

United nations of workers win security



Cottesloe crowd ... David Cox, left, and Andrew Giles on the right, listen as carer Sangay Choden talks about Curtin Heritage Living's new labour agreement. Photo: Billie Fairclough

By DAVID COHEN

Curtin Heritage Living is the first aged care provider to sign a labour agreement to help its workers with permanent residency.

"This agreement is a major milestone for the whole industry," CHL's managing director David Cox said.

People from 12 countries work at CHL and Shine Community Care, also in Cottesloe.

Mr Cox said many workers were from Bhutan, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

"Those staff approached us and asked us to try (to get an agreement)," Mr Cox said.

"It sparked our conversation with the unions and we worked together on it."

The pioneering agreement was finalised with the support of the United Workers Union, and announced by federal immigration minister Andrew Giles at CHL's care facility in

south Cottesloe on Monday.

It is expected the agreement will support other providers to more easily enter an agreement with the minister, and help with the critical skills shortage in aged care.

"Basically, we did it because no-one else would," Mr Cox said.

"The more than 300 people who come to work for us aren't from the western suburbs: they come from afar."

Under the previous agreement, workers were on a visa and did not have the security of permanent residency.

"Those who are eligible will benefit from access to secure employment opportunities in Australia, helping them to build a stable future for themselves and their families," Mr Cox said.

UWU aged care director Carolyn Smith said the measures were an important step towards addressing the workforce issues in aged care.

Names missed from \$1m murder list

By BRET CHRISTIAN

The police list of million-dollar rewards in cases of unsolved murders in WA has some glaring gaps.

They include the deaths of Susan Christie and Phillip Walsham, for which men were convicted and jailed but later exonerated on appeal.

However the state has offered rewards in other cases where men have been exonerated after being wrongfully charged and/or convicted for murder.

This week the government offered a standard \$1million reward for information leading to the solving of a total of 64

murders or disappearances.

Susan Christie, of Daglish, is missing from the list. She was last seen on November 15 2001 and her ex-husband was convicted of her murder on circumstantial evidence, but the Court of Appeal released him from jail. Her assumed murder remains unsolved, yet no reward is offered for information about it.

Phillip Walsham was found fatally injured on Mitchell Freeway below the Stirling train station pedestrian overpass in 1998. Three young men were convicted of murder, but released after the appeal court ruled they could not have had

time to reach the scene at the time to inflict the fatal injuries on him. That case also remains unsolved.

Other cases in which men were charged with murder but released on appeal or acquitted by a jury do appear on the \$1million reward list.

Those victims include:

- Corryn Rayney, murdered in 2007 and buried in Kings Park. Her husband was charged with her murder but found not guilty by a judge sitting alone. A subsequent appeal against his acquittal was dismissed.
- Stacey Thorne, stabbed to

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Bold cats unwanted

Bold Park and other outdoor areas could be declared no-go zones for cats following this week's annual electors meeting at Cambridge council.

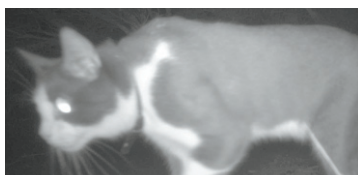
Anne Rainbow, a Floreat vet with 25 years' experience, urged the council to consider introducing a new local law to prevent domestic and stray cats from preying in natural

habitat areas.

"Roving cats do cause a lot of death of native animals," Dr Rainbow told Tuesday night's meeting.

"Currently there is no mechanism for keeping domestic or stray cats in the Town of Cambridge from entering Bold Park."

Roaming cats kill an estimat-



Nocturnal menace ... cat on the prowl.

ed 390 million creatures every year in Australia, she said.

Bold Park had "impressive biodiversity" with 1000 native and non-native species of flora,

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Claremont
FAMILY DENTAL
We welcome
Dr. Tina Morris
to CLAREMONT FAMILY DENTAL

Tina is a locally trained dentist, graduating with honours from the University of Western Australia in 1999, and achieving the distinction of finishing top of her class.

Tina has worked at the Royal Military College in Duntroon, and more recently in private practice in Cottesloe and Denmark.

Tina enjoys all aspects of dentistry, having a particular interest in cosmetic work and dental implants and continues to regularly attend further education courses all over Australia and internationally. **New and past patients welcomed.**

Please phone 9385 2418 for appointments with Dr Tina Morris.

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