

“The Abel Tasman Village Association Ltd”

JUST FOR THE RECORD.

Part 1: The early history

Part 2: Ten years later

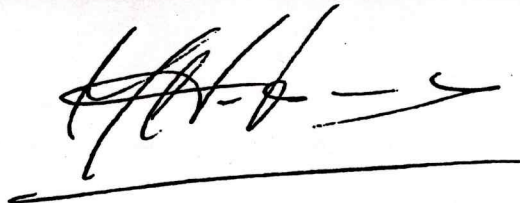
Commenced about 1992, published in September 2003.
Edited by Theo ten Brummelaar

Canberra, 12 May 1995

When I was asked to write a foreword for a booklet on the Abel Tasman Village and its history, I was only too pleased to respond to this request, for one of the first problems I dealt with when I arrived in Australia concerned the acquisition of land for the Abel Tasman Village. The problem was soon solved and ever since I saw a steady progress in the completion of the Abel Tasman Village. It was last year that the Abel Tasman Village Association invited me to open the Dutch Cultural Centre, which was established as an integral part of the Village and therefore, throughout my term as Ambassador in Australia, I felt closely involved with this most successful project.

Unique in Abel Tasman Village is the Dutch Cultural Centre, the first such institute in Australia. It is a beautiful contribution to the promotion of the Australian and the Netherlands culture which both have played and still play such an important role in the past, the present and the future of the inhabitants of the Village and the Dutch Australian community. It is in the first place to them, but also to all those who were for so many years involved in making this project such a success that this booklet is dedicated.

I wish the Abel Tasman Village Association a great future, and I hope that its efforts will be a shining example for the Dutch community all over Australia.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Cornelius Th. Bast', written over a horizontal line.

**J. Cornelius Th. Bast,
Ambassador of the Netherlands**

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Part 1: The early history

Introduction

This booklet describes the short history of the creation of Abel Tasman Village. The texts for this booklet were written in the months immediately after the opening of the Village. All people who took a place on the board of the Association in the time before the Village was built have been asked to make a contribution. As you will see they all have a different angle to their function as board member. In addition to the board members, the Architect, the first manager and the residents were requested to give their view.

The booklet was projected for publication at the time of the Official Opening of the Village. That did not happen. The draft was stored for some eight years. It has now become Part: 1. It was decided to keep the original version for the publication. Many developments have taken place in and around the Village since it was opened, this made it necessary to add Part: 2 describing the further growth of the Village.

The idea for the publication of this booklet was mooted first by Anton Kool in 1992. He was the foundation chairman of the board of the Abel Tasman Village Association Ltd and member of the board until 2002. He suggested that it was necessary to record the history of the Village while those who were involved were still available. Juliana Village had also published a similar work, which was distributed at the official opening of that Village and has been quoted many times since.

It took a while for the first draft to be written. When it was finally tabled it was without the introduction, which was to be written by Anton Kool himself.

He never got round to writing it, and there was an obvious reason for this. Anton was a very private gentleman. He was very forceful in the promotion of good works for the Dutch Australian Community, but he hated to talk about his own effort. Anybody suggesting that he played a major roll was soon told by Anton that the effort he put in was small compared to the work other people had done. Anton was genuinely more interested in the results of the board's effort than in praise or even recognition for his personal contribution. This made writing an introduction to this booklet a very difficult task for Anton.

After all he was very involved in the creation of the Village. Not only as an active worker but he was the driving force. He chaired the sometimes acrimonious and always very long meetings, he calmed the over enthusiastic board members and answered the – often critical - questions which arose in the Dutch Australian community. There were many with exaggerated expectations and others who saw the vision for a second Village for the Dutch Australian aged as a goal, ^{that} which was impossible to achieve. Anton managed not only not to ^{lose} loose his own belief in the ultimate success but he often inspired others to increase their effort.

Perhaps Anton's major achievement in the development of the Village was in the nervous hours of work taking the many hurdles, which had to be overcome to provide the finance for the building of the Village. In the section 'The Year 1992' mention is made of "The financial formalities now have become threats to the continuation of the project." This was indeed a very serious threat. A 'catch 22' situation had arisen due to Government agencies and the banks taking positions which created a circular problem. They all needed to see that the other parties had officially approved our plans. No party wanted to take the first step. It was in this critical time that the ^{negotiating} negotiation skill of Anton Kool was of great influence. ^{however} But he would be the first to say that his contribution was not the only one.

Anton Kool has, therefore, not written this little introduction as originally expected. As a result this introduction has become a necessary reminder of the enormous contribution, which Anton made. He led a willing group of people who generated the energy to provide a very needed facility for the now elderly migrants whose ^{origin of nationality} nationality of origin was Dutch.

It is hoped that the booklet fulfils the function of recording the struggle to build the Village.



A serious effort was made to preserve the existing trees.

The Dutch Community in The Eighties

Who And When.

Although Dutch seafarers discovered the Australian coast about 400 years ago, they did not settle it. Until the end of the Second World War the total number of immigrants from the Netherlands remained small. In 1947 there were less than 2200 people in Australia, who had their roots in the Netherlands.

Due to the pressures of ^a rapidly increasing population in the Netherlands and the depressing economic conditions in Europe after the destructive Second World War, many of the Dutch looked for a new beginning in a free and far country where there was plenty of space and work. In Australia there was a lack of population and the Australian Government went looking for 'good-settlers'.

Single men between 18 and 35 years and single women between 18 and 30 years were invited to migrate. In family units the breadwinner should be no older than 45 years.¹ This Australian Government stipulation caused the Australian population to increase with people in a specific age band. The settlers from the Netherlands ^{were} ~~are~~ part of this specific group. Now - forty-five years later - these same people are between 63 and ~~no older than~~ 90. This has the effect of a distortion of the age pyramid of the Netherlands-born population in Australia compared to that of the Australian born.

By 1961 the number of Dutch settlers had increased to 102,134. It has been slowly decreasing since and stood at 94,803 in 1991. Of these 24.8% live in New South Wales. 15.2% in Sydney.²

Another remarkable fact is that while between 1947 and 1961 the yearly arrivals from the Netherlands averaged about 9,000 this figure dropped rapidly in the sixties and reached a low of 934 in 1970 after which it remained about steady at 1,000 per year. Many of the migrants from the Netherlands returned to their home country in later years. ^{but} But the relative short period of migration (1947-1960) when people of a specific age group arrived in Australia in large numbers ^{had} has a remarkable influence on the age group distribution statistics for the Netherlands-born in Australia.

One other ^{It is the} group of arrivals since the Second World War needs to be mentioned. They are the thousands of Dutch nationals who were forced to leave their country of birth, the colony 'Netherlands East Indies'. Unfortunately their numbers are difficult to trace, because, as a result of

being born in what is now called Indonesia, the numbers are hidden in the group of migrants from that country. It is a fact, however, that they feel themselves nearest in culture to the Netherlands born. They generally also speak Dutch at home.

Age Distribution

There are many ways to show the interesting features of the age distribution of the Dutch Australian population. In this paper the interest lies with the population of Sydney and surrounding districts - from where Abel Tasman Village draws its residents. Using available census data it is possible to compare the general Australian population distribution with the distribution of the population of the people speaking Dutch at home and/or the age distribution of the Netherlands-born in Australia. *which*

Both the latter groups do not perfectly represent the population of people for which Abel Tasman Village will cater. They do not include Dutch speakers born in countries other than the Netherlands (Like the previous colony of the Netherlands now Indonesia). It is also possible that a large number of people in mixed marriages are being excluded. We may assume however that the distribution information drawn from the included population is probably also valid for the excluded population. *is*

Table 1:

Comparison between the general population of NSW and the population of people speaking Dutch in the home in the Sydney region.³

Age Groups	5 - 34	35 - 64	65 +	Total
New South Wales	2,569,245	1,829,443	594,871	4,993,559
% of Total	51.5	36.6	11.9	100
Dutch Speakers	3,308	7,298	2,655	13,261
% of Total	25.0	55.0	20.0	100

*) Children under five years not counted, as they do not speak Dutch/English yet.

Note that the proportion of the population of Dutch speakers in the home in the age group of less than 35 years is about half that of the same age group of the general population in NSW. The proportions in the other two age groups are nearly double that of the general population. This shows clearly the age band effect of the migrant flow of just after World War Two.

The high proportion of elderly will increase for a few years until the migration age band has passed. This will happen in about twenty years time. The transfer of the migrant age bulge to older groups is shown in Table 2.⁴

Table 2.

Comparison of the age groups of Netherlands-born people between the 1986 and the 1991 Census.

Age Group	5 - 34	35 - 64	65 +	Total
Census 1986	28,317	62,137	13,686	104,140
% of Total	27.2	59.7	13.1	100
Census 1991	11,567	63,908	18,990	94,465
% of Total	12.2	67.5	20.1	100

Note: The under 35 year group in 1991 is less than half of what it was in 1986, while the over 65 age group nearly doubled. The 'bulge' due to the age restriction in the post war migration, is clearly moving into the older age groups.

From the 'Community Profiles 1991 Census - Netherlands-born' the following quote:⁵

"From 1986 to 1991, the number of Netherlands-born in the 65 years and over age group increased by 38.8%, while during the same period there was a corresponding decrease of 28.5% in the group aged 20-29 years."

Another note-worthy statistic shows that in the Netherlands-born population of Australia there is a higher proportion of males (53.0%) over females (47.0%).⁶ No reasons for this remarkable statistic are given, but it could possibly be suggested that it relates to more single males willing to migrate than single females. Be that as it may, it will influence the care which must be provided when these people get older.

Use Of The Dutch Language.

It has often been said and all the statistics confirm it; the Dutch assimilated well. They either came here with a reasonable proficiency in English or they found themselves honor bound to acquire the proficiency soon after arrival. In the 1991 census 35.2% of the 65+ age group of Netherlands-born

reported to speak 'English only'. This category contains more males than females.⁷

On the other hand 38.9% of the Netherlands-born speak Dutch at home. This group is reducing, which is not surprising considering the aging of the group of the Netherlands-born. However, of the 65+ group the percentage of people speaking Dutch at home is 58.5% and will no doubt increase for the next ten years.

Elderly couples begin to withdraw from being ^{the} completely involved with the society around them. They are no longer in ~~a~~ work place. They will reduce their attendance at functions, especially in the evenings. They tend to meet and talk to less people in the general community. ^{Especially} couples where both partners are Netherlands-born and who migrated as adults, will speak their first language increasingly. At the same time they will meet proportionally more people with common experiences and similar memories of the past. Hence, they will more often then not move among people who also speak Dutch. An increase in the number of people dependent on the Dutch language in their later years must therefore be expected. ^{than}

Of course most of the Dutch speakers will retain their understanding of English but they will again begin to use it as a 'foreign' language. This means it will require more effort to read the news and acquire information.

