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ISSUE 14 > AUTUMN/WINTER 2019 | Bonnyrigg Community Newsletter







The Sadik Family enjoyed an action-packed Easter Fun Day at Monkey Mania and won tickets to the Royal Easter Show!

Families Kick off Holidays with Easter Fun!

Bringing our families and residents together to share, celebrate and have fun during special holidays is really important to them – and us!

Fortunately, this year, Easter coincided with the school holidays, so we took the opportunity to hold a free, family fun day on Monday 15 April and our tenants loved every second.

Over 100 children and their families enjoyed an action-packed day at party and play central 'Monkey Mania' at Bankstown Sports Club to kick start the school holidays and get in the Easter spirit. And yes, by that we mean eating Easter eggs, meeting the Easter Bunny and doing lots of fun activities to burn off all that energy from the chocolate.

There were Easter themed games, an Easter-egg hunt, musical disco chairs, Easter basket making on top of all the exciting slides and games at the venue.

"These events are special for our families because school holiday activities can be expensive and sometimes out of reach," said Rachel Nobile, Head of Western Region.

"We don't want anyone in our community to miss out so we present free events, like this one. The kids get to have fun and the parents can enjoy and take it all in without any worry," she said. 66

"We had an awesome time there, it was really fun and the kids loved it," said Bonnyrigg resident and Mum of three, Melinda Ibrahim.

"I definitely would attend another event that was like this one during the school holidays".

"

The happiest residents on the day included the winner of the Easter Egg guessing competition and the Sadik family from Bonnyrigg who won tickets to the Royal Easter Show!

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CEO's Message

Welcome to this edition of the Bonnyrigg newsletter.

Being part of a strong and vibrant community where you can connect with other people and a range of opportunities is important for your safety, security and wellbeing. This is why we strive to create great places for everyone.

Reading through this newsletter, you will notice there are many opportunities for you to get involved in your community. From after school programs for our youngest residents, school holiday events for youth and families and yearly celebrations such as Neighbour Day – there is something for everyone. The impressive calendar on page 6 lists all the great activities run not just by SGCH, but by a number of local services.

One of the areas where we are keen to get you involved is in planning our Bonnyrigg sensory garden (a first for Bonnyrigg and SGCH!). The garden will be accessible for everyone and have design features for people with a physical or intellectual disability. As a focal point for the community, it will provide opportunities to learn about horticulture and gardening. To find out more, please see page 3.

Tenants also discovered more about the different tenant groups we have on offer and listened to their success stories at our Tenant Conference in June. If you aren't already part of a group or regular activity, I encourage you to meet your neighbours and find out how you can get involved.

As well as being a hub of community activity, it is pleasing to see work progressing on stages 4 to 7 of the Bonnyrigg Living Communities Project. There is a lot of construction happening around the area and there will be some changes to how you access our office and the walkways around it in the coming months (please see the development update on page 8). It is exciting to see so many new homes going up and we appreciate your patience while this work is happening.

Scott Langford CEO, SGCH Group

Help Build Your Community

The annual Tenant Conference on 25 June was a great success. Themed 'Build Your Community', the event showcased all the programs and groups on offer to our tenants. It also highlighted real stories about how tenants have started their own programs and how tenant participation in these has grown.

Led by the Tenant Coordination Panel (TCP), the one day conference included informative workshops hosted by groups from the Western, Metro and Northern Regions with stalls from the Chinese Arts group, Riverwood Choir, Flavours of South East Asia cooking group right through to computer class groups.

"The conference provided an opportunity for tenants to come together to discover how to get involved in the decision making-processes and hear what other involved tenants are doing in, and around, their local areas," said TCP member Angela Argyros.

"It was great to work with tenants from across the different regions – it is a huge area including Metro, the West and North tenants – but we all work together to build more solid and involved communities and the annual conference is a big part of this," said Angela.

Residents were encouraged to join the local tenant groups, to get active in planning activities, to learn more about SGCH and give feedback and suggestions on ways we can improve our services. TCP members also shared practical advice on setting up and running your own registered groups.

If you weren't able to attend the conference but are interested in finding out more about how you can set up your own tenant group or other ways you can get involved, the Community, Place and Partnerships team would love to hear from you. Please call us on **9585 1499** or email getinvolved@sgch.com.au



Tenant Conference showcases real stories of people building their community.

