

Sunnyfield Matters

SUNNYFIELD

❖ THE SUN SHONE, EVERYBODY ENJOYED THEMSELVES AND A SPIRIT OF OPTIMISM FILLED THE AIR. THE PEOPLE WHO HAD WORKED SO HARD TO ACHIEVE THIS BUILDING, THIS TRAINING CENTRE FOR THEIR CHILDREN, FELT AS IF THEIR DREAMS WERE COMING TRUE ❖

Shelagh O'Hanlon – extract from The History of The Sunnyfield Association 1951-2001

Above
Sunnyfield Founder, Hazel Whiddon (3rd from the left) with Sunnyfield Teachers

65th Anniversary - A Trusted History of Service

As we celebrate Sunnyfield's 65th Anniversary, we pay respect to the vision, devotion and ideals of Sunnyfield Founder Hazel Whiddon. The origins of Sunnyfield began in 1952, when 18 families from Sydney's Northern Beaches came together to create an association that would result in enabling people with disability to have every opportunity to learn, work, make friends, have fun and access the supports they needed to live a life of their choosing.

Sunnyfield's success has always been defined by the quality of life of the people we serve, underpinned by the generosity of parents, guardians, businesses, community members and local public figures who have worked valiantly over the past six and a half decades and today still continue to show their dedication. We acknowledge their hard work. Guided by our values of respect, trust, honesty and innovation Sunnyfield now delivers over 2300 support services for people with disability, their families and carers, with more than 1150 staff working across 65 locations in NSW and ACT.

Sunnyfield is committed to the delivery and accessibility of high quality individualised supports, bringing services to the people it serves, forging stronger local communities and striving for true inclusion, so that we may continue the legacy of our founders and empower people with disability to lead brighter futures.



In this edition

65th Anniversary
Sunnyfield celebrates 65 years of service
Page 2

Sunnyfield Enterprises Celebrates 2016 Achievements
Page 4

Blacktown Community Services Hub Now Open!
Page 5



Sunnyfield
For a brighter future

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO AND CHAIR



Dear Clients and Families,

Welcome to a very special year for Sunnyfield as we celebrate our 65th Anniversary. From what started as a few parents wanting a better life for their children, Sunnyfield today enriches the lives of over 2000 people with disability. Sunnyfield is passionate about our values and treating every person with disability, their families, guardians and carers with respect; being honest in everything we do; and reinforcing the trust that is placed in us every day.

The transition to the NDIS for Sunnyfield clients and families is well and truly underway. While it hasn't always been smooth, Sunnyfield continues to work with State Government departments, and the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA), to support clients and families with their transition. For clients in NSW Region 1 and the ACT, the NDIA should already have been in contact and started them on their NDIS journey. For clients in NSW Region 2 transition to the NDIS commences from July 2017.

Thank you to all clients and family members who completed the Sunnyfield client and family survey in November and December last year. Every opinion, suggestion and feedback is important to us, and helps Sunnyfield to improve our support services so that we are enriching the lives of people with disability. We are currently collating the full results and will share these and resultant improvement plans in a future edition.

In 2017 Sunnyfield is well placed to deliver services and supports to more people with disability. We have opened new Community Service Hubs in Blacktown and Parramatta, and due to some wonderful grants, we will be investing in new technology and equipment in a number of existing Community Service Hubs.

As the NSW Government exits the provision of shared living services through ADHC, a number of clients and families are choosing Sunnyfield's expertise in providing support in shared living. To start 2017, Sunnyfield is currently transitioning fifteen new clients and families into shared living homes and we look forward to supporting those clients to live their lives as they choose. As the year progresses Sunnyfield's reputation for person centred quality services will, we hope attract more clients and families.

Sunnyfield was humbled on 2016's International Day of People with Disability, when the NSW Business Chamber bestowed an award in recognition of Sunnyfield's leadership and valued efforts to making our organisation accessible and inclusive of people with disability. This award is a reflection on the values of Sunnyfield, and is thanks to the clients and families who have contributed over the last 65 years to develop Sunnyfield into the organisation that we are today, creating brighter futures.

Karen Ingram Sunnyfield Board Chair
Caroline Cuddihy Sunnyfield CEO

Bottom left
Sunnyfield clients in 1964
at Allambie Heights,
Northern Beaches

Right
Miss Elizabeth Northcott,
laying the foundation stone
at Allambie Heights in 1952.

Far right
First Sunnyfield Bus
donated in 1969 by the
Brookvale Lions Club.



65
YEARS

Trusted
since 1952

Excellence in
supporting people
with intellectual disability

NDIS TRANSITION UPDATE

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) NSW Region 2 transition commences July 2017. This region covers South Eastern Sydney, Sydney, Western NSW, Far West, Mid North Coast, North East NSW, Illawarra Shoalhaven and Murrumbidgee. To support clients, families, carers and guardians through their NDIS transition, Sunnyfield will be holding more NDIS Family and Carer Information Forums between March and June 2017.

