

our NEWS

February
2023

From our Chairman



March is shaping up to be an extremely significant and busy month for Seton Villa.

We will imminently take delivery of the next two redeveloped homes, as outlined by Peter below, and we expect that residents will move in during the last 2 weeks of March. I am told that residents and staff are very excited about the upcoming move, and I am sure that it will occur seamlessly as per the prior homes. This marks another milestone in the construction project, with one house remaining before the end of the project.

March also sees Seton Villa grow with the provision of Supported Independent Living (SIL) services in the homes of Ryde Area Supported Accommodation for Intellectually Disabled (RASAID) residents, starting around 21 March 2023. This development is in line with our strategic plan and includes providing services to a mixed (male and female) cohort of residents. I have met with the RASAID parents committee, and they are all looking forward to becoming part of the Seton Villa family.

Growth is important for us as NDIS administrative and reporting requirements make smaller organisations less viable. The overheads imposed have a real impact on maintaining financially sustainable service delivery. We are able to take this 50% increase in scale in our stride because of our investment in our systems and processes over the last few years.

Marco Colli
Chairman, Seton Villa

From our CEO

“Building our Bright Future” Status Report

I am delighted to report that despite recent rain and heat events, we are only a couple of weeks away from receiving the keys for our next two new SDA homes – Spruce Cottage (Dover Street) and Daffodil Cottage (Koorong Street). Full credit to Ronnie and his team of tradies in maintaining momentum through the January holiday period.



From our CEO continued

Spruce Cottage and Daffodil Cottage are the first new houses to incorporate the upgraded 10kw solar system, complete with 14kw Tesla Powerwall 2 battery, helping to maintain continuity of power during blackouts. If recent funding grant applications are successful, we may be able to retrofit batteries to our other homes as well.



Tesla Powerwall 2 battery



Landscaping at Spruce Cottage is adding a softness to the exterior of the building

Strategic Planning Update

As shared with you all via email, the community of families at Ryde Area Supported Accommodation for Intellectually Disabled (RASAID) have asked Seton Villa to take over the NDIS Supported Independent Living (SIL) service for their 15 family members from Participate Australia, effective 21 March 2023. This is a very exciting step-change for Seton Villa, resulting in \$3m additional NDIS revenue and around 30 new Seton Villa employees who have an existing relationship with the male and female RASAID residents.

I met with the majority of RASAID families for an information session on Sunday 19 February 2023, and they are extremely keen for us to take over the support role for their adult children. Staff members that I have spoken with personally are also very keen to join us.

In addition to the RASAID opportunity, I have met with representatives from Inspire Impact Investing, part of the Liverpool Group, who are keen to explore a potential partnership with Seton Villa around developing new Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) models in geographies of identified need. We will pick up the conversation once the NDIS SDA Pricing Review has been finalised in April/May 2023.

COVID Vaccination Update

ATAGI has recently released their 2023 COVID-19 vaccine booster recommendations for all adults aged 65 years and over and any adults aged 18-64 years that are at higher risk of severe COVID. This advice recommends a 5th vaccine dose at least 6 months after the last COVID-19 vaccine dose or confirmed infection (whichever is most recent).

In a recent media release, the Minister for Health and Aged Care has encouraged aged care and disability providers to engage local primary care and pharmacy services to administer these additional doses, supported by a new incentive payment to support in-reach vaccination. I have approached Five-ways Pharmacy in Eastwood about conducting a vaccination clinic at Jenny's Place at the end of March 2023, when nearly all of our residents become eligible. Five-ways Pharmacy currently provides a flu vaccination service for Seton Villa residents and staff during April each year.

Families are of course free to arrange a 5th COVID vaccination dose with their GP if preferred.

Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey

A big thank-you to all of you who have completed the 2023 Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey which closes at the end of February. We really value your feedback on the quality of support we provide to your family members as part of our commitment to continuous quality improvement. All responses are anonymous and collated externally for us by The Voice Project. There is just a short time left to complete this survey via the link below:

<https://survey.voiceproject.com/survey/Seton-Villa-Family-Friends-Survey>

Vale Liana Holliday

7 July 1961 to 13 December 2022



As previously shared with you all, Liana sadly passed away suddenly just before Christmas. Liana was much loved by those who supported her. Her compassionate soul was always filled with joy and happiness for those around her. "It was a joy to be in Liana's company. She made her home a happy, positive place. She was so sociable and always wanted to share stories of her big family. You could see how much she loved them all. She was so proud of all her brothers, sisters, nieces, and nephews." One of her favourite pastimes was doing puzzles. She was particularly good at this, whether it was 1000-piece jigsaws or puzzles on her iPad – and success would be celebrated with a big "high five".

Liana was the kind of person that always lit up the room with her contagious smile and her hearty laugh. Her genuine care for others and her passion is what really made her stand out. She would make us laugh by pointing at cars with "L" plates and saying, "that's my car, L for Liana!". She would make us feel special with her "breakfast kiss" when saying goodbye.

Liana was very independent, but she still appreciated anything others did for her. Hearing her say "thank you, darling" is a memory most of us will treasure.

May she rest in peace. We all miss her very much.