



Celebrating our day on The Block

## Bayley Blockstars

Like all good room reveals, we have been sitting on this surprise for a little while now. In 2020 we began discussions with Julian Cress, producer of award winning TV series, The Block.

The idea at the time was to be involved in their Brighton series which was being filmed a few streets away from Bayley House. Then COVID-19 struck and all plans for our involvement were sadly scrapped.

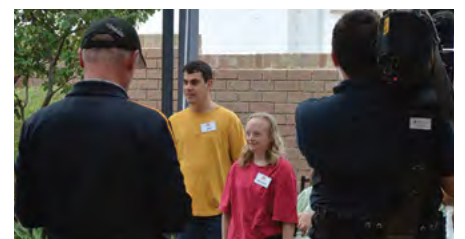
Fast forward to 2021 and The Block Hampton was announced. We kept our fingers crossed that Julian hadn't forgotten about us. He hadn't! Impressed by our focus on all abilities art, Julian contacted us to see if we would like to join in this new season.

Thankfully filming was during a break in lockdowns and so in early March the TV crews arrived at Bayley House.

We were part of an episode which was filmed across one single day, which began before the sun came up. Our Bayley Blockstars; Robbie, Hayley, Katherine, Bronwyn, Charlie, James, Georgina, Bar, Daniel and Bri were thrust into the world of television production. And they were naturals. Hair and make-up stations were set up, mics were clipped on and then faster than you could say 'action' Scotty, Shelly and the contestants had arrived and filming was underway!

We were part of a challenge episode, where the contestants compete in order to win prizes or money to top up their budgets.

We had two outdoor areas that were in need of a makeover – so the challenge was: who could create the winning space? After consultation with the clients, teams were chosen, Block contestants teamed up with Bayley House clients and the competition began.



## From our CEO



The Bayley House Arts Hub has been a dream for many years. Whilst no doubt the Arts Hub conjures up different things for different people, at its core it reflects a commitment by Bayley House to provide more space and better facilities for more of our clients to explore the creative arts; an activity we know they love and excel in. But it will be far more than that.

It will be a place of excellence and one which welcomes in the community more broadly as well. This will be a facility which sets the bar high because that is what our clients deserve. This will be a setting which is not just professional and functional; it will be a setting which inspires...which...zings!!

Our clients have a right to expect that their services are provided at a standard to which the broader community would be proud. The Bayley House Arts Hub will provide more space for our amazing artists. It will also welcome the community in, both for 'mainstream' art classes and activities but also to provide opportunities to meet and work with some of our own artists, whose work is an inspiration in itself.

The Arts Hub will include a purpose specific gallery and exhibition space where we can host our own clients' work as well as welcome in prominent community artists. This vibrant new space will merge the boundaries, ensuring that excellence is something shared by our own clients and providing an opportunity for other members of the community to be surprised and inspired.

The Bayley House Arts Hub is coming soon. We have just signed a lease on a building in Avoca St Highett and can't wait to share with you our progress as we work towards a launch early in 2022.

Warwick Cavanagh  
CEO



Anthony



Chris



Andy



Kerri

Our new team

## Get to know our staff team

There have been a few key staff changes in recent months, new appointments and internal movements. While we have announced them all we would like to take this opportunity to welcome the following staff member additions/changes to the Bayley House family.

Kerri Rolfe, one of our very accomplished Program Managers, will be stepping into the role of Acting General Manager of Day Programs while Natarsha Warren is away on maternity leave, with her new daughter.

Leonie Kent is now undertaking a dual role and will continue in her current role of Front Office Administration Officer while also be taking on the duties of Community Leisure and Recreation Administration Officer. We recently welcomed Niamh Hanaphy to the Front Office team and she now works alongside Leonie and Katherine.

Chris Glennen will be with us until the end of November as Acting GM Accommodation Options and working with Chris is our new Deputy GM Accommodation Options, Andy Gabriel.

Anthony Di Battista has joined Bayley House as our GM People, Culture and Quality and Sandee Facy has

taken over as Business Development Manager for Hidden Disabilities sunflower Scheme. We are very excited to have Sandee bring a wealth of experience and skills to drive the Sunflower initiative to the next level.

It can be difficult to know who to contact at Bayley House when you need to check something or need to tell us something so below is list of contacts for you to keep handy.

Please join us in welcoming these new faces to the team!

**Anthony Di Battista:**  
GM People, Culture & Quality

**Chris Glennen:**  
Acting GM Accommodation Options (with us until end of November)

**Andy Gabriel:**  
Deputy GM Accommodation Options

**Kerri Rolfe:**  
Acting GM Day Programs



Shelly and Scotty with their Bayley House portraits

## The Block continued...

The competition was fierce with paint flying and turf going missing while both teams worked towards their design briefs of bringing our ideas to life.

What we ended up with was beyond our expectations. Our art courtyard was transformed into a wider art space with room for sports and performances. Meanwhile on the other side of the building, a chillout space was created with sensory elements such as a grass wall and anti-anxiety beanbags.

All challenges on The Block need to have a winner, and while one of the teams did come out in front, we think you'll agree when we say that the clear winner was Bayley House. Being asked to be part of a television production like this doesn't happen every day. We are grateful The Block chose us. Not only was this a fantastic experience for those involved but it put a smile on the faces of our families as well. A little bit of TV magic goes a long way and if The Block happens to win another Logie this year, well we can safely say it was all due to us.

