

From the Chair's Chair



It's hard to believe but we are nearly at the end of the Financial Year 2019/2020. When we look back, it's remarkable how far SCOPE has come since November last year.

Our Mission Statement says that "At SCOPE, we work and plan together so we can all reach our full potential and live full, enriching lives." Planning is a very important part of what we do. Full, enriched and happy lives don't just happen. Today's progress is yesterday's plan.

The way SCOPE operates as an organisation is changing. These changes mean that we are able to offer more options and deliver better supports and services to our clients. As I've said before, change is never easy. Some people like things to stay as they are but the most dangerous phrase in any organisation is "But we've always done it that way!"

It seems that every time I write to you in the newsletter, I talk about "exciting times". Well, it's true! Because of the new way we work, we are attracting new clients and new families into the SCOPE community. They bring with them their own ideas, their own wishes and their own hopes. As our organisation grows with these new clients, we also welcome new staff members with new skills and new ways of doing things.



Mr Small
– standing
on his new
Greenwattle
path

Our facilities manager, Ken Small, has been working very hard – and very quickly – to improve our buildings and our facilities. The changes he's made to our Greenwattle facility in such a short time are quite extraordinary. And Ken has exciting plans for the future, all of which will help our organisation grow even more!

I can't say too much now but we have a very exciting announcement to make in a few weeks. Watch this space!

In the meantime, take care and stay safe.

Barry Maxfield
President, SCOPE Inc

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How does our garden grow?

Our community garden is now up and running. Wheelchair access paths are being installed and we are putting the finishing touches to the seedling greenhouse.

Clients are already queuing up at the garden gate to pick fresh vegetables to take home to cook.

Perhaps the most exciting milestone was when Michael was able to whip up a big pot of home-made vegetable soup for lunch for everybody – made completely from vegetables grown in our own garden! How good is that?



Fresh veggies from our own garden



Our garden – access all areas!

Upside to the Lock-down



Covid-19 continues to be a challenge but our creative staff and clients are inventing new ways to keep everyone's spirits up during the lock-down.

As Michael's crew in the kitchen was cooking our meals for us, we had much more time to do the things we like.

We found time for music, painting, walking around our neighbourhood, working in the community garden and "Face-timing" family and friends.

Yes, we were in lock-down – but there was an upside.

It wasn't too bad, actually!

Cooking up a Storm!

Earlier this year we secured the services of Michael, our chef. He has only been with us a relatively short time but his achievements have been quite stunning!

Over the last 10 weeks, Michael has really got the commercial kitchen at the Burpengary Hub firing. When he started, Michael and his team were cooking meals for two houses. In 10 short weeks, Michael's team is now cooking for six houses – Greenwattle, Uhlmann, Sylvester, Fitzroy, Winter and Woombye. This amounts to 37 meals a day – almost 260 house meals per week!

If that's not enough, the SCOPE kitchen staff are preparing 62 meals a week for staff. On top of that, Friday night is now 'takeaway night'. Last week, they prepared 46 takeaway meals.

When it's safe for all the houses to attend Burpengary again, Michael is expecting a big, hungry crowd on Friday nights.



Chef Michael – happy in his work. And so is Lara!

As well as supervising the kitchen team, Michael is offering cooking classes for our clients. Two clients are already learning how to cook and another seven have registered interest. See the photo of a very proud Kyle and his excellent cake!

Michael has fitted in brilliantly – and is so pleased to be working with us at SCOPE. As he said to one of our team the other day, "Thank you for this great opportunity. It's the most rewarding job I've ever had!"



Kyle's excellent cake!

The song has ended but the melody lingers on.

We acknowledge with sadness the passing of two members of our SCOPE community, Kay Rojhan and Paul Richards.

Both Kay and Paul were very much part of our lives. We remember the joy each found in the world around them. We remember Kay's patience, her courage and her acceptance.

We remember Paul's gentleness and his delightful sense of humour.

It was an honour and a privilege to care for them both.

Kay and Paul will live in our memories for a long time to come.

RIP Kay Rojhan and Paul Richards



From the General Manager's Desk



As Barry said, the changes keep coming thick and fast. Our staff training programs, our work, our improved contact with families and our commitment to Progressive Lifestyle Strategies via

Fortnight Delivery Plans are starting to attract attention from people and organisations outside of SCOPE. We now have people waiting to join our community and we have outside organisations recommending our approach to their clients. Frankly, this would not have happened 12 months ago – and it certainly would not have happened without the hard work we've all done since November.

Covid-19

The Covid-19 pandemic has been a great challenge right across Australia. At SCOPE, we realised very quickly that our clients are particularly vulnerable. We urgently developed plans, procedures and facilities in case members of our community were infected with the virus.

Importantly, we renovated and furnished the Tandara Clinic and Malpa House so we could look after our own people in the event that the hospitals and the other health facilities were full.

We also trained our staff in Covid-19 observation and monitoring techniques so they can immediately recognise the first signs of an infection. Each and every SCOPE client now has an individual Covid-19 Response Plan.

In fact, we've had to enact our Covid responses seven times in recent weeks when we thought a community member might have been infected. Thankfully, all seven tests came back negative.

We all hope that the Covid-19 'spike' has passed but we must keep up every precaution and measure in case it returns. But it's really good to know we are prepared and our plans and procedures will be effective if the Covid-19 pandemic comes back.

John Hunter

General Manager, SCOPE Inc

HAVE YOU GOT SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE?

It can be anything! From something you've enjoyed doing, to a new skill you've developed, or arts or writing.

Please email it to Malita (malita@scopeinc.org.au) or drop it into the Burpengary Hub.

We'd love to hear from you!

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