



Happy new year for 2010 from everyone at Visionary Design Development. We hope this will be a productive and prosperous year for all our clients and associates. An appropriate time to reflect on the accomplishments and completed projects of 2009.

A busy year despite the GFC saw the completion of three architectural construction projects; an inner city extension restricted by height and heritage considerations, the extension of the machine room/workshop at a Special School and the building of new entrances at a college at LaTrobe University.



For the second consecutive year VDD was contracted by ADEC (Action, Disability, Ethnicity, Community) to co-ordinate and curate ADEC's prestigious yearly exhibition ArtAbility™ - works by artists with a disability from an ethnic background.

This year's artistic theme was 'Home'. Over eighty artists contributed a record 140 works for exhibition in The Atrium, Federation Square, for a week during November-December. Highlight of the event was the official opening at which a number of artists received awards and certificates for their outstanding work. Preparations will begin soon for ArtAbility™ 2010.



Mid-year, Ralph and Mary Ann delivered 'An Accessible Built Environment', a short course developed by Visionary Design Development, to a group of NGO water

and sanitation workers from East Timor. This course was commissioned by Nossal Institute of Global Health and Christian Blind Mission. Written and developed by VDD, the two day multi-media presentation was judged by participants as providing a unique insight into how the accessibility of the Built Environment affects the lives of those of varying physical and sensory abilities. Participants received an extensive set of resources that included a CD of the entire course content.

Mary Ann Jackson, Director
Architect, Planner,
Access Consultant



Ralph Green, Director
Optometrist,
Social Scientist

Helen Keellings
Office Management,
Graphics, IT



Nick Shearman
Building Technologist

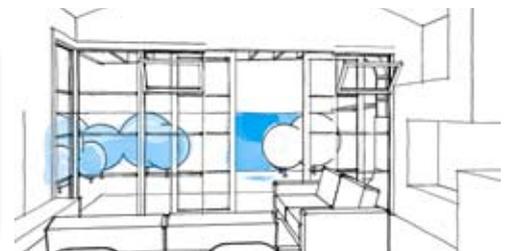
Tim Sonogan
Architectural Drafting



Internationally, VDD was appointed as Access Consultant to the Pacific Eye Institute Suva, Fiji. This project, co-ordinated by Fred Hollows New Zealand and funded by Hollows, AusAID and NZAid, will be a best practice example of advanced eyecare in the Western Pacific. VDD are also exploring the possibility of a pilot of our unique Universal Mobility Index – the first and only method of measuring access across all of the built environment – on the main island, Viti Levu.

Our trans-cultural expertise was recognised by Mary Ann assisting with a Victorian Government construction industry trade mission to South America. This involved 16 meetings with regional delegates from government and industry in two countries in major cities, including Buenos Aires, Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. The Victorian Government recognises the potential of improved trade and cultural exchange with Latin American countries. These ties are ongoing, with reciprocal visits planned to Victoria in 2010.

As a commitment to our continuing support for disadvantaged populations Mary Ann met with the CEO of Pilotos Solidarios, Dr. Gerardo Sola, at the Australian Embassy in Buenos Aires. VDD delivered a donation to the Argentine NGO which provides health care to remote areas by Jeep, on horseback or motorcycle.



The 2010 decade has begun with a flurry of architectural projects; some in the construction stage, others nearing completion. Several multi-unit developments join our current project list including a four townhouse development in Springvale and planning advice on a tight infill site in Coburg.

Through out this year and beyond, Visionary Design Development looks forward to working for and with you in the fields of architecture, project co-ordination, disability access, research and community development.