

# STREETS ahead

JULY 2018



## STRIVE TERTIARY

Arts/Education student, Mitchell lives with his Mum, 34km away from his university. With his Mum supporting the two of them on a low income, the cost of studying is stressful for them. His dream is to help future students reach their potential by engaging them with their studies, and to help educate those less fortunate than himself.

Mitchell was one of 82 SGCH residents to receive a Strive Scholarship in our Tertiary round, giving him financial support he needs to help make his dreams a reality.

“As an education student, I am a strong advocate for supporting future students to have ongoing access to things I didn’t have before such as stationery, textbooks and IT resources as this is what is necessary to equip and help students reach their potential,” said Mitchell.

“In order to maintain my grades, it is not uncommon for me to spend late nights at the university library in order to have access to their computers to complete my assignments as I do not have a laptop of my own”.

Mitchell’s struggle is something Fairfield City Councillor, Sera Yilmaz relates to. Addressing students at the Strive Scholarship ceremony, Ms Yilmaz spoke of her experiences growing up in social housing and going on to complete a Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Social Science (Honours Distinction Level), and a Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice at Western Sydney University. She was admitted as a Solicitor in 2013 in the Supreme Court of NSW and High Court of Australia.

“The scholarship program is a fantastic opportunity for students living in community housing to purchase much needed resources to assist them in reaching their full potential. I congratulate SGCH for this program, as it helps ensure everyone has an equal opportunity to become a future leader in our society,” Councillor Yilmaz said.

In 2018 SGCH provided scholarships to 264 primary, secondary and tertiary students, worth \$260,000. Of these, 82 tertiary students received scholarships totalling \$123,000.

This year, Lenovo provided funding for eight scholarships, as well as ex-demo models of laptops for each of our tertiary scholarship recipients. Many students tell us that they need the money to buy or update their computer, so we know this represents incredible value, alongside the scholarship money.

In addition, Lenovo’s staff have generously made personal donations to the value of \$600 which will go towards stationery for our primary and secondary scholarship recipients in January 2019. In total, Lenovo has provided over \$90,000 in sponsorship and we are grateful for their support.



Main image: Mitchell with Fairfield Councillor Sera Yilmaz and SGCH CEO Scott Langford. Inset bottom: Strive recipient Nicole with her family and Tenancy Manager Stephanie.





## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Welcome to the latest issue of Streets Ahead! It's hard to believe we're already half way through the year. As always, a lot has been happening since the last issue went out, including SGCH's annual Big Day Out, our awards ceremony for our Strive Tertiary Scholarship recipients and our National Sorry Day event.

To mark 10 years since the National apology, we were delighted to hear from Dean Widders, Indigenous Pathways Manager for the NRL and former player for the Rabbitohs, Eels and Roosters. Dean shared his thoughts about Sorry Day, Aboriginal language, culture and achievements. He explained the importance of acknowledging and healing the suffering of the past while also celebrating and publicising Aboriginal accomplishments in the present, and future.

Thank you to everyone who came to our Sorry Day event, especially to our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander guests and staff, and to Dean for his presentation and question and answer session.

In the last three months we've also finished one of our new properties at Wrentmore Street in Fairfield. Most people on the Pathways Social Housing list are waiting 5 to 10 years for a home in the greater Sydney area, and if we weren't building new properties we would only be able to offer them a home if one of our existing properties became vacant (eg. when tenants moved out). For this reason, we're thrilled that 41 families have now moved into the new building and can start making a house their home. Welcome to our new tenants.

Finally, at SGCH, safety is our top priority. With Winter now here, please take care when using heaters and electric blankets, cigarettes and candles and ensure you have a fire safety plan in place. For some hints and tips, see page 8.

**Scott Langford**  
CEO, SGCH Group

## رسالة المدير التنفيذي

مرحباً بكم في أحدث عدد من Streets Ahead! من الصعب تصديق أننا وصلنا بالفعل إلى منتصف العام. وكما هو الحال دائماً، فقد حدث الكثير منذ طرح العدد السابق، بما في ذلك احتفال Big Day Out السنوي لـ SGCH، وحفل توزيع الجوائز على متلقي المنح الجامعية من برنامجنا Strive Tertiary Scholarship وحدثنا الوطني ليوم الاعتذار.

للاحتفال بمرور 10 سنوات على الاعتذار الوطني، أسعدنا أن نسمع من السيد دين ويدرز، مدير مسارات السكان الأصليين في دوري الرجبي الوطني NRL واللاعب السابق في فرق Rabbitohs و Eels و Roosters. شاركنا السيد دين بأفكاره حول يوم الاعتذار ولغة السكان الأصليين وثقافتهم وإنجازاتهم. وشرح أهمية الاعتراف بمعاناة الماضي والشفاء منها، مع الاحتراف بالإنجازات التي حققتها الشعوب الأصلية في الحاضر والمستقبل والترويج لها.

