Christmas Celebrations

1-18 December | The 12 Days of Christmas are back!
Tina’s story

Tina says the Central Coast social housing unit she now calls home is the “best place on earth”. She credits the support she has found from Home in Place and her fellow tenants with helping her to come off anti-psychotic medication and to start living life again.

Tina had been staying with her son on the Central Coast. She was two days off flying to Adelaide to live with her other son, when she got a call from Home in Place to say they had a unit in a new apartment block in Toukley built through the NSW Government Social and Affordable Housing Fund (SAHF) for her.

“It was the biggest blessing I could imagine. I had my independence back,” Tina says.

“As a single person on a pension you can’t afford to rent in mainstream housing,” she says.

After years of domestic violence and raising her four children largely by herself, Tina has never had many friends. She wasn’t allowed to have them. She moved from Sydney to the Central Coast more than 30 years ago with her second husband when her children were young. The pressure from ongoing domestic violence led Tina to try to take her own life on two occasions. In a catatonic state she was admitted to a facility and placed on an experimental antipsychotic drug before returning home to her children.

“I was working, devoted to raising my kids, but I was existing. I used drugs to cope with what I now know to be complex post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Tina says she has never felt as comfortable and supported as she does now. Sometime after moving in, some of the other tenants invited her to join them in the community area.

“It was wonderful to be listening to their stories and also to be heard.”

“There are people from all walks of life in this building, with all sorts of stories to tell. We don’t judge one another. Everyone is welcome and the specialness of the people living here is unbelievable.”

“For the first time in my life I want to live. I am not existing anymore. I am living.”

The friends I have made here have shown me that we’re going to live our best life. They have given me the strength to forgive people from my past – not for them but for me.

We don’t let each other go down wormholes. There are always knocks on the door – ‘are you OK?’”
The security of your personal information is very important to us!

If you have called our customer service officers on 1300 333 733 you will know that we ask a series of security questions before discussing anything to do with your tenancy.

We ask these questions to ensure your personal information is not disclosed to anyone other than you and to make sure we have accurate and up-to-date information.

We understand that it can be a bit monotonous having to repeat this information every time you speak to us but please be assured it is for your safety and security.

Multiple Consent Form
Home in Place has been approved by Services Australia to provide the following services:
1. Electronic Verification of Rent
2. Centrelink Confirmation eServices
3. Centrepay

As a tenant of Home in Place, we need to know and confirm some of your details held by Services Australia. There are strict guidelines around who can access your information and how the information is collected and stored.

The purpose of the Home in Place Multiple Consent Form is to give us permission to work directly with Services Australia (Centrelink) on your behalf.

Consent to Exchange Information
You may have been asked to complete a Consent to Exchange Information form.
This form authorises a nominated third party/agency to give or receive information about you to or from Home in Place. Only information needed to make the best decisions to assist you in obtaining or maintaining housing and/or support will be shared.

Inspections and Trades
Please note we no longer hold copies of your photo ID on file so visiting Home in Place staff and trades may request photo ID from you if they are not familiar with you. Again, this is to ensure your personal information is not disclosed to anyone other than you.

Earn while you learn

Final round of the 2023 Cadetship Program
Home in Place are proud to be taking part in the Community Housing Industry Association NSW Cadetship Program for the third year in a row.

This exciting program is an opportunity for successful cadets to undertake paid employment and training in application/allocation services, tenancy, property, and asset maintenance management with us as a Community Housing Provider whilst studying a CHC42221 Certificate IV in Housing for a period of 12-months.

Places are limited, with only 25 cadetships offered throughout NSW each year until 2024.

Applications close COB 3 November 2023
In December, participating Home in Place branches will celebrate 12 Days of Christmas instead of just one, with giveaways every weekday starting from 1 December and ending 18 December. The best part is that every eligible tenant will automatically be in the draw (unless you opt out by calling 1300 333 733). Stay tuned... We are announcing the winners on our Facebook page during the competition period. The winners will also be contacted by our Community Participation Officers.

While you’re checking to see if you have won a 12 Days of Christmas prize on Facebook, make sure to check out the various celebrations happening in your local area.

Our Community Participation Officers and branch teams are putting on free events - everything from family trips to the zoo, pool parties and free lunches.

Join us at an end-of-year celebration near you!

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**HOME IN PLACE TENANTS PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN END-OF-YEAR CELEBRATION!**

**MT GRAVATT BOWLS CLUB**
1873 LOGAN ROAD MOUNT GRAVATT
**THURSDAY 14 DECEMBER 2023**
10AM–2PM

You’ll enjoy a sit-down Christmas meal with dessert, games, prizes, face painting, music ... and of course barefoot lawn bowls!

To register, you can:
- go to https://events.humanitix.com/home-in-place-tenant-christmas-party
- email admin@homeinplace.org
- call 1300 333 733
- or scan here

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**HOME IN PLACE TENANTS PLEASE JOIN US!**

**BROKEN HILL AQUATIC CENTRE**
336 MCCULLOCH ST, BROKEN HILL
**TUESDAY 19 DECEMBER 2023**
11AM–2PM

FREE:
- BBQ LUNCH
- INFLATABLE OBSTACLE COURSE
- SHOWBAGS
- PRIZES
- ALL DAY ENTRY INTO THE POOLS

When RSVPing, please tell us how many adults and children will be coming with you.

LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE
So get in quick!

Go to https://t.ly/66m8 or call 1300 333 733.