Education And Qualifications.

The great wave of migration from the Netherlands in the fifties came as a result of the Australian need for unskilled labor. Even so, in NSW, of the Netherlands-born only 37.6% said they left school before they were 16 or had no schooling at all. In 1991 47.9% of the Netherlands-born of 15 years or older held some educational or occupational qualification. ^{labour} (Mainly ^{mainly} males) This is some 9% higher then the general Australian population. ^{than} However, the proportion of Netherlands-born with post-secondary qualifications is slightly below that of the total Australian population.⁸

The two major occupation categories of males born in the Netherlands are trade persons (24.0%) and managers/ administrators (19.1%), for females they are clerks (24.6%) and salespersons and personal service workers (13.5%).⁹

It is difficult to draw worthwhile conclusions from the income distribution among the Netherlands-born. Averages show a just under the mean income,

but this figure has little meaning as all ages are included. What is very clear from the available statistics is that the income of the female part of the population group is far less than that of the males. Especially in the higher income groups, females are under represented.

No specific reason for this is available. However, it could be the influence of the Dutch culture of the forties and fifties, which strongly required the woman to be the homemaker. Migrant families - often with small children - certainly followed this cultural requirement.

Geographic Distribution

Of the total Netherlands-born population 15.2 % lives in Sydney and a further 5.3% are living in Newcastle, Wollongong and Canberra.¹⁰

There are major concentrations of Dutch speaking people in Baulkham Hills, Blacktown, Blue Mountains, Hornsby, Penrith, Sutherland and Warringah. But the Dutch speakers are generally distributed over all local areas, with the possible exception of the older suburbs like Burwood, Strathfield and Botany. Not really surprising since they were 'new' Australians.

The four largest concentrations are in Warringah, Blacktown, Penrith and Sutherland.

Summary

Due to the age restrictions of the post-war migration there is a bulge in the age distribution of the Netherlands-born in Australia. This group of similar aged people has now reached or is about to reach retirement age.

Although practically all Netherlands-born achieved a fair proficiency in the English language, a large proportion of them speak Dutch at home. These are especially the elderly.

The Netherlands-born are over represented in the groups of tradesmen and manager/administrator. The average income of the females of the Netherlands-born is notably lower than that in the rest of the Australian population.

Accommodation For The Dutch-Australian Aged?

Isolation

Most elderly become more and more isolated in their community. They have less energy, 'old fashioned' needs, they become lesser consumers (of food and possessions), they see/hear less and as a result communication becomes more difficult. They spend more time at home for quiet hobbies and rest. In short, they retire to their own reduced circle of non-bothersome friends. Most suffer also from vastly reduced financial resources while, because of their ailments, they need to spend more money on medication and doctors.

The above is true for all elderly. The Netherlands-born not excluded. However there are even more reasons why migrants would become isolated.

- They begin to use their first language more and more, as they are more often alone or with a partner from the same background. This sets them apart from their neighbours.

- They, like all elderly, will let their memories wander to their youth. But for many of them that was the Second World War and occupation of the Netherlands by the German Forces or their time in Japanese concentration camps for civilians. Their Australian neighbours have little understanding of this situation and have their own different memories.

- The migrants have relations and friends overseas. Hence they often have a very limited 'local' family group to fall back on. No cousins, uncles and aunts. nor

- They need the company of other Dutch speakers. These are spread far and wide over the city and rarely within walking distance.

- They brought with them a liking for the food, the amusement and the objects of their youth. They are not home sick, but they have a need for the type of comfort, which goes with the things from when you were young. they

Because of the thin distribution over a very large area and the special needs mentioned above, the Netherlands-born elderly - like all overseas born elderly - tend to become more isolated than the Australian born elderly.

How Many Dutch-Australian Aged Are There In The Region

No direct figures are easily available. But a simple calculation will show the following:

According to the 1991 Census there are 14,435 Netherlands-born people in Sydney alone. Of these 40.7% is in the age group of 55+ years (5875 people). Not all of these will reach the age where they require special accommodation. *but* But even if only 10% does, accommodation in the Sydney area for some 600 people will be required.

Ways Of Caring

assisted It must be obvious that it is preferable to allow people to stay in their own home, surrounded by their own furniture, for as long as possible. No scheme ~~did exist~~ in the early eighties for this to be possible. There were very helpful agencies, but all for the general elderly. Nothing catered for the even lonelier ethnic elderly. The Dutch community has a voluntary charitable organization, which 'catches' people in real need, the Queen Wilhelmina Benevolent Fund. It used to provide the elderly with an Xmas hamper if they were on the 'list'. The Community also organizes a visitors' scheme to provide the lonely with someone to talk to every now and then. However this has not been more than a fluctuating voluntary effort.

In 1992, for the first time some ethnic specific home visiting services were arranged as part of the Aged Care Packages Scheme, *but* only in a very limited area of Sydney. (Penrith, Baulkham Hills and the Blue Mountains)

than When people need to move to accommodation specific for the elderly, there is no choice other than to move into a place where only English is spoken. Again, one can break through the threatening isolation using volunteers visiting once or twice per month. This is not sufficient.

The other way to provide a service to the Netherlands-born elderly is to concentrate them in a special Village. Here bi-lingual staff could be attracted, some of the food could be prepared the Dutch way and one could have a friendly discussion with people who had at least some memories and experiences in common. With luck a Dutch-speaking doctor could be found in the area.

This idea of providing for a cluster of elderly with a common ethnic background became acceptable in the seventies. The Dutch-Australian community in the Sutherland Shire - through enthusiasm and much volunteer work - collected enough money to be able to attract a Commonwealth Government Grant. In short they *built* 'Juliana Village' in Miranda in the Sutherland area. The history of this struggle and its success is laid down in a booklet similar to this one.¹¹

'Juliana Village' was opened in November 1980 and has undergone several extensions. It is regarded as an enormous success and is often mentioned as an example to be followed. It caters largely for the concentration of Netherlands-born in the Sutherland region, although it - since it is the only Dutch based Village in Sydney - also attracts residents from further afield.

Even in the period when 'Juliana Village' was but a dream, the Juliana Village Committee members already mentioned the future need for other similar Villages in other parts of Sydney. 'Abel Tasman Village' is therefore based on the model of assistance to the elderly through 'clustering' as demonstrated in 'Juliana Village'.

Design Of The Village.

Leif Kristensen.

All over the world housing developments currently considered to be the most progressive, incorporate many features, which are also to be found in retirement Villages such as Abel Tasman Village. It could be claimed that housing in general could be considerably improved by incorporating some of the many benefits and amenities of a retirement Village, which contribute to the creation of more life-enriching and stimulating environment.

Where once people generally lived in well-defined communities and could rely on the support of large families in which they would always have a role, our society has now evolved quite differently. The advent of the nuclear family and the increased tendency of people to travel widely and settle in other towns or countries, away from their families, have had considerable effect on the stability of the family circle. Families have become much smaller and more insular and typical housing throughout our suburbs is not designed to accommodate grandparents with ease or comfort. Along with these changes the aspiration of many of the aging population have developed towards the satisfaction of maintaining maximum independence and the pleasures of increased leisure in the conducive environment.

During recent decades, retirement Villages have grown in popularity throughout the community because they fulfill a very real need experienced by many of our ageing population. The environment they provide has been especially formed to offer the maximum stability and ease of living with protection from insecurity and isolation. In a well-considered retirement Village, people enjoy the same conditions of ordinary urban or suburban

accommodation in terms of shelter and personal privacy - but with many *more* benefits ~~in addition~~.

There is the advantage of the companionship with people who have similar abundance of time and leisure. Problems of garden or household maintenance, which are particularly distressful in times of ill health, are reduced to a minimum - while professional assistance and support are constantly at hand from a skilled and caring staff. Who, *in ordinary suburbia,* *guilty* can call for help without feeling the obligation of disturbing busy relatives or *neighbours?* And how many people have such easy access to a multitude of entertainments available at Abel Tasman Village, including an asset such as the Dutch Australian Center?

The Dutch Australian Center is indeed a unique development to have on the site. *With* its considerable resource center, permanent and temporary exhibition spaces, specifically designed and equipped for the Dutch/Australian cultural and social programs it will generate, ~~it will become~~ *becoming an* an exciting and most stimulating part of the Village.

In forming the design concept for Abel Tasman Village I was very concerned that, while maintaining the overall architectural unity and cohesion of the Village, it was of great importance that the individuality of the various buildings and spaces should be expressed. Each unit and component of the project has been designed with great attention to detail and diverse characteristics offering a wide range of choice. Our aim has been to create an environment, which is both comfortable and beautiful, in which the residents can live as *socially* sociable or as privately as they please. *consideration*

Similar concerns have been maintained in the ~~considered~~ and individual treatment of each of the external spaces and the landscaping.

My association with the client now goes back at least 15 years with some members of the Board, in particular with the Chairman, Mr. Anton Kool, Mr. Theo ten Brummelaar, Mr. Herbert Frank and Mr. Bill Engelbrecht. I am very impressed by the tremendous voluntary contribution of these people, which I have witnessed over the past years. In my opinion, the Abel Tasman Village Association Board has not only achieved a magnificent result but has gone about it in a most efficient and competent manner which assisted me considerably in my role as architect.

It would be appropriate to pay a special tribute to John Logeman, the father of the Dutch retirement Village movement in an Australia, who was not

only a close personal friend, but also a friend of the Abel Tasman Village, offering us all encouragement and advice while he was still with us.

The builder, Zadro/^{perhich}Constructions, has fortunately been one of the best contractors with whom our company has worked, not only in regard to workmanship but also in the spirit of cooperation, which they brought to the site. Their conduct has always been most pleasant, making the construction of the Village a pleasant experience. In particular the Foreman, Bob Williams, in his exposed position at the forefront, performed a magnificent job.

My involvement as architect for the project has been a constant source of pleasure and encouragement. I congratulate all concerned and wish the residents, the staff and the members of the Association my very best wishes for the future,

History Of Abel Tasman Village.

Preliminaries

As mentioned before it took a while before the organization was incorporated. There was a needs survey and many meetings of a steering committee. Originally, thoughts had gone to the creation of a nursing home. The survey, however, did not show that an urgent need existed. It was also anticipated that a nursing home would be even more costly to construct and fit-out and to staff. It was doubted whether the community was ready for this task.

Early planning therefore concentrated on the search for a suitable block of land in a suitable location. One, which would possibly attract a Government subsidy.

The business discussed in the October 1988 meeting of the steering committee gives a good impression of how far the planning progress had proceeded.

- The Federation of Netherlands Societies and the Juliana Village were prepared to advance \$100,000 each.
- Negotiations for the purchase of the land in Chester Hill had concluded and the meeting approved accepting the option to buy the land on the conditions presented at the meeting.