شكراً لجميع الذين حضروا إلى فعاليتنا ليوم الاعتذار، وخاصة ضيوف وفريق عمل السكان الأصليين وسكان جزر مضيق توريس، وإلى السيد دين عن عرضه التقديمي وعن جلسة الأسئلة والأجوبة.

في الأشهر الثلاثة الأخيرة، انتهينا أيضاً من إنشاء أحد عقاراتنا الجديدة في شارع Wrentmore في Fairfield. ينتظر معظم الأشخاص في قائمة الإسكان Pathways Social Housing لمدة 5 إلى 10 سنوات للحصول على منزل في منطقة سيدني الكبرى، وإذا لم نبني منشآت جديدة، فلن نكون قادرين على توفير منزل لهم إلا إذا أصبحت إحدى عقاراتنا الحالية شاغرة (على سبيل المثال، عند مغادرة النزل). ولهذا السبب، يسرنا أن 41 عائلة قد انتقلت الآن إلى المبنى الجديد ويمكنهم البدء في جعل البيت بيتهم. أهلاً وسهلاً ببنزلتنا الجدد.

أخيراً، في SGCH، فإن السلامة هي من أهم أولوياتنا. مع حلول فصل الشتاء، يرجى توخي الحذر عند استخدام أجهزة التدفئة والبطانيات الكهربائية والسجائر والشموع وتأكد من أن لديك خطة أمان ضد الحريق. للحصول على بعض النصائح والملاحظات، شاهد الصفحة 8.

**Scott Langford**  
CEO, SGCH Group

## 首席执行官致辞

欢迎阅读最新一期的 "Streets Ahead"! 很难相信今年已经过去了一半。与往常一样，自上一期发行以来发生了许多事情，包括 SGCH 的年度一日游 ("Big Day Out") 活动，我们为奋斗高等奖学金 ("Strive Tertiary Scholarship") 获得者举办的颁奖仪式，以及我们的全国道歉日 ("National Sorry Day") 活动。

为纪念全国道歉日 10 周年，我们很高兴听到 NRL 的土著通路项目经理 Dean Widders 以及 Rabbitohs、Eels 和 Roosters 的前任选手发表的讲话。Dean 分享了他关于道歉日、土著语言、文化和成就的想法。他解释了承认和治愈过去的苦难的重要性，同时也庆祝和宣传了土著社区目前和未来的成就。

感谢每一位参加我们道歉日活动的人，特别感谢我们的土著居民、托雷斯海峡岛民来宾和工作人员，以及主持演讲和问答环节的 Dean 先生。

在过去的三个月中，我们还完成了位于费尔菲尔德 (Fairfield) 区 Wrentmore 街的一处新楼盘。Pathways Social Housing (社会住房通路) 列表上的大多数人在悉尼地区需要等待 5 到 10 年才能等到房屋，如果我们不建造新房产，那么只有当我们现有的房产空置时 (例如，租客搬出时)，我们才能为他们提供房屋。出于这个原因，我们感到兴奋的是，现在已有 41 户家庭搬进了新大楼，并可以开始构筑自己的家园。我向我们的新租户们表示欢迎。

最后，在 SGCH，安全是我们的首要任务。现在冬天来临了，请在使用暖气炉和电热毯、抽烟和点燃蜡烛时小心谨慎，并确保您已制定了防火安全计划。相关提示和信息，请参阅第 8 页。

**Scott Langford**  
SGCH 集团首席执行官

## BIG DAY OUT WRAP UP

Standing in front of the amazing view of the Harbour Bridge from Taronga Zoo at our Big Day Out, Shandy and Arnold told SGCH staff: "we came here on our first date over 30 years ago!" and proudly pulled out a photo.

"This is the first time we've been back since then, and now we're married. It's changed a lot – the gondola had just been built, but the rest of the zoo was much less developed than it is now. And you can see that the city was very different as well, not nearly as many high-rise buildings".

