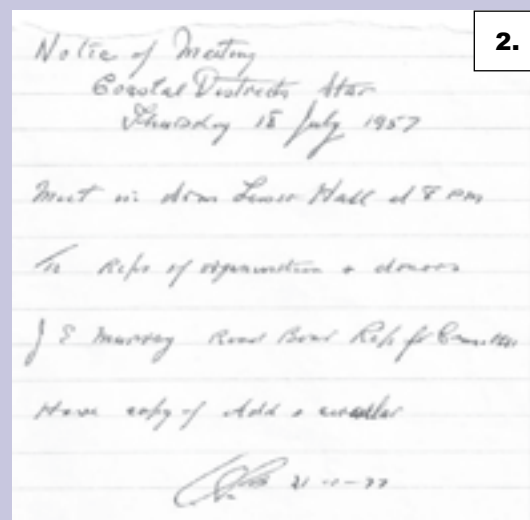
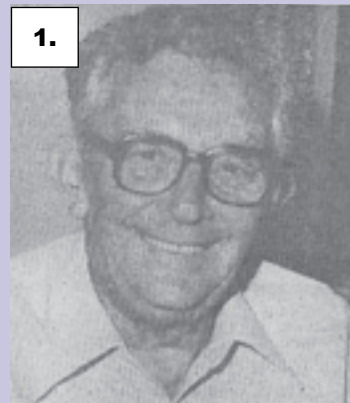


The Homes that Holmes Built

It comes as no small surprise to realise that so much of what constitutes the present physical presence of the Dale Cottages complex has been due to the contribution of one man and his construction business. Bert Holmes was responsible for building of all but one (the very first) of the duplex cottages erected on the site. But not only that, four major blocks of buildings, Dale Lodge, J.E. Murray Home, Rodgers Court and Wilson Place were also constructed while the cottages continued to be built during the period 1964 to the beginning of the 1990s. By the mid 90s other construction concerns were contracted to carry out the most recent building projects. The last work to be done by the business of B.N. Holmes, carried out in 1998, was to enlarge and re-model the cottage at 1 Law Crescent (see photo above), the home of Mr. & Mrs. Ken Thomas (Mr. Thomas was a RSL representative on the management committee in 1995).

Some committee changes were also taking place. After eighteen years' outstanding service as secretary, as well as acting as right hand man for Jack Murray, Mr. Carl Rodgers decided to call it a day. Mr. Rodgers who had been actively involved in many of the organisation's negotiations for land acquisition, grants, subsidies and services (and favours) was deservedly awarded the first Honorary Life Membership of Dale Cottages upon his retirement in 1988. The overall composition of the Committee was also changing - replacements were sought from civic minded residents of the district as by now, thirty years on, many of the organisations which had provided the original complement of members had ceased to be active, exceptions being the City of Armadale, the Rotary Clubs (now three) and the local sub-branch of the R&SL which all continued to provide representatives of valuable support. At this time, one of our ex-employees, Mrs. Eileen Snow was also a committee member. Mrs Snow had been the first administrative appointment, but during the 1980s the daily attendance of Jack Murray and Dick Wilson could not adequately cope with the banking, record keeping and other growing administrative duties so a part-time office staff of three young ladies had been recruited to provide, in Jack's words "*a happy and sincere service to all*". The J E Murray Home, now fifteen years old had been given several up-upgrades to keep pace with the improving standards of Aged Care. Benefits flowed from a modern inter-communications system, better access to toilet and shower areas, improved fire and emergency protection and automatic operating entry doors. All this came at a cost totally borne by the organisation, somewhat to the concern of the Committee whose "nest-egg" of accumulated funds had been jealously guarded towards the erection of that much desired goal, the Nursing Home. This ambition was now of necessity delayed. By the close of the 1980s Dale Cottages property was valued in excess of \$6M. This consisted of 6.5ha of land, 74 units, a 38 bed hostel, all accommodating 275 residents. There were now 17 employees, residents paid an entry fee of \$3750 and paid a weekly service fee of \$7, (still collected weekly by hand, by a junior part-time office employee, Mrs. Trudi Hodges). Alan Cowburn, appointed in 1982, a position he still holds in 2009 as Dale Cottages' longest serving employee, well over 25 years.