- The valuation of the land confirmed the advantageous conditions negotiated with the vendor.
- The architect was present to discuss his sketch plan for the Village. He was asked to prepare a model of the plan for display at the Holland Festival in November so that the Village could be explained to Her Majesty Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands.
- The Government Grant was again confirmed and available on the expected construction schedule.
- The estimate for the Village mentioned 40 hostel units at a construction cost of \$3.4 Million. This excluded the cost of the land and the construction of the self-contained units.
- The Dutch Australian Center building as part of the Village was discussed and it was agreed that it was "a contribution to the whole Dutch-Australian Community. As such, it was felt that it was justified that the cost be included in the cost of the Village". The positioning of the center in the Village was seen as a means of allowing the Village residents to stay in contact with the events in the community.
- It was decided to name the Company "The Abel Tasman Village Association Ltd."

The last meeting of the steering committee was held on the 13th December 1988.

The Abel Tasman Village Association Limited.

The Abel Tasman Village Association Limited was incorporated on the sixteenth day of December 1988 as a Public Company under the National Companies and Securities Commission.
Registered No: 436160-00.

At the first meeting of the directors of the Company, the directors authorized the purchase of the land and borrowings from the Benevolent Fund of the Federation of Netherlands Societies (\$100,000), Juliana Village (\$100,000) and the Queen Wilhelmina Benevolent Fund (\$25,000). All these borrowings were interest free.

The First Annual General Meeting was held on 28th February 1989 and all remaining formalities were completed.

The Year 1989

- February. The Dutch language program of the Special Broadcasting Service held a special Radiothon. Many volunteers, amongst ~~which~~ ^{whom} the Consul General of the Netherlands Drs. Derksen and his wife, assisted in

manning the telephones. Clubs and individuals in the Dutch Community made contributions to the telethon. The total amount promised after one hour was \$6,840.

- March. Mr. Henk van der Weide organized a mini 'kermis' on the land. There was enthusiastic participation by several Clubs. A very pleasant day was had by all and the effort collected another \$2,000.

- April. The board instituted a loan Certificate (debenture) scheme that allowed people and/or organizations to provide an interest free loan of \$1,000. Three of these Certificates were issued to respectively the Folkdance Group, the Sunrise Choir and the Rembrandt Club on the 4th April 1989.

- April. At an Extraordinary General Meeting the Memorandum of Association was altered to include: "that no remuneration^s or other benefit in money or moneys worth shall be paid or given by the Association to any member of such Council or Governing body except re-payment of out-of-pocket expenses...". This was a Government requirement and simply confirmed the situation as it was and is.

- April. A booklet "Abel Tasman Village, Introduction to the concept" was published. It was used, together with accompanying letters, to canvass further donations and cooperation.¹²

- July. The 'Koningin Juliana Fonds' in the Netherlands grants a donation of Dutch Fl.75,000.

advise - September. We received advise of a donation to the Abel Tasman Village of Dutch Fl.150,000.

flavour - November. It is suggested that a small carillon - as used in many Dutch Village market squares - could be an ideal way of giving the Village a Dutch flavour. As this would be expensive and near the bottom of the list of priorities the meeting just took note of the idea.

The Year 1990.

- January. Bankstown Council has approved the Building Plans. The Grant from the Department of Community Service and Health has been increased to \$1,243,000. Possibility of sub-division of the land discussed. Papers are ready for the calling of tenders. Suggested cost of self-care units discussed.

- February. Notice of a meeting to be held to discuss the donation of wooden sculptures as part of the paraphernalia of the chapel in the Village. *favourable* Favorable remarks made about the Village at the Holland Festival were noted.

- March. Building Committee formed to study tenders. Report on donation *from ?* in kind in the Netherlands. (8000 new books)

- April. The architect reports some problems with the accounts sent in by the consultants. A further discussion with the board of the Dutch Australian

Center Ltd. is requested and board members are to comment on the proposed agreement with the DAC.

- May. Still no approval for the calling of tenders although all formalities have been completed. Sketch proposals for the woodcarvings for the chapel are shown and discussed.

- June. Further delay by the Department of Community Services and Health. The Ambassador of the Netherlands assists by writing letters to the Premier of NSW. Westpac may approve a loan of \$3,000,000 (at 20.5%).

- July. The 75th \$1,000 Certificate is issued. (See April 1989)

- August. Mr. van der Weide proposed a fete on the ATV land in November.

- November. Notice of further loans approval from Juliana Village Association Ltd. and the Benevolent Fund of the Federation of Netherlands Associations (\$65,000 each). Decision to finalize the payment for the purchase of the land.

A fete was organized on the block of land. Many clubs and individuals contributed to the success. Profit of the fete \$3,364.20. During the fete Monsignor J. Lescrauwaet, Auxiliary Bishop of Haarlem, Episcopal Delegate for Immigration unveiled a 'Bench Mark'.

The Year 1991

- January. First contact with the State Department of Home Care Services to request financial assistance. They were impressed.

- March. The Consul General of the Netherlands Drs. R. Derksen arranged for a meeting of the managers of Dutch Companies in Sydney to be addressed by a number of board members of the ATV. This resulted in increased goodwill, a short-time loan from Uniwire Pty. Ltd. (\$20,000) and donations from Mercantile Mutual and Unilever Australia Ltd.

- April. Building permit No.1538/89 received from Bankstown City Council.

- May. A stand-by facility was promised by the Task Force of the Department of Home Care Services. (\$1,100,000)

- June. Mention of an increase in the grant from the Department of Community Services and Health to \$1,310,400.

- August. Tenders opened at a special meeting. Architect will study and report. The recommended tenderer chosen and suggested to the Dept. of Community Services and Health.

- September. Further discussion about possible proposed sub-division.

- October. Proposals for sub-division shelved (Cost too high) unless problems develop with finance, which would require sub-division. *cost*

- November. Serious setbacks are experienced through problems of requirements by the bank and the Dept. of Community Services and Health.

Executive authorized to do all possible including - if need be - the arrangements for the subdivision.

- December. Further problems about the approval of a stand-by loan of \$2,500,000. Executive authorized to pay 'Establishment fee' if need be.

The Year 1992.

- January. Official confirmation of the grant of \$1,310,000 by the Dept. of Health, Housing and Community Services. Offer for stand-by finance from Westpac tabled and approved. Architect requested to approach Zadro Construction and to accept the tender.

- February. 'All the necessary financial facilities needed for the commencement and completion of our project are in place'. Contract documents are signed by the chairman.



The Board at the day of signing the contract.

f.l.t.r.: Pieter Eveleens, Bert Gijzen, Theo ten Brummelaar, Ann Dijkman, Wim Engelbrecht, Theo van Gestel, Herbert Frank, Anton Kool

- March. Discussion of the financial structure for the residents of the self-care units.

- May. Excavation on the site 70% completed. Concrete slab-footings for some self-care, some hostel units and part of the community hall have been poured. Committee formed to discuss the use of the DAC building with the Dutch Australian Center Ltd.

- July. The Financial Assistance Deed (Home Care Service of NSW) in the sum of \$1,107,000 was accepted and signed. Two board members interviewed by SBS Radio 2EA.

- August. Problems arise about the mortgage requirement of Home Care. Carillon mentioned again and possible financing schemes discussed.

- September. The financial formalities, mentioned in November 1991, now have become a threat to the continuation of the project. Executives' action

approved and they are authorized to act with speed to reduce the effect of the difficulties.

- October. Carillon purchase on hold. Project 35% complete.
- November. The Loan Facility arranged by the State Government Home Fund has become available. All financial problems seem to have been cleared.

The Year 1993.

- February. Furniture for the office purchased from the Netherlands Australian Chamber of Commerce. Contact with the Dutch Australian Center Ltd. regarding the operation of the DAC building renewed.

off
- March. Carpenters walk *is* of the job. Last of the concrete floors for the hostels *are* poured.

- April. Successful 'Open' day. Donations for the furniture of the 'respite' unit received.

- June. Demonstration units complete. It is decided that the Village will now also be advertised in the general media. (No longer, *only* to the Dutch language community ~~only~~.) DAC Ltd. recognized as the user of the DAC building. Type of furniture for dining room, hall and *launch* rooms discussed. *lunch? or lounge*

- July. Inspection visit by Home Care a success. Board has some concerns about the progress of the construction.

- August. First residents move into one of the self care units.

- October. Handing over of the Village now imminent. Open day regarded as 'best'. The cocktail party organized by the Dutch Australian Centre Ltd. was a success.

Mr. Timmers appointed to the position of manager. There are 27 people now living in the Village.

The Year 1994

- January. Donations earmarked for cultural use handed over to the Dutch Australian Centre Ltd.

- March. Certificate of compliance received. Discussion about the program for the official opening. Public relations display in the lower Town hall surprisingly successful. Official Opening of the Village by the Hon. Max. Willis RFD, ED, MLC, President of the Legislative Council while the Dutch Australian Centre building was officially opened by His Excellency J. C. Bast Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

- April. Inspection visit by the Department of Community and Health. The Village passed on 24 of the 25 inspected standards of importance. The 25th was in regard to a minor clarification in the contract with the residents.

- May. To celebrate the official birthday of the Queen of the Netherlands the Consul General of the Netherlands Drs. E.W.P Klipp arranges a concert

Pianoforte
 (Forte-Piano) in the community hall. Drinks hosted by the Dutch Australian Centre Ltd. and a reception in the community hall followed the concert.

- July. Insurance matters discussed and settled.

- December. First fair in the Village arranged for and by the residents. Visit St. Nicolaas. Occupation of the Village now (80%)

Financial Aspects

Bert Gijzen

Overview

The finances required and the sources available to us differed greatly in the various stages of the development, construction and running of the Abel Tasman Village. We can recognize three periods.

1. Development Stage

Period from 1st January 1989 till 31 December 1991:

During this period the land was purchased and the tender process was finalized.

2. Construction Stage

Period from 1st January 1992 till 31st August 1993:

This period started with the signing of the contract with the builder and finished with the first residents entering the Village.

3. Exploitation Stage

Period from the 1st September 1993:

The present period where the Village is up and running and becoming a community.

