

UNSUNG HEROES

Parliament house is lined with portraits. But none quite like Dee Jackson's.

"I've just always loved faces, ever since I was a schoolgirl drawing pictures of George Harrison on my books," said the Roseville artist, whose portrait of aged-care workers has been selected to hang at Parliament House in Canberra as part of new exhibition of portraits of 'unsung heroes'.

"Aged care is so often overlooked but the people who work in it are heroes and I've thought so from the first time I saw them," she said. "They do a truly amazing job dealing with people who are often a little lost. They are just really lovely people."

Ms Jackson's watercolour portrait, *RSL ANZAC Village — Heroes Indeed* was inspired by the people at the RSL Anzac



Dee Jackson is celebrating the unsung heroes of aged care with her portrait, which will be hung at Parliament House in Canberra.

Photo: SARA NIXON

aged-care village in Narrabeen where her 92-year-old mother is a resident, and in particular by carer Michael Dirou who Ms Jackson described as a "lovely, unassuming person".

"That's why I put him in the background because that's always where he is, helping others and never expecting anything in return," Ms Jackson said. Joining him

in the portrait are hostel resident and former Second World War gunner, Shirley Laycock, still an active charity worker despite being nearly blind, and hostel cleaner Jamie McFarlane.



What's your favourite portrait? Tell us at www.mynorthside.com.au