

Newleaf

ISSUE 15 › SPRING 2019 | Bonnyrigg Community Newsletter



Sana and Khalid enjoy helping to develop a better community through the Tenant Coordination Panel.

Tenant Coordination Panel Helps Develop Better Community

Just over a year ago, Bonnyrigg residents Sana and Kahlid went along to their first Tenant Coordination Panel (TCP) meeting and were hooked!

The couple already had a strong connection with the Bonnyrigg community after being involved in our walking group and aqua aerobics classes when they became TCP representatives.

"I was already active in the community, so I went to one TCP meeting and it was fun, so I went again, and again," Sana said.

Made up of ten representatives who are part of a Local Tenant Group or cultural group, the TCP meets at least six times a year, connecting SGCH customers with our senior management team at a strategic level. It also provides opportunities to meet new people, learn new skills, plan activities for residents and provide high-level, strategic feedback to SGCH.

"I have a family-like relationship with the people so I'm able to translate to SGCH what the community needs and help make it happen," Sana explained.

Khalid said, "They (SGCH) help us develop a better community. At TCP meetings, we can tell them if we need something – unlike other places, you can tell your landlord what you need, and they will help you".

The TCP also organised our recent Tenant Conference, where SGCH customers learned how to get involved in programs and groups through Q&A sessions, presentations and interactive workshops. This year over 130 people attended!

“

Sana said joining the TCP is not only a great way to help the community; it's an opportunity to gain new skills and friendships.

”

"I've learnt a lot about how the community works together," she said.

"You meet people all the time and you become friends with them. You get useful time with them – we don't just talk about trash; we talk about meaningful things".

In addition to our TCP, we offer a range of local groups in Bonnyrigg including an English speaking tenant group, five language groups – Arabic, Assyrian, Khmer, Vietnamese and Lao and the Bonnyrigg Youth Council for people aged 12 to 24 years. These groups are run by local residents with support from SGCH staff. Please contact the Communities, Place and Partnerships team on 9585 1499 or at GetInvolved@sgch.com.au if you are interested in finding out more.



CEO's Message

Welcome to the last edition of the Bonnyrigg Community Newsletter for 2019!

Thank you to everyone who took part in our tenant groups, events and programs this year. We held nine weekly and two monthly programs including sporting programs for all ages, Bingo and our Rigg Round Ups with about 120 people attending each week. To date, we have also held seven community events with over 1,000 people attending! Key to making these programs and events a success, are our partnerships with local services and the willingness of the community to get involved.

In this edition, we feature our Tenant Coordination Panel (TCP) which gives SGCH residents a voice. I'd particularly like to congratulate the TCP and our local tenant groups on winning the NSW and the National Awards for Tenant Led Initiative at the Australasian Housing Institute Awards. We are proud of their work.

I'd also like to thank everyone who voted for us in the My Community Project. We received 649 community votes and are excited to announce that we were awarded a \$50,000 grant for the Bonnyrigg Sensory Garden. We look forward to the garden taking shape and the community enjoying this space.

Work continues to progress on stages 6 and 7 and recently, the Bonnyrigg Housing Estate Concept Plan which details future development was on public exhibition. We provided comment, encouraging the inclusion of affordable housing as vital social infrastructure for the growing Bonnyrigg Community. We look forward to continuing to support all stakeholders in the ongoing renewal of the estate.

As the year draws to a close, I invite you to join us for some of our regular end of year events and some new ones (please see pages 5 and 6). I wish you all a happy and safe festive season and thank you for your support this year. My team and I look forward to working with you in the New Year!

Scott Langford
CEO, SGCH Group

BYC Help Bonnyrigg Customers Get Their Skates On!

Over 160 SGCH Bonnyrigg customers joined us in the rink for our school holiday ice-skating event, hosted by the Bonnyrigg Youth Council (BYC) in July.

There were smiles all around as BYC members extended a helping hand and offered their top tips for ice skating success.