1. Mr. Carl Rodgers, a foundation member of Dale Cottages (Inc) retired from the committee in 1988 after more than 30 years of dedicated service. For more than half of these years he held the position of honorary secretary, taking over from Mr. Sharp in 1967. On his retirement, he was awarded a life membership, the first to receive this honour.
2. Scribbled note by Carl Rodgers, re the lodgement of a notice of meeting in the local newspaper of the day. In 1957 he was the Committee's publicity Officer.
3. Mr. Jack Murray and his wife Dianna, with one of the many awards he received for his community activities. In his book, "History of the Dale Cottages", he wrote, "I must also pay tribute to my wife Dianna who gave me tireless support which was given by way of advice, planning and shopping for the Home."
4. Mrs. Val Green, long time resident at Dale Cottages, on duty in the J.E. Murray Home Kiosk. Residents volunteered their time willingly and continue to do so today.
5. Mrs. T. Cameron, supervisor at the Home in the late 1980s making her farewell speech.
6. Mr. Alan Cowburn, leading tradesman has continued to give reliable and conscientious service since his appointment in 1982.



1989 – 1999

Onto better and Greater Things ... Pushing boundaries and dealing with demons



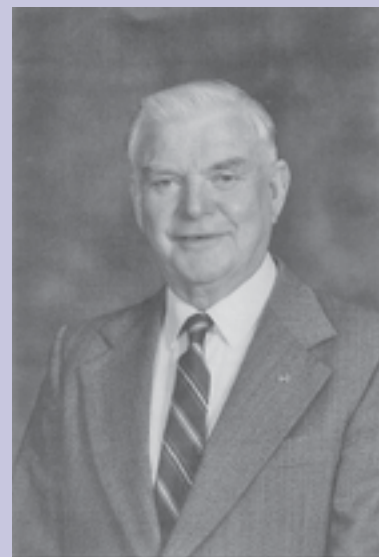
1. Dale Cottages Committee, AGM March 1995 L – R Standing; A. Kleyn, R. Wilson, R. Hammond, E. Snow, K. Thomas, W. Gooch. Sitting; J. McPherson, J. Cumming, J. E. Murray, D. Allen, E. Gribble.
2. Memorial to the brickworks, erected in the Grove in 1992 to recognise the historic significance of the Dale Cottages site.
3. Cook, Christine Shiner at work in the kitchen. Christine replaced Rosemary Trainer when she retired after serving 20 years as cook. In 2003 these kitchen facilities began to be used for the preparation of food for the district's Meals on Wheels programme.
4. Students from the Willandra Primary School creating a colourful mural on a temporary partition erected during extensions and modifications to the J. E. Murray Home in the late 1990s. Shown ably assisting the young artists is resident Wilf Johnson.



For much of this decade, the matter of providing a Nursing Home (now to be known as a Residential Care Facility) was to occupy much of the Committee's time and energy. Long was the period of heart-aches associated with the loss of each infirm resident who had to be transferred out of the J. E. Murray Home away from family and friends as they needed more specialised care which could only be provided elsewhere. Throughout the latter part of the 1990s relentless lobbying was undertaken with Government departments and politicians of all persuasions, the most helpful of whom were our Federal Member, Ricky Johnston and State Members Kaye Hallahan and Alannah MacTiernan. Only after a campaign including a petition signed with over a thousand names had been presented in Canberra in January 1998, and a capacity crowd at a public meeting in the Senior Citizens Hall expressed the district's strong support for this cause, did we achieve an allocation of beds.

This allocation was smaller than anticipated and was insufficient to maintain a separate establishment as had been hoped, but which then necessitated a complete change of plan: the existing J.E. Murray Home would have to be enlarged. However the land required to provide this enlargement gave us quite a problem in overcoming some local opposition to acquiring a small part of Alderson Park for the purpose. Finally, on October 22nd 1999 Mr. Murray was able to ceremoniously turn the first sod for the construction of a twenty bed extension to the J. E. Murray Home, thus realising a personal passion as well as the worthy ambition of the Armadale District to care and provide for its senior citizens.