"We first met Natarsha and the wonderful clients of Bayley House in early 2020 and immediately started planning to make a challenge for our Brighton series. And then lockdown forced us to postpone, which was heartbreaking for all. But we really didn't want to let them down and as soon as we began production on this year's show we got straight back to planning. The day we all got to spend with everyone was truly memorable for our entire crew and we were delighted to be able to give something special to all of the clients and staff, as they most certainly gave something special to all of us." – **Julian, The Block producer**

"It was an amazing moment when we revealed the spaces to the clients and it makes doing the show worthwhile. There was some great work from our contestants that went into the spaces. Not only the clients of Bayley House had an amazing reaction, the parents did as well which was beautiful to see." – **Scott Cam**



Mary and Luke enjoying a game of UNO

## Community, Leisure and Recreation

Our Community, Leisure and Recreation program has had a little makeover. After Hours activities run every weekend and we also offer activities over term breaks.

Weekend and after hours activities have been running for some time now. We also offer activities that run over a number of weeks, such as Song Writing where the end result is a recorded album.

Like much of the world, our Community, Leisure and Recreation program pivoted during lockdowns and adapted activities to an online environment which has worked wonderfully. We are getting record numbers of people logging on and joining in the activities. It's also a great way to catch up with friends you might not be able to see in person at the moment.

If you would like more information about what we have on offer or if you would like to book then head over to our website where booking could not be easier! The link below will take you directly to the booking page where you will find information on upcoming activities and all of the pricing information.

As with any new activity please make sure to check your funding levels before booking.



To find out more or to book: [www.bayleyhouse.org.au/after-hours-online-booking/](http://www.bayleyhouse.org.au/after-hours-online-booking/)





For all people with intellectual disability to lead a full and enriched life.



### ACHIEVEMENT

We actively pursue opportunities that enable people to achieve their individual goals and aspirations, as shaped by their choice and control.



### CONNECTION

We encourage and nurture inclusive and meaningful connections with peers, with supports and with the community.



### EXCELLENCE

We are passionate about providing exceptional services that support people to learn, laugh, belong and grow.



### RESPECT

We value every individual by encouraging their unique abilities.

## Dates to remember



**MONDAY 20 SEPTEMBER –  
THURSDAY 23 SEPTEMBER**

Day Programs Clients and Staff break

**FRIDAY 24 SEPTEMBER**

Grand Final Eve Public Holiday TBC

**MONDAY 27 SEPTEMBER**

Day Programs Clients  
and Staff resume

**FRIDAY 29 OCTOBER**

Staff Training Day  
(Bayley House closed)

**MONDAY 1 NOVEMBER**

Client and Staff Holiday  
(Bayley House closed)

Please visit our new online calendar:  
[www.bayleyhouse.org.au/calendar/](http://www.bayleyhouse.org.au/calendar/)

## Noticeboard

### NDIS reminder

A reminder to notify Bayley House if you have an upcoming NDIS planning meeting and please also let us know when you receive your new NDIS plan. Once we receive your plan, we will organise a new Schedule of Supports (which now replaces Service Agreements and Amendments) to continue with activities within Day Service, Community, Leisure and Recreation and Accommodation.

### Absentee

To all clients and families or carers, please let us know if you intend to be absent from Bayley House Services by calling **(03) 9982 1500** or emailing [dayservice@bayleyhouse.org.au](mailto:dayservice@bayleyhouse.org.au) - Bayley House follows the short notice cancellation policy as per the NDIS price guide.

### THANK YOU

To everyone in the Bayley House community, who were once again called upon to 'pivot' during the recent snap lockdown, we say thank you. Every single person has done their best to make sure we stay connected during difficult times and we appreciate your efforts and we appreciate you. Thank You!



## Employee Community Grant

In early 2020, Bayley House was contacted by Cameron Sutherland from the REA Group. Cameron reached out to us with the opportunity to apply for their Employee Community Grant.

The grant criteria had two parts, firstly the employee had to be involved in or have a family member involved in a not-for-profit group. Secondly, the grant had to assist the organisation with the purchase of 'something which helps the organisation do what they do'. Cameron thought of Bayley House, as his aunt, Wendy has been attending Bayley House for the past two years. We were also in need of equipment to support our podcast the 'Bayley Babble', which was being recorded directly into an iPhone.

In July 2020, we received the fantastic news that the grant had been approved. A new iPad, microphone and speaker were purchased for the Bayley Babble podcast. The Bayley Babble shares news from Bayley House, introduces our staff team to the wider community and also has celebrity guests drop by for interviews.

Thanks to Cameron and the REA Group for supporting Bayley House. You can hear for yourself how crisp the Bayley Babble sounds through the new recording equipment via the link below. You can also read more from Cameron and why he chose to support us.



## News *roundup*



### Babbling with The Block

The Bayley Babble podcast was launched in 2019 and has just kicked off its fourth season with a very exciting episode.

It's not every day you get a Gold Logie winner in the Babble studio so when we knew Scott Cam, host of The Block was coming to Bayley House, the Babble crew locked him in for an interview. Little did we know that co-host Shelly Craft would be joining him!

What resulted was a hard hitting interview packed full of laughs, some surprises and extra time because Scotty, being the champ that he is, wanted to answer all of our questions!

Thanks to Scott and Shelly for joining us and helping to kick off season four. Listen on **Spotify** or **Apple Podcasts**.

### New look website!

After months of planning, stakeholder consultation, design and building we recently launched our new website. We could not be more thrilled with the result of this work. We believe it sets a new standard for website design in our sector and, most importantly, reflects the skills, aspirations and real joy of our many clients as well as the rich diversity of what Bayley House has to offer.

Our new website has booking systems for our Community, Leisure and Recreation activities as well as our Short Term Accommodation. Accessibility controls are built in so you can easily change how the page looks along with many other controls to make your visit to the site as easy as possible. You will find a calendar of events including Bayley House holidays plus all of our latest news coupled with our handbooks which are now also available in an Easy English format.