The event was a great opportunity for customers to get out and interact with their neighbours.

One customer said, "these events help me. I know that the more interaction I get within the community, the more my confidence will build slowly, and I will make positive progress".

BYC organises the ice-skating event every year and their hard work does not go unnoticed. Parents said they really appreciated having somewhere fun to take their kids during the break.

One parent said, "we always enjoy these events... and we always attend. The kids really look forward to these sorts of activities during the school holidays".

On behalf of the Bonnyrigg community, we'd like to extend our thanks to BYC and Liverpool Catholic Club Ice Skating Rink for yet another special day with fantastic service and support.

Most importantly, a huge thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the day fun and friendly.



Local residents enjoyed some school holiday fun at our annual ice-skating event.

NAIDOC WEEK GUESTS TELL STORIES THROUGH DANCE

This year's NAIDOC theme was Voice. Treaty. Truth. Over 50 SGCH customers and staff gathered at Bunker Park to listen, learn and participate.

Guests enjoyed traditional performances by the Koomurri Aboriginal Incursions group. A highlight was their dreamtime spectacular, where they performed stories through song, dance and languages that have been passed down through their

culture. A few people were picked from the audience to join the dance. They learned how to use their body to tell a story and we were very impressed with their performance!

We got some great snaps of customers with the performers in traditional dress before continuing the event with a sausage sizzle lunch and prizes.

We really appreciated the opportunity to join our customers in experiencing the world's oldest living culture.



Bonnyrigg residents and SGCH staff learn how to tell a story through dance.

FLAVOURS OF SOUTH EAST ASIA ENJOY COOKING AND COMPANY

The Flavours of South East Asia (FOSEA) cooking group has been thriving! The numbers have seen a 'healthy' increase, their skills are improving, and the members are enjoying the company just as much as the cooking.

FOSEA is a group of local residents who meet every fortnight to learn how to create cheap, healthy meals with amazing Asian flavours. They cook and eat together and share cultural dishes with others in the Bonnyrigg community who don't come from an Asian background.

One of the members, Mrs McGrath, said she enjoys meeting other people at FOSEA.

"I enjoy the cooking class very much. Everyone enjoys it. They exchange food and want to learn more about different dishes from the other countries... Most of the people, they like to come out and see people and talk to others. If we don't have programs like this, the tenants don't know others in their neighbourhood. My favourite thing about the cooking group is meeting others and having good conversations," she said.

Earlier this year, SGCH received a grant of \$7,500 from Club Marconi which went towards putting together a cookbook of the members' favourite dishes, including Kao Mee (stir fried noodles), Lao Flower Biscuits, Larb Kai (chicken salad) and Tum

Mak Hoong (Paw Paw Salad). Several members also did some food hygiene training and now hold a certificate in safe food handling.

FOSEA welcomes new members. If you're interested in joining, please contact GetInvolved@sgch.com.au or call the Communities, Place and Partnerships team on 9585 1499.



Our Flavours of South East Asia share their cultural dishes.



CHARLY

Meet our staff

This quarter, we found out a little bit more about Charly who is one of our handy persons and joined SGCH in October 2018.

Why did you join SGCH?

I joined SGCH because I was looking for something different and something that was going to challenge me. I joined knowing I would excel in this job using the skillset I was working on before joining SGCH.

What is your role at SGCH?

My role at SGCH simply put, is to fix the things that go wrong – I'm a handy person. I am a part of the Property Services team and provide maintenance and handyman services for customers across all our properties around Sydney. My job involves fixing, repairing, installing and so on, but also being the face of the company. I'm the connection between the first phone call to report a maintenance issue and the positive feedback after the work is done.

What were your first impressions of SGCH?

From day one, I've always felt like I'm part of a little family. The people in our team look after each other and genuinely care about each other's wellbeing.

What are you most excited about working on?

