

our NEWS

December
2022

From our Chairman



It was wonderful to be at the recent Christmas lunch at the Epping Club. As one of our newer board members remarked, it was a room full of joy!

Our industry association the National Disability Services (NDS) recently published the *State of the Disability Sector 2022* report, which is a sobering read. Whilst most NDIS providers are optimistic about the new federal government's NDIS reforms, the economics of the disability sector are increasingly difficult for many providers. Many are planning to reduce or eliminate services despite an increase in demand, citing staff retention and skills shortages as a major factor. We are fortunate at Seton Villa to have a stable and professional workforce who are dedicated to the care of our residents.

During November we held our AGM with the Daughters of Charity at which the new Strategic Plan was presented and discussed. Following the AGM Sr Ellen Flynn, Provincial for the Province of Rosalie Rendu, reminded all those present that we are all part of the much broader Vincentian organisation (in its many forms) and share our values and mission with tens of thousands of others globally. Food for thought as we strive to do our best for our constituents.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your support of the Management and Board during 2022 and wish you a very Merry Christmas and a great start to the New Year.

Marco Colli
Chairman, Seton Villa



From our CEO “Building our Bright Future” Status Report

The recent sunny weather has facilitated excellent progress towards completion of our next two new SDA houses. Tiling is now complete at both Spruce Cottage and Daffodil Cottage, and internal painting is underway. Ronnie is very confident about completion during February 2023.



Christmas Party at The Epping Club

After three years of COVID restrictions, the joy on the faces of our residents was unceasing as we gathered with over 100 family members, staff and Board members to celebrate our 2022 Christmas party. The Epping Club staff were enormously helpful in ensuring we all had a wonderful time, with fabulous decorations and excellent food. The dance floor was full after lunch, with everybody letting their hair down. Of course, no Christmas party would be complete without presents – and Santa sent a representative for the occasion!



During the luncheon we received a question about the process for parents to pass their Person Responsible role over to other siblings within the family. I am aware that a number of you have already pursued this path – either informally or through formal guardianship applications. Over the next few months, we will provide some information on the website about Guardianship applications and also an Enduring Power of Attorney that may be of assistance to you. We already have detailed Bequest information available on the website setonvilla.org.au

NDIS Independent Review

In mid-October 2022, the disability sector welcomed the announcement by the Hon Bill Shorten, Minister for the NDIS, of the Terms of Reference for a review into the NDIS.

The Independent Review – comprising Prof Bruce Bonyhady AM (co-chair), Ms Lisa Paul AO PSM (co-chair), Mr Kevin Cocks AM, Ms Judy Brewer AO, Dr Stephen P King, Mr Dougie Herd and Ms Kirsten Deane OAM – will report directly to Disability Reform Ministers. It will be supported by a Secretariat in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Dr Bonyhady will lead Part 1 of the Review: Design, operation and sustainability of the NDIS. This will cover the participant experience and journey; the effectiveness and fiscal sustainability of the NDIS; the roles and interactions between the NDIA, NDIS Commission and the DSS; Scheme efficiencies; and the interactions between the NDIS and other systems and services.

Ms Paul will lead Part 2 of the Review: Building a more responsive and supportive market and workforce. This will cover market stewardship; innovation and better outcomes for participants; thin markets; workforce; accommodation; consumer information and the role of intermediaries; the Quality and Safeguards Framework; the regulatory functions for providers; and improving compliance monitoring and reporting, including the detection of fraud.

At a recent Thought Leadership Roundtable, the co-chairs of the Review strongly encouraged participants, families and providers to submit an account of their experiences and concerns with the scheme – in any format and of any size. I have attached the hyperlink below for those of you who may be interested in contributing: ndisreview.gov.au/have-your-say

Strategic Planning for 2023-25

On 18 November 2022, the Board Chair and I shared the emerging strategic directions for Seton Villa with the Daughters of Charity Trustees at their Annual General Meeting. It was delightful to have Sr Ellen Flynn, Provincial for the Province of Rosalie Rendu, fly out from the UK to be physically present for the occasion. Our desire for future growth was embraced, with further thought to be given to financing models for new SDA developments prior to final approval. The NDIS SDA pricing review that is currently underway will be a key factor in determining the financial sustainability of SDA for investors moving forward. This report is due for publication in April 2023, and I will keep you all apprised of developments.

Follow
us on
social
media



Merry
Christmas

HAPPY NEW YEAR

With Christmas almost upon us, I wish each of you a blessed and peaceful Christmas season as we gather in person with family and friends. 2023 is sure to be another busy year for Seton Villa!

Peter Gardiner
CEO, Seton Villa