Development Stage

After a study by the Federation of Netherlands Societies for the need of a Dutch Nursing Home, the conclusion was that there was more need for a second retirement Village in Sydney. When a suitable block of land was found, a company 'The Abel Tasman Village Association Ltd.' was formed and incorporated on the 16th December 1988. The two major members of that company were: 'the Federation of Netherlands Societies Benevolent Fund Ltd.' and 'the Juliana Village Association Ltd.'. One of the first actions was the purchase of a block of land in Chester Hill from the Roman Catholic Church in January 1989 for a price of \$350,000. During the Development Stage the other major spendings were:

Architectural Fees	\$177,938
Consultants	\$127,940
Building costs	\$ 17,530

Total	\$323,408

The purchase of the land was financed by an interest free mortgage for two years by the vendor of the land for an amount of \$175,000 and interest free loans of \$100,000 each from the Federation Benevolent Fund and Juliana Village. The vendor's mortgage was repaid in January 1991 and replaced by increased borrowings from the Federation Benevolent Fund and Juliana Village for \$65,000 each. To finance the remaining expenditure we obtained interest free loans from the Queen Wilhelmina Benevolent Fund for \$30,000 and many Dutch people and Societies lend us interest free money against debentures of \$1,000. The total amount raised through debentures amounting to \$75,000, leading to a total borrowing in this developmental stage of \$435,000. *lent*

Other major sources of finance in this stage were donations and fund raising activities. *In this period, we raised almost \$ in total* In total we raised in this period almost \$260,000 of which \$188,000 were donations from the Netherlands. In addition we started to receive the first entry fees from future residents towards the end of 1991, in total amounting to \$51,000. These first entry fees were often received from the same people who had taken out debentures.

These early finances were of great assistance to us to get the Village started. Much expenditure is incurred before the building can commence. Government regulations require that you can proof that enough finances are available to complete the project and you are not allowed to go for tender unless finance is available. In order to obtain finance from a bank or Government sources, they needed to see plans, designs, drawings and projected cash flows. It all meant that a lot of money had to be spent on consultants (hydraulic, structural and electrical engineers and quantity surveyors) and of course the architect. Many thanks to all the people who contributed through money or effort in this early stage of the project. *prove*

Construction Stage

Our original plan was that the future residents would finance the construction of the Village through progress payments made during the construction of the Village. To ascertain that we could complete the construction, we started in 1990 negotiations with our bank, Westpac, to provide us with standby facilities if not enough money could be raised from future residents *at* in this stage. Westpac provided us with a proposal in June

1990. In the ^{which} meantime we had also started negotiations with the State Government ~~who~~ had formed a Task Force to investigate the need for assistance in financial sense for projects of a social nature, which would otherwise be delayed through the recession. We were one of the first projects considered by the Task Force and in May 1991 we were advised that Home Care Service of New South Wales would provide finance for the construction of the serviced units of our Village. Furthermore we were of course assured of the Grant by the Department of Health, Housing and Community Services (Federal Government). The amounts of the facilities provided were:

Westpac, loan	\$2.5 million
State Government, loan	\$1.1 million
Federal Government, grant	\$1.3 million

Total	\$4.9 million

The Federal Department of Health, Housing and Community Services required that all these facilities were in place before we could approach builders for a tender of the construction. Finally in August 1991 we were so far that the architect could send out the tender documents to the builders selected by the Board.

A lucky circumstance was that the interest rates for the loan facilities had dropped considerably over the previous year and also that the builders were more competitive in their tenders.

In February it all led to a situation where we could sign the contract with Zadro Constructions Pty. Ltd. In February 1992 work started on the site in Chester Hill. Progressively during the construction, amounts were drawn on our loan facilities. The grant from the Federal Government was received. We had to ensure that we kept a clear segregation between Self Care Units and Serviced Units, both for the expenditure incurred and the loan facilities available.

During the Construction Stage an amount of \$5.1 million was spent. The major items were:

Builder	\$4.6 million
Architect	\$0.1 million
Landscaping	\$0.1 million
Interest	\$0.2 million
Sundry	\$0.1 million

Total	\$5.1 million

The maximum amount of financial facilities used were:

Westpac	\$1,760,000
Home Care Services	\$1,107,000
Government Grant	\$1,310,400
Loans Dutch Communities	\$ 435,000

At the end of 1993 the loan from Westpac had been reduced to \$1.2 million and we expected to repay both the Westpac and the Home Care loans by the end of 1994. We have been able to complete the project well within our budget. The only item where a major overspending occurred was in the interest costs, but this was offset by lower expenditure in other areas. Of major assistance in staying within our budget has been the work by our Building Committee who kept a close look on all proposals by architect and builder. We should also state here that the cooperation by the builder, architect and sub-contractors has been excellent.

Exploitation Stage

By ~~At~~ the end of August 1993 the first residents of the Self Care Units moved into the Village. This was approximately four months later than originally planned. It was also the major cause of overspending by \$80,000 on the interest cost on the loans. The first residents of the Serviced Units entered the Village in October 1993. Since August 1993 the income from entry fees from our residents was used to reduce the borrowings from our loan providers, so that in January 1995 the loans outstanding amounted to:

Westpac	\$ 456,000
Home Care Services of NSW	\$ 140,000
Federation of Neth.Soc.	\$ 165,000
Juliana Village	\$ 165,000
Queen Wilhelmina Ben.Fund	\$ 30,000
Debentures	\$ 51,000

Total	\$1,007,000

Exploitation of the Village will in the first year lead to a short fall of income over expenditure as we will already have to provide all the facilities to our residents, but our income is less than 50% of the amount of the income when the Village is fully occupied. At this moment, early January 1995, 16 of the Self Care Units (67%) and 34 of the Serviced Units (85%) are occupied.

Finally, I would like to mention that during the last year several donations in kind were received, all of them to assist in improving the life for the residents in the Village.

Names..... Voices..... Faces..... Residents.

Anne Dijkman, Hon. Secretary

Through my welfare work amongst the Dutch migrants via the Catholic Dutch Migrant Association I became aware that a lot of migrants, who lived on the 'age pension', took hardly part in community life and became very lonely. The main reasons were the loss of command of the English language and the lack of means of transport.

With the backing of the above organization I started in 1979 to organize small get-to-gathers of Dutch speaking people in their own homes. These are now called the 'instuif-groups'.

From the very beginning there were members who suggested that I should organize the building of a retirement Village for Dutch speaking people. Though it was one of my dreams for the future, I was sensible enough to realize that a big organization was required to back that dream.

As a board member of the Federation of Netherlands Societies I could bring forward my ideas. In 1986 a sub-committee of the Federation held a survey amongst people speaking the Dutch language. It was a feasibility study for a nursing home. This survey indicated that people were more interested in a retirement Village.

The necessary steps were taken to apply for a building grant with the Commonwealth Department of Community Services and Health. This Department indicated that a grant for a 40-bed hostel could be made available for the Auburn/Lidcome area. The approval for the grant was received in August 1987.

The struggle to find a suitable parcel of land in the designated area resulted in an option of one hectare of land at Chester Hill. The Federation of

Netherlands Societies Ltd. on behalf of the Abel Tasman Village Association Ltd carried out this search.

The Abel Tasman Village Association Ltd. was registered on the 16th December 1988. My home address became the registered address of the Village.

Names

In order to inform the Dutch Community at large of our plans, a leaflet was prepared, outlining the concept of the Abel Tasman Village. It contained a little slip, which could be used if people required more information. The first leaflets were made available at the Holland Festival in November 1988 where the Abel Tasman Village had an information booth. Approximately 150 people showed interest and their names were placed on the mailing list. The ATV continued to have a presence at subsequent Holland Festivals. Leaflets were also distributed via the INSTUIF GROUPS and the Dutch Clubs.

More 'Names' were obtained at our first fete, held on the land at Chester Hill. We were very anxious to show off our building site and with help from Henk van der Weide and Pieter Gouwerok from the Dutch Club 'de Soos' a fete was organized on the 5th March 1989.

The day was a big success and many people came to Chester Hill to have a good look. The Migrant Bishop of Australia and the Netherlands showed his interest in our proposed project and paid a visit to the fete. He performed a little ceremony unveiling the 'bench mark'. A performance of the Dutch Folkdance Group and the Sunrise Choral Society contributed to the success of this first function.

Voices

With regular intervals we sent out newsletters with the information on the progress of our Village to the subscribers ^{on} to our mailing list (and other interested parties). On receiving these letters, people rang me for more details and through these regular telephone conversations the 'Names' became 'Voices'.

Faces

The 'Open Days' at the site made it possible for me to meet people interested in future occupancy. Many thanks to the ladies of the Chester Hill Instuif who were always present to serve coffee, tea and biscuits with a smile. It made it easier for the directors to concentrate on the visitors.

built
 People asked me: "What has Abel Tasman to offer?" I could show them the layout of the Village; build in such a way as to give the residents an independent way of living and security. I told them of our intentions for the use of the community hall and the lounges, where the residents could participate in craft, games, music and other activities.

Through these meetings I got to know the 'Voices' and because of the frequent contacts they became 'Faces' and friends.

Residents

Finally I could tell everyone that the Village would be open for residency on the 1st September 1993.

I thank the number of people who, with great trust in our committee, entered the Abel Tasman Village as "OUR FIRST RESIDENTS".

I wish all the residents a happy and fulfilled life in the Village.

Donations From The Netherlands

Herbert Frank O.A.M., JP

My involvement with the creation of the Village dates back to the early days when the Federation of Netherlands Societies tried by means of questionnaires to establish whether a Nursing Home or a Retirement Village was required for the Dutch community in the Sydney Region. This has been described elsewhere.

Once the decision was taken to build a Retirement Village my interest concentrated on other problems associated with the creation of such a Village.

It is obvious that a project, such as the Abel Tasman Village, requires a lot of money. Furthermore the money must be available before actual construction work commences. The 'pump must be primed'. Getting people to donate money to a project, which could easily be seen as a 'nice dream' but a 'dream', is very difficult. ^{on it} And although the Dutch in general can be very generous towards a 'good cause', they are also careful with their money, making sure that it is well spend. ^{it} To make matters even more difficult, Abel Tasman Village had no means to provide any guarantee to people or organizations lending money to the Village project.

I took ^{it} upon myself to persuade people to donate or loan money, in Sydney as well as in the Netherlands. It would mean that I would have to be very persistent and somewhat brash by talking, repeating, battering and begging people to part with money for which they would have no tangible returns in

the short term. A fairly thankless task, however when one looks back at what has been achieved one can be very pleased.

In Sydney there was in the beginning the 'bricks' scheme. For a small donation people were given a bit of paper to show they owned a brick in the future Village. The 'bricks' were difficult to sell, but in the end close to \$2 000 was collected.

Amounts of \$1 000 were solicited as interest free loans (Debentures) to the Village. To make this scheme a little more attractive Philips was persuaded to donate a Television set every six months. These were raffled under debenture holders.

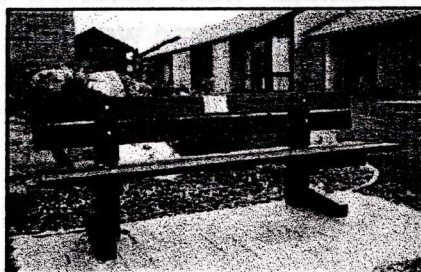
By arranging sponsorships for travel and using my own holiday periods, I visited the Netherlands on three different occasions (1989, 1990, 1992). There I made use of contacts established in my private occupation to visit about 200 people, to talk to major grant allocating organizations and to set in motion a public relation group which informed the general population in the Netherlands of our aims and needs. The 'Abel Tasman Stichting' was officially created in The Hague. It set as its goal the coordination of all the actions towards donation in the Netherlands.