What excites me most about my job is the project work that I get to do with the other handymen. In our busy schedules we sometimes do not see each other for days, or even weeks, until our next meeting. So, getting the opportunity to work together on small projects helps us bond as a team. It also helps me learn and polish my skills, as we are constantly learning from each other.

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

Spare time is a rarity with me. I'm always working on projects around the house or helping out friends with theirs. When I do get some time to myself, I like working on my 4WD, customising it and taking it on trips to our family farm where I enjoy hunting and sleeping under the stars.

Space to Strive

This year, 49 Bonnyrigg students received a Strive Scholarship to help support their studies. We presented the scholarships, totalling \$59,500, to 14 primary, 14 secondary and 21 tertiary students.

Every year, we hear touching stories from students who are striving to complete their studies and connect with opportunities. This year, we heard from Bonnyrigg recipient Adriana, who is working hard towards a Bachelor of Medicine.

Growing up, Adriana spent 10 years in a small two-bedroom unit with her family. Then in 2015, her family was approved for a home in Bonnyrigg with SGCH.

"I remember it quite well," Adriana said.

"It was a shock... We went to see the place and it was amazing... I'm so grateful that I have not just a house, but an organisation that's helping my family achieve our goals".

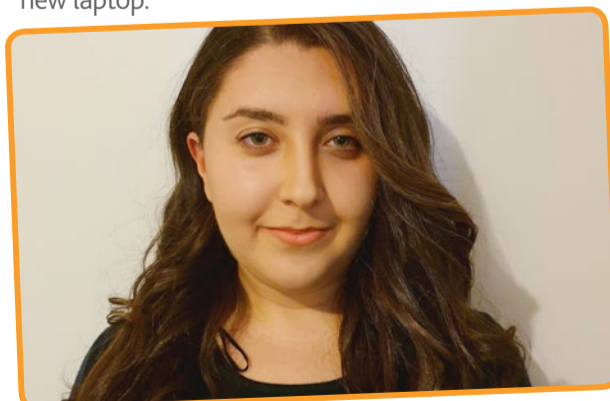
Having more space helped Adriana focus on studying for her year 12 exams and getting into university. After completing her degree, Adriana wants to secure employment in the medical profession and share her

knowledge across cultures and borders. Her family comes from a war-torn country, so she would love to give back to those struggling in other parts of the world. Her special interests include pathology and the cardiovascular system.

Study is not always easy for Adriana. Her travel to and from university can take up to four hours, often followed by a 5-6-hour shift at work. To support herself and her family, Adriana works part time in a supermarket, which impacts her ability to do work experience in medicine.

"Finding a job was very important. It's all about that chain reaction. In terms of my family, I feel that if I'm not able to help them, what's the point of me succeeding?"

Adriana plans to use the Strive money to reduce her work hours so she can do an unpaid internship. It may also help with transportation, food costs and a new laptop.



Adriana strives for a career in the medical profession.



MANDY

Meet our BYC Chairperson – Mandy

We love working with the BYC and it's been a while since we profiled one of their members, so we had a chat to BYC Chairperson Mandy. Here's what she had to say.

When did you join BYC?

I started in December 2016, with my first event being the annual Bonnyrigg Christmas Party. This was so much fun that I couldn't wait to participate in future events.

What motivated you to join BYC?

In year 9, I heard about BYC through my friend who was handing out flyers at school. I then applied to be a member. I was so lucky to get a position. I then saw all the exciting events and programs that helped the youth in the area.

I was elected Vice Chair, then soon progressed to Chair. For me, this was a great accomplishment and it made me proud knowing my team elected me and trusted me with such a responsibility.

How has BYC helped you?

Being a part of BYC has taught me to be more confident, both in school and in everyday life. I now feel a lot more comfortable to communicate with

the culturally and linguistically diverse community at events. I have also been given the opportunity to work with local services that work with many groups.

I will always be motivated to ensure that once my time is up with BYC, that it will run for many, many years.