Despite the consuming distractions of these developments, there was much advancement around the wider estate during this period: more properties had been bought in Deerness Way. The house at No. 18 was used as the administration centre for some time, while other houses were destined for eventual demolition; the Hills Medical Centre was bought, modernised and re-leased to the doctors, in catering for the contemporary demands of more-affluent retirees, two-bedroomed cottages were now being built where re-development opportunities occurred, there was a progressive modernisation of kitchen, bathroom and service areas of other units.



A succession of leadership changes in the 1990s.

With the retirement of J. E. Murray in March 1995, after nearly 40 years as president, the Board saw in just 4 years, 3 changes in the leadership position, the incumbents being (from the top)

Mr. John Cumming	1995
Mrs. Eileen Snow	1999
Mr. Frank Green	1999

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3.



1. Mrs. Trudi Hodges, who was appointed to the very taxing and exacting position of Chief Executive Officer of Dale Cottages Inc in 1998, joined the office staff in 1987, as one of three young women who were employed that year, on a part time basis to help cope with the increasing administrative work load. In her role as C.E.O. the increasing complexities associated with the proper running and development of a well functioning, well maintained modern aged care facility have been dealt with in the most efficient and determined manner. Her hard work was to see established in the decade to follow, a complex of a standard that would be difficult to better anywhere

2. Workmen hard at it laying foundations for further extensions to the J. E. Murray Home c.1996

3. Happy and delighted people celebrating the day the Federal Government gave approval for nursing home beds to be incorporated in the J. E. Murray Home, June 1998. L – R: John Cumming, President, Roger Stubbs Mayor, City of Armadale, Ricky Johnston, Federal Member for Canning, Trudy Ronan, resident and Trudi Hodges C E O.

Groups of asbestos - sheeted garages were replaced with steel structures; we now had a small bus to provide transport for private medical appointments, as well as allowing regular shopping and pleasure excursions; night patrols of security officers were put in place to deal with one of the down-sides of community development where spates of minor harassment were being experienced by some residents. The office now managed by the appointment of Mrs. Trudi Hodges as Administrator in 1993, even had a computer.

Accommodation in the existing J. E. Murray Home had been vastly improved with the effective conversion of all bedrooms into suites, including individual en-suite facilities. A State of the art system gave instant and direct fire alert to the Armadale Fire Station and the enlarged and handsome dining room and unique 'gopher' room were well in use. But there was much staff organising to be implemented with new requirements of the Aged Care Structural Reform Package of 1977 and its associated paper work and detailed record keeping, so that Carers felt (and still feel) that much of the time they had previously been able to spend with residents had been taken away.

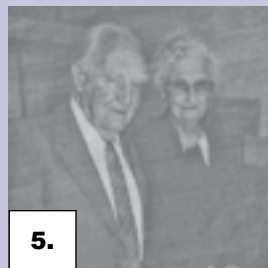
A new ethic, that of supplementing our primary role of accommodation provider with a role of making a contribution to the welfare and lifestyle of the villagers was embraced by our enthusiastic and creative staff. Together with the Activities Officer from the Hostel they established an attractive calendar of events to stimulate and draw together all residents for fun occasions; the Annual Melbourne Cup days held in various locations around our grounds transported us to Middle Eastern, Oriental and other Fantasy Land race tracks; the 1996 mini-Olympics drew a visit from Mrs. Shirley de la Hunty who graciously brought her gold medals and commemorative torch; and who would have thought the stage of the Senior Citizens Hall would hold a 1940s style swing band of 12 musicians - but what a time we had at the Swing Ball; Quiz nights were well supported by faithful local sponsors; Christmas Carols at the appropriate spot of the bridge crossing over the lily pond... and numerous other opportunities for socialising were organised by our girls.

