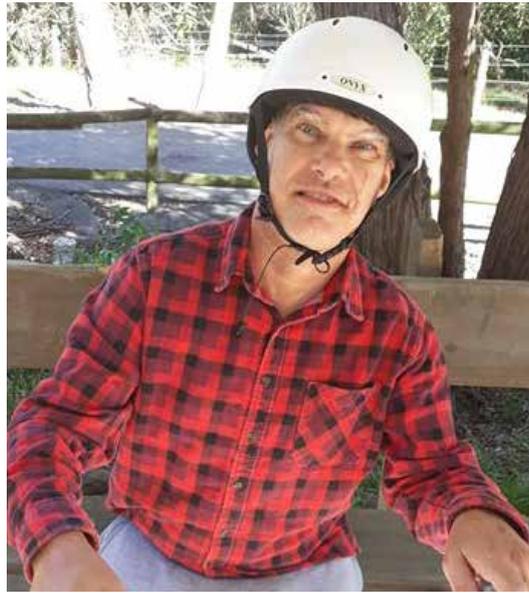


# INCLUSION

## NEWS FROM NEW HAVEN FARM HOME



### SPRING 2018 UPDATE

**This year is certainly proceeding very fast; some may say, a bit too fast! Many things have been happening at New Haven Farm Home over the past few months and it's wonderful to be able to share the developments of both our clients and the organisation with you.**

On page 2 you will read about Ben. Ben is one of our new clients, having moved into one of our Richmond villas in April. Ben has a variety of different interests, ranging from sports to video games and a love of learning trivia about famous people.

I am happy to share with you that one of our new villas at 40 Bosworth Street in Richmond is now fully operational. We currently have three clients living at the villa and we're working towards a 'full house' before the end of the year. Our House Manager, Sharon is working effortlessly to make each person feel welcome and to provide high quality services which are truly person centred. We wish her and her team all the best!

New Haven Farm Home values and relies on relationships with other organisations and individuals from the community we are all a part of. One of these relationships is our pharmacist, Blooms Richmond. Both proprietors, Patrick and Joseph have worked closely with New Haven Farm Home to develop and maintain a medication system, which is innovative, trouble-free and runs effortlessly.

In Late July we appointed two new House Managers. Victoria is managing at our 55-57 Windsor Street site. She brings extensive experience from the community sector, managing the provision of support to people with disabilities.

Susan is our new House Manager at Villa 3 and the cottages at Freeman Reach. Susan also has a broad range of experience in community services, working with a variety of clients.

We wish both Victoria and Susan all the best in their new roles.

You will find my update on how the implementation of the NDIS impacts on our organisation and clients on page 2. There have been a number of positive developments and we are looking forward to an improved relationship with the NDIA. I hope you find this helpful.

I hope you enjoy reading our latest update and encourage you to share it with your family, friends and networks.



**Jacques Stap**  
Chief Executive Officer

# A CATCH UP WITH BEN

Ben moved into one of New Haven Farm Home's Richmond based sites earlier this year.

Ben has a real interest in martial arts movies, particularly those starring Jackie Chan or Bruce Lee. This interest influenced Ben's ambition to learn and develop skills in Taekwondo.

Ben trains in Taekwondo twice a week. He really enjoys the sport and is developing some great skills. Ben is always very determined and focussed during lessons and training as he works towards his next belt grading.

Learning about history and movie trivia is another interest of Ben's. He recently took a trip into the city with his New Haven Farm Home support worker to see the Madame Tussauds Exhibition in Sydney. Ben really liked learning new trivia and facts about his favourite famous icons and their history and was very impressed by the lifelike detail replicated in the wax displays.

While in the city, Ben also visited the Sydney Aquarium and enjoyed learning about the different species of fish and sharks that he saw.

Ben is also very interested in video games and anime and enjoys chatting to people who share his interests.



## SECTOR UPDATE

As of late June 2018, all of New Haven Farm Home's clients participating in the NDIS, have a current plan.

Varying from last year's NDIS plans, the Supported Independent Living (SIL) budget for each of our clients has been reduced. However, many clients have received a community participation budget, which compliments their SIL budget.

Community participation funds can only be used where the client has an identified community participation activity, which is set out in a program and where the client is supported by our staff. Each client has a person specific budget, which is related to their support needs.

As I mentioned in our last newsletter, there have been a number of issues regarding the payment of outstanding NDIS invoices. In March 2018 the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) set up a National Provider Payments Team to assist Service Providers in finalising outstanding invoices. This team will expand its function to increase engagement with the provider sector to understand its business needs.

From October 2018, changes to the NDIS participant pathway will be implemented across Australia. The revised pathway will include the offer of face-to-face planning meetings to all participants and an increased

focus on pre-planning and post-plan implementation.

