

our NEWS

December
2021

From our Chairman



The recent NDS *State of the Disability Sector Report* is subtitled “Frustration. Pessimism. Confusion. Distress.” and is a sobering reflection on perceptions on the current state of the NDIS. Many providers are finding themselves on the brink of financial distress; clients are having their support plans aggressively challenged to reduce costs wherever possible.

Seton Villa is in a very fortunate position compared to many others. We have more than adequate short and long-term reserves and a management team that is preparing for further downward cost pressures. However, if you have the opportunity, please ensure that your concerns are voiced to your State and Federal representatives.

Our latest new home is now replete with residents and we are expecting that the fourth house (Lavender Cottage), will be handed over for occupation early in the new year. We are looking forward forward to completing the final three homes in the next year or so!

Finally, the Board and I wish you all health, happiness, and peace during this holiday season and through the coming year. We look forward to your continued support in 2022 and hope that we will again be able to meet you in person.

Marco Colli
Chairman, Seton Villa

From our CEO “Building our Bright Future” Status Report

I am delighted to advise that three of our Dover Street residents successfully moved into their new SDA home – Leia’s Place – on Monday 15 November 2021. The rain stayed away, and everything went very smoothly. Liana, Michelle and Julie thoroughly enjoyed their new lounge suites and outdoor setting – including the two-seater in the back yard.



From our CEO continued

They all had great fun unpacking their belongings in their new bedrooms too.



We are hopeful that Stephanie and Alex will be able to join their housemates in the near future.

In addition to the joy on their faces, Leia's Place has had a marked positive impact upon the atmosphere in the home. To date we have not experienced any tension or behavioural incidents between the residents – which was commonplace whilst living at Dover Street. The wider corridors and open spaces, along with the beautiful décor, have generated a sense of calm and happiness for the women that is delightful for the staff to experience.

We have also completed the training for staff in the use of our new bathroom equipment that will ensure that ablutions can be undertaken safely for residents and staff. Our recent donation of \$100,000 to the Homes For Life crowdfunding campaign has enabled us to purchase this state-of-the-art equipment.





Fundraising

Please continue to 'like' our [facebook.com/setonvillamarsfield](https://www.facebook.com/setonvillamarsfield) page where we have commenced the second phase of the fundraising campaign to purchase a wheelchair hoist for Leia's Place van. We will also continue to track the progress of Lavender Cottage, which is due for completion in early February 2022.



Human Resource Matters

As anticipated in my recent email to you all, **Steffani-Jade McDonagh has now commenced in the role of Head of Operations.** Steff is a senior leader with international experience in both aged care and disability sectors. Prior to moving to Australia, Steff held CEO and Director roles in charities in London and Ireland, in addition to a regular guest lecturing role at the University of Limerick. After relocating she took a deliberate decision to change the focus of her career by selecting roles that allow her to interact more directly with clients and their families, the source of motivation for her work. We warmly welcome Steff to Seton Villa.



Thankfully, we are approaching the end of a very challenging year and Christmas is nearly upon us. Many of you have been joining with the Seton community for Christmas lunches at some of our houses. Rosalie's Place was certainly buzzing!



I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a restful and peace-filled Christmas ahead of what will be a very busy year for Seton Villa in 2022. Please also remember to complete the online stakeholder satisfaction survey before 9 January 2022.

Peter Gardiner – CEO, Seton Villa