Neighbour Day Brings Home Message of Connection

We know when people are connected and engaged, communities thrive and lives are enriched. Creating vibrant healthy neighbourhoods where people feel safe and connected is key to this, so naturally, we are avid supporters of Neighbour Day, Australia's annual celebration of community which encourages neighbourhood connection.

In celebration of the day, 70 SGCH residents living in the Western region attended a picnic lunch on Wednesday 27 March at Parramatta Park to meet their neighbours and get to know each other.

Neighbour Day acknowledges that building a neighbourhood and connecting with others can be challenging, so its messages are all about bringing people together and sharing important tips on doing it safely and easily. Tenants particularly enjoyed a number of games to practice the art of effective communication and while nerve-wracking, they really got into the swing of it all.

"Building a caring, connective neighbourhood means being engaged and aware and it can begin with simple step," said Community Liaison Coordinator, Jessica Fakhoury who attended on the day.

The theme for this year's Neighbour Day was 'loneliness – what neighbours can do to create connections' so we asked our tenants 'What do your friends/family/neighbours do to help you feel a sense of belonging?'

Their answers were powerful but straightforward – 'When they invite you over', 'When they bring you home cooked food', and "Just by saying hello and goodbye when they see you".

It just shows, it is often the little things that make the biggest impact.



SGCH residents connect at Neighbour Day picnic.

SENSORY GARDEN FIRST FOR BONNYRIGG

Calling all gardeners and budding designers!

We have embarked on building our first sensory garden and we need you!

A sensory garden is designed to stimulate all five senses using plants and materials that engage sight, smell, touch, taste, and sound and we'd love your help in designing and building it.

We have established a Sensory Garden Working Group and they've hit the ground running touring the sensory garden at the Autism Advisory and Support Services Centre; the Royal Botanic Gardens display of carnivorous plants; and the Wild Play Garden in Centennial Park.

While these gardens are of a large scale, they hold the secrets to what we need to build ours.

"Children and adults living with sensory issues such as Autism, Dementia and Parkinson's Disease will benefit most from the garden so we are very keen to get as many residents impacted by these issues – as well as garden lovers – involved in this exciting project," said Place Coordinator, Sarah Mulcahy.

The Sensory Garden Project started as a result of seeing how successful our other community gardens were.

"Our tenants manage these gardens," said Sarah. They've learned about horticulture through our workshops with the Royal Botanic Gardens and today, these community gardens are thriving – and are a place of bounty because residents can share in the produce".

Knowing the importance of gardens to health and wellbeing, the Sensory Garden was a logical next step and we want as many of our residents involved as we can. Tell us what you think of this garden, what you would like to see in it and if you want to learn more about sensory flora and fauna at our specially designed horticulture workshops.

We'd love to hear from you! You can contact Sarah at the SGCH Bonnyrigg office for more information

BONNYRIGG COMMUNITY SENSORY GARDEN PROPOSAL



CONCEPT DESIGN

In the usery concept of the sensory garden elevies more a butterly. Different sections of the wing associates different sensory experiences in a finear dimension. These sensory experiences include; Touch, Smell, Sound, and Tasks, all within the boundaries of the butterly wing. The design allows strong and distinctive visual attractions and engagement along the sensor garden, and the community is encouraged to interact with the sensory features along the pathway. The design also incorporate a gathering passo and other features for unique sensory experiences and doucational purposes. The community is encouraged to join and cutoff to these features are dissecret sensors.

Luna Park Antics

Our Big Day Out is one of the most anticipated highlights on our social calendar, and this year was a ripper as our tenants hit Sydney's Luna Park! The iconic fun park welcomed 1,046 SGCH tenants (our first 1,000+ event), including 200 new SGCH tenants from the Northern Region who got a taste of what we offer our tenants and how important we think they are!

The day was a huge success with everyone smiling as wide as the famous Luna Park face.

Eighteen year-old Sopphira who came with her family, said, "We stayed until night time and saw the beautiful view of Sydney and the lights of Luna Park. We ate delicious food and I loved that my family was able to do it altogether! Thank you for making it possible".

