

Housing News

COMMON GROUND – 2026

We acknowledge and pay our respects to the First Nations people and communities of this land.



Resident of the Season, Terry



Vets and pets at Common Ground

In January, we had the absolute pleasure of welcoming **Southern Cross Vets and Project Hope** to Common Ground for a special onsite veterinary clinic.

Thanks to their generosity, **20** of our residents were able to have their beloved pets seen on the day, with referrals available to their St Peters clinic for any follow-up care needed.

An estimated \$20,000 worth of check-ups and procedures were donated to support our residents and their furry family members.

We are so grateful for this partnership and the genuine care shown to our community. Access to veterinary support like this makes a real difference to the lives of our pets and to us!



Southern Cross Vets and Project Hope team

Fix that dripping tap.

A dripping tap can waste 15 litres a day or a whopping 5,500 litres a year! An easy fix can make a huge difference to your bills.

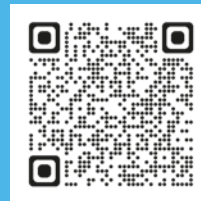
Call the Customer Hub early on 1800 269 672 to report any leaking taps.



MISSION AUSTRALIA Housing



Get important Housing news quicker! Join **US** on Facebook



Scan QR code!

in just one click

Update

Reflecting on what was a very busy year for Mission Australia Housing, I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved together.

With more than **4,600 homes across Australia**, we remain committed to providing quality services to our tenants and your feedback plays a vital role in helping us improve what we do.

Some of our service improvements during 2025 include:

The launch of our Customer Hub – a dedicated service centre for tenants, helping ensure your calls are answered promptly and you receive the best possible service.

Repairs Feedback Surveys – we know repairs are a top priority for you. After a repair is completed, tenants now receive a short SMS survey to provide feedback. Your responses are already helping us improve our maintenance services.

A new Mission Australia website, including a dedicated Tenant Hub where you can easily access helpful resources.

These improvements have been made possible because of your feedback – through surveys, tenant groups and conversations with our team. We value your input and use it to continually improve our services.

In July, we will be running our **National Tenant Survey**, giving all tenants another opportunity to share their views.

Wishing you all a safe and happy Easter!



Davina Lomas

Executive General Manager Operations,
Mission Australia Housing

You said, we did

New SMS Feedback Survey on repairs

We are currently trialling an SMS feedback survey so you can provide instant feedback on repairs and maintenance jobs.

When the job is complete, you will receive an SMS confirming that your maintenance work has been completed, with the option to click into a survey that takes less than 2 minutes. Please click the link and provide us your feedback.

New website

Mission Australia has launched a new and improved website! Check out your one-stop-shop where you can find information on services and your tenancy.

Visit your Tenant Hub here: www.missionaustralia.com.au/tenant-hub or scan the QR code.



Easy-to-read housing information

We have been reviewing all our tenancy information like handbooks, fact sheets and brochures and re-working them in to easy-to-read formats, for print and online.

Watch this space for more details.

Scan the QR code here.



Tell us! Tell us what you think about these new improvements by calling **1800 269 672**.

2026 is the year of the National Tenant Survey. Your feedback is important to **US**

Meet and greet



We're delighted to welcome Vasati to Common Ground as our new Operations Manager.

Vasati brings a wealth of knowledge and experience from her 4 years with our Greater Western Sydney team, where she worked across several important roles including Housing Officer, Allocations Officer, and Senior Support Officer.

Vasati's dedication to supporting both residents and staff, along with her strong understanding of housing and support services, makes her a fantastic addition to the Common Ground community. We're very excited to have Vasati on board and look forward to the positive impact she will bring to the team and our residents.

Please join us in giving Vasati a very warm welcome!

What's been happening

We've kicked off 2026 in full swing at Common Ground

Chatty Café has officially returned, creating space for connection, conversation and community. Our monthly Support Service Hubs are also back, ensuring you can easily access essential services onsite.

This year we're proud to introduce even more programs to the Common Ground site, including **TAFE, Mates for Life, Community Greening and the OzHarvest NEST Program.**

The **Ngurang Hub continues every Wednesday**, providing a culturally safe and welcoming space, and our weekly **courtyard BBQs** remain a highlight, bringing residents together over food and connection.

It's already shaping up to be a strong year of opportunity, support and community at Common Ground.

Join us on **Wednesdays** for our **FREE weekly courtyard BBQ** and some conversation!



Tell us! Send us your stories about your community!

