

*"...the provision of long-term, supported accommodation for the chronically mentally ill who are presently unable to live with the basic dignity to which every human being is entitled is not simply a "good idea". It is an absolute must..."*  
Patron, The Honourable Sir William Deane, 2007



Patron: The Hon. Sir William Deane

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## **HOME CELEBRATES ITS TURNING OF THE SOD(S)**

**Cnr Rutledge & Crawford Sts, Queanbeyan - on a cold, wet day:**

A truly tremendous occasion for HOME as it celebrated its Turning of the Sod(s) Ceremony earmarking commencement of construction of 20 self contained apartments, and a communal dining area and offices – construction will be complete in 10 months.

The event was supported by over 250 people delighting in a community's overwhelming 'Yes' to a group of people who too often get told 'No'. It included a live broadcast from local ABC Radio 666, and presentations from Sir William Deane (HOME Patron), The Hon Tanya Plibersek. (Fed Minister for Housing), & The Hon Steve Whan (Member - Monaro, & Minister of Emergency Services).

Not one, but *seven* sods were turned emphasizing the wide ranging support for the initiative; the seven sod turners were:

Sir William Deane  
The Hon Tanya Plibersek  
The Hon Dr Mike Kelly (Fed Member, Eden/Monaro)  
The Hon Steve Whan  
Mr Terry Snow (Snow Foundation)  
Mr Ian Reid (Tyne Reid Foundation)  
Catriona Fitzpatrick (Representing people with mental illness)

While the builders will now spend the next few months *doing their bit*, HOME will start to plan how to ensure its future residents are welcomed into a safe, loving environment that supports them to live active and fulfilling lives in the Queanbeyan community.

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