

Keyton residents confident in lifestyle choices

For many Sherwin Rise residents, the retirement village located in Melbourne’s north reminds them of their childhoods.

One resident, Jenny, says the sense of community is strong as it is a place where “everyone looks out for you”. So much so, that Jenny says Sherwin Rise reminds her of the community she lived in when she was growing up.

“It is so easy to meet people which is one of the main reasons I decided to move into Sherwin Rise. Where I was living before, there was no sense of community,” Jenny says.

A sense of community can be found in every Keyton retirement village across Australia because they are places where resident wellbeing and connection are encouraged every single day.

This was reflected in Keyton’s recent national Retirement Living Lifestyle Report, which surveyed over 4,500 retired Australians over the age of 55.

The report found those living in a retirement village are more likely to participate in wellness activities than those who do not live in one with 50 per cent expressing an interest in active exercises such as swimming, walking, cycling and golf.

Chief Executive Officer of Keyton, Nathan Cockerill, says it was no surprise to find that people living in a retirement village reported so many positive benefits.

“We see first-hand that retirement living brings out the very best in people, because the environment encourages wellbeing, connection and community, no matter how they choose to spend their time,” Cockerill says.

A case in point are Joan and Ron Anderson who moved to Keyton’s Abervale village over a decade ago and are still grateful every day for their decision.

“We have so much space here, a wonderful social life, and the sense of security ...” Joan says.

“If I could do only one thing differently – it would have been to move to Abervale sooner.”

Lying in the heart of Geelong, Abervale celebrated its 40th anniversary of operation last year and has recently undergone a wave of rejuvenation led by the residents’ committee.

This has seen the community centre upgraded as well as the addition of a village café and the pool renovated among a plethora of upgrades.

As for Sherwin Rise, located 26km from Melbourne’s CBD, it is one of Victoria’s newest retirement villages. It features architecturally designed two and three-bedroom single level homes which all contain a number of energy efficient and environmentally friendly inclusions that make sustainable living easy.

Complete with resort-style facilities there is always something happening at Sherwin Rise.

Cockerill says Sherwin Rise is a great community and it is not standing still at all with the development’s stage three construction now underway.

He said all Keyton villages such as Sherwin Rise operate under the Retirement Villages Act, which is state-based legislation providing protection for residents.

“At Keyton, we offer contract options that provide choice to the customer on entry to determine how they wish to pay,” Cockerill says.

For example, Keyton offers multiple payment options to prospective residents and are transparent about their contracts.

Residents pay no other incremental costs for Keyton’s wellbeing programs or lifestyle facilities such as the community centre, pools, club or gym memberships.

Moreover, Cockerill points out retirement living residents are right-sizing into purpose-built homes which afford reduced operating costs for energy, rates and water compared to continuing to live in a large family home.

“This is very different to land lease communities where residents buy their home and rent the land, paying site rental fees that often increase every year without resident input.”



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