Our tenants and guests went wild on the rides across the park and in Coney Island and enjoyed the activities we organised for them and their families, including an Easter Egg Hunt, face painting and themed games.



Tenants young and old enjoy the thrill seeking rides at Luna Park.

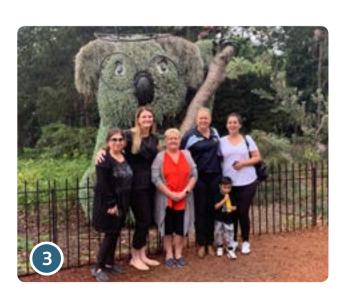


PHOTO GALLERY

Photos 1 and 2 – Bonnyrigg tenants enjoy the Big Day Out at Luna Park. 3 – The Bonnyrigg Sensory Garden Working Group tour other gardens gathering ideas.







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Meet our staff

This quarter, we found out a little more about Deb Follers. Deb works for the Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) but is working as the link between SGCH and LAHC as part of the ongoing redevelopment of the estate. She has a wealth of knowledge about both the redevelopment and the area.

When did you join the Bonnyrigg Living Communities project?

I have worked for the LAHC for a number of years. I initially worked on the Bonnyrigg project some time ago and then re-joined it in April this year.

What is your role in development projects?

I support the community during the renewal program and ensure they understand the project and its benefits.

Our focus is to make sure our community understands the stages of the redevelopment and its impact so that they can gain the best outcomes from the changes to housing styles, community mix and diversity.

What do you enjoy most about working on this project?

I really enjoy working closely with residents to support their engagement in the project and see families and individuals benefit from changes to their communities.

What are your thoughts about the positive impact of developments like this on the community?

By their nature, renewal projects are long term and change the mix of residents that live and work in the area to build on diversity. This has a positive impact on community dynamic and develops a more vibrant, active environment with improved services.

What do you like to do in your spare time (away from work)?

I am a netball tragic and watch my daughters and granddaughters play most Saturdays during winter. I also like to travel and have a couple of trips planned.

BONNYRIGG YOUTH COUNCIL UPDATE

BRING IT ON!

Bring It On! 2019 kicked off Youth Week and was definitely a fun festival for us to attend. There was so much to see and do and so many young people to connect with

Our team presented an arts and crafts stall and encouraged young people to embrace their creative side! We had a colouring in table, and a slime making stall – so of course, with slime involved – it was a huge hit!

YOUTH WEEK EVENT

Our 2019 BYC Youth Week Event, 'Bonny Fun Run' was a wild, colourful local community event promoting fitness and an inclusive neighbourhood spirit.

All the participants were doused in coloured dye creating an amazing human rainbow and because it was a non-competitive, physically active event – meaning people could walk or run or just cheer others on – everyone could participate, rejoice and celebrate Youth Week together.

We also ran a fun arts and craft station and provided a DJ and dance area where everyone joined in.

We bet people could've washed off all the colours at the end of the day, but not their smiles!

LIL LIL RIGG

The 'Lil Lil Rigg Dance Crew' has been working extremely hard learning new dances. On 25 May, 22 kids performed at Fairfield City Council's Fun@Bunker interfaith celebration. The children had a ball performing two hip hop dances in front of their proud parents, relatives and friends, as well as more than 300 visitors!

The group has grown from 10 members to 21 members this term so the momentum is building! Every Wednesday, the dance crew meets at the SCCH Bonnyrigg Office to learn and rehearse all the dances and plan for upcoming performances (stay tuned!).

The dance group is a safe space for the children to embrace their artistic side and use dance as a form of self-expression and creativity

WHAT'S NEXT FOR BYC?

Over the next few months, we will be focussed on planning and organising a Halloween event for the Bonnyrigg community and the end of year Christmas Party – keep your eye out for more details. We will also recruit new BYC members around September/October and provide some personal development opportunities for our current members with some of them doing their Responsible Service of Alcohol and Responsible Conduct of Gambling

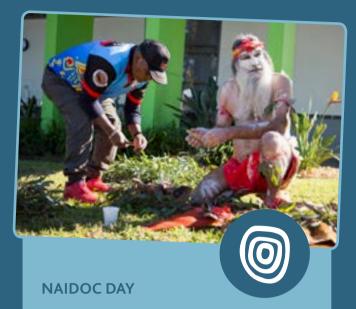


BYC members became part of a human rainbow during their Bonny Fun Run

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GET INVOLVED

To RSVP or express an interest in any of the programs, events or activities below, or ask a question, please contact us on 1300 137 265 or getinvolved@sgch.com.au. For more information about dates, times and locations, please also see the calendar on page 6.