Cook up

Chicken wing dings

An oldie but a goodie!

Ingredients

- 1 kilo chicken wings
- 1 tsp oil
- 1 tsp mustard
- 1 tsp vinegar
- 2 tsp soy sauce
- 1 tbl spoon brown sugar
- ½ cup tomato sauce
- ¼ cup water
- 1 chicken stock cube (crushed)
- 1 garlic clove (crushed)

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 180°C.
2. Mix all sauce ingredients together in medium size bowl. Pour over chicken wings in casserole dish.

Costs less than \$10
& serves 4-10 people

3. Cook for 45 mins with lid on, then 15 mins with lid off.
4. Can be eaten as a small snack (hot or cold) with a dip or serve on rice, or with salad, hot vegies or with homemade hot chips.
5. Garnish with parsley or chives.

Serves 4-10 people depending on how you serve it.

Any left? Doubt it but freeze leftovers for another time.



Home grown

Fall into Autumn with these garden ideas!

Plant bulbs like tulips or daffodils for spring, and cool-season vegetables like broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, or spinach.

Add compost, organic matter, or manure to soil for next season's growth.

Apply a layer of mulch (straw, wood chips, or leaves) to protect soil and manage weeds during cooler months.

Trim excess growth on shrubs and prune climbing plants. Remove dead or diseased plants to prevent disease spread.

Reduce watering frequency, but do not stop entirely, especially during dry autumn days.

Residents of the season

It is our residents that make the world go round at Common Ground!

Kenton

For making an effort in the community and always encouraging other residents to join in (pictured).

Derrick

For volunteering his time with various programs and always assisting with events.

Jamie

For assisting over Christmas last year and volunteering his time catering all the desserts.

Terry

For being the Common Ground Cook at every BBQ and helping with every event.



Left to right: Kenton, Mel, Zoe

Seasonal thought

Like Easter, life starts all over again when it gets crisp in Autumn

Around town

Tear this page off & stick on your fridge!



AOD team onsite 5 days a week

We are very fortunate to have our AOD team onsite 5 days a week, providing residents with direct access to a **Social Worker, Lived Experience Coach and Counsellor**. Having this level of support available onsite makes a big difference making sure you can access the help you need when you need it.

Social Support Community Hub

Our Social Support Community Hubs are also held onsite on the **last Friday of every month**. These hubs bring together key services like Centrelink, Homes NSW, Clothesline and many more. This is your **one-stop-shop** to connect with essential supports right here at Common Ground.



Pets in the Park

Pets in the Park is a wonderful opportunity for pet owners to access **FREE** veterinary support each month. Held on the **last Sunday of every month** from 1pm-2:30pm at the **East Sydney Community and Arts Centre**, this initiative helps ensure pets receive the care and attention they need, and of course, at a pet friendly place!



Crafternoon corner

Upcycle your Easter with this great idea!!

Clean a jar and decorate it to look like a bunny by painting it white, adding googly eyes, a pom-pom nose and tail, pipe cleaner whiskers, and attaching bunny ears made of cardboard.

Fill with little Easter eggs and you have the perfect home-made Easter gift from the heart!



Celebrate a neighbour! Chat to your local office about how.

Tear or cut along dotted line!



Home handy hints

Kitchen and drain care

- 1 Older plumbing in city buildings can block easily.
- 2 Never pour oil or grease down the sink.
- 3 Scrape food into the bin before washing dishes.
- 4 Do not flush wipes, paper towel or sanitary products.
- 5 Report slow drains early.



Pesky pest prevention!

- 1 Inner-city areas can attract cockroaches and rodents.
- 2 Seal food in airtight containers.
- 3 Take rubbish out regularly.
- 4 Clean spills immediately.
- 5 Report infestations to your housing provider.



Taking care of shared spaces & community areas

- 1 Keep common areas clean and tidy.
- 2 Use bin rooms correctly and break down cardboard.
- 3 Keep noise at reasonable levels, especially at night.
- 4 Clean up after pets in shared courtyards.



Community connect

Connect: Inner West Community Transport Group

Door-to-door transport support for local residents to get to appointments and activities.



Newtown Neighbourhood Centre

Information, referral and support services that can connect people to food assistance, vouchers and community programs.



Loaves and Fishes Restaurant

FREE breakfast service provided by the Bill Crews Foundation in Ashfield, available on most days.



Tell us!

Do you have a good news story about your community or a neighbour? **Call us on 1800 269 672 to submit.**