



■ An artists impression of the new Balcatta Villas.

# New villas offer essential features for pensioners

By GRAHAM MADIGAN

EIGHT more mature aged pensioners' villas are currently under construction for the Australian Pensioners' League (APL) in Balcatta. The villas are situated in Beryl Street, bound by Wanneroo Road and Main Street.

This APL initiative is added to many similar successful developments throughout Perth, Mandurah and Bunbury in order to assist in housing for the mature aged.

Designed by well known Perth architectural practice John Kannis and Associates Pty Ltd the villas incorporate many features essential

to the aged. Some standard items common on all developments by the Australian Pensioners' League are door and window barrier security screens, non-slip floor tiles to all laundries and bathrooms and stainless steel grab rails. The finishes are above standard and come complete with ovens, gas cook tops, gas storage hot water systems, carpets including underlay, built-in robes, skylights and carpets.

One of the requirements briefed to the architect by APL was to eliminate through good design the institutional atmosphere found in many aged persons developments.

Careful planning with the inclusion of additional finishes have been incorporated within the development such as colonial entry doors with decorative glass, brass mirrored sliding robe doors, polished brass door furniture, high quality tap fittings and bathroom accessories and light fittings throughout.

The villas are located close to public transport, shopping centres, churches and have been designed so as to provide an unusual and generous open area within the centre of the development with the provision of off street parking for visitors and are situated directly

opposite public parkland. The common grounds include sensor controlled security lighting and are fully landscaped and automatically reticulated. Estimated completion date is January 31st, 1999.

Last year John Kannis was awarded a certificate for providing services to the aged by APL in 'Recognition of value contribution, expertise and assistance in the design and management of the League's joint venture housing projects in conjunction with Homeswest.' The award was presented by Sir Charles Court, at the League's 63rd Annual Congress.