

70th Anniversary March 2022

Sunnyfield Matters



Above
St Marys Community
Services Hub

Message from the Chair and CEO

Dear clients, families, guardians and friends of Sunnyfield,

In 1951 Hazel and Fred Whiddon placed an advertisement in the local paper, calling together like minded parents of children with intellectual disability, to work together to create better lives for their children. Their son Trevor was born with an intellectual disability and they were determined he would have a good life like his brother Bryan.

So, on what was to be a momentous occasion, five women – Mrs Astley, Mrs O'Donoghue, Mrs Sproston, Mrs Piggott and Mrs Roberts – came to Mrs Whiddon's house in October 1951 to discuss the possibility of the formation of an association and of starting some sort of training program for their own children and any others in the area.

At the inaugural meeting on 17 March 1952, at the home of Mrs Cooper, 18 people met and formed an autonomous body to be known as The Manly Sunnyfield Association. Sunnyfield Members (today over 500 family relatives) worked tirelessly to raise funds and build on their forefathers dedication and sacrifice, to grow services during a time when little if any government funding was available.

Our deepest respect and appreciation goes out to the clients, families and customers who have generously made Sunnyfield what it is today. It hasn't been easy at times, forever trying to secure more funds to undertake our mission, fundraising, accessing land, building facilities and championing our vision.

What was created at that time, and remains true

to this day, is an overwhelming commitment by passionate people to a shared vision and mission, with united values that have guided us through the last 70 years, and will continue to, into the future. We always have, and always will, put clients at the forefront of everything we do, working in collaboration with families and the person's circle of support, to help them live the life they choose.

Key to Sunnyfield's success has and continues to be the passion, commitment, creativity, flexibility, dedication and hard work of every person that works at Sunnyfield. It is an honor and privilege to work alongside such an inspiring group of people.

We thank past and present Patrons (Sir Angus Houston AK AC AFC and Bryan Whiddon OAM), and our Board Directors and Associates. Special appreciation goes to the Whiddon family – from Fred and Hazel to Trevor and Bryan, to Melissa Hammel (Board Director and daughter of Bryan and Wendy Whiddon), and Thomas Perrett (Board Associate and great grandson of Fred and Hazel).



Sunnyfield
disAbility Services

Registered
NDIS
provider

Message from the Chair and CEO

Over the last 70 years there have been many generous people and organisations who have helped Sunnyfield either through partnerships, goods in-kind, volunteering and or donations...

- We thank state and federal Ministers, and politicians who have supported us, including with local grants.
- We thank the NSW and federal governments, and local councils for their professional and caring approach to our community needs over the decades.
- We especially thank McKinsey & Company for their ongoing pro-bono strategic advice, Gordon Pegler Lawyers for pro-bono property advice, Clayton Utz for their over 10 year pro-bono partnership, and ASX Refinitiv Charity Foundation for over 20 years of continued support.
- We thank Employment Services commercial partners for their valued repeat business.
- And we thank all the local clubs, personal and corporate donors, and volunteers who have committed time, resources and funding to help serve the Sunnyfield Community, enriching the lives of many people with disability.

Sunnyfield 70 years on is in a strong position...

- We have over 2000 client and customer valued services, operating from 80 locations in the New England region, Tweed Heads, Hunter region, Central Coast, Greater Sydney and Canberra.
- We have more than 1500 talented and dedicated staff, each day focused on great service and outcomes for people with disability.
- And we have grown to revenue over \$110m per annum, with \$75m of net assets.

We are proud to stand alongside so many amazing, talented, dedicated and generous people who all share the same passion to make a positive difference in the lives of people with intellectual disability. Together we serve, learn, grow, dedicate and invest our time in clients and families brighter futures.

Happy 70th anniversary Sunnyfield!

Best regards

Karen Ingram Chair

Caroline Cuddihy CEO

Vision

Excellence in supporting people with intellectual disability.

Mission

To enrich the lives of people with disability by creating choice, opportunities and skills for life.

Values

Respect, Trust, Honesty and Innovation.

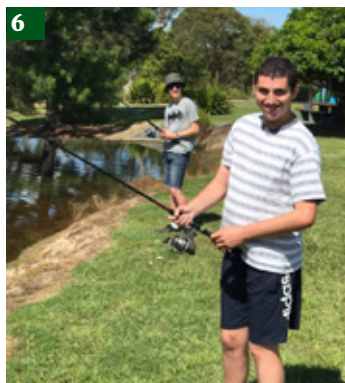


Left
Karen Ingram,
Sunnyfield Board Chair
(right) and Caroline
Cuddihy, Sunnyfield
CEO (left)