In March, 1991, Mr. Jack Murray (by now a JP, Rotary Paul Harris Fellow and BEM) while continuing to exert energetic control and leadership of Dale Cottages (Inc.), celebrated his 80th birthday. However, he decided to retire at the Committee's AGM in March, 1995, thus bringing to a close thirty eight years of un-broken leadership through the establishment and early development phases of this worthy enterprise. He continued to attend Board meetings in his capacity as Life Member.

The position of President was now taken by Councillor John Cumming, long-serving Committee member and Vice President, and whose father had been a member of the original committee. John will also be remembered, with his company AK Contractors, for undertaking the demanding challenges to be faced with the unstable and uneven levels of this most awkward of sites. His legacy of firm foundations, efficient drainage and roadway paving has contributed much to our solid buildings. However, by the end of this period, Mrs. Eileen Snow had served as President for a short time, until Councillor Frank Green assumed the position in 1999.

By now the whole aspect of aged care provision throughout Australia was changing enormously. The advent of the Retirement Villages Act of 1992, as well as associated welfare and safety regulations were imposing increasing pressures, making it impossible for our voluntary lay personnel to maintain effective oversight of daily procedures. To cope with these changed times, the Committee has become a Board of Management (with resident representation - a first, as far as we know) with the day to day management in the hands of a Chief Executive Officer. Having absorbed the background ethos and experienced Jack Murray's wise counsel over the previous eight years, there was none fitter to accept the task than Trudi Hodges. Trudi quickly assumed an ascendant role, assisting the Board keep abreast of all that authorities, and especially our Community were expecting of top-quality aged-care provision such as ours.

The conclusion of the decade saw the eventual passing of Jack, the generous and genial driving force of our organisation. His death on December 29th, 1999 was much mourned by us all - it was as though, having seen the fulfillment of the complete Dale Cottages concept, and feeling it was in good hands, he now felt his 45 year contribution was enough.



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4. The first of the new 2 bedroom 'federation style' homes to be erected at Dale Cottages, 1995, built by A. Kleyn. Many more were constructed across the site in the ensuing decade, replacing original cottages built 30 or 40 years before.
5. Mr. Dick Wilson and wife Kitty were guests of honour at a party hosted by Dale Cottages to celebrate Dick's 90th birthday in October 1996. For many years he served on the management committee as the RSL representative and in 1987 he took over as secretary when Mr. Carl Rodgers retired. Kitty was for a long time a very committed volunteer too, and before the couple left Armadale, the Kiosk in which she spent so much time was named "Kitty's Kiosk" in recognition of her tireless work.
6. The mini Olympics organised by staff in 1996, was indeed a great day of fun and games for the residents. The presence of the Olympian Shirley de la Hunty, made it a very memorable occasion. Sharing her company is David and Kath Allen.
7. A very happy resident, Gwen Blackburn, proudly displaying the certificate she received for winning one of the 'events' at the mini Olympics in 1996.
8. Mr. Jack Murray turning the first sod on the site of the new nursing home for which he had campaigned so strongly. He is being assisted by City of Armadale Mayor Roger Stubbs (L) and Mr. Frank Green.



DALE COTTAGES (Inc.) – BOARD OF MANAGEMENT - 15-10-99

STANDING (left to right) :Helen Keogh, Don Hartwig (R & SL), Bert Harrison (Armada Rotary), Trudi Hodges (Chief Executive Officer), David Allen (Hon Sec/Treas), Charlie Comyns (Resident Rep), Guenter Best (Neerigen Brook Rotary)

SITTING (left to right): Meg Nightingale (Resident Rep), Annette Nicolson (Vice President), Jack Murray (Founder & Life Member), Frank Green (President), Erni Barzotto (Southern Region Italo-Australian Community Foundation), Merle Beltz

ABSENT : John Cumming, Dick Wilson (Life Member)



DALE COTTAGES (Inc.) – STAFF - 15-10-99

STANDING (left to right): Esin McCannan, Angela Harvey, Nelli Mackay, Nonnie Fuller, Sarah Jeanes, Tony Shiner, Peter Coleman, Alan Cornburn, Betty Jeffs, Alex Graham, Christine Shiner, Lynn Sugden, Carmel Grendon, Tracey Black,
SITTING (left to right): Joan Wiggan, Mrs Vukelic, Barbara Knight, Trudi Hodges, Thelma Stokes, Maureen Brett, Kerry Rogers, Linda O'Keefe
ABSENT Barry Carrer, Sue Smithers

