

DHA

spreads its wings





Defence Housing Australia (DHA) has been a part of the Townsville community providing housing for Defence members and their families for 25 years. DHA's Managing Director Peter Howman shares their vision.

Defence Housing Australia (DHA) has been a part of the Townsville community providing housing for Defence members and their families for 25 years.

Today, DHA is a major residential property developer in Australia, with a unique offering; they don't just build houses, they build communities.

Construction in Townsville is underway with DHA developing 1,300 land lots in Rasmussen. Defence members and their families will occupy 30% of the development, with these being salt and peppered throughout, integrated in the community.

These houses will be available for purchase through DHA's property investment program, where members of the public can purchase these properties under a sale and leaseback arrangement. The remainder of the housing in the residential development will provide the opportunity for members of the public to purchase home and land packages.

"DHA is an award-winning residential developer that is focused on providing high-quality housing appropriate for the local and surrounding environment," says DHA's Managing Director, Peter Howman. "Over the last two years DHA has invested more than \$250 million in delivering great developments across the country, and more than \$1 billion of developments are currently in the pipeline."

DHA's residential development, named Bluewattle — in reference to the local butterfly species Wattle Blue — will include walkways, cycle ways, exercise zones, and tropically inspired parks with space for the community to enjoy.

"It's important to note that we don't just build houses, we build communities" explains Peter.

At the beginning of October DHA hosted a free community event 'Twilight in the Park' at Riverway Park, Thuringowa for the local residents of Rasmussen and the wider neighbouring areas.

Members of the DHA development team were on-hand to discuss the new residential development with more than 200 people attending the free event. Members of the North Queensland Cowboys also attended setting up their 'pass the footy' activity for the kids. Future community events are currently being planned, launching in 2014.

"DHA recognises the importance of engaging the community throughout the milestones of this residential development. Bluewattle will house 30% of Defence members and their families, with 70% of the residential development for sale to the general public ensuring integration with the greater community," says Peter.

Currently, DHA has more than 1,900 residents as part of the Townsville community (as at 30 June 2013). These houses are spread across Townsville and are owned by investors across the country as part of DHA's property investment program.

Home and land packages as part of Bluewattle, Rasmussen will be available early next year.

For more information about DHA's residential developments go to www.dha.gov.au/development.