**Let's celebrate 70 years of
shining bright, since 1952.**

THE SUNNYFIELD WAY

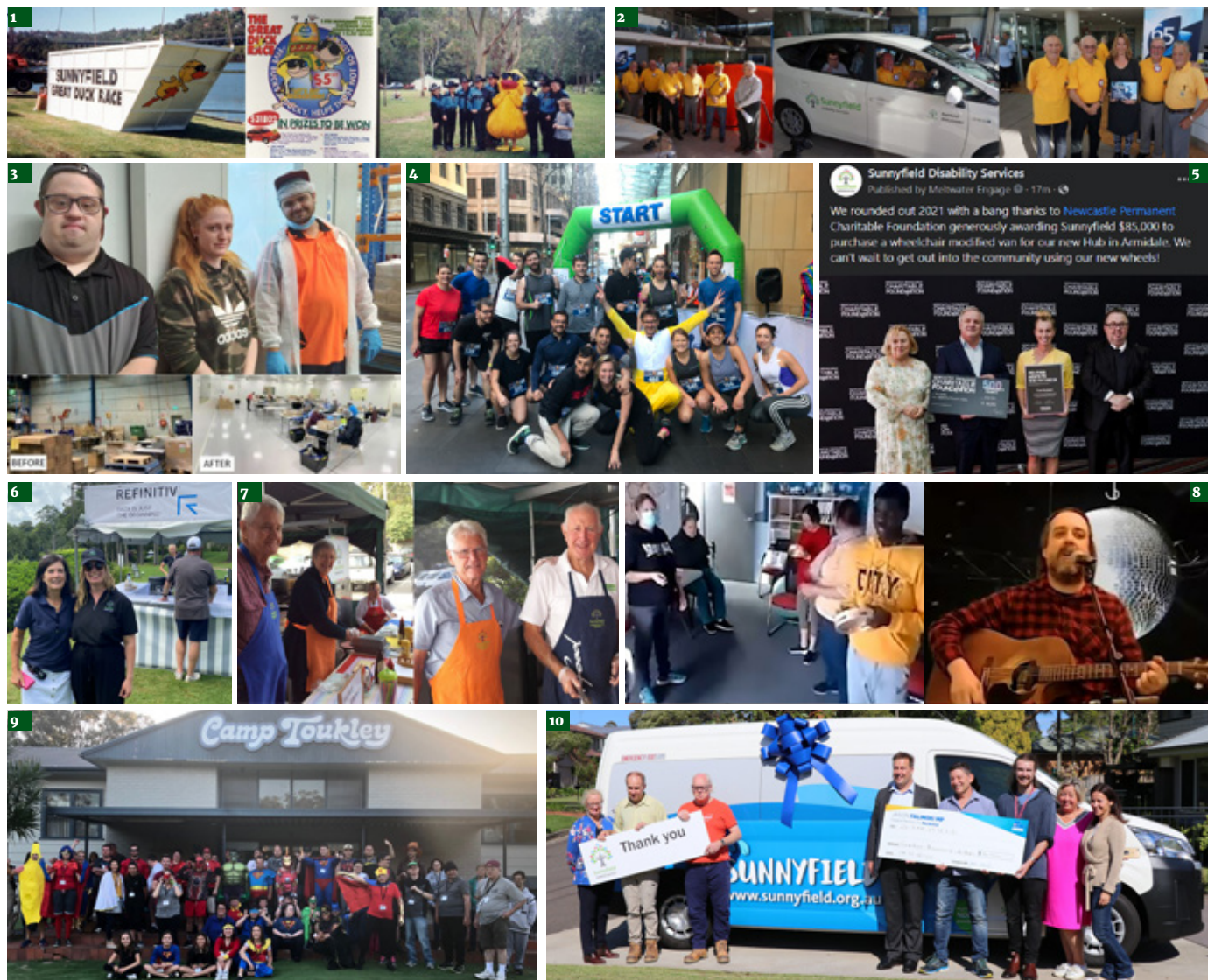
For a brighter future



1 Tweed Heads Hub enjoying a day out at Sea World, thanks to a grant from Pottsville Sports. **2** Singleton and Kurri Kurri Community Services Hubs joined forces for a bongo bonanza! **3** Residents at Sea Breeze House were so excited to celebrate one of their housemates' cultural festivals - Chinese New Year. **4** **5** Shared Living residents, Jocelyn and Adam, dressed up and had their photos taken for Christmas presents for their families. **6** Despite not catching any fish, Johnny and Rupert from McCabe Community Service Hub loved the day by the water. How can you have a bad day when you're in good company. **7** Blacktown Community Services learning about Australia's rich history and the First Nations People, they created a beautiful and meaningful artwork to display and reflect on. **8** Former NSW Minister for Disability, Alister Hensgens MP taking a tour of Allambie Heights Employment Services. **9** Mt Druitt SLES Student, Shyan getting back into his routine and building excellent time management skills. **10** **11** Northern Tablelands Adam Marshall MP granted Sunnyfield \$69,000 from the Stronger Country Communities Fund to make our new Community Service Hub in Armidale more accessible. The new Hub is set to support more than 50 clients in the Armidale area.

FROM LITTLE THINGS BIG THINGS GROW

For 70 years our community partners, families and friends have made generous donations and gifted grants to allow Sunnyfield to provide services, resources and programs to enrich the lives of people with disability. We thank you for your continued support and look forward to another 70 years of creating brighter futures for people with intellectual disability.



- 1 The great Sunnyfield Duck Race fundraiser in the 90's!
- 2 The Lions Club of Balgowlah and Frenchs Forest raised funds for a vehicle for a Sunnyfield Shared Living home.
- 3 A grant from the Department of Social Services, enabled Sunnyfield to create a new clean room and upgrade our salt filling and packing room at our Employment Services packaging facility at Mt Druitt.
- 4 Long term Sunnyfield corporate partner Clayton Utz raise funds together with Sunnyfield clients and staff in the Sydney Tower Stair Challenge.
- 5 Newcastle Permanent Charitable Foundation awarded Sunnyfield \$85,000 to cover the cost of a new wheelchair modified van for Armidale. We can't wait to get out into the community using our new wheels!
- 6 Sunnyfield has been a recipient of the ASX Refinitiv Charity Foundation's golf day for over 20 years.
- 7 The Sunnyfield Auxiliary have cooked countless sausages raising funds for us via Bunnings BBQ's.
- 8 Donations funded Zoom Music sessions for Sunnyfield clients during COVID-19 lockdowns.
- 9 Sunnyfield partner Pharmicare helps fund our annual sports camp.
- 10 Residents at Moolah Shared Living home thank local MP Jason Falinski for his contribution to their new Wheelchair modified van.

Contact us

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