1999 - 2009

A great dream achieved...

with a bright clear view into the future

1. Site being prepared for the construction of the nursing home extensions to the J. E. Murray Home, early 2000.
2. Inspecting the progress being made on the nursing home, February 2000. Examining the plans are (L-R) Dale Cottages President Mr. Frank Green, site manager Jim Murkin and City of Armadale Mayor Roger Stubbs.
3. Wilf and Mary Johnson seem to be oblivious to all the nursing home building activity going on around them in 2000.
4. The 3 daughters of Jack Murray (L-R) Carolyn Thompson, Susan Moore and June Hair cutting the ribbon at the opening ceremony of the nursing home extension to the J. E. Murray Home, November 25th, 2000.



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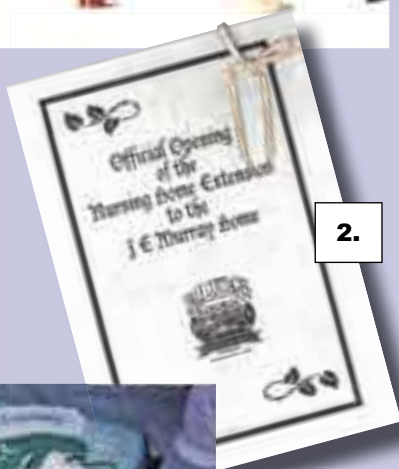
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1. Recently completed main entrance to the Dale Cottages, providing access to the administration offices, lounge and dining room areas of the J. E. Murray Home and the Jacaranda and Grevillea wings of the new nursing home facility.
2. Cover of the programme issued to guests at the official opening of the nursing home extensions to the J. E. Murray Home, November 2000.
3. Cake decorated with the Dale Cottages' logo especially made to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the opening of the J. E. Murray Home in November 2004.
4. Member for Armadale, Alannah MacTiernan, opening the WISE Centre February 2004.

Working through the final decade of this half-century of service has seen no slowing of dedication and purpose of our management. The adoption of a carefully considered strategic plan has ensured optimum development of this once-worthless and abandoned plot of land into an aged-care complex of inestimable value to the City of Armadale and surrounding districts.

No sooner were the first residents in place in the beautifully new 20 bed Jacaranda and Grevillea extension of the J. E. Murray Home, opened on November 25th, 2000, than the demand for additional residential places became even more insistent. Our response was to obtain the necessary licences and proceed with a most imaginative and effective two-level expansion on the western side of the Home. The absolutely generous donation from a local citizen Mr. Charlie Ramm, enabled this ambitious plan to become a reality, resulting in the handsome C. N. Ramm House giving superior accommodation, comfort and security to a further 20 residents and their families. This was opened in 2004.

Over the years, the number of frail, elderly citizens we were able to have in residential care doubled from the original 38 in 1974 (all low care) to 77 (14 low care, and 63 high care). The appointment of a Director of Nursing and fully-qualified nursing staff had now become a necessity. The overall staff number increased from 25 to 56 just during 2001! Conforming to accreditation standards had also become a necessary priority, and with it fresh demands into unknown territory. Our staff achieved the first three-year accreditation for the J. E. Murray Home in 2000.

We were now offering supplementary support services reaching outside our walls consistent with the Government's policy of Ageing in Place. These activities included delivering thirty Community Support Packages, promoting and managing our WISE centre for ancillary medical and personal services as well as managing the Greendale Centre for recreation opportunities, and catering from our own kitchen for the district's Mobile Meals.

Providing for our independent-living residents has also kept pace with the changing times. While the number of available cottages or flats has reduced slightly, the overall choice of unit style has improved dramatically to reflect current standards we believe our residents have a right to expect.

