



SEASONS GREETINGS from everyone at Visionary Design Development. A few days welcome holiday. A chance for reflection, after the frenetic activity of the second half of 2010.

VDD wins Bushfire Reconstruction Affordable Housing Competition.

An adaptation of VDD's Affordable Australian home design in conjunction with Wheeler Design & Construction (Builder, Dan Wheeler) was judged one of the winners of the Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Authority, the Department of Human Services and the Office of the Victorian Government Architect-run competition. The completed 6.5 star, BAL 40 rated, accessible, three bedroom dwelling was constructed for a price of only \$150,000 (conditions apply) as specified by the competition. Demonstrating VDD's expertise in delivering affordable social housing appropriate to the local environment.



'Coco' our demonstration home at 58 Falls Road, Marysville first opened 14 November 2010 to widespread acclaim; the house can be inspected Monday – Saturday. Victorians who lost homes (including rental properties) through fire are eligible for the government-supported affordable housing initiative. Please contact our office to discuss.

HOUSING PROJECTS

Further to the success of the Bushfire Reconstruction Affordable Housing Competition VDD has successfully tendered for further social housing projects for the Department of Human Services. VDD is proud to be involved in these projects in line with our social inclusion philosophy.



UMI – Ralph, Research Update

Ralph's research work on the UMI has been accepted for publication by the internationally respected Journal of Disability Policy Studies. Currently the correct citation is: Green, R. (In Press) An introductory theoretical and methodological framework for a Universal Mobility Index (UMI) to quantify, compare, and longitudinally track equity of access in the built environment, Journal of Disability Policy Studies.

Brasil Mission

VDD South American Representative, Daniel Fellhandler, attended an Australian Trade Mission to Brasil during November headed by high profile ex-Socceroo and SBS sports commentator Craig Foster. The mission's emphasis was to showcase Australian expertise in sports-related major events, including legacy planning. VDD is seeking representation on the 2016 Paralympics international access consultants panel as well as providing preparatory courses for games officials and volunteers.

Welcome



Daniel Fellhandler
Latin America Projects

UMI – Mary Ann, Research Update

Pre-Implementation project management for the Universal Mobility Index Kensington case study is in full swing. Supervised by Uni Melb and CBM-Nossal Institute Partnership for Disability Inclusive Development and with the support of the City of Melbourne, Mary Ann is piloting this world-first concept developed by Ralph Green/VDD as her research project for completion of a Masters of Environment. The UMI accessibility measurement tool has the potential to revolutionise how barriers are detected and prioritised for removal.

A similar pilot in Fiji, supported by an international aid organisation has been delayed but is expected to commence in the first half of 2011. Ralph and Mary Ann will be in Canberra 15 December for further discussions.

JOIN
Visionary Design
Development
on
FACEBOOK



NICK SHEARMAN



Congratulations. Having completed his Bachelor of Design (Architecture), Nick has been promoted to the position of VDD Architectural Services Manager. Nick will embark on his Master of Architecture in 2011.

VDD Finalist in Australia Wide BPN Sustainability Awards.

Directors Mary Ann and Ralph travelled to Sydney for the annual Building Products News National Sustainability Awards, where Visionary Design Development's Two Townhouses project was a finalist in the Multi Density Residential Category.

There are currently no requirements for private housing to contain any accessibility features. Visionary Design Development's project provided level access to the front verandah, level access from the verandah to the house, a level access shower and level access to the rear deck. "If it is not accessible, it is not sustainable". (Mary Ann Jackson, Managing Director, VDD.)



ADEC ArtAbility™ 2010

From 6 - 14 December, over 150 big, bright and bold artworks will grace The Atrium at Federation Square in the third year of Visionary Design Development's curation and co-ordination of this exhibition.

Works are by artists with disability from diverse ethnic backgrounds and the theme, fittingly, is 'Summer'. They range from intricately executed iconic paintings to free and expressionistic drawings. Many exhibitors are 'old hands' at ArtAbility and we are thrilled to welcome many new organisations and schools from regional areas.

The cheerful theme and liberal use of warm, strong colours make this a visual feast not to be missed.



Mary Ann - Appointed to Archicentre Steering Committee

Archicentre a subsidiary of the Australian Institute of Architects provides a range of services to government and public. The appointment recognises Mary Ann's lengthy commitment to providing Archicentre services to an extensive area of northern, western and inner Melbourne and regional Victoria, in the fields of accessibility, sustainability, architectural design and bushfire reconstruction.

In the coming year and beyond, Visionary Design Development Pty Ltd looks forward to working with you in architecture, sustainability, accessibility, planning, community development and research.

Pacific Eye Institute, Suva, Fiji.

VDD, as access consultants to the architect, applied our unique transdisciplinary knowledge of built environment access, visual impairment and Ralph's considerable experience in working in such institutions. Almost complete, the result is, in the context of a developing country, a model facility accessible to people of all physical and sensory abilities.