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## **Family ties: Multi-generational living with a twist reigns in Chisholm community**

While multi-generational living is on the rise, a masterplanned community in Chisholm is experiencing an adjacent trend with multiple generations from the same family all purchasing minutes from each other within the community.

According to the Waterford by AVID Property Group (AVID) team, there are at least 20 purchasers in the community who have one or more other family members living within Waterford or the AVID-owned Harvest community next door.

Deborah Fisher, who made the move to the Harvest neighbourhood within Waterford with her husband Les in 2018, is among this purchaser group, having moved just a few streets away from her two children who both live in the community with their respective families.

While their son was the first to make the move to the community, followed a few years later by their daughter, Ms Fisher and her husband, who previously lived on a five-acre block in the Port Stephens council area, were unsure at first how their adult children would respond to them downsizing and moving so close to them.

"A residential community was an easy choice because we were able to downsize on land but maintain a large family home; we could have a 'retired lifestyle' without being in a retirement village or losing our independence," Ms Fisher said.

"When we first told our kids 'we've bought land in the Harvest neighbourhood and we're only going to be two minutes away from you,' the response was not entirely enthusiastic and there was certainly a concern that we'd be around every five minutes checking up on them.

"But the reality has been wonderful, if we need them or they need us we can be there to support each other with everything from school drop off to looking after the little ones over the holidays.

"It's lovely being close to family but beyond that we have also been able to build connections with residents at all age levels, from our children's friends and neighbours to parents at the local school our grandchildren go to. We haven't been pigeon-holed into a neighbourhood of only people in our age group," she said.

Research has shown that befriending someone from a different generation is also an effective way to limit feelings of loneliness by broadening networks, increasing social inclusion, and offering a different kind of support<sup>1</sup>.

AVID NSW Project Director Danny Boubli said family referrals, like the Fisher family, was a testament to the welcoming nature of Waterford.

“Having neighbours and family in your corner, close by is something that is often overlooked as an important part of overall wellbeing,” Mr Boubli said.

“The turn-out at resident events throughout the year is always high and I am endlessly impressed by the sociable, friendly nature of the community.”

Another Waterford resident, [Jack O'Connor](#), recently purchased for the third time in the community – following the lead of his parents who built their first Waterford home six years ago, and his sister who also lives just a stone’s throw away from him in the masterplanned community.

Mr O'Connor shared that his family was initially drawn to Waterford because of the natural, calming surroundings of the community.

“The homes that my family and I have lived in over the years in Waterford have all been either close to, or facing, beautiful natural enclaves. Having those relaxing landscapes surrounding you is wonderful,” Mr O'Connor said.

“Having open green and blue spaces so close to home to stroll through, and to relax in on the weekends with our family is really beneficial for our lifestyle and overall wellbeing.”

To find out more about Waterford, visit [www.waterford.avid.com.au](http://www.waterford.avid.com.au).

#### Reference:

1. [Intergenerational Friendship as a Conduit for Social Inclusion? Insights from the “Bookends” | Article | Social Inclusion \(cogitatiopress.com\)](#)

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#### About Waterford by AVID Property Group

Waterford is part of AVID Property Group’s growing portfolio of exceptional master-planned communities, Waterford is a 173ha community in East Maitland, New South Wales. Offering residents large blocks, beautiful parks and open spaces, the community’s residents enjoy close access to new and emerging amenities including new local schools St Bede’s Catholic College and St Aloysius Catholic Primary School, childcare, retail amenities and the new Maitland Hospital. For more information visit: [www.waterfordliving.com.au](http://www.waterfordliving.com.au).

#### About AVID Property Group

AVID Property Group (AVID) is an award-winning Australian builder-developer, responsible for a diversified selection of residential masterplanned communities, completed houses and apartments, with 38 developments, located in key growth areas across Australia’s eastern seaboard.

AVID has a proven track record with the delivery of \$5.2 billion worth of projects over the past 16 years. AVID’s current portfolio will see the delivery of 15,000 blocks with a gross revenue pipeline of \$4.9 billion.

# Media Release



With a strong record of delivering connected and vibrant communities, AVID and its subsidiaries have created great homes and places for more than 75,000 Australians to live out their dream lifestyle.

Led by highly experienced senior management, AVID brings people together to deliver exceptional communities, valuable shareholder returns and thriving environments for its customers.

For more information, visit [www.avid.com.au](http://www.avid.com.au).

**For further information, please contact:**

**BBS Communications Group:**

Georgia Trainor

Consultant

[gtrainor@bbscommunications.com.au](mailto:gtrainor@bbscommunications.com.au)

0400 125 292 | 07 3221 6711

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