

NEWS & VIEWS

From the Chair's Chair

2020 is upon us and moving very quickly. I was honoured to be re-elected as President of SCOPE Inc in December at our AGM and to the Management Committee:



- ▶ Terry Reeves, Secretary
- ▶ Jamie Sims, Vice President
- ▶ Carey Gadischkie, Treasurer
- ▶ Tracey Lloyd, General Member

With the assistance of John Hunter and some members of his team, we are developing a new set of Management Committee policies, procedures, governance documentation and training modules. This work will help those of us on the Committee to achieve best governing practice as we move into SCOPE Inc's exciting future.

Elsewhere in the newsletter, you will read how we have engaged Mr Ken Small, an experienced building supervisor to design and oversee renovations to our Green Wattle facility. The Management Committee has authorised funding for this work to proceed and we look forward to this further enhancement of our facilities. As we improve our facilities, we are improving the lives of our clients very considerably – as well as the working conditions of our valued and trusted staff.

We met recently with NDIS in Brisbane with a view to building productive and professional relationships and improving communications. Having established these relationships and connections, we are making sure that the NDIS Commission in Queensland is aware of the work we are doing with the aim of becoming a national exemplar for the disability sector.

With the guidance of the NDIS Commission, we are currently preparing for our re-registration and the necessary audits. With all the changes we have put in place and all the improvements yet to come, the Management Committee approaches this work with confidence and optimism.

As we say time and time, again change is not easy and it's not quick. However, we are very definitely moving in the right direction. We are grateful for your patience, your co-operation and your support as we move forward. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me directly. I am here to help.

Barry Maxfield
Chairman, SCOPE Inc

A Green Wattle welcome to Linda Clegg



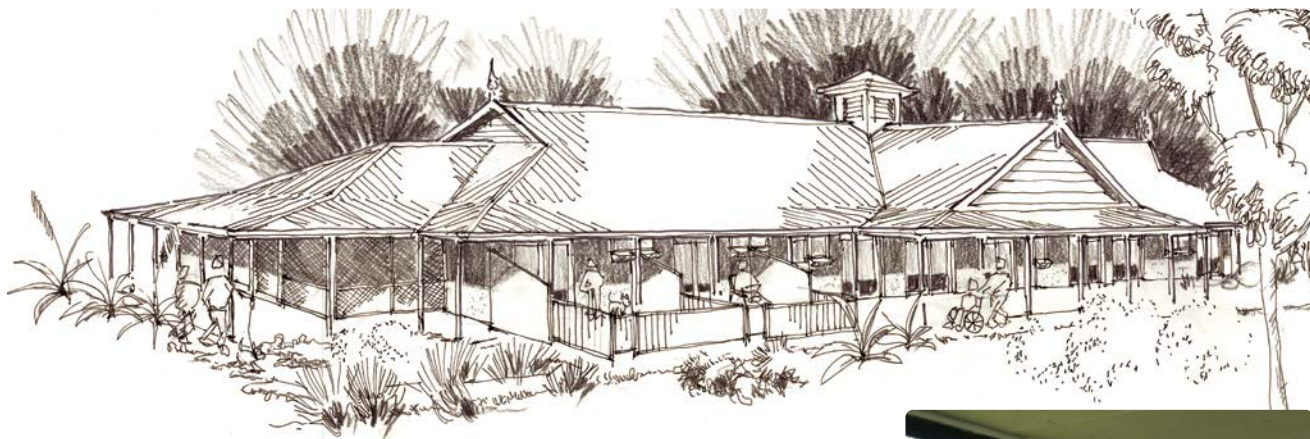
We are delighted to announce that Linda Clegg (formerly house manager at our Woombye and Amanda facilities) has agreed to be house manager at Green Wattle. Linda is highly regarded by everyone at SCOPE for her commitment to providing caring and tailored support services to people living with a disability.

As a house manager, she is committed to helping her teams learn to manage themselves. This will make life better for both clients and staff alike.

Drop by and say hello to Linda when you are next at The Burpengary Hub – or, as it's beginning to be known, "Potential Central".

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Green Wattle BIG changes by Mr Small

Building designer, Ken Small, has emerged from his on-again-off-again retirement in the Gold Coast hinterland to work with SCOPE Inc on some exciting renovations at our Green Wattle residence at Burpengary.

Apart from bringing the facility into line with current government requirements and regulations, Ken is busy planning some important changes to Green Wattle. Each of the bedrooms will open onto a private courtyard so our clients can enjoy the great Queensland outdoors in safety, security and privacy.

"I'm really delighted to have been asked to do this work for SCOPE. It gives me a great deal of satisfaction to be able to use my skills to improve the lives of others," Ken said.