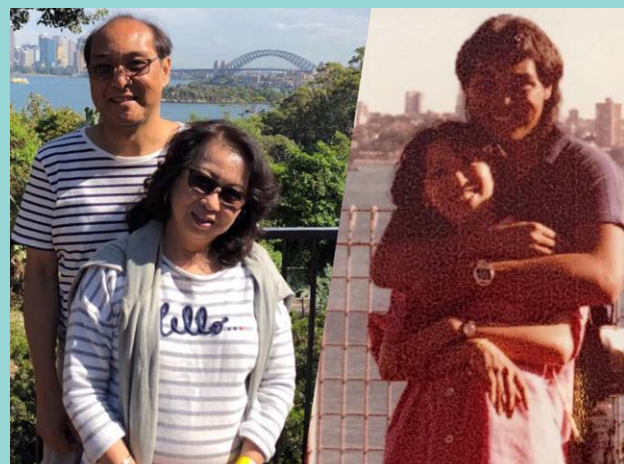
"We're going to re-create the picture in the same spot. It will look a bit different of course," Shandy joked, "Arnold doesn't have long hair anymore!".

Arnold and Shandy were among a record 790 SGCH residents to come to our Big Day Out in the April school holidays. We were lucky to have beautiful weather, with many of the animals out playing and enjoying the sunshine.

Some guests told us it was their first time bringing their kids to Taronga, some enjoyed the kids' activities we held on the Concert Lawn the most, others made their way around the zoo at a relaxed pace to take in the shows and keeper talks.

With entry to the zoo usually a big expense for any family, we were excited to be able to hold the Big Day Out at a popular venue so our tenants could enjoy the day for free.

We hope everyone enjoyed the Big Day Out, with special thanks to those who took the time to give feedback on how you found the day. The responses included some great suggestions for things we can improve to make next year's Big Day Out even better.



Arnold and Shandy in 2018, and on their first date in 1985  
Bottom: Getting ready to see the animals



## GOODBYE ROWA

On 4 May, we said goodbye to our Practice Lead for the Western Region, Rowa Omari. After 14 years with SGCH, Rowa felt it was time to start a new journey and pursue other opportunities.

Rowa first started working for SGCH in 2004 as part of our reception team. With her personable nature, she quickly moved into our Repairs and Maintenance team, followed by a tenancy manager role where she became a passionate advocate for our tenants.

As Community Development worker and later, a Place Coordinator, Rowa developed and maintained partnerships with a range of external organisations to deliver large scale community programs, events, activities and initiatives across our portfolio with local Councils, Government, NSW Police, NSW Health and local schools, to name a few.

Rowa always believed "anything is possible" and her approach led to big ideas that have impacted individuals and communities. Rowa tripled the membership of our Tenant Advisory Groups in just 12 months leading to high tenant participation at SGCH and also delivered five community gardens, providing tenants with a low-cost food source, knowledge of sustainable gardening and living, and encouraging positive relationships between neighbours.

Over the past seven years, Rowa facilitated key place projects at locations such as Riverwood and Namatjira. In 2015, she moved to our Bonnyrigg team, where she worked with residents to gain a

fresh perspective on the needs and aspirations of the local community. Their feedback informed our Place Management plan for the area which is focused on providing opportunities for tenants to have meaningful input, running a range of health and wellbeing programs, addressing a gap in activities for local youth and improving safety.

One of Rowa's proudest achievements has been implementing the highly regarded Bonnyrigg Youth Council – fostering the development and growth of young people so they can give back to their community.

SGCH is privileged to have had Rowa work for us for almost 15 years. We know she will be greatly missed by our tenants, partners and staff, but wish her all the best for her future.



Rowa with some of our tenants at this year's Big Day Out.

## GREAT PLACES SPOTLIGHT: CLEAN SWEEP

It can be difficult for anyone living in a unit block to discard unwanted furniture and other rubbish, especially if they live alone or don't have anyone they can call on to help carry large items downstairs.

Clean Sweep events are a way for everyone living in a block to organise their 'spring cleaning' on the same day, with SGCH staff and contractors to help out.

In May, SGCH and the City of Sydney joined forces with tenants at Morehead Street to help clean their estate.

SGCH organised a skip bin for the day, with contractors Assett Group Services available to help remove large unwanted items from people's units. Rachel from Partners in Recovery was also available to help coordinate between services and any residents with complex needs who wanted her support. City of Sydney put on a spread of free coffee and pastries for residents to take a break and 'refuel' after cleaning.

Tenants enjoyed the morning clean-up, laughing, helping each other, and turning the morning into a creative way to spend time with neighbours and local service providers.

SGCH Place Coordinator, David Belic, said "This Coffee and Clean Sweep at Morehead Street is a great example showing that while SGCH provides housing and maintenance, it's the tenants who make homes and a community".

In addition to a chat over a cup of coffee (or two), we gave everyone a free bucket of cleaning goods and SGCH's 'Back to Basics' booklet, which is full of simple household tips, as well as how to make cleaning products that are safe, cheap and non-toxic.



