

Employment, training success

Rumbalara projects on track



PROJECT COMPLETION IN SIGHT... Watersun Constructions Project Manager, Jerry Barolli and Site Supervisors, Greg James and Dennis Meka at Rumbalara's aged care development on Verney Road, Shepparton. Photo: Alicia Zeqir.

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"OUR experience has been that both the Indigenous and non-Indigenous groups involved have benefited greatly from working together as equals on the building site. This alone can do so much for the Indigenous cause in Australia."

Mr Aroni says local employers have become more culturally aware and embracing of diversity among workforces as a result of the projects including new Rumbalara dental and medical facilities at Mooroopna just weeks away from opening.

Shepparton's, Verney Road aged-care facility will next month also see completion of the sites' 17 Independent Living Units and infrastructure after the completion on its Activity Centre in June.

The facility's final stage, its 31-bed Elder Care Facility will be complete in February.

"Indigenous communities of Shepparton and surrounds will have new, modern health and other services to meet the needs of the community with dignity as a result," Mr Aroni said.

All up, the Mooroopna and Shepparton projects will have cost \$25 million while land valued at \$3 million was gifted to Rumbalara by the Indigenous Land Corporation.

Funding for construction came from Rural Housing Network, Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, Department of Health and Ageing, Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, Victorian State Government and other sources.

HOME AWAY FROM HOME...

Pictured, The Cattery@Toolamba Proprietor, Judy Buchtmann has created the perfect home away from home for your feline companion. Photo: Alicia Zeqir.



Comfort for cats

IF you are planning for some time away and are worried about who will care for your feline companion, then The Cattery@Toolamba is here to help.

The brand new feline facility can house up to 25 cats at a time for short or extended stays. Cats are cared for in a safe and comfortable environment, they have the opportunity to exercise and socialise and have reverse cycle air-conditioning to provide optimum temperatures all year round.

Proprietor, Judy Buchtmann said, "Generally speaking, when you think of a cattery you picture a long wire run. We are much more homely than that. Our guests (of the feline

variety) have their own personalised pod, so they are able to check out what's going on and have their own private space. Once the cats are feeling more familiarised and comfortable with their environment and with their owners permission, the cats are invited into a socialising common area where they have all of the comforts of home including sofa, television, scratching posts and much more."

"The whole ethos for us is to provide a cattery where our guests are housed in an environment as close to home as possible."

For more information, contact The Cattery@Toolamba on 5826 5166.

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