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Gardening Club



Cactus Teacup Pot Decorating ready for sale at the North Epping Village Fair

Message from the Board

Seton Villa Board of Directors communication with residents and families in the year to 1 November 2014.

As 2014 draws to a close, I have taken a look back at the opportunities the Directors of Seton Villa have had to interact with Seton Villa residents and their families during the past year. There have been a number of happy occasions when we have been delighted to meet with you.

Meetings

- 24 November 2013 Parents and Friends Christmas Luncheon attended by Board Directors, families and residents.
- 4 December 2013 Christmas Cake with the Board, attended by about half of all Seton Villa residents.
- 18 March 2014 Parents and Friends President and Vice President met to discuss forming a committee.
- 7 May 2014 Family members invited to meet with the Board to hear the announcement of the Committee of the Board – Board and Family Feedback.
- 21 July 2014 Seton Villa Concert, attended by families, friends and Board Directors.
- 27 September 2014 Seton Villa Prayer Service, attend by family members, residents and Board Directors.

In addition to the above meetings, there have been newsletters containing a message from the Board of Directors on 11 November 2013, 6 February 2014, 27 March 2014, 1 May 2014, 29 May 2014, 13 August 2014 and 7 October 2014.

Directors look forward to joining the Parents and Friends Christmas Luncheon again this year on 30 November.

Sr Margaret Porter, DC

Acting Chair of the Board

St Vincent de Paul speaks to us...

“God has raised up this Little Company . . . for his love and good pleasure . . . [and] we are bound to show it [love] by leading people to love God and their neighbour; to love the neighbour for the sake of God and God for the sake of the neighbour. We have been chosen by God as instruments of his boundless and fatherly love which desires to be established in and to replenish souls.”



Seton Villa Halloween Disco



Seton Villa Halloween Disco

CEO Message

Recently I circulated a survey to Seton Villa residents and their family members. Thank you very much to all of you who completed the survey. Surveys were provided in hard copy to relatives who do not use the internet, and the same questions were provided using Survey Monkey to all those who use the internet.

Of the 27 resident families at the time the survey was circulated, well over half provided a response. For the multiple choice questions about Seton Villa’s services and staff the average rating for each question was above 3.5 out of 5.

In the section with open-ended answers many people provided positive comments. Other comments included questions about qualifications of staff and the need for Seton Villa to be more proactively person-centred (see below). Thank you very much for the answers provided. The survey asked people who wished to be contacted to provide their name. I have contacted everyone who gave their name to discuss any concerns with them. If anybody else would like to discuss the survey I will welcome your telephone call.

Phillip Kelly

CEO

Seton Villa Staff Training

During September, October and November Seton Villa staff have received the following training from external trainers:

Positive Behaviour Management (managing challenging behaviours), *Preventing Abuse and Neglect* and training in *Person Centred Approaches*. The Person Centred Approaches training occurred after Seton Villa management first worked with consultant Karen Horn to develop person-centred planning guides and learning logs. Karen Horn then trained Seton Villa staff in how to use these tools. These will be adopted by Seton Villa over the coming year in place of Individual Support Plans. In addition, some Seton Villa managers have been attending a longer course in person-centred planning being run by the Centre for Disability Studies at the University of Sydney so they can continue to help upskill staff in this important area.

In other staff training news, Seton Villa recently received approval to enrol seven staff members in the Diploma of Disability through Granville TAFE.

In October, the Pastoral Care Worker attended a one-day conference for Pastoral Care Workers in the Catholic human service sector.

In November, the CEO attended a one-day conference organised by the Centre for Disability Studies at the University of Sydney. The title



Seton Villa Halloween Disco

of the day was 'Challenging behaviours and mental health'. Recent studies in Sydney have focussed on the benefits to people's mental health if staff in group homes do "with" rather than "for" the people supported.

Also in November, two diversional therapy staff from Jenny's Place attended a one-day workshop run by the Diversional Therapy Association of Australia to learn about the latest developments in diversional therapy. They learned new ideas for 'brain training' during the morning seated exercise classes, about the incorporation of storytelling into other activities to promote memory and verbal skills and how to design 'failure free' activities for Jenny's Place.

Seton Villa Staff Qualifications

Of Seton Villa's 50 current staff, the qualifications staff working directly with the residents hold are as follows:

Master of Education (Community and Social Justice) (one person), Bachelor or Social Science (Psychology)(one person), Diploma in Disability (three people have completed, seven are currently undertaking this course), Diploma in Community Services (two people), Certificate IV in Disability (16 staff) , Certificate IV in Home and Community Care (seven staff), Certificate IV in Community Services (one person), Diploma of Community Welfare Work (three people), RN, AIN or EN nursing qualifications (five people).



A proud display of items created at Jenny's Place for sale at the North Epping Village Fair.

Seton Villa Support Workers Attend Annual Conference

On Thursday 6 and Friday 7 November, four Seton Villa staff attended the annual conference for support workers run by the peak body for disability services, National Disability Services.

The conference was specifically for frontline disability support workers. The staff who attended took part in a program addressing human rights, risk and communication and the challenges frontline workers will encounter as the NDIS is implemented.

North Epping Village Fair

On Saturday 15 November Seton Villa and the Parents and Friends represented by Ian and Judy Fraser held a stall at North Epping Village Fair. Seton Villa residents were pleased and proud to see items they have been making at Jenny's Place on sale to raise money for next year's concert. This objective of raising money for the concert has brought renewed purpose to many of the activities at Jenny's Place.



Stuffing a cushion for sale at the Fair



Making table centres for the P&F Christmas Luncheon



Melbourne Cup Day

Coming Events

Sunday 30 November 11:30 am

P&F Christmas Luncheon

Club Epping, Rawson St, Epping.

Visiting Seton Villa Group Homes

Seton Villa management and staff endeavor to balance providing a safe and homelike environment for residents with the fact that the group home is also a staffed workplace. Seton Villa's Accommodation Agreement asks that family and friends of the people we support telephone the house before visiting. This is because it is not only the home of your relative, but also the home of other women. If you telephone ahead of your visit, it allows staff to inform other residents that a visitor is expected.

Privacy Legislation

In March 2014 the Australian Privacy Principles (APPs) became the new principles that govern organisations like Seton Villa that hold personal and private information about clients. The new APPs are a result of the *Privacy Amendment (Enhancing Privacy Protection) Act 2012*, which amends the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1988*.

The new APPs are very clear about Seton Villa's obligations not to disclose personal or sensitive information about our clients to third parties without written consent from our client or substitute decision maker. Australian Privacy Principle 6 – use or disclosure of personal information states in part “If an APP entity holds personal information about an individual that was collected for a particular purpose (the primary purpose), the entity must not use or disclose the information for another purpose ... unless the individual has consented to the use or disclosure of the information.” The *Best Practice Guide – Privacy and people with decision-making disabilities* is published by the Office of the NSW Privacy Commissioner. As the title suggests, this publication suggests ways organisations like Seton Villa can assess when it is appropriate or not appropriate to disclose information about our clients to third parties. Specifically, the Best Practice Guide states that any consent to disclosure by a client or their substitute decision maker must be informed consent given specifically for the circumstances of each disclosure. The consent should also be current and there should be a written record of the consent being provided.

For the above reasons, Seton Villa's policies prevent staff from discussing information about Seton Villa relatives with people who are not immediate family members of that Seton Villa client.

Contact Us

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How You Can Help

Want to help Seton Villa? Visit our website www.setonvilla.org.au and click on the “How to Help” button.