

## Lakeview Site Sod Turned



The Minister for Ageing The Hon Justine Elliot took part in the ground breaking ceremony for the South Eastern Region's new 100 unit residential aged care service at Shellharbour and said it was an exciting project and that there was strong community support for this announcement.

Around 60 people, including representatives from Government, council, Uniting Church and congregations, project managers, staff and Lakeview Village residents witnessed the official turning of the first sod by the Minister together with Gillian McFee Director UnitingCare Ageing NSW.ACT.

In welcoming everyone to the ceremony, Joe Gaudiosi paid tribute to the original Board of the Lakeview Retirement Village who had the foresight back in 1990 to acquire the land, and said, "in 1996, as part of a master plan for the site they constructed the Lakeview Retirement Village, consisting of 25 Independent Living Units with a plan to build a residential aged care service in the future. That future has arrived."

Executive Director UnitingCare NSW.ACT Rev Harry Herbert explained to everyone that with the recent acquisition of a further 4.2 hectares of nearby land destined for a seniors precinct, that UnitingCare was now one of the largest landholders in Shellharbour and would be a good partner for the Shellharbour community.

Construction of the residential aged care service is planned to commence by end of June with completion expected late 2010.

*Pictured above: Member for Throsby Jennie George, Gillian McFee Director UnitingCare Ageing, The Hon Justine Elliot Minister for Ageing and Joe Gaudiosi Regional Director*