The Government has announced additional staff for the NDIA to deliver this, entailing:

- an additional 750 staff over the next 12 months and training of all planners and front-line staff;
- an increase to the NDIA's staffing cap (to 3,138 this year; 3,230 next year; and 3,400 thereafter); and
- amendments to the NDIS Act to increase the number of NDIA staff members who can make access decisions and approve plans.

The Government has been subject to criticism for maintaining a tight staff cap on the NDIA at a time when the NDIA needs to lift its capacity and capability. Raising the staff cap, however, is only part of the solution; there is considerable experience and expertise in the non-government disability services sector on which the Agency should draw to improve the quality of planning.

Federal Parliament's Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme is undertaking two new inquiries, one into ICT infrastructure and the other into the provision of assistive technology.

We are pleased that the Committee is investigating the poorly-performing ICT infrastructure.

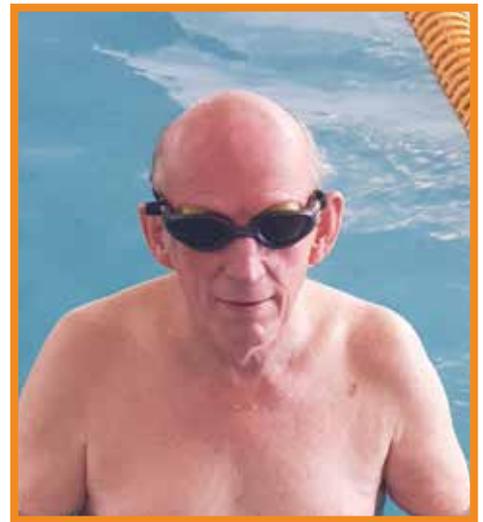
- Jacques Stap



John is being supported to develop writing skills and has been practicing writing his name and other everyday words. These skills help John increase his independence.



Harry helped to make a prawn curry for dinner, chopping the vegetables, preparing the ingredients and cooking it on the stove. His housemates agreed it was delicious!



Ian has been going swimming each week. Swimming is great exercise and an enjoyable activity for Ian. It also helps him improve his fitness and mobility.



Pat loves working with animals. At his home at New Haven Farm Home he feeds and attends to the horse and cows every day. Pat has also begun regularly volunteering at Guide Dogs NSW in Glossodia as a guide dog companion. In his role, Pat learns skills in interacting with and supporting the dogs, as well as walking them on a lead and helping to groom them. Pat loves his role and looks forward to going each week.



Jon is learning how to plan and cook a range of healthy meals to share with his housemate. Jon is enjoying cooking and developing skills which increase his independence in the kitchen.



David attends the local Mates Shed where he meets with men in the community to work on a mix of woodworking projects. Over the past few weeks, David has been helping to build houses for native bees.



Joe likes to attend bingo at the local club each week. Playing bingo helps to improve Joe's cognitive skills and is also a fun social activity alongside other members of our community.

# FAMILY AND FRIENDS NIGHT

On Tuesday 19th June New Haven Farm Home clients, their friends, family members and our staff had a fantastic evening catching up over a tasty meal at Grill'd Rouse Hill.

At our Annual General Meeting last year there was a lot of interest expressed in the idea of regular family and friends events which provide a social avenue for families to catch up with one another and get together with their family members and staff from New Haven Farm Home.

Our evening at Grill'd was the first of these events and it was a great night. Just over 60 people braved the cold weather for the casual evening of delicious food prepared by the Grill'd Rouse Hill team and music performed by some local community members.

Thank you to everyone who joined us, and to Laurina, Felicia and the Grill'd team for their help and support in preparing the event, and to Rouse Hill Town Centre for providing us with additional space to hold our event.



## UPCOMING EVENTS



### NEPEAN DISABILITY EXPO

**FRIDAY 14 & SATURDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2018**

FREE ENTRY | FIND US AT BOOTH 62!

Exhibition Marquee, Penrith Panthers, 123 Mulgoa Rd, Penrith NSW

## NEW HAVEN FARM HOME ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

As we are closing in on the last quarter of the year, the New Haven Farm Home Board and Management invite all our members to attend our Annual General Meeting on Saturday the 3rd of November at 12:00pm.

This meeting will be held at our administration building at 94 Reserve Road, Freemans Reach. A light lunch will be provided after the meeting. We encourage all members to attend. Invitations will be sent out early September.

## WE WELCOME YOUR FEEDBACK

**We would love to hear your feedback!** Share with us your favourite articles, the topics you are interested in reading in our future newsletter editions or the ways you, your organisation, workplace or social group would like to get involved by contacting our Relationship and Support Manager, Nicole. (E: [ncastillo@newhavenfarm.org.au](mailto:ncastillo@newhavenfarm.org.au); Ph: (02) 4579 6131)