Not all the initiatives resulted in massive donations of course. Many ideas ran into the proverbial brick wall, which in this case consisted of promises, good intentions and delayed or no action. However it must be said that there were many who ^{spent} spared no effort in assisting me during my stays in the Netherlands and who spend enormous amounts of time in collecting and dispatching money and goods.

In Australia it was my pleasure to invite the major business firms - with connections with the Netherlands - to make a donation in kind or any other way.

It may be a good idea to name those persons and organizations, which did actually provide assistance to me here and in Europe and/or donated directly to the Village. There are still other sources of donations not mentioned here. Some major donations were received under the strict requirement that neither the amount nor the source would be made public.

Nederlandse Emigratie Fonds	Fl.20 000
Abel Tasman Stichting	Fl.10 000
Wereld Kontakt. For the DAC	Fl. 5 000
Nederlandse Huisvesting Bejaarden	Fl.10 000
Koningin Juliana Fonds	Fl.75 000
Algemene Loterij Nederland	Fl.75 000
Emigratie Centrale	Fl. 500
Zeevaartschool Abel Tasman	Fl. 500
Unilever Australia	A \$10 000
ABM-AMRO Bank	Electronic Piano/Organ
Mr. K. de Keyser	Open fireplace
Mercantile Mutual	Large Garden Fish Pond
Burgomaster of Grootegast	Garden Bench
Koninklijke Luchtvaart Maatschappij	Assisted with travel
Koninklijke Luchtvaart Maatschappij	Conference table in DAC
Tip-Top Travel	Donation of travel insurance
Directie Emigratie in Den Haag	Office facilities
Westpac	Wall-clock
Juliana Village	Framed map of early Australia
Wereld Kontakt	Six framed Dutch landscapes
Ambassador Mr. J.Vos	Letters of introduction
Mr. P.Budde	Press releases in the Netherlands
Philips	Television sets
Philips	Temporarily storing container
Netherlands Junior Chamber of Commerce	Introductions
Shell	Assistance with transport
Mr. H.Koch	Assisting creation of A.T.Stichting
Mr. L.Kuis	Two stained-glass windows
Firma Varenkamp	Packing and handling a container
Mr. H.Brinkman	Voorzitter vrienden van Abel Tasman Dorp
Ms. C.van der Zalm	Secretarial Assistance and collection of books
Ms. I.Fenz-Verschragen	Secretarial Assistance and collection of books
Ned. Loyd Nederland	Transport container to Australia
Uniwire	Transporting container in Australia
Netherlands Building Society	Billiard table for main Hall
Fam. Korrevaar	Large ships anchor



The gift from
Grootegast

No doubt more gifts will have been received since this note was written. The above list simply serves to indicate that a range of donations was made, without which the completion of the Village would have been at least seriously delayed.

It was my pleasant experience that the will to assist that 'Village in Australia' was great. A little anecdote as an example. During the interval at a Concert in Amsterdam I spoke about the Village to some people, a donation arrived soon after from one of those present.

Comfort And Support.

Theo A. van Gestel O.A.M

It is my privilege to have been involved in the Abel Tasman project from the beginning, and, I must add, the planning of the Village. Being part of a dedicated 'hands-on' committee was a pleasure. From the word 'go' it was evident that the only consideration, by the newly formed committee was the well being, socially, culturally and physically, of the future residents.

When the architect presented his plans the committee 'as one' had only one priority, the comfort and support of those who were going to make the Abel Tasman Village their future home.

An atmosphere was to be created to express the two objectives, comfort and support. It must be evident by now, that the instructions to the architect and the committee involvement in the design and building of the Units, as well as the selection of our staff, have achieved this aim.

There was a variety of expertise gathered in the committee, each member with his or her specialty. They all carried out their work in the best possible way and it is through their combined efforts, that the high standard set has been achieved.

The Village with its beautiful functional buildings and the pleasant gardens is there as a witness to the work of many people and I trust that our residents will enjoy the finished product as much as we, a small group, enjoyed doing the work for the community.

In conclusion I ^{would} like to thank all our benefactors in Holland as well as in Australia who showed their faith in our project and us.

Turning Point in One's Life

W.F.Engelbrecht

Recently an acquaintance inquired why I devoted my free time to act as an honorary member on the Board of Directors for the 'Abel Tasman Village'. Sometimes we do things without ever realizing the true motivation for our actions - so now having been asked this question, I began to examine the reasons.

I have spent the best part of my working life involved in the building construction industry, and nothing could compare with the ultimate sensation of seeing a project on paper transformed into a splendid, and sometimes magnificent, work of art serving the needs of mankind.

The magnitude of the amount of work that goes into creating any sort of building can only be understood by those involved in the industry, and the fulfillment and personal satisfaction gained at seeing a project completed can only be enjoyed and shared by those in the know. *by*

It was the construction of a retirement Village in the Illawarra region that I had to oversee, which influenced and altered the direction in my life. During this time I came into contact with some of the elderly people who would be residents in this Village. Through their eyes I suddenly realized that one day I myself could be spending the remaining years of my life in a Village center just like this.

There can be turning points in your life, which are subtle and go unnoticed - but this retirement Village project took on a whole new meaning and challenge for me. This was going to be a home for senior citizens - our elders - and they deserved to spend their remaining years in the company of their peers, in pleasant surroundings, with appropriate facilities, and in an atmosphere of complete security and total comfort.

Thus, when the opportunity arose for me to be on the Board of Directors for the 'Abel Tasman Village', my reasons for accepting were quite clear; I *peoples'* wanted to be a part of other *peoples'* people's happiness, and I wanted to contribute my knowledge to enhance other people's lives. I hope one day when my time comes to move into a retirement Village, there will be others just like me - with the same feelings about the job at hand, and then I too will be happy.

Retirement ?

Peter Eveleens.

When the chairman approached me to attend a Board meeting with a view of becoming involved with the Abel Tasman Retirement Village it was exactly the word "retirement," which had become a problem for me.

I was just at the stage of my recent retirement where I felt as if my world had collapsed. I had spent 45 years in a most interesting and rewarding career in the international paper trade. This involved a busy life of travel, decision making, popular and unpopular. All in all a life full of challenges and contact with people, had suddenly come to a standstill.

Attending my first board meeting however I discovered immediately the enthusiasm of a fine team, entirely devoted to building a Village for the welfare of Dutch people, who had reached a stage of life where they either needed care or the secure feeling of having a nice and safe place to spend their retirement years.

honoured I felt honored by the invitation to make my contribution based on my experience gained in the field of business management.

Never could I have dreamt that this involvement would become as challenging as my previous career with the added satisfaction that it did not have the pressure of continuous profit hunting and performance. Also, there was no ruthless competition for personal kudos. Instead it was working together with a bunch of people with all different skills and interests, all with one goal in mind and most importantly all 100% voluntary. Hours and hours of time completely without any financial gain or remuneration.

It gave me at the same time a great opportunity to experience life from another point of view. Whilst in business one's contact with the less fortunate usually goes no further than to make some financial contribution to organizations involved in charity and welfare.

Such generosity is of course necessary to enable these charities to function, but it does not bring the donors into personal contact with the people needing care or assistance.

Now the Village is finished nothing is more gratifying for me ^{than} then to see what a beautiful, useful and dignified place of living the Village is and then to see how the residents are living in a mostly happy way.

Not that it was all plain sailing. Firstly there was and sometimes still is the question: "Why in Chester Hill?"

When the idea of a Village was considered its location was not even thought of. The main idea at the time was to build a Village of high quality, with units at a price within the reach of the average Dutch citizen.

It was of course obvious that with this in mind one would have to look for an area, where the main component - land - would be available at a reasonable price.

When such an opportunity presented itself in Chester Hill the Board did not hesitate to grab the opportunity. And what a decision this was. Chester Hill is located in a populated area, where the Village is close to all the necessities of life and where old people do not find themselves living in isolation, but near shops, banks, the railway station, a bus stop etc.

I am thankful that I had the opportunity to make my small contribution to this project and feel a great satisfaction that this part of my own retirement has been so fulfilling.

I like to thank my colleagues on the Board for the fine co-operation and the great spirit which finally put the crown on all the hard work, when we could say: "The ABEL TASMAN VILLAGE is complete."

Committee member

Theo ten Brummelaar

This is the second time I need to write a note on my experience as a member of a committee which set itself the task of building a Village for the Aged in the Dutch Australian Community in Sydney. With Juliana Village (1969-1980) it was pure enthusiasm, belief in the need and a sense of service, which drove me to live through the long meetings. I said then that our committee consisted of different people, with very different beliefs; with very different backgrounds.¹¹ In fact the only thing they had in common was the fact that once they lived in the Netherlands and now they lived here. Not even the aim of the organization was clearly defined. We wanted a Village for the aged, but the quality of life in such a Village was still a hazy subject. It was ~~not~~ different with the Abel Tasman Village.

It has always amazed me that the bond, which is formed by the loosely defined aim, is so strong that it withstands some friction within the group. Because difference of opinion is of course inevitable. Mix that with doses of over-enthusiasm and/or opposing religious and society views and the possibility of loud and angry disagreement is apparent. Especially if all the

committee members were once Dutch. However nobody 'walked out'. Nobody stayed upset. All accepted that they had to compromise of their own ideals, with polite understanding.

Enormous thanks are due to the Architect. He presented his ideas of what he thought we might want in a clear and understanding manner. His interpretation was very near the mark. His drawn proposals allowed us to have a focus for discussion. They were accepted without serious changes.

Meetings in the early days held in the evening and later during the day, never lasted less than four hours and often six. This is not unusual for meetings at which seven or more people attend. It requires great patience of the committee members, as often under those circumstances matters are discussed by seven different people and ~~not~~ always from very different angles. However our meetings were very strictly run on the basis that no one view was more important than the other.

On the other hand there soon developed a respect for the individual abilities of the different board members. As a result it occurred many times - especially when quick action was required - that the whole decision taking process was left to only two or three individual board members. They would be authorized to take whatever action was necessary and report their actions at the next meeting. Especially in the dealings with the land vendor and with the providers of grants and financial stand-by facilities this happened on numerous occasions.

Why did I take a place on the Board? It is not easy to define. My father also was forever involved with voluntary work in the service of his fellow man. I simply inherited the vice. Also, I thought that as a civil engineer and academic I could make a useful contribution.

In hindsight, I often played the roll of Devil's advocate. I regularly challenged opinions placed before the meeting, simply to avoid the taking of decisions before the problem was thoroughly studied from all sides. It did not mean that proposals were always changed, but perhaps they were better understood as a result.

