



Raising the bar on retirement living

► Karen Phelps

The Botanic in Silverdale aims to set a new standard for retirement living, says one of the owners Alan Edwards.

“It’s about giving people an authentic offering where they can live with purpose and joy and be the best they can be,” he says.

Every space at The Botanic, both indoor and out, has been carefully considered, designed and crafted to do just that - energise physical, mental and emotional well-being

A connection to nature has been an important defining concept to help create a healthy, vibrant community where people can feel good in mind and body, says Alan. This can be seen in thoughtful details such as tilt slab panels patterned with botanical designs and

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street and building names – such as the Kauri building (the communal heart of the village) and the latest release, the Nikau apartment complex.

Designed by Pacific Environments, The Botanic is nestled into a gentle northwest-facing hillside.

A design philosophy of ‘communities within communities’ brings purpose, involvement and a collective sense of security, says Alan. Buildings, roads and paths create a distinction between community areas to retain privacy.

The village spans a stream and has taken full advantage of this natural amenity by creating a boardwalk for both public and resident use. Alan says that invasive species are being removed and native plantings taking their place to further enhance the natural environment.

Communal spaces form the heart of the village including the Kauri building.

The dynamic roof forms and exposed timber structure creates equally dynamic and multi-functional spaces.

The ground floor of the building will offer parking and four commercial tenancies. Level one will be the community facility and include a commercial kitchen, activities area, lounge, library, well-being centre, craft room, cinema and a golf simulator.

Above will be a 40-bed aged care facility and three levels of apartments. In August a clubhouse and activity area will start construction including a pool, gymnasium, spa, steam room, sauna, TV lounge area, billiard room and bowling green.

Alan says that residents set the social scene with a diverse activity calendar including dance lessons, reading in the library, board games, viewing a film in the cinema or getting creative in the art space.

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The apartments on offer include one-bedroom at 65sqm, two-bedroom and two-bedroom-plus-study ranging from 80-95sqm and three-bedroom at approximately 106sqm.



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Apartments feature high quality fitouts

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Also on site are a café, restaurant, bar, pool and snooker tables, table tennis, indoor bowls, outdoor bowling green, croquet and petanque areas. The Botanic also includes a childcare centre to bridge the gap between young and old.

The Botanic will one day offer 526 accommodation units. Stage one comprised 25 villas, which have all sold. A series of 32 apartments in the Nikau building have recently been released and 11 sold in the first week. Alan says the apartments on offer include one-bedroom at 65sqm, two-bedroom and two-bedroom-plus-study ranging from 80-95sqm and three-bedroom at approximately 106sqm.

The modern apartments with interior design by Space Studio all offer high studs and high quality fitouts. Based on biophilic design principles, interiors are designed to let nature in, and optimise mental and physical well-being, says Alan.

“Spaces welcome the flow of light and air inside, connecting with the external environment wherever possible. Incorporating organic materials, textures and patterns, the experience creates a sense of comfort and familiarity with the geometry of the natural world.

“Aspirational and inspiring spaces allow for new experiences, time to enjoy moments with friends, and a vibrant, active lifestyle. Interior materials and finishes are custom designed for style and ease of use,” he explains.

Homes in The Botanic are all positioned to take advantage of light and views, with visibility for an added sense of security. Taller buildings at the perimeter offer a sense of shelter, while leaving sight lines out to the surrounding green spaces.

Alan’s passion for seeing older people retain their independence and live their best lives comes from holding leadership roles in retirement and aged care in New Zealand for over two decades. His passion fuels the vision for the village, which is shared by a team of shareholders who each have a unique skill set and



The Botanic offers a pool, cafe, restaurant, snooker, table tennis and both indoor and outdoor bowls.

were chosen for their specialist expertise and proven capability to deliver on an architectural project of this scale and standard. The team consists of Wayne Wright, Kevin Clarke, Matthew Ellingham and Nathan Buckley. Together they bring to the project expansive knowledge

and capability in property development, a rich understanding of quality construction, and experience managing developments and delivering them on time to high standards. It’s been a winning combination and Alan says The Botanic has been extremely popular.

“With excellent, considered amenities, a great location near public transport and a full calendar, there’s always something to keep the mind alert and the body moving so that at The Botanic people truly have the freedom to live life as they choose.”

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