What have been your greatest achievements while being part of BYC?

I have been able to achieve many things. BYC has helped me in gaining:

- public speaking and engagement training
- First Aid training
- food handling training
- two Strive Scholarships
- a role as Vice-Captain at Bonnyrigg High School
- the opportunity to attend three BYC leadership camps.

BONNYRIGG YOUTH COUNCIL (BYC) UPDATE

BYC has been busy these past few months, learning new skills and organising community events.

From 24-25 June, a few members from the Bonnyrigg community and BYC took part in a Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) and Responsible Conduct of Gambling (RCG) course at Wetherill Park TAFE. All participants are now qualified to work with alcohol and gambling, expanding their options for work.

Several Bonnyrigg residents and BYC members also participated in a First Aid training course through the Divers Alert Network. The course taught them procedures including CPR and emergency life support. Those who completed the course are now equipped with a First Aid certificate and life skills that will help keep others safe.

If you'd like to get RSA, RCG or First Aid qualified, keep an eye on our communications as we plan to offer more opportunities in the future.

Following BYC's ice skating session, it's time to get excited about our next event – Howl-oween movie afternoon complete with ice cream, popcorn and fairy floss! Join us on Wednesday 9 October at 12pm in the Bonnyrigg Community Centre.



PHOTO GALLERY

Caption: 1&2 – The Bonnyrigg community enjoyed traditional performances, lunch and prizes at our NAIDOC Week celebrations. Caption: 3 – SGCH staff tell the community about the Bonnyrigg Sensory Garden. Caption: 4 – Our Flavours of South East Asia Group prepare a feast. Caption: 5 – Celebrating the achievements of our Strive Scholarship recipients out our Tertiary Awards Ceremony.



GET INVOLVED

To RSVP or express an interest in any of the programs, events or activities below, or to 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.

ATTENTION KIDS – DO YOU WANT TO HAVE BREAKFAST WITH SANTA?

We are running an art competition for all

Bonnyrigg residents aged from 4 to 10 years old.

The winners of the competition will get to have breakfast with Santa at Bonnyrigg Plaza on Saturday 7 December (we have 10 tickets as prizes).

To enter, create a picture of yourself and what you would like to get for Christmas. You can make the picture any way you like – with pencils, paint, craft materials, a computer or anything else.

Please email your entries to:

GetInvolved@sgch.com.au or drop them into the SGCH office at 1 Wall Place, Bonnyrigg by Friday 29 November.



FOOD DRIVE

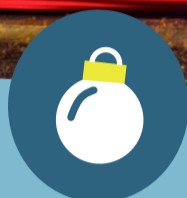
The end of the year can be a very stressful and expensive time, especially for families who struggle to afford the basics. With the help of BYC, we hold an annual food drive and invite everyone to donate food to families in need. This year, we are partnering with the Salvation Army to collect food for those who are homeless or struggling financially. We are asking for items such as:

- products with long shelf life
- ring pull cans that are easy to open
- foods that are filling and nutritious.

If you wish to donate, you can drop off food items at our Bonnyrigg, Hurstville and Fairfield offices by or before 20 December.

HOWL-OWEEN MOVIE AFTERNOON

Join BYC on Wednesday 9 October at from 12 to 4pm in the Bonnyrigg Community Centre for their movie afternoon complete with pop corn, ice cream and fairy floss!



LIGHT UP BONNYRIGG

It's time to dust off those fairy lights and pull out the Christmas decorations! SGCH is encouraging all residents to get involved in the Light Up Bonnyrigg competition.

The 2019 judging categories are:

- best overall residential display
- best window display.

Only properties in the Bonnyrigg area are eligible to enter and entry is free.

Entries open on Monday 2 December, so please contact us for a registration form. We must receive your completed form by 5pm on Thursday 19 December.

BYC are our judges and will visit on 19 December 2019. Please turn on your lights from 8pm to 11pm and help make Bonnyrigg shine.