Because I was also involved with some media work and still in a full-time job, my contributions were of little 'hard' value. I provided the text of a few pamphlets and a little booklet¹². These were used to give information about our intentions and our plans to those whom we saw as possible providers of grants, loans and goodwill.

One building in the Village provides the first step towards the satisfaction of another of my wishes for the community of which I feel very much a part. The Dutch Australian Centre. When the need for social clubs in the Dutch-Australian Community has further reduced, when we all feel totally at home and part of Australia, there will still be a need for a meeting place. Here our children will be able to find information on the recent history of their parents. In this place also people may find the expression of the culture we brought to our new homeland and which we passed on to our children. To see such a permanent place in the Village where the elderly of our Community find a safe and pleasant haven represents, in my view, the essence of what we tried to achieve.



I'm most grateful to my fellow board members for the creation of this monument to our past and our future.

Local Representative

Hans Verhoeven.

Our first involvement with the Abel Tasman Village started after a phone call from Anton Kool regarding the value of the real estate in the Chester Hill area.

We were delighted to hear that in the near future a Dutch project was going to take place in our suburb, a Dutch retirement Village. My wife, Trees, decided to start an 'instuif group' in our home with the idea that this would be carried on in the Village when that was ready.

From that moment on we helped with fund raising, the organization of Mini-Fetes on the site of the future Village. Later, when the construction had commenced, we were involved with the Abel Tasman stand at the Holland Festival in Fairfield.

It was at this stage that I was asked to become actively involved and join the board of the ATV. Because I live in the Chester Hill area - not far from the Village - and I am retired, I agreed. I looked forward to an interesting activity at this stage of my life.

From the moment the Village started to take shape I decided to make a video. I tried to make it visual progress report to be stored later in the Dutch Australian Centre. In this way interested visitors could see how the project progressed.

Videos Presently I look after the audio equipment in the Village and arrange for a program of Videos on alternative Saturdays. These are shown on the 'large' screen in the main Community Hall.

Fulfillment

Hans Timmers, First manager

In the days that Abel Tasman Village was still under construction, visitors did not feel very welcome at the site. Especially on Open Days rain changed the terrain into a mud pool and slush and clay were hard to remove from shoes and clothes after visitors had returned home. When the first residents moved into the Village in September 1993 the gardens were not finished yet and those first residents had the feeling that they lived again in the first days of their immigration. But gradually all who had been involved in the building project could see how the Village came to its completion. The buildings, the gardens, the apartments, these all made a wonderful combination of beauty, functionality, friendliness and hospitality. As long as the community hall was unfinished many doubtful comments were made regarding the size of the hall and the suitability of the huge wooden beams overhead. After the hall was finished everybody was convinced: that this was a fantastic venue, not only for the daily meals but also for all kind of gatherings and activities. A venue very pleasant, for small groups but also ideal for the use by large groups. kinds

With the help of the architect, beautiful traditional wooden furniture was chosen. Curtains from a Scandinavian firm fitted well with the natural building materials and the furniture. Donations from Dutch firms and individuals arrived to complement the atmosphere. The Village was ready for its official opening!

The official opening took place in March '94, but already one year before this event I got the chance to start my work as the manager of the Village. My first task was to prepare for the arrival of the first residents and to employ staff. It took half a year before Arie and Tinie Hofsteede could take possession of their Self Care Unit. They had chosen their cottage after a long and thorough investigation of all accommodation offered by retirement Villages in New South Wales. When they came in we discovered through them in which ways our accommodation and services were still incomplete. We are grateful for their advice. After the Hofstedes, many more residents moved into their Self Care- or Hostel-

Unit. A new process started: the creation of a new community on a block of land of 100 by 100 meters.

Working and living in the Village confirms the initial impression which all people have when they visit the complex for the first time:

"So much thought has gone into the design"; "The lay out is so practical and friendly"; "The project has been carried out with a tremendous foresight"; "This is really a place where I would like to live myself".

Having worked for two years in the Village now, I still hear the same praising comments of impressed visitors every day. My own opinion on the quality of the Abel Tasman Village-project did not change either. It is a joy to work in this environment and all requirements are there to create excellent care for people who need it.

ageing The biggest fear ^{for} of aging people is perhaps not the impending frailty nor the pain they often will have to go through, but the threat to lose one's independence and to lose opportunities to make daily life meaningful. Quality of care is essential and a first requirement in a retirement Village but still does not make a resident's days meaningful, new and exciting.

Not only the building project has been supported by many people. Also in the daily operation of the Village we experience the ongoing support of members of the Dutch Community in New South Wales. We can rely, for instance, on a large group of enthusiastic volunteers for transport outings etc.

It is very encouraging to find out that the Village is not only the object of charity and welfare by others. The Village has something to offer to the Dutch community as well.

- Our facilities are frequently used by Dutch organizations and by local clubs like Rotary and the Chester Hill Neighborhood Centre.
- Our activities and functions are attended by an increasing group of friends and many of them are enjoying a return visit to see the results of the work they have done before.
- Regular church services in the hall create new parishes.
- With the help of the Commission of Ethnic Affairs our teaching care will be made available for elderly Dutch people who need support and advice even if they do not now live in the Village.

The residents meet once a month to discuss the daily affairs of the Village. A small committee chaired by Arie Hofsteede prepares these Forum meetings. A Dispute Committee, to be installed soon, will be the third

formal provision to share the responsibility for the Village Community between Board, Management and Residents. I am grateful for the excellent co-operation I have experienced during the important period of the start of the Village.

The twenty staff members currently employed have come from different backgrounds. But all are experienced in caring for people and enthusiastic about giving support to this growing community. Five small teams have been formed, each with its own responsibility. The communication between residents and staff, in my opinion, is respectful and very rewarding for both sides.

The co-operation with the Dutch Australian Centre gives our residents a welcome opportunity to place personal experiences as immigrants in a historical context. The lecture and study of books, viewing of films and visits to expositions can give a confirmation to own ideas and memories and may support the process of overcoming experiences which sometimes had a traumatic character. Also the DAC will offer an excellent opportunity to residents to assist in educational activities for members of the second and third generation of the Dutch immigrants.

When enterprises like the building project of the Village, the set up of a new residents community, the formation of staff are carried out with much enthusiasm and love, we can be sure that the result may even be better than we expect! Not only our expectations may come true but also our hopes. A feeling of fulfilment may arise. A feeling more important than the difficulties, illnesses and even death.

Abel Tasman Village Residents Forum

The Village has its own resident's forum, which consists of a committee and all other residents of the Village. The committee has a president, a vice-president, secretary and treasurer. Meetings are conducted once a month and the management is usually invited. At the meeting the residents discuss all-important issues from outings, entertainment, meals and suggestions. Anything to improve the life style of the residents. Many small problems are resolved this way.

There is a contribution of \$2 only once. This is paid to the treasurer. The resident will then receive a copy of the Forum's constitution.

All residents are very welcome to take part in the discussions of the Forum.

Part 2: Ten years later

Abel Tasman Village ten years on

Ed Wolf, Chairman, 2003

The development of the Village over the last ten years has seen some changes from the original brief. In order to remain viable we must continue to adapt to new requirements. This short overview describes the original vision and highlights the issues facing the Village at present.

Original Vision

A retirement facility for the Dutch community in NSW with a normal "living" Village atmosphere was the vision on which Abel Tasman Village was created.

The Village consisted of 24 Self-care units and a separate 40-bed hostel complex without the provision for a nursing home, as this was considered unnecessary.

There was an expectation that when finished it would be completely filled with Dutch born or Dutch related residents.

Reality check - Change in resident composition

Not all the places on the original waiting list were taken up at the expected rate. Perhaps the Dutch community, as an insurance policy against future need, used the waiting list, but economics required us to operate at nearly 100% occupancy. Fortunately we were able to fill the empty units with non-Dutch.

Currently the Village population is about 60% members of the Dutch community, the rest are from other cultures including Australian-born residents. So we continue to deviate from the original plan of a Dutch focused Village and enjoy the resulting mix of cultures.

Change in health aid continuum

Initially the health-aid continuum, after retirement, was seen as Self-care in a Village, followed by care in hostel and/or nursing home, then hospital and finally death. The number of people in each stage, and indeed the stages themselves, has changed over time.

A government initiative, Community Aged Care Packages (CACP), increases the time people are able to remain in their own homes. It is a program of at-home nursing care and general community aid staffed by trained carers. Currently ATV administers 58 of these packages on behalf of the Government.

1800 packages by 2000
CACP began in 1992 with less than 100 packages Australia-wide and increased by year 2000 to 18000 packages. This has meant that many people enter the Village at a far greater age than originally envisaged, and move directly into hostel accommodation.

At ATV, the hostel care has "stretched" into what was once seen as nursing home care by the acceptance of high care cases. The high care cases are moved as close to the nursing administration as possible and by this means we provide a 24-hour surveillance in a non- Nursing home environment.

Change in government requirements

The Federal government will only fund accredited hostel bodies. The accreditation rules, which they impose, change over time. Our aim is to meet and exceed the current standards at all times. For example, we installed a central fire alarm system, changed the laundry complex and installed perimeter fencing before any of those regulations were mandated.

In addition we try to anticipate future government requirements such as staff accreditation for CACP carers by training the staff to 'Enrolled nurse level' prior to any such standard being set.

Change in concept - trendsetter

We also set our own internal requirements and in so doing have become a trendsetter in the retirement industry. An example of such a trend is to provide double beds for couples in a hostel environment and/or by providing adjoining units with interconnecting doors where possible. We do not believe that couples should be separated just because they are hostel clients.

The Health system fails to recognize that an individual is often one of a long-standing couple. When one or other of a Self-care couple required hostel care the usual policy was to separate them – a system which caused great emotional distress. ATV initiated a program to provide Hostel-care in the same Self-care unit for one of the couple.

Change in management

In 1999 we recruited Marian Achten who now performs the dual role of Village and Community Aged Care Manager. In this role she looks after the welfare of all residents within the Village and has responsibility for the care of another 58 people who receive service in their own home. Marian has successfully implemented programs that focus on the dignity, privacy and independence of residents. Importantly the staff has readily adopted the principle even though it means more effort and involvement required of them.

Financial Outlook

Our dependence on Government funds is increasing as we take on more hostel clients and apply for more CAC packages. A strict inspection regime by the Health commission requires us to maintain detailed documentation in order to justify our grants.

The CACP side in particular has been a great benefit to ATV as it legitimately allows us to share management time and expense. The Self-care component, on the other hand, has difficulty making ends meet, as the maintenance fees under the original unalterable contracts are too low for what we provide.

Anticipated major building expenses remind us that buildings need care as much as residents. Despite this gloomy picture we have managed to build up our reserves so that all normal accounts can be met within trading terms.

The future

Over the next ten years we anticipate an increased demand for residential care by ageing Dutch born citizens. They, and existing Village residents, will continue to age and require more intensive care.

