

our NEWS

April
2021

From our Chairman



Since the last newsletter we have ‘dipped our toe’ into the big world of social media to promote Seton Villa, as part of our strategy to specifically see if this is a viable fundraising medium. So far, we have raised a modest amount in donations for furnishing the new homes via the crowdfunding campaign Homes For Life. The campaign has also had some success in helping Seton Villa to be recognised more widely in the community. I would like to thank all those involved for their input and support, but especially want to highlight Glenys Robinson for her tremendously enthusiastic promotion of Seton Villa. More in Peter’s report about how you can all be involved.

The Board is also delighted that the next home has started construction. This puts us on schedule to deliver two more dwellings by the end of this year, pending timely approvals by Ryde Council.

Finally, all staff are also involved in the ‘go-live’ of our new IT systems and processes. These have been extensively tested but some problems only emerge with real-life use. There should be no degradation to services provided so please alert Peter if you perceive any changes over the coming weeks.

Marco Colli
Chairman, Seton Villa

From our CEO

“Building our Bright Future” Status Report

I am delighted to share the experience of residents at Rosalie’s Place who hosted 2GB Drive presenter Jim Wilson for morning tea on Monday 12 April 2021. Jim had interviewed Glenys Robinson on air following receipt of the media release detailing the official ‘ribbon cutting’ ceremonies for our two new houses in February. Jim subsequently accepted an invitation from Carmel and Susie – who are both fans of Jim – to visit their new home!

Jim described Rosalie’s Place as “brilliant” and congratulated Seton Villa on such a great initiative. He is keen to promote our crowdfunding campaign Homes For Life on his radio program.





“Building our Bright Future” Status Report continued

We have now commenced construction of our third new house at 91 Bridge Road Ryde – named Leia’s Place by the residents of Dover Street after Princess Leia of Star Wars fame. For those not familiar with Star Wars, Princess Leia was one of the Empire’s greatest leaders, fearless and dedicated to ending the Empire’s tyranny. Leia ranked among the galaxy’s great heroes. We’re pleased to empower the residents with choosing such a strong and iconic female heroine for their home.

Our builder, Ronnie Beani, is very excited to get started. With good weather on the horizon he is aiming for completion by the end of October 2021. Referring to Rosalie’s Place, Ronnie is quoted on our crowdfunding site <https://homes.setonvilla.org.au> as saying:

“This was the most amazing experience I’ve ever had as a builder. People with intellectual disabilities need purpose-built homes - like this one, provided by Seton Villa. Can you help?”

We will be following the construction of Leia’s Place on Facebook and as part of the crowdfunding campaign Homes For Life. The construction progress will show potential donors the actual house they will be helping to fit out and furnish for our residents. Please consider a donation if you are able to contribute. Can I also ask that you regularly ‘like’ and ‘share’ our facebook.com/setonvillamarsfield page content in order to lift our social media profile and help to add more donors to our new database.



HOMES FOR LIFE Seton Villa

With your help, she will live her best life.

Help build homes for life for women with intel. Carmel! It looks nice and tidy.

Donate Now. Help build homes

- \$29** Toaster
- \$44** Kettle
- \$169** Microwave
- \$400** Shower handles

44%

Created by Australia Dobbies

COVID-19

As you will all be aware from my recent email, the rollout of the Pfizer (Comirnaty) vaccine has been held up due to supply and logistics issues. The Government is keen to get the inreach vaccination service to residential disability centres back on track – although we could still be waiting for a few more months. In the interim, we have proceeded with our annual flu vaccination program and I am hopeful to achieve 100% coverage by the end of April 2021. We will then be well positioned to receive the COVID vaccination anytime from mid-May 2021.

Although we are in a good place with no community transmission of COVID-19 across NSW for at least two months now, we remain vigilant with handwashing, sanitiser, touch-point cleaning and temperature checks across all houses. I think everyone in the community is looking forward to a further reduced COVID risk once the majority of the population have received the vaccination.

As noted previously, masks are no longer required to be worn by staff or visitors within the houses and there are currently no restrictions on the size of gatherings. We continue to monitor the NSW Health site daily for any changes to the guidelines for residential disability care providers.

HR Matters

I am hopeful that when this newsletter reaches you, we will have made an appointment to the **Operations Manager** role vacated by Dino. Being such an important position for our future success, I have been searching for just the right fit for Seton Villa – and hopefully found that person! My thanks to Rhondda for her willingness to act in this role temporarily. Sadly, our **Oslo Street House Manager**, Emma, has recently departed from her role for personal reasons. We are currently advertising this position and have been encouraged by the quality of the applicants. I will provide further details as soon as possible.



Seton Villa Digital Ecosystem

Digital Technology Transformation Project

We plan to ‘Go Live’ on 30 April 2021 with our new digital technology ecosystem that integrates the Customer Relationship Management system (Lumary CRM) with a new Human Resources Information System (Employee Connect), a new rostering system (Easy Employer) and Accounting system (Xero). Collectively, this digital ecosystem will eliminate many manual processes and includes direct NDIS billing from Lumary, an employee ‘self-service’ portal and mobile application for viewing rosters, shift sign-on and leave requests. This will bring financial benefit to the organisation over time.

As part of this new ecosystem, we will be bringing payroll in-house and leveraging Teresa’s payroll expertise over many years. A big thank-you to Chandra, Jess, Teresa and House Managers who have all given above and beyond to achieve this great step change for Seton Villa.