We will contact the winners and present them with a \$100 gift card.

BONNYRIGG COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP

The Bonnyrigg Community Reference Group (CRG) brings together SGCH staff, local residents and services to ensure Bonnyrigg is a safe and friendly neighbourhood.

Members of the CRG have input into decisions made about the Bonnyrigg area, review plans, programs and activities that meet the needs of the community and share information about projects. They listen to and represent the views of all parts of the community.

The group is open to all residents and we are particularly seeking private home owners and renters. If you would like to be part of the CRG, please contact Sarah Mulcahy on 1300 137 265. CRG meetings are on the first Monday of every second month.

WHITE RIBBON DAY

On 29 November, we are holding a White Ribbon Day event at Bonnyrigg High School from 9.30am to 3.30pm to raise awareness of men's violence against women. We are hosting this event in partnership with Youth Off The Streets and Bonnyrigg High School. Guest speakers will share their experiences with domestic violence in the workplace and their personal lives. Through their stories, we will learn together how we can help end domestic violence.



SGCH TENANT CHRISTMAS PARTY

Every December, SGCH celebrates the year with our customers at our SGCH Tenant Christmas Party. This year, there will be guest speakers, entertainment, delicious food and an appearance from Santa Claus. Make sure to keep Wednesday 11 December free in your calendar! We will advertise more details closer to the event.

CHRISTMAS MARKET FAIR

Christmas is coming and so is Santa! We're holding a Christmas Market Fair at Bunker Park in December. Join us for some Christmas markets, live entertainment including a DJ and dance groups, jumping castle, face painting, airbrush tattooing, sweet treats and more.

Most importantly, Santa will make a guest appearance and hand out prizes. We will send out more details on this event soon so keep an eye out.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOURS

On the last Friday of every month, we hold an event at 3pm for the whole community. Come and meet your neighbours and SGCH staff.

Upcoming Rigg Round Ups:

Friday 25 October – Westringia Street, Eucalyptus Street and Reeves Crescent

Friday 29 November – Barraclough Way, Priddle Way and Cowdrey Way

Friday 31 January – corner of Newleaf Parade and Hickory Road.

We will be giving away free ice creams/ice blocks.

ONGOING

Mondays

Bonnyrigg Men's Shed at 22 Hebblewhite Place Bonnyrigg

8am – 1pm

Zumba at Bonnyrigg Public School*

9.30am – 10.30am

Toddler Storytime (for 18 months to 3 years) at Bonnyrigg Library*

10.30am – 11.30am

Oil Painting for Seniors (Beginners) at Bonnyrigg Library*

11am – 2pm

Tuesdays

Breakfast Club at Bonnyrigg High School in the quadrangle

7.30am – 8.45am

Walking Group, meet at SGCH Bonnyrigg office. All ages welcome*

9.30am – 10.30am

Flavours of South East Asia (fortnightly) at SGCH Bonnyrigg office

10am – 12pm

English conversation group at Bonnyrigg Library*

10am – 11.30am

Multi Sport Program run by PCYC at Bonnyrigg Public School

3.15pm – 4.15pm

Volleyball Skills and Drills at Bonnyrigg High School

3pm – 4pm

Youth Dance Group at Bonnyrigg High School

3pm – 4pm

Youth Off the Streets Outreach at Bonnyrigg Skate Park, corner of Smithfield Road and Elizabeth Drive

