



## Russell Taylor Award For Design Excellence

*Sponsor, Stockland CEO Nick Perrignon unveils plaque to commemorate Allen Blood's win.*

### TOP HONOUR TO COCKBURN DESIGNER

IT is an almost impossible feat - finding consensus among nearly 30 different developers when it comes to urban design. And yet that is just what town planner and urban designer Allen Blood achieved in a bid to lay the groundwork for better new neighbourhoods south of Perth.

His proactive work has seen him honoured with a top urban design award.

Mr Blood was able to gain the cooperation of some 29 private developers to help put in place an environmentally sound, family-friendly blueprint for the next development front south.

The owners' landholdings ranged from 2.2ha to 48ha in a 230ha area spanning several suburbs around Banjup, creating an enormous logistical challenge. The area is a major growth region including Atwell, Aubin Grove, Hammond Park and Success - the latter numbering among Perth's top 10 fastest-growing suburbs.

Mr Blood represented the City of Cockburn in developing the blueprint and his skill in achieving consensus among the different landholders - while at the same time working with local, State Government and service authorities to achieve the desired outcomes - impressed the panel of judges who awarded him the Australian Association of Planning Consultants' (WA Division) top award for 2003.

The award is the State's pre-eminent recognition of individual achievement in urban design.



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The judges deemed the blueprint to be a sensitive response to a range of environmental, open space, transport and community facility issues. It enshrines the location of future retail centres, schools, parks, open green space, walkways and major roads to help promote better living for soon-to-be thriving communities.

Mr Blood's input has helped create a harmonious community blueprint for the area that will benefit the hundreds of WA families who will make it their home.

Of special significance is that he achieved a successful outcome within just 12 months of commencement. Similar projects have floundered on the drawing board for years - or resulted in inappropriate outcomes which can blot the landscape for generations to come.



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### PLAQUE UNVEILING

Now, a plaque commemorating Mr Blood's achievement has become a permanent fixture at "The Sanctuary" in Aubin Grove, one of the suburbs to benefit from the Southern Suburbs District Structure plan Mr Blood helped spearhead.

The plaque, sponsored by land developer Stockland was unveiled by Stockland CEO Nick Perrignon, Cockburn Mayor Stephen Lee and AAPC Chair Peter Ciemitis at a ceremony last week. The plaque can be found on a stone pedestrian bridge in Cape Le Grand Ave at "The Sanctuary"; itself an award winning estate, which received the Urban Development Institute's Judges Award for Excellence in 2004.

### ABOUT THE AWARD

The Russell D. Taylor Award for Excellence in Urban Design is the pre-eminent award in the State recognising an individual's contribution to the WA landscape, either urban or rural, whether a single project or spanning an entire geographical location.

It is named after the late Russell D. Taylor, a town planner and designer who was noted for his passionate support of social and land use issues and who worked extensively around WA, from driving the first peg for a standard gauge railway through the Avon Valley in 1961, to completing urban development studies for parts of Papua New Guinea in the 1970's.

An independent panel of experts, including architects, planners and government representatives, determines the award winner annually.

While other urban design awards celebrate organisations or businesses, the RDT Award, established in 1999, is unique in that it is solely awarded to individuals in virtual recognition of a lifetime of achievement.



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