An increase in the overall age of residents will increase the number of dementia cases. We will need to develop new programs to provide adequate care and supervision for them. We anticipate setting aside a separate space as a day-care facility.

Change in directors

None of the original directors is now on the board but the message and the mission has not diminished because of this. We still aim to give the best quality care possible to all.

Original residents

It is pleasing to report that our first resident is still with us. Many others have been here for more than 8 years. The Government's policy of "Ageing in place" ties in nicely with our own aim of looking after our residents for as long as it is possible. Ageing

Summary

The board, management and staff have dealt well with the difficulties of changes in environment, regulation and clientele. The Village has shown itself to be remarkably "elastic" in adapting to these changing needs. With the right cooperative spirit, it is amazing what can and has been achieved.

Looking back at the past years

John Leiseboer

In my 2002 annual ^{whom} secretary's report I paid tribute to the efforts of former directors, most of who served on the board of Abel Tasman Village since incorporation of the company on the 16th of December 1988. It only seems like yesterday when I accepted the honor to be invited to act as Master of Ceremonies at the official opening of the Village in March 1994. The organization of the function rested largely on the shoulders of two of my predecessors, the then secretary Ann Dijkman and the late Herbert Frank. Looking back at the records one starts to realize the enormity of the problems encountered preceding and during the construction of the Village, the volume of documentation and bureaucratic rigidity which would have been any secretary's nightmare as well as the initial financial struggles the board in general had to face during the earlier years of operation of the Village. Generous donations from individuals, business houses and charitable organizations overseas together with interest free or low interest loans from the Federation of Netherlands Societies Benevolent Fund, Queen Wilhelmina Fund, the Juliana Village as well the issue of debentures assisted greatly in alleviating part of these problems. The slow start of people moving into the Village also contributed to cash flow problems at that time. Ten years hence have made a remarkable difference, a waiting list for both self-care and hostel accommodation ^{has} have made my position as director of marketing a relatively easy one. Although increases in the entry contributions have been necessary, accommodation in Abel Tasman Village is well in reach for most of those in the Dutch community looking for an alternative life style. The transfer of the Dutch Specific Community Aged Care Packages from the Federation of Netherlands Societies to the Abel Tasman Village proved to be beneficial to both the Village and the C.A.C.P. scheme as it resulted in significant financial benefits for both because of cost sharing in salaries and motor vehicles. Over recent years the board and management have adopted a more extended care policy for the Village with the emphasis on enabling residents to stay in a familiar environment after no longer being able to live in a self care unit or requiring care beyond the basic service provided in hostel accommodation. As a member of the Abel Tasman Village board I am confident that the Village will be able to continue to provide the care, security and general well being for its residents.

Wait there is more

John Baremans

The first ten years have gone and past and ATV is still going strong. Those ten years have been challenging years in many ways, the board needed to change from a fund raising and building board to a managing board.

Their first concerns were to ensure that the Village was fully occupied, that Dutch appropriate staff was recruited and trained and that cash flows were carefully juggled in order to stay afloat.

Many items were still needed from furniture to crockery and there was never enough money in the kitty to pay for it all.

The board, management and staff were on a very steep learning curve getting to know and understand the operating of the aged care industry.

That was the scene up to 1997.

It was at that time that I was approached by the board of the day to join and fill a current vacancy. I had some spare time but did not know anything about the aged care industry or caring for the elderly. However I had training and experience in management including accounting, computing and quality management, which was much needed, as I was to find out soon.

1997 was also the year that came with great changes starting with the age care act 1997 and the principles of the act. This act turned the industry upside down and addressed such matters as accountability, duty of care, detailed care plans, RCS (resident classification scales), personal care notes, prudential requirement, residents rights, complaint mechanism, concessional and assisted resident ratio's, certification of buildings, safety, accreditation standards etc.

In general the act was long overdue and set a clear paths for providers to follow. However, it stressed the available resources to the limit and there was no extra funding coming from the government.

The clear division between low care (hostels) and high care (nursing homes) was removed by the act so that hostels could take on and look after residents much longer, up to the point that medical intervention is necessary.

The principle of aging in place was introduced thus leaving people as long as possible in their homes or self care units.

Capital funding by government agencies to build new facilities was no longer forthcoming.

The industry had to get ^{its} their act together by the year 2000 and put a documented quality system in place that fully covers all forty four-quality standards. This was no mean task. The standard is divided in to four parts being:

- Management systems, staffing and organizational development
- Health and personal care
- Residents lifestyle
- Physical environment and safe systems.

To cover the four standards we have written over 60 procedures and over 100 forms.

All staff required training to make sure that the written procedures were correct, workable and implemented correctly.

issues The documented procedures needed to be controlled to make sure that the latest issue are in use by all and that the changes could be traced back.

where The quality system needed to be audited on a regular basis to make sure that procedures were in place and followed by the staff, that forms were completed correctly ~~were~~ necessary, to ensure that care plans were written correctly and personal notes were added. In order for residents to be classified correctly to ensure that the appropriate subsidies were received.

had A government appointed agency conducted a four man day audit to ensure that we ~~have~~ done our homework. We passed with flying colors and had a short celebration at the end to let off some steam.

It soon became clear that - since residents in classification 8 (only hospitality services required) were not attracting government subsidies - to remain viable, we no longer could make provision for this type of resident and that they should remain in their homes supported by CACP (Community Aid Care Packages) ~~were~~ necessary. *where*

This was a radical change in policy and took some time to impact on our cash flow.

To date we still have 6 residents in this classification.

The accreditation and certification requirements also impacted on the facilities available in the Village. We needed a back to base fire control monitoring system. We needed more emergency exit signs. We needed a new laundry system in order to meet infection control requirements. The floor covering in our dining room was no longer appropriate since more of our residents suffer from the disadvantages of very old age and carpet cleaning became a daily task.

The new act also requires ^{ed} a guarantee of timely refunding accommodation bonds when residents pass away or leave the Village, this ~~means~~ *meant* that approx \$500,000.00 must be kept in reserve at all times. During the 1997 and 1998 we could not meet this requirement and at one stage our reserves were as low as \$40,000.

Much is still needed such as a cool room, food storage space, and kitchen upgrade. We also are in need of a day care centre to enhance the care for our residents suffering from dementia.

This is just a short summary of the first ten years.

The government is planning more changes as more studies are carried out by large consultants and universities which will put more pressure on the board, management and staff as well as on our financial resources over the coming few years

Care for the Elderly in the Village

Marian Achten, Manager.

The ten-year time period since the opening of the Village has seen a major shift in the care and treatment of the elderly. The Abel Tasman Village life post the Federal 1997 Aged Care Act, is barely recognizable from the original "Retirement Village" of 1993.

Our original 1993 hostel residents came to us for social support. The house became too much to deal with, cooking was a chore, the shopping trip and transport a hassle. Retirement Village living had its attractions. At Abel Tasman the meals were provided, the cleaning done, clothes laundered and the doctor came on site. You could launder your own clothes, in one of the 5 laundries provided, if you chose to.

The current hostel residents have very different needs. The most recent residents come into care at an average age of 87. They need help with their showers.

If they have mobility problems the physiotherapist sets a personalized exercise program. Speech and swallowing assessments are documented and relayed to the kitchen in order for dietary needs to be met. Clothes and bed linen are washed in the commercial laundry to meet infection control standards. Hoists are used to move Residents from chair to bed and bathroom. All unheard of 10 years ago.

Dementia affected Residents may not be the ideal as far as dinner companions go. On occasions they might exhibit some unconventional behavior, but they're at home.

Some residents pass away from us either in their sleep or after a very short stay in hospital. Occasionally we hold a funeral on site and I feel it an honor and privilege to have welcomed them into their home and bade them farewell in the company of their family and friends.

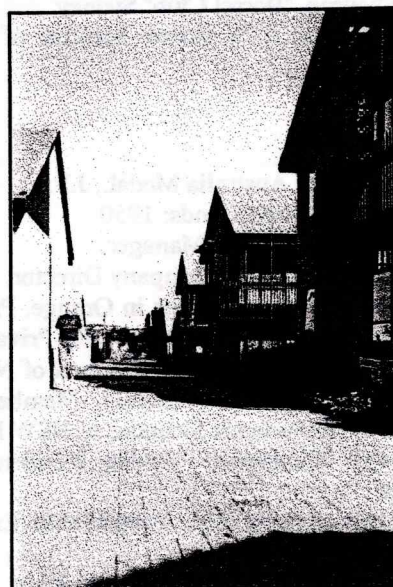
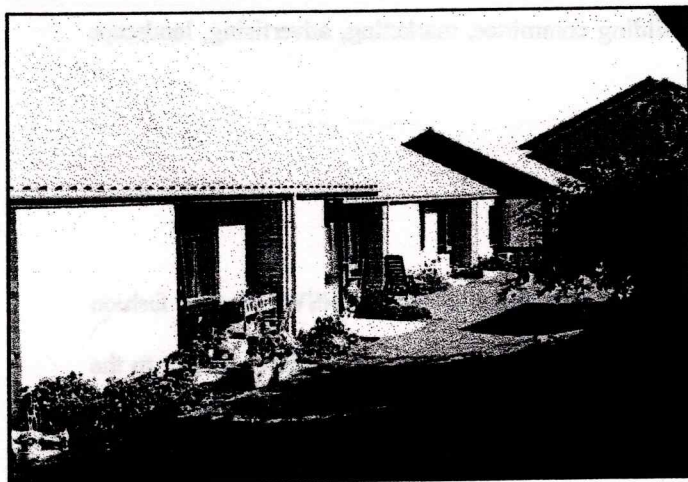
What options are available if we don't provide these care needs? A nursing home -, which means a total upheaval. There is the loss of community, familiarity with the staff, loss of routine. The grieving process sets in due to

loss of home, personal space and mostly friends they have shared the last part of their lives with. Nursing homes are appropriate places when the need arises and hopefully we stave off the need for as long as possible.

The 55 Dutch Community Aged Care Packages (CACP) are filled entirely with Dutch clientele. These people live in their own homes and receive care and attention there on an "as needs basis". An additional three have been granted for the French whose numbers are too small to support a viable infra structure of their own. The future direction of CACP growth for Abel Tasman is to include other small Western European communities whom do not have the population numbers to support themselves. *which*

The self-care component of the Village is a separate part of the organization. This comes under the NSW Fair Trading Act. The average age of our self-care residents is 82, 42 % of these Residents are provided with Community Aged Care Packages or Home Care to enable them to remain at home. Only 26% drive a car.

The above overviews are the direction The Abel Tasman Village has taken to meet the needs of our ageing community. Changes have been introduced that have been perhaps difficult to accept and have needed both tolerance and patience. The board, management and staff are convinced this direction is essential if we are to continue to serve our community. This would not have been easy without the help of the incredible volunteers the Village relies on and heartfelt thanks go to all involved with The Abel Tasman Village.