4pm – 8pm

Wednesdays

Bonnyrigg Men's Shed at 22 Hebblewhite Place Bonnyrigg

8am – 1pm

FoodCare at Bonnyrigg Youth Centre

10am – 12pm

Knitting Group at Bonnyrigg Library. All skill levels welcome*

10am – 12pm

Zumba, SLASA Bonnyrigg Community Centre, 26 Bonnyrigg Ave*

10am – 11am

Pre-School Storytime (for ages 2-5) at Bonnyrigg Library*

10.30am – 11.30am

Basketball 3x3 and 5x5 competition at Bonnyrigg High School Basketball Centre

3pm – 4.20pm

Lil' Lil' Rigg Dance Group (5-12 years) at SGCH Bonnyrigg office

3.30pm – 4.30pm

Oil painting for Seniors (intermediate level) at Bonnyrigg library*

11am – 2pm

Homework help at Bonnyrigg Library*

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

Yoga at Bonnyrigg Community Centre, 28 Bonnyrigg Avenue, Bonnyrigg*

9.30am – 10.30am

Beginners Computer Class at Bonnyrigg Library from 18 October to 6 December

10am – 11 am

Babytime (ages 0-2 years) at Bonnyrigg Library*

10.30am – 11am

Third Friday of the month

Spanish Book Group at Bonnyrigg Library

10.30am – 12.30pm

Last Friday of the month

Book Group at Bonnyrigg Library

10.30am – 11.30am

Saturdays

English conversation group at Bonnyrigg Library*

10.30am – 11.30am

Guitar School (ages 6-12) at Bonnyrigg Library*

10am – 10.30 am

Guitar School (ages 13-adult) at Bonnyrigg Library*

11am – 11.30am

*During school terms

OCTOBER

9 Howl-oween Movie Afternoon at Bonnyrigg Community Centre
12pm – 4pm

25 Rigg Round Up Westringia Street, Eucalyptus Street and Reeves Crescent
3pm

22 Free financial seminar on salary sacrifice presented by Centrelink at Bonnyrigg Library
6pm – 7.30pm

29 Bonnyrigg Youth Council meeting at SGCH's Bonnyrigg office
4pm – 6pm

31 Halloween Evening Storytime at (for ages 0-7) at Bonnyrigg Library
6.15pm – 7.15pm

NOVEMBER

12 Free financial seminar on managing your money presented by Centrelink at Bonnyrigg Library
1pm – 2.30pm

13 Vietnamese Tenant Group at SGCH's Bonnyrigg office
10am – 1pm

15 Khmer Tenant Group at SGCH's Bonnyrigg office
10am – 1pm

19 Lao Tenant Group at SGCH's Bonnyrigg office
10am – 1pm

20 Assyrian Tenant Group at SGCH's Bonnyrigg office
10am – 1pm

21 Santa arrives at Bonnyrigg Plaza!
4pm – 6pm

26 Bonnyrigg Youth Council meeting at SGCH's Bonnyrigg office
4pm – 6pm

29 White Ribbon Day Event at Bonnyrigg High School
9.30am – 3.30pm

29 Arabic Tenant Group at SGCH's Bonnyrigg office
10am – 1pm

29 Rigg Round Up Barracrough Way, Priddle Way and Cowdrey Way
3pm

DECEMBER

2 Community Reference Group Meeting at the SGCH Bonnyrigg office
10am – 12pm

6 SGCH offices **closed due to staff function.**

11 SGCH Tenant Christmas Party – Save the date
More details coming soon

19 Judging of the Light Up Bonnyrigg Competition
8pm – 11pm

20 Christmas Creative Placemats Workshop (for ages 5-12) at Bonnyrigg Library
10.30am – 11.30am

23 School holidays start

24 Christmas Eve
Bonnyrigg office closed from 3pm

25 Christmas Day
Bonnyrigg office closed

26 Boxing Day
Bonnyrigg office closed

31 New Year's Eve
Bonnyrigg office closed from 3pm

JANUARY

1 New Year's Day
Bonnyrigg office closed

8 Bunnings Craft Funday (for ages 5+) at Bonnyrigg Library
10.30am – 11.30am

10 Lego Fun (for ages 5+0 at Bonnyrigg Library
11am – 2pm

15 Superhero Acrobatic Show (for ages 4-12) at Bonnyrigg Library
10.30am – 11.30am

31 Rigg Round Up Corner of Newleaf Parade and Hickory Road
3pm

YOUR COMMUNITY

Christmas at Bonnyrigg Plaza

Christmas is just around the corner and Bonnyrigg Plaza has a HUGE program of events in store:

- Thursday 21 November – Santa Claus arrives in a fun-filled parade. The event will start at 4pm with a Dora The Explorer Meet and Greet and face painting, followed by the parade with a marching band and a cast of Christmas characters. The parade will finish at Woolworths at 5:30pm, where the Magic of Christmas Show will begin. Then at 6pm, you can get photos with Santa!
- Approaching Christmas, Bonnyrigg Plaza will be offering Santa photos with instant processing – meaning you get your photos there and then! There will also be a Sensitive Santa session on Tuesday 26 November between 6pm and 9pm and Pet Santa sessions on Friday 22 and 29 November between 6pm and pm.
- Saturday 7 December – Santa Claus will join local children for breakfast. There'll be face painting, balloon bending and show bags, and each child will receive a special gift. Mrs Claus and Rudolph will be there too! Tickets go on sale in early November and there are only 110 places available. SGCH is also running a competition where you can win tickets (see page 5).

For more information on any of these events, please visit www.bonnyriggplaza.com.au or call 9610 2000.



Meet one of us



JENEFAR

This quarter, we shine the spotlight on Jenefar Jamhour, Community Liaison Officer at Bonnyrigg Public School.

Tell me a bit about your role at Bonnyrigg Public School?

My role is about building partnerships between families, students and the community. I work in collaboration with staff and partner with community organisations to implement programs and initiatives to enhance whole school outcomes.

What do you enjoy most about your role?

I love working with our families and supporting them to make even a small difference in their lives.

What achievements are you most proud of?

I'm really proud of all the successful community events I have facilitated and/or been involved in. I love knowing that I'm contributing to events the community wouldn't normally have the opportunity to experience.

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

I have worked in the Bonnyrigg community for 15 years. The biggest change I have seen would definitely be the housing estate re-development.

What is your favourite place in Bonnyrigg and why?

I love the Plaza since it has been refurbished. It is so modern and there are a good variety of services and shops.

Coding Craze

Do you have a child interested in learning coding? Bonnyrigg Library has some great workshops for kids and they are free!

- **Code Club-Programming the Micro:Bit Chip** (ages 8–16) – come along to this introduction to coding using the Micro:bit Chip. Create LED displays and simple games in this series of workshops. Mondays from 28 October to 11 November, 4 – 5pm.
- **Code Club-Scratch Programming for Beginners** (ages 8–16) – make animations and games using Scratch. Learn to code characters, scores and more in this series of workshops. Mondays from 18 November to 9 December, 4 – 5pm.
- **Scratch Junior Workshop-Introduction to Visual Coding** (ages 5–9) – Come along to create interactive stories and games! On Monday 20 January, 10.30am – 12pm.
- **School Holiday Workshop – Lego Wedo-Robotics Made Simple** (ages 8–12) – Learn coding using LEGO bricks while developing problem solving and thinking skills. On Wednesday 22 January, 10.30 – 11.30am.

Halloween Evening Storytime

Dress up in your favourite costume for fun spooky stories, songs and craft at Bonnyrigg Library on Thursday 31 October from 6.15 – 7.15pm. Suitable for 0–7 years.

Mayor's Summer Holiday Program

Join in the fun by attending free programs at Bonnyrigg Library and earning prizes by completing activity challenges! Suitable for kids and teens. Program starts Monday 25 November 2019 and will close Friday 31 January 2020.

Bonnyrigg Library has lots to do in the Summer holidays, see the calendar on page 6 for more activities and events!

GRAFFITI

Did you know Landcom recently spent \$900 to clean graffiti from Bunker Park?