July 2019, is an important event for our



SOUTH EAST ASIA

Join us in the SGCH Bonnyrigg office from



PLAY COMMUNITY BINGO

fun and friendly game of bingo on the 12.30pm at SGCH's Bonnyrigg office.

MULTI-SPORT PROGRAM

Have fun and stay fit with PCYC's Multi-Sport program. It's a lot easier to get fit when you're enjoying a game, so come along and bring some friends – or join us and make some new ones! On every Tuesday during school term from 3.15-4.15pm at Bonnyrigg Public School.

Remember to bring your water bottle and wear sports clothes. All parents/guardians must sign their children in before the activity starts.



PROGRAMS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AT BONNYRIGG HIGH SCHOOL



GROUP

for 5 to 12 year olds run by the Bonnyrigg terms in our SGCH Bonnyrigg office from

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES AT OUR **FAIRFIELD OFFICE**

Did you know that SGCH also runs a range of community programs and events at our Fairfield office and community space? If you would like to find out more about these, please contact us.

FRIDAY 'RIGG ROUND UP! - MEET YOUR NEIGHBOURS

- Mason Place and Humphries Road.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ICE SKATING (FREE)

Bonnyrigg Youth Council will once again host a fun, free day of ice skating on Wednesday 10 July. Everyone is welcome, whether you're a pro skater or have never tried it before. Join us from 11am to 3pm at Liverpool Catholic Club, 424-458 Hoxton Park Road, Prestons.

This is a free event but you must register at tinyurl.com/BYCSkate using the password **FunSkate**.

Please make your own way to the event. There is plenty of free parking at the venue or the closest bus stop (the Miller stop of the Parramatta T-Way) is a six minute walk from the venue.

We are not able to provide food for this event, so please bring some money if you would like to buy your lunch.

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ONGOING

Mondays

22 Hebblewhite Place Bonnyrigg

8am – 1pm

Zumba at Bonnyrigg Public School*

9.30am – 10.30am

Bonnyrigg Library*

11am – 2pm

Smart Bar at Bonnyrigg Library.

10am – 1pm

2pm – 5pm

Tuesdays

Bonnyrigg High School in the quadrangle

Walking Group, meet at SGCH Bonnyrigg office.

9.30am – 10.30am

10am

Bonnyrigg Library*

10am – 11.30am

3.15pm – 4.15pm

Bonnyrigg High School

4pm – 5pm

4pm – 8pm

Wednesdays

Bonnyrigg Men's Shed at

8am – 1pm

FoodCare at Bonnyrigg Youth Centre

10am – 12pm

Knitting Group at Bonnyrigg Library

10am – 12pm

Community Centre, 26 Bonnyrigg Ave*

10am – 11am

Bonnyrigg Library*

10.30am – 11.30am

Bonnyrigg Public School* 10.30am – 1pm

*During school terms

10.30am – 11.30am

Bonnyrigg Library

2pm – 4pm

Bonnyrigg High School Basketball Centre

3pm – 4.20 pm

3.30pm – 4.30pm

at Bonnyrigg Library*

11am – 2pm

Bonnyrigg High School

3pm – 4pm

Bring your own guitar*

4pm – 5.30pm

4pm – 5.30pm

Zumba at SLASA Community Centre, 26 Bonnyrigg Avenue, Bonnyrigg 7pm – 8pm

Third Thursday of the month

Bingo at SGCH's Bonnyrigg office.

