

# Apartments for Life at Ocean Street Community Newsletter

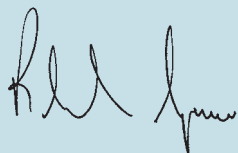
## Dear Resident

As you may have heard, The Benevolent Society has been working for some time on plans for a new form of housing for older people on our site between Ocean and Wellington Streets, Bondi.

This edition of our Community Newsletter looks at the growth in the numbers of older people in Australia, and why innovative approaches such as Apartments for Life are needed to address the challenges presented by an ageing population.

The official public display period for the Development Application for our Apartments for Life at Ocean Street project ended on 4 July. The DA is now with Waverley Council. If you are interested in looking at the DA documents, they are available on our website.

Sincerely



Richard Spencer  
Chief Executive Officer



in demand as Baby Boomers move into later life. The project will add to the range of care services and suitable housing available for older people in Waverley.

## Experts agree on the need for protecting independence

***Kath Brewster, President of the  
Council on the Ageing (NSW):***

“Suitable housing is critical to the health and wellbeing of older people and research shows that it is best located in a vibrant community with strong social support.

All older Australians are entitled to adaptable, affordable and accessible housing options in their community, and policies that implement these three principles through the development of appropriate housing infrastructure and services are to be encouraged.”

## The facts

The proposed Apartments for Life complex will offer 127 units, of which a minimum of 51 (40 per cent of the total) will be for pensioners and low income residents requiring a subsidy.

The land on which the development will be located is owned outright by the Society.

The height of the two multi-storey buildings ranges from four to ten storeys. The very modern and practical design is the work of PTW, one of Australia's most renowned architectural firms, with a number of national and international awards to its credit.

Apartments for Life is all about aged care support and accommodation to help meet a future massive increase



## Ageing population is an issue for young and old

writes **Kristina Keneally, NSW Minister for Ageing**

Here's a newsflash – the 'seniors' we have to plan for to prevent a budget crisis in 2030 are those in their 30s, 40s and 50s today. The ageing

population is not an issue just for older people.

Today's seniors show us what NSW will increasingly look like as we move towards 2030. The current over 60s live longer, travel and volunteer more, provide more care, work later in life, and are healthier than any previous generation.

Supporting this large and growing group of older people and keeping our budget intact is a challenge for government, business and the community – and it won't happen unless we start putting a program of prevention in place now.

The number of people in NSW aged over 65 will almost double by 2030, while the number over 100 will go from 1,300 today to 7,800. In this we have a clear case for action: we need a plan to tackle the challenges of our ageing population.

The NSW's Government's plan *Towards 2030: Planning for our changing population* includes actions we have to take now, in 12 months time, and five years time to be ready for a State where there are more people over 65 than under 14.

Longer lives mean longer careers and longer retirements – possibly up to 40 years. That reality means placing a premium on independence, social inclusion, and mobility.

People in their 40s may well have 60 years of life ahead. How well those years are lived depends on choices made today.

In *Towards 2030* we recognise that our health system, which is delivering longer and healthier lives, needs to adapt to new technology and new ways of delivering health care. We need to adapt too – by taking preventative steps such as giving up smoking and exercising more.

*Towards 2030* paves the way to providing adaptable housing, transport and support services for older people over much longer periods.

**For more information see [www.bensoc.org.au](http://www.bensoc.org.au) and click on Apartments for Life at Ocean Street Project or contact Sarah Fogg, The Benevolent Society: 9339 8000 or [oceanstsite@bensoc.org.au](mailto:oceanstsite@bensoc.org.au)**