The person who painted the graffiti was reported to the police. The \$900 spent on cleaning costs is money that could have gone into adding value to the community. If you see anyone vandalising a public space, please contact your local police station on:

- 9728 8399 (Fairfield)
- 9607 1799 (Green Valley)

Fairfield City Council has released a new app called 'Vandaltrak' which you can use to take photos of graffiti, allowing Fairfield City Council and the police to monitor vandalism. To register for Vandaltrak, download the free app or visit: <https://www.vandaltrak.com/>

DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Landcom has finished building the remaining social housing in Stages 4 and 5, and handed the final homes over to SGCH in June 2019.

Some of the private homes remain on the market for sale and Landcom's builders will finish the remaining private properties in these stages by mid-2020.

Landcom's civil contractor, TRN, is working on Stages 6 and 7. Recent milestones include:

- completing the demolition of existing roads and footpaths

- beginning to install new sewers and electrical works
- starting to build retaining walls
- work on installing the Tarlington Parade stormwater main.

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



CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR OPENING HOURS

Over the festive season, our Bonnyrigg office will remain open between Christmas and New Year, excluding public holidays. The office will close at 3pm on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. We will also be closed on Friday 6 December due to a staff event. If you need to report an urgent repair while we are closed, please call 9585 1499 and press option 1 for our after-hours service.



NOTICEBOARD

CHANGES TO WATER INVOICES

SGCH has recently reviewed our water invoicing process. To date, we have sent you a SGCH invoice for your water use along with a copy of the Sydney Water bill that we receive for your property. There is no requirement for us to send you both these invoices and we know that many tenants find this confusing. To simplify our process, we will now only send you the SGCH invoice for your water use each quarter.

As SGCH is your landlord, you must continue to pay SGCH for your water use within 21 days of when you receive your water invoice. There are a number of ways you can make a payment including through Centrepay, Direct Debit, Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) at any of our offices or using your payment card at the post office.

If you are paying your water invoice by Centrepay or Direct Debit, please ensure you use your bank agent number and write a reference, for example, "water bill".

Please note that you do not pay Sydney Water for your water use.

If you would still like to see a copy of the bill we receive from Sydney Water for your property, you can ask us for a copy by calling 9585 1499 and speaking to our Accounts Receivable Officer or emailing ar@sgch.com.au.

If you are having problems paying your water invoice, please call our Income Recovery Officer on 9585 1499 to discuss an affordable repayment plan.

GOVERNMENT REBATES TO HELP YOU SAVE MONEY

Service NSW is helping customers take advantage of the NSW Government rebates and assistance programs by providing online assistance or personal appointments at their centres as part of the Cost of Living Program.

This program ensures people have access to household rebates that can save them an average of \$550 a year!

You can find out more about the program at service.nsw.gov.au/campaign/cost-living or by making an appointment with a Cost of Living Specialist at a Service NSW centre by calling 13 77 88.

PAYING YOUR RENT OVER THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

There are a lot of expenses during the summer holidays, and the last thing you need over Christmas is to get letters about being in rent arrears. It is essential that your rent payments continue, especially through December and January, so you can concentrate on friends, family and fun instead of worrying about your tenancy.

Plan a Christmas budget to make sure all the essentials are covered and to help you save for food and presents using ASIC's Moneysmart 12 Money Tips for Christmas, at <https://bit.ly/1OABJJs>

Remember, if you are struggling, you can contact our Support Coordination team on 9585 1499 who will put you in touch with services to help.

SECOND ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHER AVAILABLE – SAVE MONEY!

Did you know, the Active Kids program now provides TWO \$100 vouchers for parents, guardians and carers of school-enrolled children?

From 1 July 2019, parents, guardians and carers can apply for the second \$100 Active Kids voucher. Voucher 1 is valid January to December and Voucher 2 is valid July to December.

You can use these vouchers with a registered activity provider for registration, participation and membership costs for sport, fitness and active recreation activities.

For more information visit www.service.nsw.gov.au/campaign/active-kids



GIVE US FEEDBACK

At SGCH, our aim is to ensure 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.