



Warmest mid-winter greetings from everyone at Visionary Design Development. We would like to take the opportunity via this newsletter to update our clients, colleagues and associates on the first half of 2010.

Subdivision QLD

VDD's layout for a 21 lot subdivision has been approved. All lots are on an east-west axis to maximise passive design opportunities. Sustainability starts with Orientation.



Ian Chong collects the Ford Achievement Award at ArtAbility 2009

ArtAbility™

For the third consecutive year VDD has been contracted by not-for-profit ADEC (Advocacy, Disability, Ethnicity, Community) to curate and coordinate their yearly art exhibition ArtAbility™ at Federation Square. VDD's continued involvement is, in a large part, a credit to Helen Keellings' exemplary organisation and liaison skills. Over one hundred works from artists with a disability from an ethnic background will be on display in the Atrium 6 - 14 December 2010. Watch your letterboxes

for an invitation to the 2010 annual awards. This year's theme is 'Summer'; all will be available for purchase at affordable prices.

Bushfire Reconstruction

Visionary Design Development Pty Ltd continue to be involved in Victoria's Bushfire Reconstruction efforts, on behalf of Archicentre and independently. VDD has prepared designs for projects located in Pheasant Creek, Flowerdale, Kinglake and Marysville. Sustainability, accessibility and affordability are recurrent design themes.



On site at Marysville

Accessible Kitchen

Owner Mark shows off his new accessible kitchen. Pullout fittings to access storage and additional preparation areas, side opening convection/microwave oven and a most fabulous tap.



Pacific Eye Institute, Suva Fiji

During April directors Mary Ann and Ralph visited the construction site of the Pacific Eye Institute in Suva, Fiji. This is a Fred Hollows Foundation project which is to become the focal ocular health facility in the South Pacific region.

VDD has been appointed as access consultants for the project and are working with the architect and FHF to deliver an exemplary, easy to navigate facility free from mobility barriers.

On site
Pacific Eye Institute



WELCOME Faye Trist

Landscaping Design and Installation, specialising in water-sensitive, indigenous planting.

Updates

Coming in the next newsletter, updates on Pilotos Solidarios in Argentina and Water and Sanitation in East Timor.

UMI UNIVERSAL mobility index

While in Fiji, Mary Ann and Ralph took the opportunity to map out an area for a possible pilot of VDD's Universal Mobility Index (UMI) – the first method devised for measuring the overall accessibility of the built environment. Negotiations are proceeding for funding and partnership with a local disability organisation for the pilot.

Mary Ann has completed the coursework component of her Master of Environment at University of Melbourne. She will now on a year-long research project. Co-supervisors are Dr Carolyn Whitzman, Associate Professor in Ur-

ban Planning, Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning and Sally Baker of CBM-Nossal Institute Partnership for Disability Inclusive Development. With the support of City of Melbourne, Mary Ann will be implementing a pilot of the UMI within an inner suburb. Results from this and the Fiji pilot will facilitate fine tuning of the UMI concept and its operationalisation. Of particular value will be contrasting applications in developing world and developed world countries.

The UMI has been developed from first principles as universally applicable across differing cultures, political structures and construction types; these pilots will provide valuable feedback.



Calendar

Architects for Peace. Words @ Bld 50. Monthly seminar series, 1st Thurs of month, 7pm, RMIT Bldg 50, Orr St.

SAF@Bar. Occasional Sustainability seminar series. Next event 20 August (TBC), 7pm, RMIT Bldg 50, Orr St.

ArchiTeam CPD Sessions 2010. Next event 19 August, 7pm, Northcote Town Hall.

ALABC (Australia-Latin America Business Council) Business Mission to Chile 4-8 October 2010 to attend Southern Cone Infrastructure Summit. Rebuilding after Chile's devastating earthquake in February 2010.

ICN (Industry Capability Network)/ ALABC trade mission to Brazil, November 2010 to attend Soccerex World Convention. Sporting stadia, major events, athletes housing, urban infrastructure.

VACN (Victorian Access Consultants Network), next meeting Wednesday 15 September, 12noon.

ADEC ArtAbility The Atrium, Federation Square, December 6 - 14 2010



Yarra Sustainability Awards

Highly Commended

Announced 8 June 2010. VDD project Permit Zone receives Highly Commended award in City of Yarra's inaugural Sustainability Awards in category *Innovation in Sustainable Building Design*. Congratulations to all the VDD team, clients and Builder, Original Renovations.

Access Conference *Challenges, Achievements & Opportunities*

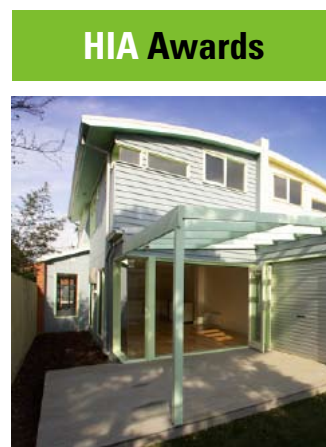
The Association of Access Consultants Australia National Conference was held at Tweed Heads Twin Town Conference Centre from 28 - 30 April. Ralph and Mary Ann attended to present a paper based on Ralph's Master of Social Science research into accessibility. Ralph's research investigates mobility for people of all abilities across the complexity of the whole of the built environ-




ment. As demonstrated by the packed conference program, accessibility is so much more than ramps, kerb cuts and tactiles. Presentations covered; Universal Housing Design, the Paralympics, Accessible Swimming Pools, Formula 1 Grand Prix, Accessibility Training, the Urban Streetscape, Site visits, Rapid Transport, Multistorey building egress and everything in between. Presenters and delegates came from all round Australia. Well organised and well worth attending. Details of next year's event coming soon.



Three fabulous VDD projects have been nominated for the HIA Victoria Awards 2010. Accessibility, sustainability, the internal spatial experience and indoor/outdoor connectivity feature highly in all projects. Another common theme in all projects is the close involvement of great clients and the skills of excellent builders. Gordon Trist of Original Renovations and Dan Wheeler of Wheeler Design and Construction deserve congratulations.



HIA Awards



Welcome
Fabiola Pantea
Business Development,
Media and PR.

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