The NDIS will fund supports that are reasonable and necessary for a person with disability to achieve their goals. The 'My First Plan' will continue to give participants the support they need for the next 12 months and can be reviewed if needs change.

The diagram on the right is a quick guide to understanding the 'My First Plan' process.

For more information about the NDIS or to register for Sunnyfield's upcoming NDIS Family and Carer Information Forums please contact Sunnyfield on 1300 588 688 or email: NDIS@sunnyfield.org.au

What to do with your 'My First Plan'

1

What is 'My First Plan'?

- It is your first plan with the NDIS
- It will be in effect for at least 12 months
- Includes the current supports and services you need now

2

Planning for 'My First Plan'

- The NDIS funds supports that are reasonable and necessary
- Collect information about current supports and services
- Provide evidence that you have needs that aren't currently being supported
- The NDIA or a Local Area Coordinator will contact you

3

Meeting about 'My First Plan'

- The NDIA or LAC will meet with you to understand your reasonable and necessary support needs
- The NDIA will decide what should be in your plan
- The NDIA will send your plan to you

4

Review 'My First Plan'

- Identify any significant gaps in supports and services
- Ask Sunnyfield to help you review your plan
- Ask the NDIA to review your plan if it is not appropriate

5

Starting 'My First Plan'

- Select service providers for each item on your 'My First Plan'
- You will need a Service Agreement with each service provider

6

Supports Commence

- Make/accept service booking on the NDIS portal
- Receive services and supports from service providers

Need some assistance?

Contact Sunnyfield on 1300 588 688 if you have any concerns or would like any additional information.



“OVER THE NEXT 50 YEARS I BELIEVE THAT CHANGE WILL CONTINUE AS IT HAS IN OUR FIRST 50 YEARS. I KNOW THAT WHATEVER HAPPENS OUR VISION 'TO BE THE BEST PLACE FOR PEOPLE WITH AN INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY TO LIVE, LEARN, WORK, MAKE FRIENDS, HAVE FUN AND GET HELP WHEN NEEDED' WILL NEVER CHANGE”

Bryan Whiddon OAM, Sunnyfield Patron and Honorary Life Member – extract from The History of The Sunnyfield Association 1951 - 2001

Sunnyfield Founding Members

We would like to acknowledge the vision, dedication and unwavering commitment of the founding members of Sunnyfield from 1952.

Mr Fred and Mrs Hazel Whiddon

Mr H and Mrs M Astley

Mr G and Mrs B Govan

Mr J and Mrs P Donoughue

Mr J and Mrs J Piggott

Mr R and Mrs N Martin

Mr G and Mrs E.M Hill

Mrs N Stovold

Mrs M Walker

Mrs L.M Roberts

Mrs A Sproston

Mrs M Kroopin (Baston)

SUNNYFIELD ENTERPRISES

☘ **SUNNYFIELD'S END OF YEAR PARTY WAS AWESOME BECAUSE OF THE GREAT PEOPLE AROUND ME, LIKE MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS FROM SUNNYFIELD** ☘

Haley, Sunnyfield Enterprises



NSW Governor, His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd) visits Sunnyfield

Sunnyfield had the pleasure of hosting His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd), Governor of New South Wales and Mrs. Hurley for the official opening of the new Secondary Therapeutic Goods Packaging facility at Sunnyfield Enterprises, Allambie Heights on 12 December.

This was the first visit to Sunnyfield for the Vice Regal couple, during which they toured the Allambie Heights site, including inspecting the \$1 million investment made as part of the recent upgrades to the Primary and Secondary Therapeutic Goods Packaging facilities. They met with supported employees and their families, before the formal opening of Sunnyfield's new facilities.

Sunnyfield Enterprises Celebrates 2016 Achievements

Sunnyfield Enterprises held their annual end of year celebrations across all three sites in Chatswood, Mt Druitt and Allambie Heights. The award functions were attended by Steve Robb, Sunnyfield Enterprises, General Manager and Caroline Cuddihy, CEO at all Enterprises sites; Sunnyfield Enterprises Advocate and Life Member Brien Mendham at Allambie Heights; and in Chatswood by Sunnyfield Board Director Dr John Carter AO to present the Sunnyfield Enterprises Annual Awards.

It was a wonderful conclusion to what has been a thriving year for Sunnyfield Enterprises. Congratulations to the following Supported Employees for their outstanding 2016 achievements.

