

# our NEWS

April  
2022

## From our Chairman



I had the pleasure of attending the recent official ‘openings’ of Lavender Cottage and Leia’s Place on Wednesday 20 April. It was great to see the large turnout of residents alongside families, staff, supporters, and dignitaries. After a huge thunderstorm the night before, we were blessed with fantastic sunny and warm weather that added to the happy occasion.

We are past half-way through our construction program and, with the plans of the next two homes now approved by Council, we are on track for project completion mid next year. Once again, thank you to all those involved in the project to date - these things don't happen without a lot of teamwork.

Marco Colli  
Chairman, Seton Villa

## From our CEO “Building our Bright Future” Status Report

Following the recent handover of Lavender Cottage to the residents of David Avenue, and a period of respite from COVID infections, we were able to hold ribbon-cutting ceremonies for both Lavender Cottage and Leia’s Place under sunny blue skies on Wednesday 20 April 2022. This occasion was another Red-Letter day for Seton Villa, with special guests including the Hon Victor Dominello, MP Member for Ryde and NSW Minister for Customer Service; the Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC, NSW Minister for Communities and Justice and Minister for Disability Services; Cllr Jordan Lane, Mayor of Ryde City Council; and Sr Ellen Flynn, Provincial, Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul, Province of Rosalie Rendu, who is visiting Australia from the UK.



## From our CEO continued

Also joining us on the day was a representative of the Bernard Curran Foundation, Charles Curran (brother of previous resident Jenny Curran), who has been a great supporter of our work for many years. Our most recent major donor, Anne, was a last-minute apology due to COVID. She was extremely disappointed to miss the event and is keen for another opportunity to see the joy that the new homes have brought to the residents. Her donation 'story' was recently published in the Autumn edition of *The Record* – a publication of the St Vincent de Paul Society National Council of Australia, see page 26 ([The Record | St Vincent de Paul Society National Council of Australia – The Record | St Vincent de Paul Society National Council of Australia](#) (vinnies.org.au))

Lavender Cottage residents Michelle, Vanessa and Marlene, participated in the ribbon-cutting ceremony and Vanessa gave a short welcome address!



Later at Leia's Place, the Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC assisted the residents with the ribbon-cutting. After being shown through the home by residents Michelle, Liana, Alex and Julie, everyone enjoyed a light luncheon in the backyard. Our builder, Ronnie, was delighted to receive so many positive comments from families about the design and quality of both new houses.



## From our CEO continued

We are now past the half-way point in our ambitious Asset Redevelopment Program and have recently received Development Consent from Ryde City Council for the knock-down and rebuild of our old Dover Street house (artist impression below). This will enable us to get our fifth new SDA Improved Livability Home underway towards the end of May 2022.

In addition, we have purchased the property at 4 Koorong Street, Marsfield from the Daughters of Charity, to replace our David Avenue house that was unsuitable for redevelopment due to the slope of the block. In anticipation of the purchase, we have sought, and received Development Consent to build our sixth new SDA Improved Livability home on that site. This just leaves the redevelopment of 1 Koorong Street remaining in order to complete our Asset Redevelopment Program in mid-2023.



### 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 the van at Leia's Place. This will be the second wheelchair hoist-equipped van in the Seton Villa fleet.

### COVID-19 Update

**On Tuesday 15 March 2022, our vaccination provider, HCA, provided an additional COVID Booster clinic at Jenny's Place to capture staff and residents who acquired COVID since New Year.** I am delighted to advise that all residents and staff have now received their COVID Booster shot, and we are in the process of rolling out annual influenza vaccinations. Following recent ATAGI advice, we will again approach HCA about providing a second COVID Booster shot for residents in our homes around the end of May 2022. Everyone is beginning to feel like a pincushion!