

# our NEWS

August  
2020

## From our Chairman



I was very pleased to be able to visit our two building sites last month to see how they are progressing. Our modernisation program is being wholly self-funded from our investments, which were all made possible by past benefactors through bequests, donations and fundraising. We owe them our thanks for making this possible.

Frederic Ozanam (one of the founders of the Society of St Vincent de Paul) is credited as saying that he was “*completely convinced that when one does a deed of charity one need not worry about where the money will come from: it will always come.*” Whilst we are fortunate that the NDIS now largely funds the operations of Seton Villa, the Board is required to be more deliberate about the sustainable future of our organisation. The ability to fund similar projects in the future requires Seton Villa to develop a more purposeful approach to fundraising. Peter will be communicating more about this as we develop our programs and organisational capacity for this important work.

The management of COVID-19 issues continue to be a major consideration in our day-to-day discussions. We have been fortunate (through good planning, careful management, and a little luck) that we have not seen it surface in our homes. A big thank you to all the staff and carers for their attention to the details that will hopefully continue to keep it this way.

Marco Colli  
Chairman, Seton Villa

## From our CEO

### “Building our Bright Future” Status Report

I am delighted to announce that we have now purchased our second new property for redevelopment at 91 Bridge Road, Ryde. This property is a large 923m<sup>2</sup>, flat block with no trees to hinder construction of a new five bedroom Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) residence as part of our Asset Redevelopment Program. We are currently assessing which house will transition to this new property, which sits almost half-way between Keiley Street and Lavarack Street.

Construction at both Keiley and Lavarack has stepped up now that the roof is in place for both properties and we are not so subjected to weather delays. Internal lining is complete at Keiley Street with bathroom tiling to commence shortly. Air-conditioning and fire sprinklers are currently being installed at Lavarack Street. Hand-over of both properties is currently scheduled for the end of October 2020, with residents from Culloden and Tulip preparing to transition into their new homes before the end of this year.



## Capital Gift Campaign

Now that construction is steaming ahead, we are about to launch a Capital Gift Campaign to raise a target amount of \$400,000 to purchase new furnishings and fixtures for the common areas of the new houses.

In addition to lounges, dining settings, smart TVs and outdoor furniture, we are wanting to provide good quality artwork and indoor plants to make the houses attractive and homely for the residents. These funds are required in addition to the monies provided by the Daughters of Charity for rebuilding the current houses.

I will provide you with further information and opportunity to contribute over coming months.

## NDIS Commission Certification Audit

**We have now received the Certification Audit Report from BSI with their recommendation for full re-registration submitted to the NDIS Commission on 22 June 2020. Consistent with the verbal exit interview with the audit team, the report is very complimentary about Seton Villa's performance. The Executive Summary (in part) states:**

*"Seton Villa requires Certification against the relevant parts of the NDIS Practice Standards. It was highly evident, that Seton Villa was totally committed to delivering high quality NDIS services and had documentary evidence to meet the NDIS Practice Standards. Seton Villa strengths, that related to the core module, included but not limited to;*

- *Seton Villa Participants were accessing supports that promote, uphold and respect their legal and human rights and this enabled the Seton Villa participants to exercise informed choice and control.*
- *Highly Effective Operational and Governance arrangements,*
- *Highly Effective Management Systems related to Safety, Human Resource and Financial Management,*
- *Highly Effective Practices for the Provision of Support and NDIS supports were delivered in Safe Environments.*

*The NDIS participants/parents interviewed, provided comments that concluded to the auditors they were highly satisfied with the NDIS supports delivered by Seton Villa staff. The Seton Villa Board, management and staff need to be commended for delivering quality services to their NDIS participants."*

Thank-you again to those families that provided very positive feedback about our work. We now await formal confirmation of our renewed status from the NDIS Commission.



NDIS Quality  
and Safeguards  
Commission

## COVID-19

Along with you I'm sure, I had hoped this Newsletter would be celebrating the end of COVID-19 across our community and nation. Alas, it continues to spread through a second wave, and we continue to work very hard to keep everybody safe and well.

I am particularly grateful to Seton Villa House Managers and Community Support Workers for maintaining their focus on hand-washing and other infection control measures, including the recent introduction of face masks whilst on shift, that continue to be monitored by our Clinical Nurse Consultant, Sing Ting. Sing is certainly a great asset to our management team in these challenging times.

I have been providing you with regular email updates around COVID planning, including the purchase of tablet devices to facilitate virtual contact between residents and families and the enjoyment of music, videos and games. I trust you have found this technology helpful for keeping in touch with your loved ones. House Managers have also recently introduced weekly newsletters to share some of the highlights that have been taking place in each of the Seton Villa houses in order to keep you as informed as possible in this COVID season.

Stay safe and well everyone!