The lower Deerness Way area now has 15 two and a half bedroom cottages of contemporary design and fittings, while the latest project of converting out-dated cottages and ineffective open spaces along our John Street frontage has allowed consideration of environmental sustainability. The replacement cottages have been designed with solar hot water heating, water-wise gardens, quality insulation and northern orientation where possible. The conversion of Dale Lodge flats into gracious apartments has also been a popular move, again adding to the variety and choice of styles of accommodation on offer. At the same time, we have been able to maintain the long-held policy of reserving places for applicants without financial means, to obtain a unit on a rental basis with no entry fee. The provision of low-cost retirement accommodation in contrast to the current supply of up-market resort-style villages is now being seen as a future concern by the industry in general.

A sad note from this era records the loss of the brickworks remnants of the Armadale brickmaking industry, so long a landmark within our complex. Although prominence had been given to the winding tower and associated machinery as part of the Grove landscaping, there had been a history of many objections to its presence from residents of the day. This, combined with the prohibitive costs of restoration to safety and National Heritage standards led to the Board's decision to have the site cleared in 2000.

The Board continues to work towards having the site provided with a suitable historical marker. Such a period of expansion and extension could not have been undertaken without an upsurge of activity from our community sponsors and supporters. The City of Armadale, the Armadale Rotary Club, and the Armadale Sub-branch of the RSL have maintained unbroken service, maintaining representation on the Board since Dale Cottages beginnings. The City, from its Road Board days has been un-wavering in ensuring all land and infrastructure needs are supported, as well as steering us through many local government and civic negotiations. The three district Rotary Clubs (Armadale, Kelmscott and Neerigen Brook) continue their proud record of material assistance ranging from providing supplies of firewood for the stoves and fireplaces of our original cottages through the 60s, donating bricks for a 1968 cottage, supplying both interior and exterior amenities for the Hostel and sharing the financing of both village buses and the personal transport car.

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5. The first Dale Cottage erected in 1959 on Lot 107 John Street was demolished in 2003, along with those on Lots 169 and 171, to be replaced by 'federation' style homes.

6. Plaque presented to the Dale Cottages' (Inc.) and placed on the site of the first cottage.

7. The collapsed remains of the winding gear tower, The Grove, February 2004.

8. Mr. David Allen was member of the board of management from 1987 to 2005. In 1991 he replaced Mr. Dick Wilson as secretary holding that position for a period of 10 years. In 2003 he was honoured by receiving a life membership in recognition of his many years of dedicated commitment to the management of Dale Cottages.

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The RSL are always on hand for ceremonial events around the flagpole precinct which they provided and maintain. One of their associate-members, Kitty Wilson manned and directed the volunteer roster for the Hostel Kiosk for many years. Latterly, the Dale Cottages Foundation, formed by a group of enthusiastic workers has augmented the efforts of these other groups and assisted greatly in raising further funds for furnishings and other residential needs.

No record of assistance could be complete without reference to our volunteers. Many are the programmes and vital tasks carried out by these cheerful, supportive people. They drive residents to medical appointments, or shopping, or on excursions; they serve afternoon teas, provide entertainment keep the Hostel kiosk open and have even published an entertaining news sheet 'The Dale News' and have been on hand to help with many informal tasks, sometimes at a moment's notice. Many of these are drawn from our own residents and all add to the level of comfort and enjoyment of our elderly.

A severe blow at both personal and corporate levels occurred at the sudden and untimely death of Past-President and then current Board member, Frank Green during 2008. Frank had been a strong figure during some of this organisation's most complicated expansion phases and richly deserved his award (unfortunately posthumously) of Life Membership of Dale Cottages.

Now we come to note the current situation (2009):- A staff of 88 are engaged to care for 77 live-in residents, including a high proportion of high-care people, and we provide cottage, flat or apartment accommodation for 170 independent-living residents. With our Community outreach programmes we provide care and services to over 500 residents and clients. Our organisational revenue has reached \$5,000,000 (an increase of nearly 500% over the past 5 years) and our assets are valued at \$31,000,000. This has imposed staggering responsibilities on our Chief Executive Officer and her staff. The levels of accountability, both financially and professionally, as well as keeping abreast of developments within the Aged-care industry and anticipating the future needs of our people have all been dealt with in a manner giving confidence to the Board. This firm trust has been so vital since the hands-on operation of the initial committees and volunteers has of necessity taken new directions.

