

Monday February 4, 2008

**MEDIA RELEASE...MEDIA RELEASE....MEDIA**

## **Pratt tips in \$100,000**

The Pratt Foundation has announced a \$100,000 grant toward construction of Shepparton Village's new \$10 5 million aged care facility.

Through the Foundation, Richard and Jeanne Pratt are among Australia's major private philanthropists.

Mr Pratt spent part of his childhood in the region and has a strong affinity with Shepparton. The Pratt's came to Australia from Poland in the lead up to World War Two, bought an orchard and settled in the small Jewish community at Shepparton East.

Mr Pratt attended Shepparton High School before the family shifted to Melbourne to establish Visy. The privately owned packaging and recycling company has grown to employ more than 9000 people in Australasia and the U.S.

Chairman of the Shepparton Village's "Building Our Future" Campaign Ross Turnbull welcomed the generous donation, the largest received to date in the campaign.

Work is well underway on the new facility at Kialla Gardens Village that will house 64-frail and elderly residents.

The new building is replacing outdated accommodation at Tarcoola Village with work due for completion in October 2008.

Shepparton Villages is a not for profit community based organisation providing residential care for 647 people in Shepparton, Mooroopna and Kialla.

Mr Turnbull said he hoped others would be inspired by the Pratt contribution and give to the appeal.

"Not everyone can give \$100.000 of course but even the smallest donations are gratefully accepted," he said.

To make a donation please telephone 58320855.

### **Release end**

For more information telephone Jim Cox at Shepparton Villages on 58320855.