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## Message from the Board

Seton Villa has received a grant of \$5000 from the NSW Government. We are grateful to the Member for Ryde and Minister for Citizenship and Communities, the Hon. Victor Dominello, MP, for securing the grant for Seton Villa. The money will be put toward refurbishing the bathroom in one of Seton Villa's group homes.

**Sr Margaret Porter DC, Acting Chair of the Board**

## Message from the CEO

**The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)** has been operating in the Hunter Trial Site for 18 months. I recently had the opportunity to hear from service providers, clients and their family members about how the NDIS implementation has benefited them.

The NDIS is administered by the National Disability Insurance Agency. The NDIA sets prices for the delivery of services to clients and most prices are set per hour. Before an individual begins to receive funding from the NDIA, the NDIA assigns a planner to work with the individual and family to develop a service plan according to the individual's support needs. The plan allows the NDIA to calculate how much funding the individual will receive. The individual and family can then choose service providers to deliver the supports that the NDIA has agreed to fund.

The experience in the Hunter trial so far has been that:

- The planning process works best when individuals have an advocate to help negotiate with the planner, the NDIA and service providers to develop a plan that receives a realistic amount of funding,
- Initially some of the dollar amounts for per hour service provision offered by the NDIA were insufficient to meet service providers' costs. The NDIA has increased some dollar amounts in response to this,
- 94% of people choose to stay with their existing service providers for the first year they are receiving NDIS funding.

In NSW, the NDIS trial is now being extended into the Lake Macquarie area. The timetable for the transition to the NDIS for the rest of NSW is not yet clear and is a matter for the Federal Government to decide, although there is an expectation from the NSW Government that the transition will occur before the middle of 2018.

The Federal Government has committed to announcing the timetable for the total transition to the NDIS by the middle of 2015.



(Above and below) Jenny's Place craft activities – arrangements made with dried gum leaves and gumnuts



## Coming Events

Sunday 19 July 2:00 pm

### Seton Villa Concert

Hornsby RSL  
4 High Street, Hornsby



Making a Dream Catcher at  
Jenny's Place



Farewell Father Brian

*St Vincent de Paul speaks to us...*

*"I ask Our Lord that this new year may be a happy one you for eternity and be followed by many other similar ones that will lead you to God, our last end (VII:58)*

At Seton Villa preparation is under way for the transition from block funding to NDIS funding. This includes working out how to individualize the costs of service provision, measure outcomes for our clients and itemizing the various support needs of each individual.

If you have internet access, visiting the Every Australian Counts website will help ensure that all sides of politics understands there is a high level of community interest in the NDIS. You can view the website at [www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au](http://www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au)

When the time comes to transition to the NDIS I am confident Seton Villa will be able to work with Seton Villa's clients, their families and the other service providers including for example day program providers to ensure people continue to receive the supports they need.

**Phillip Kelly, CEO**

## New Vehicle

Seton Villa has purchased a new Hyundai Imax to replace a seven-year old Tarago. The vehicle was road-tested by residents and staff in November 2014 and found to be easier to get in and out of than some other vans. The back is lower so staff do not have to lift wakers and wheelchairs so far to load them into the vehicle.

## News from Jenny's Place

Music therapist Sarah de Jong spends time at Jenny's Place every Thursday afternoon. It is evident during these sessions that many of the participants at Jenny's Place enjoy playing musical instruments.

Thanks to the hard work of the people who attend Jenny's Place who have made many items for sale at stalls before Christmas, and thanks also the generosity of the Parents and Friends, Seton Villa has been able to spend \$800 purchasing new musical instruments.

Everyone will be able to hear these instruments being played at the 2015 Seton Villa concert. Instruments purchased include various drums including a drum set, maracas, tambourines, boomwackers, a musical block set and a chime bar set.

During 2015 writing practice or cognitive skills games and seated exercise class or walking group have continued every morning at Jenny's Place. Several people are also walking home from Jenny's Place in the afternoon once or twice each week. Table tennis at Gladesville once a fortnight has been introduced and is proving popular.

Other activities have focused on engagement and meaning for clients. These have included learning Poi Dancing for Waitangi Celebration Day (New Zealand) on 5 February, and making Chinese lanterns for Chinese New Year on 19 February.

### How You Can Help

Want to help Seton Villa? Visit our website [www.setonvilla.org.au](http://www.setonvilla.org.au) and click on the "How to Help" button.

### Contact Us

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