

HOPES Quarterly

Update



June 2004

HOPES (Housing Options Providing Extra Support) is committed to the development of:

- ◇ Appropriate accommodation
- ◇ Adequate support
- ◇ Suitable lifestyle options

For people with acquired disabilities or neurological conditions

For Your Diary

Next HOPES

Meeting

July - date TBA

TASCARE Main Rd.

Derwent Park.

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**Note: All members
are welcome to
attend.**

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Community Partnership

At the beginning of the year a new possibility arose for our co-operative living project, with interest by a couple of other like-minded organisations in the use of council land at Rosny.

The land in question, on Gordon's Hill Road, was part of the Rosny Golf Course but is no longer used for this purpose. Clarence Council is, therefore, looking at options for its future use. The area is mostly flat, will level access to Eastlands, and the previous fairway set up lends itself to small group housing.

Having discovered three other groups with an interest in the area – Southern Cohousing, Association of Christian Homes, and Senior Action Group Eastern Shore (SAGES) – we arranged to meet and discuss the development of a combined village concept.

This is a long term plan, with many obstacles along the way:

- The path of a slip road to the highway is yet to be determined, and may cut through the level area
- When the slip road is finalised, council need to rezone the area before it can be used for residential purposes
- We have no idea of the costs involved at this stage!

However, on the positive side, we think there is value in developing a total village concept and, in particular, identifying some shared resources in a joint development with Southern Cohousing. This organisation consists of a group of women wishing to establish a cluster of homes and common house (similar to ours) for a mixed group of residents, including older women and families.

The Association of Christian Homes architect (who designed Snug Retirement Village) as agreed to develop an initial concept free of charge.

Our committee has also decided that we should consider an application to the Community Housing Program again this year – although the 44 page application form is rather daunting! At this stage, HOPES and Southern Cohousing each plan to make separate submissions – with an additional explanation of the advantages of a joint venture.

Interested members are meeting on Thursday 24th June to start drafting an application, which will then be available for comment.

Young People in Nursing Homes

There has been quite a bit of publicity at both state and federal level on this issue during the past few months, but no obstacles appear to have been removed.

Local publicity came about as the result of a Forum organised by the Democrats, and it is pleasing to see that they are keeping the issue alive in Canberra. We are also pleased to report that the State Government has announced an Inquiry into the needs of young people with neurological disorders and acquired disabilities, who live in institutions. Written submissions have been made and people will have an opportunity to speak to the committee in the next couple of months – commencing with hearings in Launceston on Wednesday 30th June. Although this will be a lengthy process, it should at least result in a report and recommendations which the government will find hard to ignore

Unfortunately the recent report from the Disability Services Young People in Nursing Homes project leaves much to be desired. The original terms of reference were to:

1. Ascertain the number of younger people living in nursing homes.
2. Determine the number of people with disabilities who were ageing in place, and should perhaps be eligible for nursing homes.

Now, 18 months later, the only outcomes are a recommendation that the two issues be studied separately, and a report on a one day forum held on the topic last December. This forum mainly attracted service providers and offered nothing new. Let's hope the Parliamentary Inquiry is more successful!

The YPINH National Alliance is launching a national campaign to gain publicity for the issue in the lead up to the federal election. Details on the campaign, and ways in which individuals can be involved, will be passed on soon.

And ... at a state level, we are planning a campaign to push the whole issue of accommodation and respite needs throughout Tasmania. Mary Langdon (from TASCARE) has kindly offered to co-ordinate the process, and we are meeting on Tuesday 29th June to draft an initial flyer, calling for expressions of interests from individuals and organisations. If you have suggestions for inclusions on the mailing list, please call Mary on 62728265 or email her on

tascare@tassie.net.au

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