



# The Fina Arena

News, Views and Clues  
April 2021

## From the Chair's Chair



It's been quite a long time since our last newsletter – June last year to be precise. So much has happened in the meantime – and so much has been achieved!

When I sat down to write my contribution to the newsletter in mid June 2020, I hinted at a very exciting announcement. A few short weeks later we unveiled “Fina” as our brand-new name. We also unveiled a new logo, new signage and, of course, a very impressive new website at [fina.org.au](http://fina.org.au).



Long-standing members of the Fina community will know that for a number of years we have had to confront challenges – financial, organisational and reputational. As I observed in the 2019 Annual Report, the Management Committee accepted the need to change if we were to keep up with all the changes demanded of us by the NDIS.

There has been no shortage of changes! Since our last newsletter, our management team, our staff and our valued suppliers have been working very hard to transform our organisation.

*This transformational work is all the more impressive when you realise that it's been achieved during the Covid-19 pandemic.*

I am absolutely delighted at the stunning turnaround in the organisation. Everything we do now is totally focused on improving the lives of our clients and their families. Pine Lodge and SCOPE are very much in the past.

Read on! And don't hesitate to visit us at Fina Park. I look forward to seeing you here.

**Barry Maxfield**

President, Management Committee, Fina Australia

# From the General Manager



As President Barry wrote, it's been a very busy nine months since our last newsletter. As well as our new name, our new website and the creation

a whole range of signage and promotional material, we have been working very hard to improve our facilities and our systems. We've also welcomed many new staff members who've come to work with us at Fina.

The Covid-19 pandemic has occupied quite a bit of staff and management time. Everyone appreciates how important it is to ensure that our Covid staff training, risk management, protocols, plans and strategies are in place, understood and consistent with government regulations.

I'm very grateful for the understanding and the cooperation the management team has received from the staff and the Fina community in addressing the pandemic.

We all understand how difficult and disappointing the new Covid-19 reality is. None of us like to have restrictions placed on our movements and our lifestyle.

However, our absolute priority must be the safety and security of our valued clients. If we ever begin to doubt the risks associated with Covid-19, we need only look to Spain, Italy, France, Brazil and, much closer to home, Papua New Guinea. None of us can be sure what the future will hold with regard to Covid-19 but, at Fina, we will do all in our power to protect our community members. We are certainly well prepared for whatever Covid-19 throws at us.

As Fina changes and develops, our management team and our staff continue to change and grow too. We welcome our new staff members who have been drawn to Fina by our new and innovative approach to disability support and services. Some people have decided to pursue their careers elsewhere and, of course, we wish them all the best.

*If you haven't visited us at Fina Park (Burpengary), we look forward to welcoming you.*

You will be impressed at the amazing amount of work that's been done on the buildings and the grounds. It's early days yet and the garden beds and the planter boxes around our courtyards and outdoor areas still have some way to 'grow'.

However, it won't be long there will be shrubs, bushes and trees all around us. As always, we are grateful to our infrastructure manager, Mr Small, for his big effort!

We continue to refine our plans and our day-to-day practices to enhance the lives of our clients. To help us maintain our focus, we have commenced regular senior leadership team meetings, staff training workshops and regular briefings. As we develop as a professional organisation, our systems and record-keeping are critical to the safety, security and happiness of our clients. Fina now has an IT environment which is 'state-of-the-art' for the disability sector.

My thanks and admiration go to the leadership team and the staff for the amazing amount of work we have achieved together in such a short time. Thanks also to our business partners, Camulos and EnvyUs Design. We have come such a long way from the "old SCOPE" days. We understand that there are people who will simply refuse to change their view of us – and we can't help that. What we can do, though, is work hard every day to make Fina the best organisation in the disability sector.

And that's what we're doing.