## MEET OUR STAFF



This quarter we spoke with our two Community Liaison Coordinators, Ashley Aguilar and Jessica Fakhoury.

### How do you divide your work as Community Liaison Coordinators?

**Ashley:** Our role is the same, but we look after different areas. I'm the Community Liaison Coordinator for SGCH's Metro region.

**Jessica:** And I look after the Western region!

### Could you both explain what's involved in your role?

**Jessica:** Part of my role is to support our tenants and encourage them to take part in the educational and wellbeing activities we offer in the West. I also attend local tenant group meetings in Liverpool, Campbelltown, Parramatta and Fairfield. These groups give tenants the opportunity to give us feedback, discuss any concerns and express their ideas for what programs they believe their group would benefit from. They also help plan fun events like Neighbour Day and R U OK? Day.

**Ashley:** And my role's very similar of course, but I work with our tenants in the Metro region. We run different activities in different areas based on what local residents tell us they are interested in, things that they would like to learn or participate in.

### What do you enjoy most about your work and what are you most excited about?

**Ashley:** I'm very excited about settling in to my new role in general. So far, I've really enjoyed getting out to meet some of the tenants I will be working with, at the Big Day Out in April and some of our local tenant groups.

**Jessica:** I love that every day is a chance for me to help make people happy. I feel as though our tenants appreciate our hard work in putting together programs for them. Not only do these programs provide our tenants with a sense of belonging and inclusion, they have a positive impact on their lives. The thing I am most excited about is working towards our yearly tenant Christmas Party – my favourite season of the year!



# TENANT GROUP UPDATES

For more information about any of groups in this section, please contact your Community and Place Team at [GetInvolved@sgch.com.au](mailto:GetInvolved@sgch.com.au) or on 9585 1499.

## AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST MORNING TEA

SGCH tenants and staff gathered at four different locations for Australia's Biggest Morning tea in May. This year is the 25th Anniversary of the Biggest Morning Tea, held to raise awareness of cancer and to fundraise for the Cancer Council.

Guests at each location enjoyed coffee, sweet treats, fun and friendship. In Bonnyrigg, we partnered with Fairfield Police for a delicious BBQ breakfast, followed by find-a-word puzzles and guessing competitions. Tenants at Kingsgrove and Riverwood planned their own events, sharing a relaxed morning tea with friends and neighbours. SGCH staff gathered at our Hurstville office for a baking competition where everyone enjoyed 'testing' the cakes to judge the winner.

Together, we raised a total of \$646.20!

## TENANT PARTICIPATION EVENT

We are proud to share that the first SGCH Tenant Participation event took place in July, with members of SGCH tenant groups all across Sydney getting together to learn from guest speakers, attend workshops and brainstorm ideas together.

Groups displayed information about what they have been working on throughout the year, including things like paintings, arts and crafts, floristry, gardening and more.

Everyone was inspired to consider new ways to get involved with their community and encouraged about the benefits of social groups for health and happiness.

Contact our Community and Place team to find out what activities are happening in your area.



## GEORGE STREET SCHOOL HOLIDAY EVENT

The George Street garden group has spent a lot of time developing six garden beds at their property, and their efforts are bearing fruit – or technically, vegetables! Group members and other residents of the block all enjoy sharing the food they grow, and the group is passionate about maintaining the gardens as a source of food, beauty, entertainment and relaxation in their backyard.

With the plants going strong, the group decided it was time to decorate the garden beds and there was no better way than having children living in the block add their own creative touch.

Six excited kids came down in the school holidays with their ideas on what would look best on each garden bed. Then they got hands deep in colours, painting unique garden worms, snails and butterflies.

Everyone had a great time getting messy and artistic, and the garden group members love the finished look!

## YOUTH WEEK WRAP

The theme of NSW Youth Week this year was Unity Through Diversity. The Bonnyrigg Youth Council (BYC) lived up to the theme in every way as they launched their event 'Be Youth' at Bonnyrigg Skate Park, in partnership with SGCH, Fairfield City Council, Youth Off the Streets and Bunnings.

Jam-packed with live entertainment, the event aimed to provide a place where youth could enjoy being themselves while making new friends.

Guests had fun with t-shirt tie-dyeing, plant pot painting and a range of sports competitions.

BYC Chairperson Mandy Bui commented, "Our event was extremely successful! Everyone loved the tie-dye activity, they got to design their shirt the way they want". Over 300 local residents attended on the day, leaving with bright shirts and smiles.



## CAMPBELLTOWN LOCAL TENANTS GROUP

Campbelltown Local Tenants group were interested in hearing more about their rights as consumers in Australia, so they invited guest speaker Ryan from Fair Trading to talk to the group about what their rights are when paying for goods and services.

