



## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

with Sharon Hansen



# A step in the right direction

**Growing old is a fact of life.**

Most people embrace the fact greying hair and wrinkles are inevitable, however they relish in the thought that with age comes wisdom and knowledge.

But for whatever reason, most of us will need some type of care and someone to lend a helping hand as the years pass.

Australia's population is ageing rapidly so the demand on our health system will continue to increase.

Therefore it is paramount that we plan to have qualified workers in this sector to ensure that adequate care is given.

An aged care home should make its residents feel as if they are at home.

One way of achieving this is through compassionate and caring staff.

It is important we attract dedicated and passionate staff such as Crystal Snewin (see page three).

**The Federal Government has allocated \$9 million to attract more staff to the industry and fill the needs of rural and regional aged care facilities.**

For this the Government must be commended.

However, there is still the ongoing problem of insufficient beds and places in aged care facilities for those in need of such services.

The Federal and State governments must work together now before it is too late.

As a person grows older they would like to think they would be provided with the dignity and respect they deserve.

Therefore it is imperative the aged care system is not overlooked.

Let's hope this funding is a sign of things to come.

Responsibility for election comment appearing in The Murray Valley Standard is taken by Sharon Hansen, Adelaide Road, Murray Bridge.