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**HOME IN PLACE TENANTS PLEASE JOIN US!**

**AMAIZEMENT FARM AND FUN PARK**
170 YARRAMALONG RD, WYONG CREEK
**TUESDAY 19 DECEMBER 2023**
10:30AM–2:30PM

Pizza Lunch, show bags and prizes.
All day entry!
Transport options for those who do not have access to transport.

LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE
So get in quick!

Go to https://t.ly/1t0Qv?r=qr or call 1300 333 733.
HOME IN PLACE TENANTS
PLEASE JOIN US!

HUNTER VALLEY ZOO
138 LOMAS LANE, NULKABA
MONDAY 18 DECEMBER 2023
10AM-3PM
BBQ lunch, show bags and prizes!
All day entry into the zoo.
Transport options for those who do not have access to transport.

LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE
SO GET IN QUICK!

Go to https://t.ly/Bywr7t8s or call 1300 333 733.

HOME IN PLACE TENANTS
PLEASE JOIN US!

DUBBO ZOO
OBLEY RD, DUBBO
SATURDAY 9 DECEMBER 2023
9:30AM-1PM
BBQ Breakfast, show bags and prizes.
All day entry into the zoo with lunch pack!

LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE
SO GET IN QUICK!

Go to https://t.ly/vgLrC?r=qr or call 1300 333 733.

HOME IN PLACE TENANTS
PLEASE JOIN US!

TAREE AQUATIC CENTRE
21-51 MANNING RIVER DR, TAREE
SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER 2023
11AM-2PM
FREE...
• BBQ LUNCH
• POOL SLIDES
• SHOWBAGS
• PRIZES
• ALL DAY ENTRY INTO THE POOLS

When wording, please tell us removals of adults and children will be coming with you.
LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE
SO GET IN QUICK!

Go to https://t.ly/any_27r=qr or call 1300 333 733.
Feona shares her vision of connection and the importance of place

A stunning artwork painted by a Home in Place tenant will be proudly displayed in all Home in Place offices and hubs.

Earlier this year, Home in Place commissioned Feona – a Broken Hill tenant and Barkindji woman – to produce an artwork on what it means to have a home and the importance of place.

Feona’s artwork is about the importance of connection and the need to keep building connection. She painted the artwork at Home in Place’s 123 Hub in Creedon Street Broken Hill which is also about creating a space for connection.

The impressive two metre by one metre original will hang in Home in Place’s head office in Newcastle. Reproductions will be displayed in every Home in Place office and community hub in Australia.

Feona lives two doors up from the 123 Hub and is a frequent visitor. She says it is really good for the community to have the hub.

“Tenants are starting to come to this hub and starting to use it a lot,” Feona says.

“I’m really proud of the Broken Hill crew that are putting all their effort into it and all,” she says.

This is the second time the artist has been involved in creating art with Home in Place. She and fellow tenants Johnny and Warren designed and painted a two part mural for the outside walls of units opposite the 123 Hub to celebrate its opening in 2014. The murals are an amazing, colourful and meaningful representation of the totems of the Wilyakali and Barkindji peoples.

The 123 Hub provides a community meeting place for nearby social housing residents but is open to all Broken Hill residents. Home in Place and other local service providers and agencies also run activities and outreach services from the hub to strengthen the local community.

THE STORY BEHIND FEONA’S ARTWORK

Fiona shared the story behind her painting with Home in Place staff when it was unveiled for the first time at the 2023 staff conference.

“The main circle with two lines coming out is the connection between all of us, whether we’re white, black or whatever. The other circles show the other Home in Place centres in NSW. Down the bottom we’ve got New Zealand, and at the top we’ve got Queensland; they all come in.

“The lines show how we all join with one another; and how we keep on building our connection even further.

“The three houses show how Home in Place provides housing to people, for families, couples, and for or a single person.”
In their own words

Tenant Reference Groups (TRGs) provide a local forum for tenants and Home in Place staff to discuss key aspects of our service. TRG members meet quarterly to discuss a range of issues that impact their lives. TRG members can also nominate to be part of the Our Voice Panel, which reports directly to the Home in Place Board.

We recently sat down with three Home in Place tenants to talk about what it means to be part of the Home in Place Tenant Reference Group and Our Voice Panel.

Joanne, Michelle, Lenny come from different backgrounds but all bring a wealth of experience and unique skills in their representation of their fellow tenants.

CHECK OUT THE VIDEO AT HOMEINPLACE.ORG/TENANT-SUPPORT

Trek for the Stars

You have probably heard about our youth charity Grow a Star. Through it we support the academic, artistic, musical, and sporting dreams of disadvantaged kids.

You can learn more at https://growastar.org/ or by scanning the QR code.

There are many ways you can support Grow a Star. One way is to help us promote a fundraising trek to New Zealand in April next year.

Do you know anyone who would like to join the Grow a Star team on a 6-day New Zealand trek?

The fundraising trek will take in some of New Zealand’s most spectacular sights including Lake Tekapo, Mount Cook, Wanaka and the famous Tasman Glacier.

All profits will directly support young people who want to reach for the stars.

Learn more at https://growastar.org/trek-for-the-stars-1

Stay in Touch

HOME IN PLACE CUSTOMER CALL CENTRE 1300 333 733
Business hours for all general tenancy enquiries or 24/7 for emergency tenancy and maintenance issues.

W WWW.HOMEINPLACE.ORG  E CONTACTUS@HOMEINPLACE.ORG