Everyone was really interested in the topic and got involved in the discussion, learning a lot about the current laws. Ryan made the session interesting with quizzes and questions that often had very surprising answers about what consumers' rights really are!

The group got a lot out of the talk and asked Fair Trading to come back again.

## APPRECIATION DAY EVENT

We recently held Appreciation Day as a 'thank you' for all SGCH tenants in the Metro region who have been actively involved in our programs over the last year and regularly volunteered to help us create, prepare, and in some places run, engaging and fun activities for the community.

This year's Appreciation Day involved lunch for the invitees, awards, entertainment, speeches and more. The volunteers enjoyed the chance to meet other tenants from other local tenant groups and share their experiences, ideas and goals for future programs and groups.

If you would like to get involved with your local tenant group, or start a group of your own, contact Ashley for details on 9585 1499.



## NEW FIJIAN GROUP

On 1 May, we had the inaugural meeting of the SGCH Fijian group. The small and enthusiastic first meeting included home cooked food, sharing ideas to enhance community life for Fijian people and a chance to make new friends.

Group leader Aisiea, said "It is a good chance for Fijians to come together to get to know each other and connect."

The group will continue to meet on the first Tuesday of every month at 9B Washington Avenue. All Fijian community members are welcome!

## ST GEORGE CHINESE GROUP

Once a month, SGCH hosts a group for our Chinese residents living in the St George area.

Every meeting features a guest speaker. In May, the group heard from St George Community Transport who gave advice on different transport options available to residents, explaining the fees, services and day trip activities of Community Transport.

There is also time at each meeting for guests to give feedback to SGCH, ask questions and report repairs.

Regular attendee Mrs Li commented "I am so happy that SGCH holds this meeting. We get a lot of useful information which is beneficial to my life".

The meetings are on the first Thursday of every month. All Chinese residents in the St George area are welcome to attend.





This quarter we talked to Phil Pettit from Royal Botanic Garden's Community Greening, who runs many of the community garden workshops with our tenants.

#### What does your organisation do, and what is your role?

Community Greening is a project led by the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney – it was started in 2000 to promote community gardens to improve health, wellbeing, and social opportunities in NSW social housing communities. Since then, the program has reached more than 100,000 participants, including SGCH tenants.

#### What services and programs do you provide that SGCH tenants may be interested in?

Community Greening is focussed on the community gardens at different social and community housing properties around Sydney. SGCH has six different community gardens in Riverwood, Penshurst, Chifley, Marrickville, Liverpool and Parramatta, that

tenants can be a part of. We run regular gardening workshops teaching about different skills for making the most of your garden and keeping it healthy. If you're interested in having one at your property, please contact SGCH.

We also hope later this year to run some week-long Master Gardener courses. These train community members in community engagement and gardening to help support new projects and others in the community.

There's also lots to do at the Royal Botanic Gardens – free guided walks during the week, and a range of paid events coming up including stargazing, a ghost tour, Aboriginal art classes, a torchlight night tour and more. You can get all the details at [www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au) or call **9231 8317**.

## DIANNE AND PHIL'S STORY

We love learning more about our tenants, and wanted to share Dianne and Phil's amazing story of how their chance meeting has led to what Dianne calls "a blessed and beautiful life."

They met at a Rock n Roll Dance when Phil nodded at Dianne across the room and later walked her home, before asking her out on a date. They later married on Australia Day 1962, when Dianne was 16 and Phil was 20.

"We were married in the evening because we were both working. Phil was a storeman and I worked in a factory," says Dianne.

"By the age of 25, I'd had five children who are now 55, 54, 53, 48 and 45. So the first three kids were very close in age.

"It wasn't easy being young, raising five children and having financial difficulties. In our 56 years of marriage, it has been a long and winding road with many bumps along the way. But love is special, it's either there or it's not and Phil is my best friend. I still think of him as a 20 year old and don't see that he has aged," says Dianne.

While they were working, Dianne and Phil saved some money and enjoyed travelling to Australian towns and cities as well as, Hong Kong, Hawaii, New York, Singapore and Toronto. "Travelling was our outlet and we got to meet many new people".

Dianne and Phil were NSW Housing tenants before moving into a new SGCH property in the Smithfield area in 2008. "We were gob smacked when we were offered this property, we thought we had won the lottery," Dianne recalls.

"We love our home and SGCH is marvellous with looking after the gardens".

Today, Dianne and Phil enjoy seeing their 12 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. They also have the occasional lunch date and trip to the movies, but mostly take time to enjoy their home.



Dianne and Phil with SGCH General Manager Barb McKenna.

## GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY

### The Bankstown Bites Food Festival Returns!

This year's Bankstown Bites Food Festival will feature My Kitchen Rules judge, Colin Fassnidge, entertainment and activities and food tours showcasing culinary delights from around the world.

Join in the action on 28 July at Olympic Parade, Bankstown (between Dale Parade and Marion Street) from 10am to 4pm.

### Music at Twilight

Georges River Council's highly anticipated concert series, Music at Twilight, boasts a diverse range of musical and entertainment styles. The next performance, in August, is the Ballerina and Dance Showcase with the Sydney Concert Orchestra!

The showcase features dance performances of the Nutcracker Suite, Carnival of the Animals and selected popular classics played by the Sydney Concert Orchestra.

**When:** Wednesday 8 August 2018

**Time:** 7.00pm

**Where:** Marana Auditorium,  
MacMahon Street, Hurstville

Tickets \$20, call **9330 6400** for enquiries.

### The Workary Business workshops

Are you starting your own business, or thinking about it? Fairfield City Council Open Libraries are running free business workshops to help you work, network and hone your business skills.

The workshops will be held throughout the year in Cabramatta, including the topics:

- How do I get Funding?
- Social Media Marketing
- Turn your Hobby into a Business
- Be your own Boss
- Powerful Business Networking
- An Entrepreneur's Journey to Success

To register for any of these events, go to [www.fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au/theworkary](http://www.fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au/theworkary) or call **9725 0333** for more information.



# NOTICE BOARD

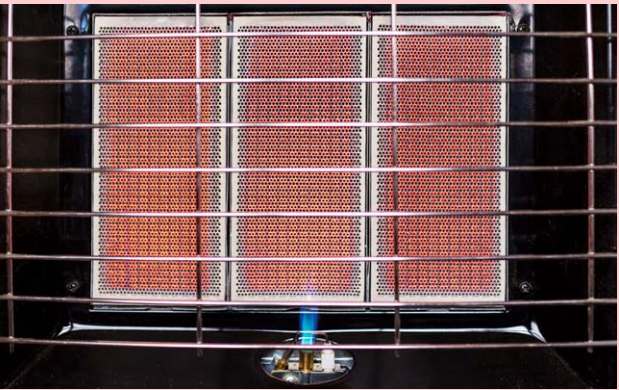
## PREVENTING FIRES IN WINTER

The cooler months see a 10% increase in the number of home fires. Some common causes of fires are from the use of heaters and electric blankets, cigarettes and candles.

Here are some tips on preventing fires in your home:

- keep everything one metre away from your heater
- install and use heaters and electric blankets following the manufacturer's instructions
- get indoor gas appliances like heaters checked every two years and if you suspect a fault, get your heater serviced or replaced
- always supervise young children near working heaters and candles
- never use wheat bags/heat packs in bed
- keep candles away from curtains with open windows
- put candles out when you leave the room
- keep matches and lighters out of reach of children and use child-proof lighters and deep ash trays
- extinguish cigarettes properly before you throw them away
- never smoke in bed.

Please ensure you have a fire escape plan. For more information visit [www.fire.nsw.gov.au/index.php](http://www.fire.nsw.gov.au/index.php)



## SGCH'S ESSENTIALS LOANS PROGRAM

We are currently reviewing our Essentials Loans Program and how we can do things differently. From 1 July 2018, we will no longer offer this program, however we are looking at another product for our customers that could replace this program and will provide more information soon.

## RENT REVIEW PROCESS

We are currently reviewing our rent processes and will not be doing any new rent reviews between 21 May and 1 August 2018 unless a tenant asks us to review their rent. We will let you know about any changes to the rent review process that may affect you.

When we next review your rent, we will give you 30 days' notice of the new rent amount.

Don't forget to tell our rent review team within 21 days of any changes to your household income or members by calling them on **9585 1499**.

## SMITH FAMILY SAVER PLUS - \$500 TOWARDS SCHOOL COSTS

Saver Plus is a 10-month financial education and matched savings program that assists families to gain financial skills, establish a savings goal and develop long term saving habits.

As an incentive to save, participants receive up to \$500 in matched savings when they complete the program which can be used for educational costs such as computers and tablets, text books and uniforms.

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ. For more information go to [www.thesmithfamily.com.au/programs/financial/saver-plus](http://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/programs/financial/saver-plus) or call **1300 610 355**.

## APPLIANCE REPLACEMENT OFFER: DISCOUNT ON NEW FRIDGE OR TV

The NSW Government is offering 40-50% discounts on new energy efficient fridges and TVs so you can replace your old inefficient models. New appliances can cut your energy bills, improve your household and family living costs and help protect our environment.

