

Sculpture sets botanic scene

The City of Casey has gained an artistic edge with the installation of an iconic sculpture at the Botanic Ridge development.

The developers last week welcomed the City of Casey mayor, Janet Halsall, and the ward councillor Colin Butler, to unveil a four-metre-tall sculpture by the renowned Victorian artist Rudi Jass.

Positioned at the Pearce Dale Road entrance to the scenic new community development, the appropriately named work, *Botanica*, sets an artistic tone that is expected to become a focal point for residents, friends, family and visitors.

The City of Casey recognised the unwilling of Botanica as artistically significant for the area, commending both the artist and Botanic Ridge representative Joe Cassera on the piece.

Artist Rudi Jass said the work was inspired by the estate's natural botanic surrounds. It features silver leaves sprouting from a rustic metal base.

Mr Jass said the he hoped his work would provide a welcoming entrance feature and be the source of a sense of pride for residents.

"The theme of the artwork is nature; I wanted the piece to emulate the beauty of its location and encapsulate the essence of its natural surrounds," he said.

"I think the result fits well within the community environment of Botanic Ridge and I like to think this piece will awaken people to the importance and value of the precious natural surroundings of the area."

Mr Cassera, who is Botanic Ridge's development manager, said the sculpture had added an impressive aesthetic touch to the already scenic location.

"The design is truly fantastic; the piece stands out, yet fits in beautifully with the surrounding environment," he said.

"Botanic Ridge aims to offer residents a unique living environment with interesting public space and parkland as well as larger rural-style areas which Botanica fits perfectly."

Offering a range of allotments with an average size of 800 square metres, Botanic Ridge has a combination of open space, attractive parkland and now a stunning entry feature.

It could be seen as an ideal place to raise a family, with its big backyards providing room to grow. People considering building a home in this development can contact Heather on 9785 9335

visit the on-site sales suite from noon to 5pm, Saturday to Thursday, or log on to www.botanicridge.com.au.

Artist Rudi Jass, Botanic Ridge development manager Joe Cassera, City of Casey Mayor Cr Janet Halsall and Cr Colin Butler

