

Projects honour soldiers

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Soldiers stand tall in Engadine and Lindfield.

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Parveen and Madhu Dhingra bought a block of land in the DHA housing project Crimson Hill at Lindfield.

In a salute to the bravery of our Anzac soldiers, two Sydney communities have honoured their memory for future generations.

In Engadine, a five-storey-high image of a soldier has been unveiled on the Allen Jack+Cottier-designed aged-care facility.

And in Lindfield, the Crimson Hill residential development - a mix of apartments, townhouses and houses - has named each of its precincts after war heroes.



Artist's impression: Dunstan Grove, Crimson Hill.

Five men awarded with the Victoria Cross for their bravery during the 1915 Battle of Lone Pine have been remembered in the naming of the 14-hectare Defence Housing Australia (DHA) Lindfield development.

The latest stage of housing lots to be released in May is named Dunstan Grove in memory of William Dunstan.

John Hamilton was remembered in the naming of the first release, Hamilton Corner.





Private Chris Murray and four-year-old Samuel Foster attend the unveiling of the artwork of a soldier on the Allen Jack+Cottier designed Aged Care Facility at Engadine Town Square.

Even the project's name, Crimson Hill reflects the colour of the ribbon attached to the Victoria Cross medal.

The local council, Ku-ring-gai, has also jumped on board by naming a community centre after VC recipient Blair Wark and a sports field after military journalist Charles Bean.

Parveen Dhingra, 54 of Waitara, said he and his wife, Madhu were downsizing when they came across the Crimson Hill development.

Initially they were drawn to the location, design and architecture.

As they researched the project, they found that half of the planned 345 residences will be used for defence staff housing – something they both agree is a good thing.

"I was really impressed by the way it was named after military heroes," said Mr Dhingra.

"I'm sure with half the residents coming from a defence background there will be Anzac Day memorial events held at Crimson Hill each year."

The designer of the towering soldier image on Engadine's new aged-care facility, Michael Heenan, said he tries hard to hold back the tears at Anzac Day ceremonies.

Mr Heenan, principal and chief executive officer of architectural firm, Allen Jack+Cottier, designed the emotive image as a tribute to war veterans, many of whom will be housed in the new facility.

"To me it's relevant to who will be living in the building – it will represent their history, Mr Heenan said.

The developer for the project, Peter Moran of Moran Healthcare Group, said: "We know Engadine is very proud of its World War One veterans."

Indeed, several streets are named in remembrance of the war such as Gallipoli Lane, Amiens and Anzac avenues and Verdun Place.

"We wanted to provide the community with something that would honour the remembrance of the soldiers who didn't return from war," Mr Moran said.

The six-storey facility of 142 rooms, which opens next week, is in the Engadine town centre.

Mr Moran said it will allow residents to remain part of the community with cafes, hairdressers and shops all around them. They'll be able to attend the annual Anzac Day ceremonies which will be held in the town square.



Bruce Heyhoe, 7th Battalion and his grandson, also Bruce Heyhoe, 2-years-old attend the unveiling of the artwork of a soldier on the Allen Jack+Cottier designed Aged Care Facility at Engadine Town Square.

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