



Media Release
Monday 15th September 2008

People Power Takes Off in Albany

In a time when most charities are challenged in seeking support and financial assistance, community spirit and generosity is alive and well in Albany.

In a first for the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS), a charity home has been built within the Oyster Harbour land development, and will be officially opened on Wednesday 17th September 2008 at an on-site launch.

WA Country Builders, who built the single storey four bedroom two bathroom home, were inundated with offers from their suppliers and tradespeople, the majority of them locals, to work on the construction and furnishing of the home.

RFDS CEO Tim Shackleton applauded the generosity of the builders, suppliers and tradespeople in contributing to the charity home.

“The donation of this – the first RFDS charity home – is a magnificent tribute to the work of the RFDS in the region, where the demand for RFDS services has increased by 30 per cent over the past five years,” Mr Shackleton said.

“In 2007, we transported a total of 1385 patients to Perth from the South West and Great Southern combined and 245 from Albany alone. These numbers are growing steadily as the population increases.”

Mr Shackleton said that everyone connected with the project should be congratulated.

“The Oyster Harbour Joint Venture, who donated the land, the builders and the tradespeople, service providers and retailers have entered into the spirit of this unique project and helped to make the house into an instantly liveable, beautiful family home that is sure to sell very quickly.

“The proceeds, which will come to the RFDS through its hardworking *Flying 1000* fundraising group, will be put to work to outfit new aircraft and enhance our ability to respond to patient needs in the region.”

The corner block on Flynn Way was donated by the Oyster Harbour Joint Venture, namely the Department of Housing and Works and Heath Development Company – the group behind the Oyster Harbour master planned community in Albany providing 2500 residential home sites.

WA Country Builders is owned by JWH Group. Managing Director Julian Walter has a long association with building charity homes and has been building the Telethon home in Perth for many years as well as homes for a variety of great projects in his country divisions.

People who will attend the home launch event include those who had worked on the home or provided goods and services, as well as representatives from the RFDS and Oyster Harbour Joint Venture.

The RFDS *Flying 1000* Charity home is located on the corner of Flynn Way in Oyster Harbour. The home will be open to the public on Saturdays and Sundays from 1pm – 5pm and on Wednesday from 2pm-5pm.

The home is on the market for \$585,000 and includes \$55,000 worth of furnishings.

For more information regarding the RFDS *Flying 1000* Charity Home please contact WA Country Builders on 9842 8400 or Ray White Albany on 9841 2255.

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Please note that high resolution photographs of the home are available.