To check if you're eligible or to apply online visit [www.bit.ly/arooffer2017](http://www.bit.ly/arooffer2017) or call The Good Guys on **1300 011 137**.



# SNAPSNAP

**(1)** A proud gardener with her produce at Namatjira Community Garden **(2)** Family fun at the Neighbour Day Picnic in Hurstville **(3)** Meeting friends and sharing food at our Social Picnic in Bungarribee Park **(4)** Learning effective and environmentally friendly cleaning solutions at Clean Sweep in Merrylands **(5)** Having a ball with face painting at the SGCH Big Day Out





# WHAT'S ON FOR SGCH TENANTS?

If you would like to find out more about any of the events or programs listed below or to register your interest, please email [GetInvolved@sgch.com.au](mailto:GetInvolved@sgch.com.au) or call 9585 1499. For dates, times and locations of events, please see our calendar on page 8.

## OCTOBER SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN DAY

Save the date for the October School Holiday Fun Day! The day features activities involving Netball NSW, NRL, soccer, jumping castles, competitions and lots of family fun, so make sure you join us on Wednesday 10 October from 10am to 3pm at Blacktown International Sports Centre.

The October School Holiday Fun Day is organised in partnership between SGCH, Mission Australia and Evolve Community Housing.



## YOGA

Namaste! (a traditional respectful greeting in Hindi) Increase your energy and calm your mind with free regular yoga sessions at SGCH. Learn how gentle stretches, postures and poses can increase your mobility and flexibility. Everyone is welcome!

We have sessions in Hurstville, Riverwood and Bonnyrigg.

## ARTS AND CRAFTS

Come along to one of our Arts and Crafts group to spend time with friends and neighbours learning new skills or practicing old ones. These groups are open to everyone, whatever your preferred craft, your age or skill level.

We have groups who meet in Campbelltown, Hurstville and Riverwood.



## MAHJONG

Join our social Mahjong group in Riverwood, where you can have fun and keep your mind active. Everyone is welcome! Mahjong is a game of skill, strategy, calculation and chance, similar to the card game rummy. The group meets every Friday from 9am to 1pm in the Community Garden Room at 9B Washington Avenue Riverwood.



## FLORISTRY TRAINING

If you live in the Campbelltown area and would like to learn about Floristry, sign up for our six week course through TAFE NSW. The classes run for two hours each week.

To register your interest contact Jasmina Kustec on **9585 1499**.

## BINGO

SGCH residents are invited to join 'Bingo Tony' for a free, fun and friendly game of bingo twice a month! Everyone is welcome, and refreshments

are included. Games run from 9:30am to 1pm, on the 1st Thursday every month at our Riverwood office and on the 4th Friday of every month at our Hurstville office.



## SAVE THE DATE FOR R U OK? DAY

R U OK? Day is an annual day in September dedicated to reminding people to ask family, friends and colleagues the question, "R U OK?", in a meaningful way. Connecting regularly and meaningfully is one thing everyone can do to make a difference to someone who might be struggling.

SGCH is planning to hold an event for R U Ok? Day on Thursday 20 September. We will be taking residents to Tulip Time, one of Australia's oldest and best loved floral festivals at Corbett Gardens, located in Bowral. The Festival is known for having over 75,000 tulips, planted across the Shire. Keep your eye out for information on how to register as places are limited!

## BONNYRIGG'S COMMUNITY MARKET DAY

We are looking for stall holders for Bonnyrigg's Community Market run by SGCH on **Saturday 20 October from 9am to 2pm**. This will be a safe and secure event for residents and stall holders to their sell new or unwanted items. We are aiming to fill Bonnyrigg Public School, with lots of bargains for the community.

Stalls are FREE, so if you would like to become a stall holder or volunteer for the day, please contact Sarah Mulcahy on **9001 4458** or email [Get.involved@sgch.com.au](mailto:Get.involved@sgch.com.au)



## PRIDE OF PLACE AUTUMN WINNERS

Congratulations to Aaron from Bondi and Alan from Gymea, our latest Pride of Place winners!

Each winner receives a \$100 Westfield gift voucher, and the person that nominated them gets two movie passes.

The Pride of Place award recognises tenants who have maintained their property well. Anyone can nominate a tenant for the award.