View of the hostel units and the pathway to the self-care units. (2000)

Short Biographies

Anna Maria A. Dijkman

Honours: Premiers Award for Contribution to Aged Welfare.

Arrived from the Netherlands: 1970

Function on arrival: Secretary

Present function: Retired Company Secretary.

Past Services: Organiser original INSTUIF GROUPS. Advisor in Wollongong and Brisbane on formation of similar groups, Secretary /Director Federation of Netherlands Associations Ltd.,

Dutch Society memberships: Catholic Dutch Migrant Association.

Responsibilities in ATV Board: Secretarial and as major point of contact. Assisted in negotiations for the block of land in Chester Hill.

Willem Federik Engelbrecht

Honours: Certificate of Appreciation Rotary International (re: Jamboree's 1986 & 1988)

Arrived from the Netherlands: 1950

Function on arrival: Construction Draughtsman

Present function: Retired building construction supervisor.

Other functions: Manager of factory producing concrete pipes.

Memberships: Member RSL Merrylands (saw active Service in Dutch East Indies 1946-1950)

Dutch Society memberships: Netherlands Ex-Servicemen & Women Association (served periods as Secretary, vice-president, and president)

Responsibilities in ATV Board: Liaison between architect, builder and board, member of building committee, landscape and gardening.

Peter Eveleens.

Arrived from the Netherlands: 1953

Function on arrival: Manager Australian Office of an European paper importing/exporting firm.

Present function: Retired Managing Director.

Memberships: President Australian Netherlands Chamber of Commerce, National President Paper Council of Australia, Member Decimalisation Council - Paper Sizes, Member CTA, Member AIM, Member Rotary.

Dutch Society memberships: Nederlandse Vereniging, Dutch Australian Society 'Neerlandia', 'Borrel Club' Melbourne, 'Borrel Club' Sydney.

Responsibilities in ATV Board: Member of the building committee, marketing, advertising, landscape and gardening.

Herbert Frank

Honours: Order of Australia Medal., J.P.

Arrived from the Netherlands: 1950

Function on arrival: Store Manager.

Present function: Retired Company Director.

Other functions: Storemanager in Orange. Proprietor Fashion Shops in country NSW, Director fashion manufacturer (RALEX Coats), Director Private Hospital.

Past Services: Good Neighbour Council of NSW, Ethnic Communities Council of NSW, advisor to the minister of Emigration (Federal), Member Taskforce on Immigration (Federal), Board member Federation of Netherlands Societies of NSW Ltd.

Memberships: Chatswood Garden Residents Forum, Council on the Aging, Retirement Village Association.

Dutch Society memberships: Netherlands Ex-Servicemen & Women Association, Netherlands Society (served as president).

Responsibilities in ATV Board: Fundraising, marketing, financial management, secretary to the Board.

Theo A. van Gestel

Honours: Order of Australia Medal, J.P.

Arrived from the Netherlands: 1951

Function on arrival: Public Servant.

Present function: Retired Liaison Officer St. Vincent de Paul.

Other functions: Public Servant, Display Design Executive Australian Regular Army, Welfare Liaison.

Past Services: Industrial Relations, Aged Care, Youth Crisis Care, Counselling (Youth-Budget-Aids-Drug-Alcohol), Scout Association.

Dutch Society memberships: Netherlands Ex-Servicemen & Women Association, Social Welfare

Committee Federation Netherlands Associations Ltd., Abel Tasman Village.

Responsibilities in ATV Board: Social Welfare, General Organisation.

L.J.B. (Bert) Gijzen.

Arrived from the Netherlands: 1972

Function on arrival: Accountant.

Present function: Retired Manager Internal Audit department of Philips Australia.

Dutch Society memberships: Netherlands Ex-Servicemen & Women Association, Netherlands Society, Catholic Dutch Migrant Association, Dutch Australian Centre, Trustee of Queen Wilhelmina Benevolent Fund.

Responsibilities in ATV Board: Treasurer, negotiations with Financial Institutions and Government Instrumentality's, financial supervision during construction, preparation of budgets, management income as result of residents entering the Village.

Anton F. Kool

Honours: Ridder Orde van Oranje-Nassau

Anton preferred not to provide the requested information

Memberships:

Dutch Society memberships: NESWA, Federation Netherlands Associations Ltd, Board member Juliana Village, Member Queen Wilhelmina Benevolent Fund Ltd., Trustee Benevolent Fund Federation of Netherlands Societies Ltd., DAS Neerlandia, Netherlands Society

Theo ten Brummelaar

Honours: Ridder Orde van Oranje-Nassau, Life member Federation Netherlands Societies of NSW Ltd. & Dutch Australian Centre, Honorary member ATV & Juliana Village

Arrived from the Netherlands: 1955

Function on arrival: Shipping Clerk KPM

Present function: Retired Senior Lecturer (Highway Design), UNSW

Other functions: School Teacher, Works Engineer DMR, Broadcaster/Journalist.

Past Services: Board member/Secretary Juliana Village Association.

Memberships: Member of the Advisory Council to the Council on the Aging, Member Road Safety Forum RTA

Dutch Society memberships: Netherlands Ex-Servicemen & Women Association, Netherlands Society, Dutch Australian Society 'Neerlandia', Secretary Dutch Australian Centre Ltd., Board Federation Netherlands Societies Ltd., Trustee Benevolent Fund Federation of Netherlands Societies Ltd.

Responsibilities in ATV Board: Assistance in writing and production publicity material. Resigned March 1997

Hans F. Verhoeven

Arrived from the Netherlands: 1953

Function on arrival: Electrician.

Present function: Retired Radio Tradesman

Other functions: TV and Electronics Technician.

Dutch Society memberships: Netherlands Society, Netherlands Ex-Servicemen & Women Association

Responsibilities in ATV Board: Advise on Audio and Video systems, Public Relations, assistance with residents forum.

J. (Diet) Hedrich von Wiederhold

Arrived from the Netherlands: 1959

Function on arrival: Secretary

Present function: Retired.

Other functions: Bi-lingual Secretary RIL, Personal assistant/company secretary/office manager.

Dutch Society memberships: Netherlands Ex-Servicemen & Women Association

Responsibilities in ATV Board: Minute secretary to the Board and correspondence.

Ed Wolf

Arrived from the Netherlands: 1954

Function on arrival: High School Student

Present Function: Retired Company Director.

Other functions: High School Teacher (mathematics), Systems Analyst Clyde Industries, Senior Systems Analyst Prospect County Council, Vice President Australasia Electronic Banking Citibank, Associate Director Investment Division Macquarie Bank, Principal Spinners Team of Tradesmen Artarmon, Senior Consultant BAKST Consulting, Principal, Business Consultancy - Ostaroam Pty Ltd.

Past Services: President Macquarie Business Graduate Association, President of various Philatelic societies (Parramatta, Northern Suburbs, Manly Warringah), State Representative of Jowett Car Club.

Memberships: Various car clubs HSRCA, Jowett Car Club, CAMS, Council of Motor Clubs. Australian Computer Society.

Dutch Society memberships: Sterling Stock and Share Investment Club, Friday Luncheon Club, Dutch Australia Centre, Abel Tasman Village Association.

Responsibilities on ATV Board: Chairman.

John Leiseboer

Arrived from the Netherlands: 1954

Function on arrival: Postal clerk

Present function: Retired sales manager, correspondent Dutch Weekly

Memberships: NESWA, DAS Neerlandia, Abel Tasman Village Ass., Queen Wilhelmina Dutch Australian Benevolent Fund, Federation Netherlands Societies

Past services: Hon. Sec. DAS Neerlandia, Chairman of the C.A.C.P. management committee

Responsibilities ATV Board: Hon. Secretary and director for marketing.

Other functions: Hon. Sec. Queen Wilhelmina Dutch Australian Benevolent Fund, Hon. Sec. Federation Netherlands Societies

John Baremans

Arrived from the Netherlands: 1959

Function on arrival: Radio technician

Present function: Retired production and Quality Manager

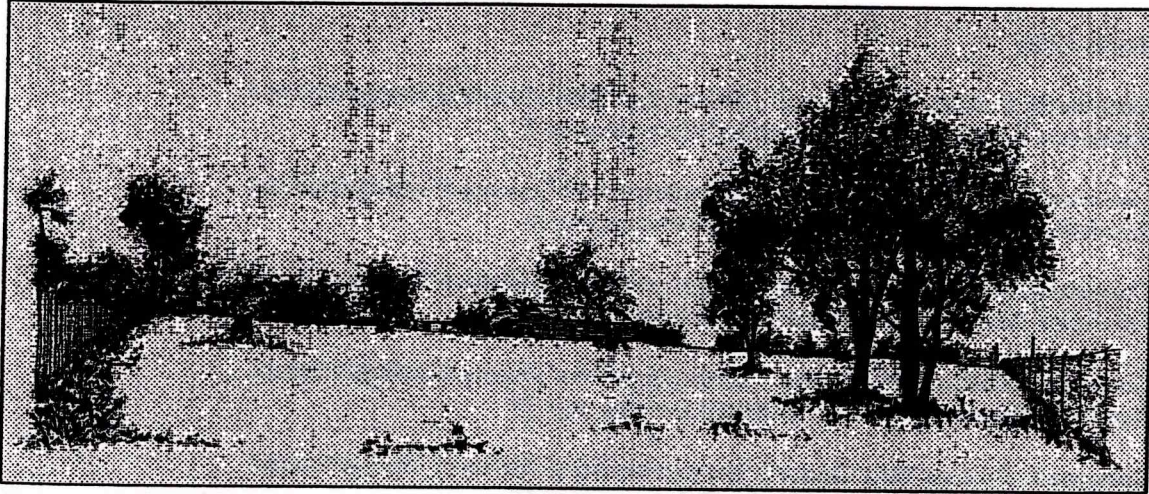
Other services: Board member Aged and Community Services Association of NSW and ACT (ACS), Chairman Juliana Village Association, Hon Treasurer Federation Netherlands Societies, Hon Treasurer Queen Wilhelmina Dutch Australian Benevolent Fund

Responsibilities ATV Board: Hon. Treasurer, main assistant in preparation for ATV accreditation and certification procedures.

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- 4 "Community Profiles 1991 Census", 'Netherlands Born', Bureau of Immigration and
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- 5 "Community Profiles 1991 Census", 'Netherlands Born', Bureau of Immigration and
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- 9 "Community Profiles 1991 Census", 'Netherlands Born', Bureau of Immigration and
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- 10 Census 1991
- 11 "Juliana Village, Recollections and Projections", Ed. T. ten Brummelaar, Juliana
Village Association Ltd., 1980 and updated in 1985.
- 12 "Abel Tasman Village, Introduction to the Concept", T. ten Brummelaar, Abel Tasman
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The block of land when it was purchased.