Mt Druitt

**Employee of the Year
(General Packaging) Award**
Greg Keepence

Packaging Excellence Awards
Jennifer Keepence, Michael Tierney, Joshua Maxwell, Ricky Morton, Alen Kapetanovic

Employee of the Year (TGA) Award
Luca Gatti

TGA Excellence Awards
Kevin Daley, Warren Walker

WH&S Awareness Award
Aaron Du Bois

**Peer Support and
Community Spirit Award**
Jessica Gratton

Most Improved Award
Jordan Rogers

**GM's Outstanding
Contribution Award**
Maryanne Lawler

CEO's Values Award
Theresa Boyle

Chatswood

**Employee of the Year
(General Packaging) Award**
Rebecca Rope

Packaging Excellence Award
Carol Chataway, Barbara Harrowell and John Fraser

WH&S Awareness Award
Matthew Yong

**Peer Support and
Community Spirit Award**
Matthew Clark

Most Improved Award
Matthew Sestich

**GM's Outstanding
Contribution Award**
Kathryn Veal

CEO's Values Award
Gail Jones

Allambie Heights

**Employee of the year
(General Packaging) Award**
Dean Groombridge

Packaging Excellence Award
Natalie Hoare, Therese Hill and Edward Scarborough

**Employee of the Year
(TGA) Award**
Peter Deshon

TGA Excellence Award
Ian Park and Matthew Pearson

WH&S Awareness Award
Ross Marsden

**Peer Support and
Community Spirit Award**
Michelle Annetts

Most Improved Award
Ian Arnold

**GM's Outstanding
Contribution Award**
Malinda Selfe and Angi Bulkin

CEO's Values Award
Chris Knapman

Top left

Kirsty, Haley, Nic and Jenny,
Allambie Heights

Middle

Melinda, NSW Governor,
His Excellency David Hurley
AC DSC (Ret'd), Harry,
Mrs Hurley and Peter

SUNNYFIELD IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Sunnyfield's new Blacktown Community Services Hub

As part of Sunnyfield's commitment to expanding disability services in Western Sydney, the new Community Services Hub located in central Blacktown held its first Open Day in January. This provided people with disability, their families and the local community the opportunity to visit the newly upgraded premises and explore the range of services and programs that are available.

The Community Services Hub will deliver a range of services including cooking, digital courses, community access, social participation and skill building.

Sunnyfield was also successful in attaining a Creative Arts Residency Grant from the Blacktown Arts Centre which will support the launch of a new arts program for local up and coming artists at the Blacktown Community Services Hub.

To find out more contact the Project Manager on T 1300 588 688 or E enquiries@sunnyfield.org.au

Skills for Life Courses kick off across Sunnyfield

Sunnyfield's 'Skills for Life' courses have been created using Sunnyfield's person-centred active support philosophy. The courses are designed to suit all ages and will provide a range of practical tools and techniques to support people with disability to develop social and communication skills, digital literacy, strengthen problem solving skills, increase self-awareness and build independence. The wide-ranging courses will include Travel Training, Public Transport, Using an iPad, Cyber Safety, Money Skills, Cooking, Personal Appearance and Social Skills. The courses are delivered in a relaxed and inclusive setting at a Sunnyfield Community Services Hub or in an individualised setting.

To find out more T 1300 588 688 or visit www.sunnyfield.org.au/services/skills-for-life

New England After School Care program

The newly created New England After School Care Program 'The Learning Tree' is designed to support primary and secondary students with disability. Launching in 2017 at Sunnyfield's Gunnedah and Tamworth Community Service Hubs, this fantastic initiative incorporates health and fitness and recreational activities, community access and learning and life skills.

Based in a relaxed and inclusive setting, children and teenagers will enjoy a wide variety of activities including outings to the gym, library, sport venues and music and arts programs. "We are really looking forward to launching this program," says Penny Plowman, Gunnedah Service Manager. "It will be fun-filled and a great place for children and teenagers with disability to learn new skills and make new friends."

Sessions run Monday to Friday from 3:30pm – 5:30pm. Extended hours and school holiday programs are available on request.

To find out more T 02 6760 1600 or visit www.sunnyfield.org.au/services/new-england

Clockwise from top right
Simon Bartholomew,
Project Manager at the
new Blacktown Community
Services Hub

Middle left
Transition to Work Students
at Mt Druitt



“IT WILL BE FUN-FILLED AND A GREAT PLACE FOR CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS WITH DISABILITY TO LEARN NEW SKILLS AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS”

Penny, Service Manager

EXPERIENCES AT SUNNYFIELD



**JASMINE IS SO
INCREDIBLY HAPPY
WITH HERSELF AND
SO MOTIVATED EVERY
MORNING GOING TO
WORK INDEPENDENTLY**

Sole, Service Manager

Top left
Tony, Sunnyfield
Resident

Bottom left
Jasmine and Damien at
Sunnyfield Enterprises
Chatswood

Getting a taste of life under the NDIS

Every morning you'll see Tony with one of his favourite local coffees in hand, enjoying his beloved daily routine. Tony is well known in his local area of Allambie and loves chatting and sharing his day with other residents and café-goers. Tony's NDIS 'My First Plan' means he will now receive the support he needs to further increase his independence and learn additional life skills.

