

Streets Ahead

Our seasonal wrap-up of what's been happening in your community



An end-of-year message from our CEO



Welcome to the last edition of *Streets Ahead* for 2022!

Thank you to everyone who took part in our tenant groups, events and programs this year and to those who gave feedback through our Tenant Satisfaction Survey. We are very proud of the work our tenant groups do in their communities.

I hope you have a happy holiday season but I also understand it can be a tough time of the year for many, particularly with loneliness, financial stress and relationships. We are here to support you, so please call us on 1800 573 370 if you need help connecting to services.

Wishing you a safe and happy holidays and all the best for 2023.

Scott Langford, CEO, SGCH

\$1500 Scholarships

Tertiary Strive Scholarship applications open on 1 March 2023 and will close on 31 March 2023. You'll be awarded \$1500 to put towards education costs if you're successful.

Tenant Voice Forum

Thank you to all who attended the third Northern Sydney Housing Tenant Voice Forum held in November. Customers heard about and discussed SGCH's response to issues raised in the previous forum.

SGCH Office Hours

SGCH offices will have different opening and closing arrangements over the holiday period. Even though some of our offices will be closed to visitors, you can still call us for urgent matters on 1800 573 370, or you can visit our head office at Hurstville, which will close only on public holidays. St Leonards and Bonnyrigg offices will also be closed only on the public holidays.



Our Year in Review

As well as our more detailed Annual Report, this year we've produced a Customer Year in Review report that focuses on information relevant to you.



Find out more online at [sgch.com.au](https://www.sgch.com.au)



Ease the cost-of-living squeeze: You can now claim three \$50 vouchers for each eligible child to help cover the cost of school supplies like uniforms and textbooks. Visit the Service NSW website to find out more, plus you'll see a Saving Finder there that will pinpoint any other rebates or vouchers you're eligible for.



Building Strength Through Gentle Exercise

SGCH customers in Milsons Point and Cammeray have been getting active in a gentle exercise class that was supported by North Sydney Council and focused on strength and balance. One of our Greenway customers, Loren, said: “Fantastic class! Thank you, St George. My health has improved and I feel empowered because Tim (the facilitator) has taught me a sequence of exercises I can do at home.”



Indigenous Art Classes at Bonnyrigg

Maureen Clayton, a proud Wiradjuri woman and SGCH customer, has been leading a series of art workshops in the Bonnyrigg Community Room. “There is no right or wrong way when it comes to art,” she says. “I encourage both Indigenous and non-Indigenous families and children to join in.” Maureen shared her knowledge of culture and own life experiences and encouraged others to do the same. “Art is a beautiful way to express yourself.” Her next session starts February.



Taking Part in the Lost Bird Found Project

Taking an important mental health message under their wing, SGCH customers from Milsons Point and Cammeray lovingly made fabric birds for the Lost Bird Found project, an initiative by North Sydney Council to coincide with Mental Health Month in October. The birds symbolise freedom from mental illness and were hidden in public spaces around North Sydney, each with a sticker on them that directed the finder to online information and resources.

Wait, there's more!

The circus came to Bonnyrigg in December and SGCH customers were invited to join in the fun. The Rotary Club hosted its 20th Annual Children's Circus Extravaganza with Brophy Bros Circus and generously invited local families.



Lane Cove customers were recently involved in Tech 2Connect – an eight-week workshop funded by Lane Cove Council's Community Grants Program.

Participants learnt a range of digital skills, like how to download apps, connect with family and update important details online.



Santa made a special appearance at the Bonnyrigg Christmas party, transported to the event by the local fire brigade. Bonnyrigg Public School's Strong Fathers, Strong Families group cooked up a storm on the barbecue for the community. Thanks to Fairfield City Council for supporting this event.

Ten lucky SGCH customers sat down to a lovely breakfast with Santa. Thanks to Bonnyrigg Plaza for the collection they ran and for hosting this event; ticket proceeds went to the Starlight Foundation.



Customers in Riverwood joined forces with the Residents Organisation At Riverwood (ROAR) for a Christmas party on 7 December. Carols were enjoyed and a Christmas tree with decorations by ROAR was admired.