**John Hunter**

General Manager, Fina Australia



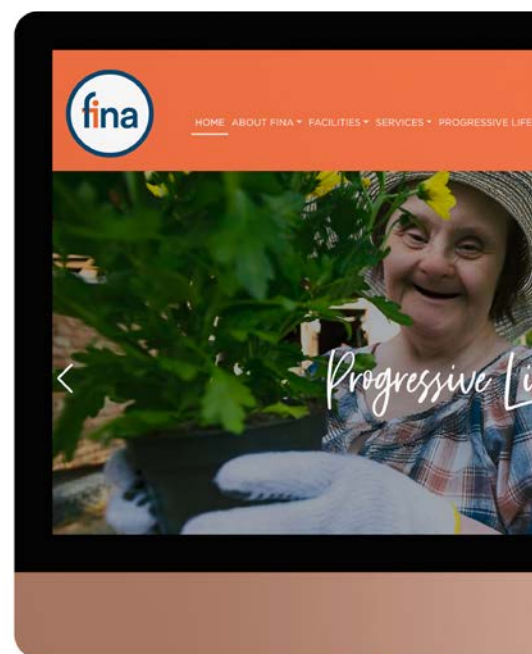
## Our new website

Be sure to visit our new website at [fina.org.au](http://fina.org.au). When you do, click the "home" link and scroll down to read about the young Italian lady, Fina, who kindly 'lent' us her name.

*Fina lived her relatively short life in a small village in the hills of Tuscany in 13th century.*

When we were looking around for ideas for our new name, we read of her life and we were deeply moved by her patience and her humanity as the patron saint of people with illness and disability.

We decided to name our organisation after her – and we're pretty sure she would be very chuffed!





# Fina Park



Our headquarters at Burpengary is now known as Fina Park and it's a place we can all be very proud of. Our administration offices are now professionally equipped and well presented and the attractive new signage helps staff and visitors alike to find their way around.

The residential facility, previously known as Greenwattle, has been refurbished and divided into two houses, Mary House and Dionysius House. These two names commemorate the life and generosity of Mary Dionysius, one of our heritage benefactors.

The wing which previously consisted of empty, poorly presented rooms has now re-emerged as Tandara House, specially equipped for clients with intensive, high care support needs.

## Fina Club

### It's all happening at Fina Club!

Set in the spacious grounds of Fina Park, members of the Fina community, friends and visitors alike can participate together in a range of classes and activities.



Learn to cook with Chef Michael



Learn about cultivation and composting in our community garden



Arts and Crafts

Get fit in our exercise classes or move to the groove in our music sessions!

### And that's not all!

There are Arts and Crafts sessions and, from time to time, barbecues in the park, trips to the beach and movie nights.



Go to the Fina website and download the Fina Club brochure. [fina.org.au/fina-club](http://fina.org.au/fina-club)



*Life is for living!*



## Fina Community Garden

*The Fina community vegetable garden is our pride and joy.*

Well laid out, with wheelchair-accessible paths and some raised beds, our garden produces homegrown veggies and herbs which find their way to Fina Café and onto the menu.

Working together in the garden, Fina Club members learn about cultivation, composting, planting, harvesting and general garden maintenance.

Nothing tastes better than food from your own garden!

## Fina Café

The old commercial kitchen in the office area has been brought back to life by our Executive Chef, Michael, and his team.

It's now the engine room of our new Fina Café which is open to the public.

Our breakfast, lunch, drinks and sweets menus are proving to be very popular with our regulars – who grow in number every week.

*Drop by, meet the team and try our wares! We're sure you will be delighted.*

Download the Fina Café brochure from our website for the whole story: [fina.org.au/fina-cafe](http://fina.org.au/fina-cafe)

## Your news, your views!

Have you got something you'd like to share?

A story, a photo, something that's happened, something you've learned or something you've made?

Please email us at [communicate@fina.org.au](mailto:communicate@fina.org.au) or come in and see us in the café!

**We'd love to hear from you!**



fina

*A Community of Care*

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### The Fina Food Service

Let us do your shopping and cooking for you!

We are pleased to remind you that Chef Michael, his team and the produce of the Fina Community Garden are all there to make life easier for you. It's the Fina Food Service.

We can provide healthy, balanced and nutritious meals for pickup for a surprisingly low cost.

**Orders and enquiries welcome.**

Call us on 07 5405 1656 or email us at [kitchen@fina.org.au](mailto:kitchen@fina.org.au).

Fina is a non-government, not-for-profit, NDIS provider of supported accommodation and respite servicing south-east Queensland (Northern Suburbs, Moreton Bay and Sunshine Coast regions).