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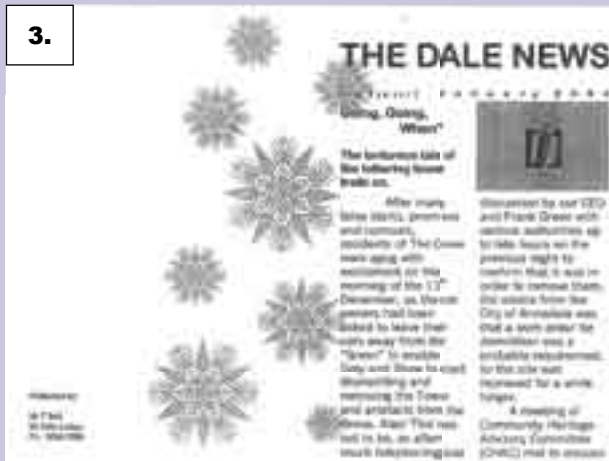


1. Early stages in the construction of the extension to the Murray Home in late 2004.
2. Mr. Charlie Ramm, son of Noel Ramm after whom C N Ramm House was named. It was Charlie's generous and considerable donation of funds that allowed construction to proceed. A great benefactor of Dale Cottages indeed.
3. Interior of Ramm House, showing one of the spacious lounge room areas.
4. Anzac Service being conducted by Mr. Brian Daxon in the forecourt area. Mr. Daxon served on the Board about this time as the R&SL representative. The flagpole pictured was donated by the Armadale sub—branch.
5. Car presented to Dale Cottages in 2004 from money raised by Dale Cottages Care Foundation and the three district Rotary Clubs (L- R) H. Ronchi, T. Hodges C.E.O., J Barzotto and J Lemmey.
6. 2002 Administration staff showing off their new uniforms; (back row L – R) N Mackay, S Jeanes, P Thomas, (front row L – R) A Bramwell and K Jeans.
7. Mrs. Annette Nicolson was elected President of Dale Cottages Board in 2002 when Mr. Frank Green relinquished the position. Annette was appointed to the Board in 1988 and has, in her capacity as President, led the organisation into a period marked by strong optimism for a promising and rewarding future.
8. Prime specimen of the W.A. Christmas tree which is an outstanding feature of the gardens in Law Crescent. The embankment on which it grows, along with other native plants, indicates that this was once the site of one of the large gravel pits that originally existed in the area.
9. The refurbished and enlarged Citizen Centre Hall, the work being carried out by the Armadale City Council. The building was re-opened in December 2004 with a new name, the Greendale Centre, chosen to reflect the significant contribution that the Green family pioneers and their descendants have made that the Armadale district in general and to the Dale Cottages in particular. Since it's re-opening the Centre has been entirely managed by Dale Cottages.
10. Group of residents on the Greendale Centre Stage displaying their hats at the Melbourne Cup luncheon arranged by Staff in 2003.
11. Doing their bit to bridge the generation gap is a foursome of young people from the Armadale Girl Guides, c 2002.
12. Group of residents about to depart in the Dale Cottages bus for a short break at Mandurah under the careful eye of staff (L – R); J Brown, B Thomas and H Stephenson c 2002



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With our Community Care and Community Services Programmes it has been the case for some time that no elderly resident of our district need leave the area for their accommodation needs during the later stages of their lives. Provided there are vacancies, the needs of any of our aged can be met at Dale Cottages. Surely this would have even surpassed the ultimate dream of those who gathered on the 6 August, 1956 in the Armadale District Hall 'To inaugurate a scheme for the provision of Homes for Aged Persons' and those who so happily welcomed our first residents into the first cottages in John Street on 11th October, 1959.