10am – 1pm

Fridays

28 Bonnyrigg Avenue, Bonnyrigg*

9.30am – 10.30am

Baby time (ages 0-2 years) at Bonnyrigg Library*

10.30am – 11am

Bonnyrigg Library

Bonnyrigg Library

10am – 1pm

Third Friday of the month

Spanish Book Group at Bonnyrigg Library 10.30am – 12.30 pm

Last Friday of the month

Book Group at Bonnyrigg Library 10.30am – 11.30am

Saturdays

Bonnyrigg Library* 10.30am – 11.30am

JULY

- **3** Assyrian Tenant Group at SGCH's Bonnyrigg office 10am – 1pm
- Arabic Tenant Group at SGCH's Bonnyrigg office 10am – 1pm
- SGCH's Bonnyrigg office 10am – 1pm
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- **Bonnyrigg Library** 10.30am – 11.30am
- SGCH's Bonnyrigg office 10am – 1pm
- **10** Vietnamese Tenant Group at SGCH's Bonnyrigg office 10am – 1pm
- **10** Free School Holiday Ice Skating event at Liverpool Catholic Club, 424-458 11am-3pm

- **10** Bunnings Craft Fun Day Bonnyrigg Library 10.30am – 11.30am
- **11** Feature Creatures at Bonnyrigg Library 11am – 12pm
- **12** NAIDOC Day in Bunker Park 11am – 2pm
- **30** Bonnyrigg Youth Council Bonnyrigg office 4pm - 6pm
- **24** School starts term 3
- **26** Friday 'Rigg Round Up on 3pm

AUGUST

- **7** Assyrian Tenant Group at SGCH's Bonnyrigg office 10am – 1pm
- Arabic Tenant Group at SGCH's Bonnyrigg office 10am – 1pm
- **13** Lao Tenant Group at SGCH's Bonnyrigg office 10am – 1pm
- **14** Vietnamese Tenant Group at SGCH's Bonnyrigg office 10am – 1pm
- **16** Khmer Tenant Group at SGCH's Bonnyrigg office 10am – 1pm
- **27** Bonnyrigg Youth Council meeting at SGCH's Bonnyrigg office 4pm – 6pm
- **30** Friday 'Rigg Round Up on the corner of Bradfield Crescent and Upton Place 3_{pm}

COUNCIL SERVICES

- get help with any general enquiries.

YOUR COMMUNITY

The Bonnyrigg Library has a new range of exciting and free programs coming up and all the dates and times are listed in the calendar on page 6. Here's a little bit more about some of their latest events, clubs and services.

FEATURE CREATURES

The school holiday program, Feature Creatures aims to fascinate, educate and inspire adults and children alike about the wonderful creatures here in Australia. Join us for some fun and entertaining, interactive animal encounters on Thursday 11 July from 11am to 12pm.



SMART BAR

Need help to use the Library apps and online services?

Find out how at a one-on-one Smart Bar session with a library expert. We will assist you in the set-up of apps on your phone or tablet. This service is available on Mondays between 10am – 1pm.



NOTICEBOARD

ROAD SAFETY

Recently, there was an incident in Bonnyrigg where a local school student was hit by a car after running out on the road. Thankfully, the boy was not seriously injured, despite the severity of this accident. Police are warning all drivers and pedestrians to take extra care on the roads and avoid unnecessary distractions, especially during school holidays when more children out and about. Please remind your children about road safety – looking in both directions before stepping out on the road and using pedestrian crossings and traffic lights to cross safely. Please also remember not to park across or block people's driveways, especially during school drop off and pick up times.

ACTIVE KIDS AND CREATIVE KIDS VOUCHERS – SAVE MONEY!

The NSW Government is helping kids get active with the Active Kids program. This year, they have also introduced the Creative Kids voucher which is about making it easier for kids to get involved in creative and cultural activities.

Parents, guardians and carers can apply for both an active kids and a creative kids voucher valued at \$100 each a calendar year for each student enrolled in school.

To find out more visit **service.nsw.gov.au/ transaction/apply-active-kids-voucher** and **service.nsw.gov.au/campaign/creative-kids**



Meet some of us



This quarter, we shine the spotlight on Michael Bryce, Principal of Bonnyrigg High School.

What do you most enjoy about your role as Principal of Bonnyrigg High School?

I grew up in the area and attended Cabramatta High School while my cousins, friends and future brother-in-law all attended Bonnyrigg High School. The greatest joy over the last 12+ years has been seeing the school come back to life and the community embracing it. Today, we are one of the best academically performing schools in this Education Region achieving a top 20 position in the HSC. I, along with the staff, are immensely proud of our students.