In addition to the courtyards and open spaces, many of the internal spaces will be reconfigured to make them more useful and aesthetically pleasing. When the changes are completed at Green Wattle, we will have an extra two rooms available, one for a male client, one for a female client.

We're all really excited to see just what the 'new' Green Wattle will look like!

With a lifetime of experience in the sector, Ken has made some really impressive suggestions as to how we might utilise the extraordinary facility we have here at Burpengary ('Potential Central') for the benefit of our clients, their families and our staff. It will take some time – but watch this space!



Visits to the RSPCA!



Some of our lucky clients have visited the RSPCA and been able to spend time with the animals there.

If you are interested in popping along, contact Malita Durdin at the Burpengary Hub, The Hub 30 –tel 07 5428 0155 or via

email malita@scopeinc.org.au and we'll make sure to include you next time.

Up-and-coming

Make a diary note for another of our family barbecues – Wednesday March 4 at the Burpengary Hub. We look forward to seeing you all there.



By that time, we're sure the Potential Central undercover barbecue area will feature a few of the new planter boxes made especially for it by Greg Gilbert and David.



Christmas Lunch at Burpengary ('Potential Central')

On Wednesday, December 18, at the Burpengary Hub/Potential Central, SCOPE hosted a family Christmas lunch. Over 80 people came – including clients, families and staff members.

It was fantastic to note that six staff members, not actually on shift on the day, came along anyway to join in the celebrations.

Houses represented at the lunch included Greenwattle, Uhlmann, Lambourne, Prussian, Nevitt, Sophy, Fitzroy, Woombye, Columbine, Sylvester and Winter – a very impressive rollup!



Michael and Ricky, two chefs from the Sebel Margate, worked away in the Hub kitchen and presented a fabulous Christmas lunch including roast beef with gravy, Butter Chicken with rice, baked potatoes with sour cream and a huge garden salad with dressing.

Many, many thanks to both Michael and Ricky who gave up their day to prepare such fantastic food.



Everybody had a great time, including Santa Claus who popped in to have photos taken with everyone. (Many thanks to the photographer from Last Word Productions!)

Wacky Wednesdays

Wacky Wednesdays, held at Caboolture Sports Club from 11-2pm, is terrific value and a great day out for our clients.

\$15 gets you entry, couple of raffle tickets, morning tea and a big, big lunch.

There is a band that plays a lot of old favourites – particularly ones that Greg Scott likes.

We have learned that it pays to book early if you want to get a good table together near the band. SCOPE people have been pretty lucky with raffle tickets so far. Uhlmann House and Alison and Paul Richards have all won meat trays. One of our staff members, Annette, won a prize too (we think!).

Christmas Day, 2019



In a remarkable gesture of generosity, Linda, Rebecca and members of their families came along to cook a fabulous Christmas lunch for all the SCOPE clients who weren't able to join their families on the day.

Christmas Day is very special and it was wonderful of these two dedicated staff members, and their families, to share it with our clients, with nowhere else to go.

From the General Manager's Desk



This is my first contribution to the newsletter as General Manager. I'd like to thank everyone for the warm welcome and for the spirit of cooperation as we bring SCOPE Inc into line with national best practice. In about a year's time, I'm very confident that SCOPE will be a great example to the Disability Sector right across Australia as to how things can and should be done.

I am particularly grateful to the house managers and the team at the Burpengary Hub (aka 'Potential

Central') for approaching these changes intelligently and enthusiastically. Change is always hard but we are well on the way!

House teams will be aware of our move towards establishing "core" teams – that is, a complement of managers and carers who regularly work together at the same house with the same clients. Predictability and familiarity for both clients and staff will lead to a much better, happier and more secure lifestyle for our valued clients – and their families. The establishment of core teams will also make our new training regime much more productive as we will all be 'on the same page'. It will be easier for our core teams to support and help each other as we move forward. Being 'on the same page' means that we can achieve best practice by discussing, by sharing, by teaching and by encouraging each other.

What we choose to do can be challenging from time to time but we are growing a culture at SCOPE which is about support, about learning from our mistakes and improving the way we work together.

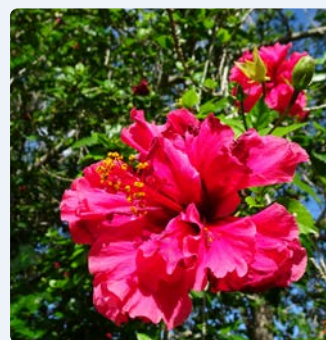
I know that SCOPE has the potential to be the sort of organisation where people want to work – a preferred employer in the Disability Sector.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Family Barbecue on March 4th.

Please don't hesitate to contact me at any time with any questions concerns or, indeed, ideas that you might have for SCOPE.

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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