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1. President Annette Nicolson being presented with the Local Chambers Alec Wood Enterprise Award by Mr. Wood the instigator of the award in 2002. Sponsored by the Armadale Chamber of Commerce, Dale Cottages (Inc.) was the first organisation to receive this award.
2. Row of the new style Dale Cottage home units built along the upper part of John Street. These were opened for occupancy in December 2006.
3. Introduced on the initiative of resident Tom Bell, the 'Dale News' kept the Cottage community in touch with what was going on. This was the first edition of a series which started publication in 2004.
4. Members of the Board of Management, 2002. Standing (L-R): Guenter Best, Brian Daxon, George Bowden, Andy Giglia, David Allen, Charlie Comyns, Frank Green. Sitting (L-R): Carol McGurk, Elsa Mazzega (Vice President), Annette Nicolson (President), Chris Mulder (Secretary/Treasurer), Bobbie Perkins.

2009

The year of Celebration

A VIEW FROM THE ROOFTOP

With the strong leadership of our current President (since 2003), Mrs. Annette Nicolson, we have confidence in the continued support of our community base which we consider our most valuable asset. The residents of Armadale and surrounding districts always respond to our requests for volunteers, fund raising and support for events, and we continue to grow on this goodwill.

Options to expand the capacity of our accommodation and services are constantly under review and brought before the Board by our influential CEO, Trudi Hodges. Mindful of the constant and growing demand, plans are being considered to continue with re-development opportunities within the complex (Law Crescent) as well as looking outwards seeking appropriate land within our city where smaller satellite villages could help accommodate future need.

We are proud to celebrate at this time the Golden Jubilee of the organisation that has grown from the vision of our district's founders; we feel privileged to have in trust the prospects of an exciting future. Our strength is dependent upon continued encouragement and support from the people of Armadale to fulfill our mission.

Giving our Community Services, Care and Accommodation that Foster Equity, Independence and Wellness.

1. Cutting the 50th Anniversary celebration cake at the gala garden party on April 5th. The occasion was sponsored by the Armadale Sub-Branch of the RSL. (L - R): Carolyn Thompson, daughter of founding member J Murray, 100 year old resident, Ellen Powell, and President Annette Nicolson.



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2. The garden party provided the ideal opportunity for the re-naming the garden around the pond area, Frank and Eileen's Garden, as a sincere gesture of respect for, and acknowledgement of, the great contribution Frank Green made to the Dale Cottages right up to his death in 2008. Shown after unveiling the commemorative plaque, (L-R) Carolyn Thompson, Frank's wife Eileen and son, David. Frank Green was further honoured by receiving a Life Membership.

3. The renovated and redesigned Frank and Eileen's Garden.

4. 2009 saw the completion of work done on modernising the Dale Lodge both inside and out, resulting in a very attractive view along Hobbs Drive.

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

LET THE FESTIVITIES BEGIN!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Festivities Begin

Message from the Mayor

R&S Support

Commemorative Quilt

Frank Green Remembered

Community Story

Sponsors

Event List

Celebration Wines

On Sunday 5th April 2009 the residents of Dale Cottages joined with friends, family and local dignitaries to celebrate the 1st of a series of activities to celebrate Dale Cottages 50 years of service to the community of Armadale.



The Mayor of Armadale, Cr. Linton Reynolds spoke about the long and rich association between the City of Armadale and our organization. The event was hosted by the Armadale Branch of the Returned and Services League in tribute to the part that organization has and continues to have with Dale Cottages.

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1. Special publication produced as part of the 50th anniversary year of celebration.
2. Sample of one of labels used on bottles of 4 different W A produced wines that were sold to publicise the year of celebration.
3. Mayor Linton Reynolds and the Armadale Starlight Girl Guides on stage at the Multicultural Day Celebration held at the Greendale Centre July 11th, 2009. The occasion was co-hosted by the Armadale Kelmscott Lions Club.
4. Invitation sent to the Governor of Western Australia, requesting his presence at the Celebration Ball, on October 10th. This function was arranged as the culminating event to the year's festivities and timed to coincide with the very weekend on which, exactly 50 years ago, the first Dale Cottage was opened; October 11th 1959.

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