

Shenhua opens new door for Yallambee residents

BY MARIE HOBSON

AN upgrade valued at \$230,000 was officially opened by Shenhua Watermark Coal executive member, Chen Gang, at Yallambee Homes for the Aged on Tuesday morning.

The funding was part of Shenhua's commitment of \$1 million each year to community projects during its six-year feasibility study and exploration licence.

Yallambee was one of 12 successful applicants from the 63 applying for grants for local projects and the committee and residents couldn't be happier.

Yallambee President Delores Worthington expressed sincere appreciation to Shenhua for its support.

"We could never have afforded the upgrade without this grant and we are grateful to Shenhua and the selection committee for choosing Yallambee," she said.

"This has been needed for a long time and the residents are delighted with their new bathrooms and stoves."

Yallambee does not qualify for government subsidies and relies on rentals and donations to meet its running costs.

Officially opened by WC Wentworth MHR,

on August 24, 1968, Yallambee welcomed its first residents in October 1963.

It was the first facility of its kind in the region.

Shenhua's Joe Clayton said he is always inspired by local volunteers who give so much time and energy to places like Yallambee.

"Your group of volunteers deserve the thanks for the wonderful work you do in the community," he said.

"You all work together to get results and it is a privilege to know you."

The \$230,000 grant went towards bathroom upgrades in all 13 units, with the original tilux walls replaced with tiles and new fittings.

The hot water systems behind bathroom doors were moved outside creating more space for residents.

The kitchens had their full-size stoves replaced with smaller versions, consisting of two hot plates and an oven, with a storage cupboard installed underneath and new taps.

The supervising builder was John Bingham, with Andrew Muddle carrying out the plumbing and Col Sills responsible

for the electrical work. The tiler was Steve Middleton.

The name Yallambee means "To Dwell at Ease" and the committee believes the already happy place will now be even happier for residents.



SHENHUA Watermark Coal executive member, Chen Gang, unveiling the plaque to officially open the refurbishments funded by the company.



A HAPPY gathering of tradies, residents, Yallambee committee members and Shenhua Watermark Coal representatives, Joe Clayton, Chen Gang and Grayson Wolfgang, at Yallambee for the official opening of the refurbishment funded by the Shenhua Community Fund to the tune of \$230,000.