**For more information go to [www.sgch.com.au/POP/](http://www.sgch.com.au/POP/)**



# TENANTCALENDAR

## JULY

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>22</b> School holidays end, Term 3 of school begins                            | <b>26</b> The Workary free business workshops – How do I Get Funding? Whitlam Library, Cabramatta 6pm–7:30pm |
| <b>23</b> Liverpool Garden Workshop, 16–18 George Street, Liverpool from 11am–1pm | <b>28</b> Bankstown Bites Food Festival, Olympic Parade Bankstown from 10am–4pm                              |

## AUGUST

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>8</b> Canterbury Bankstown Council NAIDOC Family Day, Anzac Park, Anglo Road, Campsie from 11:30am–1pm           | <b>22</b> Parramatta Garden Workshop, 33–35 Webb Street, Parramatta from 11am–1pm  |
| <b>13</b> Liverpool Garden Workshop, 16–18 George Street, Liverpool from 11am–1pm                                   | <b>29</b> The Workary free business workshops – Turn your Hobby into a Business, Whitlam Library, Cabramatta from 10am–1pm |
| <b>21</b> The Workary free business workshops – Social Media Marketing, Whitlam Library Cabramatta from 5:30–7:30pm |  |

## SEPTEMBER

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>5–7</b> The Workary free business workshops – Be Your Own Boss 3 day course, Community Meeting Room, Dutton Plaza Offices from 10am–4pm | <b>18</b> The Workary free business workshops – An Entrepreneur's Journey to Success, Whitlam Library, Cabramatta from 10am–11:30am |
| <b>12</b> The Workary free business workshops – Powerful Business Networking, Whitlam Library, Cabramatta from 5:30–7:30pm                 | <b>20</b> Save the date for R U OK? Day –Tulip Time, at Corbett Gardens, Bowral. Keep an eye out for more details.                  |
| <b>17</b> Liverpool Garden Workshop, 16-18 George Street, Liverpool from 11am–1pm  | <b>29</b> Term 3 school holidays begin, 29 September to 14 October  |

### 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 Representative, Daniel Sinozic, who can be contacted on **9001 4358** if you have any feedback or concerns about our service delivery.

If you would like to suggest an improvement or feel we have not met the service standards outlined in our Customer Service Charter, please let us know. You can also email [coordindator@sgch.com.au](mailto:coordindator@sgch.com.au)

## ONGOING EVENTS

### Every Monday

**Yoga** at Riverwood Community Room, 9A and 9B Washington Avenue, Riverwood from 9.30am–10.30am

**Tongle Dance Troupe** at Riverwood Community Room – 9B Washington Avenue, Riverwood from 1pm–4pm

**Art and Craft** at Level 2, 38 Humphreys Lane, Hurstville from 10am–12pm

### Every Tuesday

**Gentle Exercise** at Riverwood Community Room – 9B Washington Avenue, Riverwood from 9:30–10:30am

**Chinese Group** with Choir, exercise, arts and crafts at Level 2/38 Humphreys Lane Hurstville from 10am–3pm

**Bonnyrigg Walking Group** at Tarlington Reserve Bonnyrigg, from 9:30–10:30am

**Men's Club (Arabic speaking)** with poetry, music, art and films at the Community Hub, 61–63 Smart Street Fairfield from 10am–12pm

**NDIS help with Arabic and Assyrian** officers available on-site at the Community Hub, 61–63 Smart Street, Fairfield from 1pm–3pm

### First Tuesday of the month

**Fijian Group** at Riverwood Community Room, 9B Washington Avenue Riverwood from 2pm–4pm

### Every Wednesday

**Riverwood Community Choir** at Riverwood Community Room 9B Washington Avenue, Riverwood from 12:30pm–2pm

**Yoga** at Level 2, 38 Humphreys Lane, Hurstville from 12pm–1pm

### Third Wednesday of the month

**Chinese movie** at Riverwood Community Room, 9B Washington Avenue, Riverwood from 9:15am–12:30pm

### Every Thursday

**Mothers' Circle** with beauty make up session and yoga at the Community Hub, 61–63 Smart Street, Fairfield from 12pm–2pm

### First Thursday of the month

**Bingo** at Riverwood Community Room, 9B Washington Avenue, Riverwood from 9:30am – 1pm

**St George Chinese Group** at Level 2, 38 Humphreys Lane, Hurstville from 10am–12pm

### Every Friday

**Mahjong** at the Community Garden Room, 9B Washington Avenue, Riverwood from 9am–1pm

**Chinese Traditional Medicine Institute Dance Group** at Riverwood Community Room, 9B Washington Avenue, Riverwood from 10am–1pm

**Riverwood Art Group**, SGCH community room 9B Washington Avenue, Riverwood from 1pm–4pm

**Australian Citizenship Information Sessions**, at the Community Hub, 61–63 Smart Street, Fairfield from 10am–12pm

### 4th Friday of the month

**Bingo** at Level 2, 38 Humphreys Lane Hurstville from 9:30am–1pm