How long have you worked in the Bonnyrigg community and how has Bonnyrigg changed and grown in this time?

I started as Principal in 2007 with 670 students. In 2019, we welcomed 1,700 students. The community has changed as Newleaf has grown because it has given the area a new lease of life.

What achievements are you most proud of?

Reaching a top 20 position at the HSC is up there! When the Department of Education wrote a book on high achieving schools in NAPLAN tests, Bonnyrigg High School was on top of the list as the highest achieving for student's growth in learning.

There are the additions I've been able to build thanks to careful funds management including: A Hospitality Trade Training Centre; new Industrial Arts Block; new Dance Building; refurbished Basketball Centre; new state-of-the-art Fitness gym; five Covered Outdoor Learning Areas and refurbished main office with better student facilities and access. The 2019 project is a new Automotive and Construction building for junior and senior courses especially Vocational Education and Training.

What is your favourite place in Bonnyrigg?

Hard to say as I spend so much time in the school, but all the new parks are great.

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DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Landcom is progressing with Stages 4 and 5. Tenants moved into new apartments in Stage 4 earlier this year and private residents are due to move into a soon to be completed apartment building in the coming months.

Work is continuing on the Stage 5 apartments, which Landcom expects to finish later this year. Landcom is also continuing to sell the remaining private lots through their nominated builders.

Landcom's contactor has also started civil works for Stages 6 and 7. These works will include:

- relocating existing electrical and water service
- earthwork
- installing new services
- road upgrades, including widening and extending Wall Place (next to the SGCH office).
- landscaping

Please follow all signs and directions from contractors when walking or driving around the construction areas. Thank you for your patience during construction



WALK WAY CLOSURES AND CHANGES TO WALL PLACE AND SGCH OFFICE ACCESS

The largest impact on the community of the work happening on stages 6 and 7 is that TRN will need to close the walk ways between Wall Place, Newleaf Parade and Shoemaker Place from mid-May until they have finished working on these stages. We know that a lot of people use these walk ways as a short cut to our office. If you are walking to our office, you will need to walk along Newleaf Parade and then the pathway that runs from Tarlington Reserve to our office.

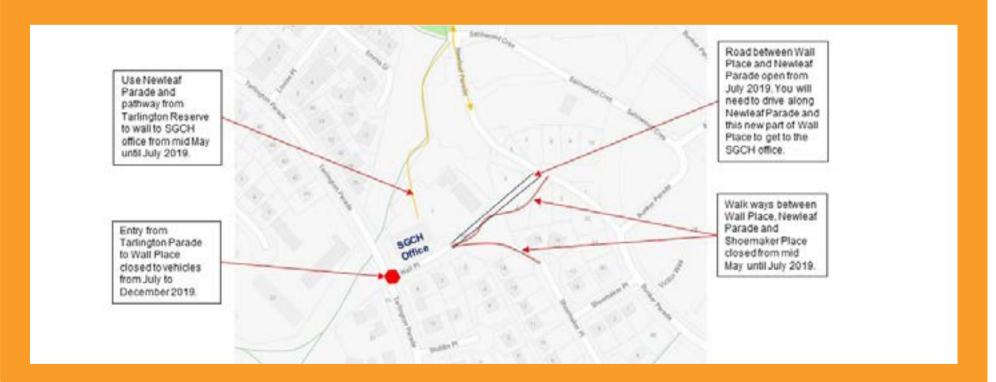
TRN will also need to create a new section of Wall Place (at the top of the cul-de-sac near where our office is located). This will take them from mid-May until July 2019. While this part of the work is happening, you will still be able to access our office as normal.

Once they have finished the new section, TRN will open this up for use and they will then close the current entry from Tarlington Parade to Wall Place from July until December 2019. If you are driving to

our office, you will need to enter Wall Place from Newleaf Parade and drive along the new section of Wall Place.

Throughout the work, you will still be able to use the carpark behind our office at all times. Alternatively, you can also park on Tarlington Parade.

The map below shows the closures and changes.



GIVE US FEEDBACK

At SGCH, our aim is to ensure that you receive excellent customer service and genuine care from us. We have a Customer Feedback Coordinator, Amanda Anders who can be contacted on **9001 4358** if you have any feedback or concerns about our service delivery.

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