Tony enjoys being helpful and lending a hand, so he has chosen in his NDIS 'My First Plan' to focus on supporting these goals. With individual support from Sunnyfield staff, Tony wants to learn living skills so he can further contribute to the daily running of his home. Tony loves getting out in the community and one of his aims is to develop his social skills.

Tony will have more opportunities to interact with others in the community in a safe and enjoyable way. Family is also very important to Tony and he plans to continue having an active family life and maintain these important relationships.

Things are looking up for Tony's year ahead!



**I LIKE MY COFFEE AND
I WALK DOWN AT 8AM**



Tony, Sunnyfield client

Travel Training supports Jasmine's Independence

Jasmine recently completed her travel training program at Sunnyfield, which means she can travel from her shared living home to her job in Chatswood with confidence and independence. It's been a long time in the making and a huge goal for Jasmine, who is now getting the exercise she likes by walking to the bus stop each morning. Her new-found independence means she is enjoying her role at Sunnyfield Enterprises Chatswood even more. "Jasmine is so incredibly happy with herself and so motivated every morning going to work independently," says Sole Coria, Service Manager.

Jasmine is very proud of achieving her ambitions and completing her travel training with the support of Sunnyfield staff. She is up early, enthusiastic to get to work and ready to take on the day. "I like getting the bus and going to work, I get two buses," says Jasmine.

Jasmine is looking forward to other opportunities her public transport skills will bring in 2017!

FUNDRAISING AND VOLUNTEERS

We couldn't do it without you!

Sunnyfield is very lucky to have the support of so many wonderful volunteers who help us in a myriad of ways. From the support of a dedicated group of family member volunteers who regularly raise funds for us through Bunnings BBQ's; to the many corporates who donate their time and muscle power to help give our homes a makeover or participate in Enterprise Buddy Days; to the wonderful students who do work placement with us and support Sunnyfield clients in our homes and community centres; and the individual volunteers who help us in the office and in our services. Thank you! We couldn't do it without you.

Sunnyfield was founded by families coming together, volunteering their time to fundraise, and work with local communities. Since these auspicious beginnings, our organisation has gone from strength to strength and we are so grateful to our families and the community who generously donate their time to serve others and support us in fulfilling our mission to enrich the lives of people with disability by creating choice, opportunities and skills for life.

Thank you, Westpac!

Residents were delighted to receive a mini makeover to their Beacon Hill home in December, thanks to volunteers from Westpac. The Westpac team braved the heat to stain the outdoor deck and furniture and give the house a new coat of paint. They also gifted new homeware items to the residents. Thank you, Westpac, for your ongoing support of Sunnyfield!

Right
Westpac at Beacon Hill

Left
Dave, Sunnyfield
Resident enjoying the
new makeover space



OUR NEW KITCHEN EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN USED WITH COOKING PROGRAMS AND ENCOURAGED RESIDENTS TO GET IN AND HELP. IT IS AMAZING 🍃

Natalie, Service Manager





SKILLS FOR LIFE COURSES

Sunnyfield's Skills for Life courses have been designed for people with disability of all ages, to support them to achieve their goals and aspirations. The Skills for Life courses provide a range of practical tools and techniques to develop social skills, communications skills, strengthen problem solving skills and increase independent living skills.

To find out more visit www.sunnyfield.org.au/services/skills-for-life or call us on 1300 588 688

WIN A LEXUS RX200t

Time is running out to purchase a \$20 ticket in the ASX Thomson Reuters Charity Foundation raffle, which is being drawn on **March 16th!** Every dollar raised goes directly to Sunnyfield and will help make a difference in the lives of people with disability. To enter visit: sunnyfield.org.au/support-us/asx



NEW COMMUNITY SERVICE HUBS

**Blacktown Community
Services Hub**
Now open!

**Parramatta Community
Services Hub**
Opens March 2017

UPCOMING EVENTS

**International
Wheelchair Day**
Wednesday 1 March 2017

**Sunnyfield 65th
Anniversary**
Friday 17 March 2017

**Sunnyfield 65th
Anniversary Dinner**
Saturday 18 March 2017

World Health Day
Friday 7 April 2017

Feedback

We are not only in the business of improving lives we are also in the business of improving the way we do it. So if you have any feedback, about the things we have done well, or the things we could do better, then please get in contact and send an email to our confidential email address at feedback@sunnyfield.org.au

Contact us

T 1300 588 688 E NDIS@sunnyfield.org.au
www.sunnyfield.org.au

© 2017 Sunnyfield ISO 9001: 2008 Quality Management System
ABN 72 000 4150 127 Charity fundraising no. 13915

Registered
NDIS
provider



Sunnyfield
disAbility Services