

# Housing News

MIDTOWN MACQUARIE PARK – 2025

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



OUR NATIONAL TENANT SURVEY COMING TO YOU SOON! BE SURE TO HAVE YOUR SAY.

## A new heart for the Midtown Community takes shape

**Excitement is building as Midtown’s new Village Green, Playground and Community Hub get closer to opening.** While construction crews work on the finishing touches, we have all been watching on as the area takes shape day by day. Even from the outside, it’s easy to imagine how these new spaces will offer opportunities for people to come together, build relationships and enjoy shared spaces.

The Village Green will provide a beautiful open space for everyone to enjoy with the new playground a fun space for kids to explore.

The Community Hub, overlooking the Village Green, will offer spaces for all kind of events and activities, providing flexible gathering spaces for the community.

With a gym and pool next door, and the new primary school taking shape across the road, the area will be the new heart of Midtown MacPark. Expected to be completed by May, the community is looking forward to celebrating the opening, marking the beginning of a new and exciting stage for the Midtown Community.



An artist's impression of the new areas

### 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



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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](http://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

## Meet Pam, our Community Development Manager

We're excited to welcome Pam to the team as our new Community Development Manager.

You might recognise her from the early days of Midtown when she worked with the Mission Australia Housing team in the cottage at the bottom of the hill – she could often be found in her hard hat and high vis vest taking prospective residents on tours through the building site.

Pam loves bringing people together and is always up for a chat about a new idea or anything that involves a bit of creativity.

She's known for unintentionally turning any spare moment into an arts or craft activity – so don't be surprised if you see her armed with markers, sticky notes, crayons or some mysterious project.

Pam is looking forward to meeting residents, hearing your ideas and finding ways to build a strong and flourishing community at Midtown. **If you see her around, feel free to say hello, share an idea or join in whatever is going on in the community hub.**



Pam loves bringing people together

# What's been happening

## Midtown EATS 2026

Midtown EATS is back for 2026, bringing neighbours together once again for relaxed outdoor dining, great food, and a welcoming community atmosphere. The first gatherings of the year have already created a buzz, with residents reconnecting, sharing conversations, and enjoying freshly prepared meals in the open-air setting.

**In 2026 Midtown EATS will be held on the second Friday of each month:**

- **Friday 10 April**
- **Friday 8 May**
- **Friday 12 June**

Local churches and Together for Ryde are excited to be partnering with the Midtown community again throughout 2026 to continue hosting this much-loved event.

Their generosity – through funding, cooking, and volunteering alongside residents – remains a key part of what makes Midtown EATS such a valued community event.

**Residents are invited to join with neighbours at the next Midtown EATS event, grab a plate, and enjoy the friendly atmosphere.** Whether coming along for the food, the company, or simply a night off cooking, EVERYONE is welcome.



Midtown EATS is back for 2026 and everyone is welcome!

**Tell us!** Send us your stories about your community!

# Cook up

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

# Home grown

## 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.

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 veges 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.



## 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.

# People of Midtown

## Driving community spirit: Celebrating our volunteer Bus Drivers

**Every week, two familiar faces help keep Midtown community moving from behind the wheel of our community bus.** Paul and Rod, our dedicated volunteer drivers, give their time to take residents to local community pantries on Wednesday mornings and Thursday afternoons. Thanks to our volunteer drivers, residents who might otherwise find it difficult to get there can travel together with their neighbours each week.

Thank you Paul and Rod for the difference they make, one bus trip at a time.

We also celebrate all those kind neighbours at Midtown who help others with transport when they need it. If you would like to join the bus trips to local pantries you can book your spot by visiting the Midtown Community Website or Midtown community hub.

**There's always opportunities to get more involved in community life at Midtown, so if you're interested in volunteering come and chat to us in the Midtown community hub.**



Thanks to Paul and Rod the volunteer bus drivers who give their time

# 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!



Wednesdays, 12pm–2pm  
@Community Hub

## Midtown EATS

2nd Friday of the month,  
5pm–7pm @Midtown Sales  
Suite Carpark

## Tenancy Drop-in

Wednesdays, 1pm–2pm,  
outside the community hub

## Talking Tailored Support Coordination

Thursdays, 3pm–4pm,  
in garden between  
buildings 5 & 7

## Selah Bible Study

Thursdays, 9:30am–12pm,  
meet at the Community Hub



## Chat with a Chaplain

Fridays 1pm–2pm, in garden  
between buildings 5 & 7

## Ryde Mayors Youth Summit

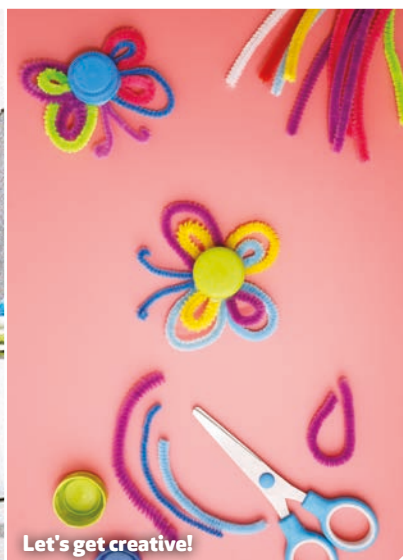
Thursday 23 April, 9am–1pm  
@ Macquarie University

Join a day filled with inspiring discussion and networking. This summit is a platform for young leaders to voice their opinions, share ideas, and connect with like-minded individuals. Whether you're passionate about community issues or want to make a difference, this event puts the voices of our youth front & centre, where you can challenge norms, influence policy, and connect directly with the leaders shaping your future. **Visit the Ryde City Council website for more.**

# Crafternoon corner

## Upcycle your Easter with these great ideas!!

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!



## Drop-in Craft:

### Pipe Cleaner Insects

April School Holidays  
@North Ryde Library

Drop-in to the library during the April school holidays for this fun and bendy insect craft.

Using an assortment of colourful pipe cleaners, follow our easy instructions to make an insect such as a butterfly, dragonfly, or a snail. Craft activity suitable for all ages. All materials provided.

Please note: For children under 12 years of age, parents must stay to accompany their child.

**Visit the Ryde City Council website to register your attendance.**

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

# Home handy hints

## Removing cat urine from carpet

- 1 Locate the stain:** Use a UV (ultraviolet) light in a dark room to find all the yellow-glowing urine spots, including invisible spray, marking them with chalk
- 2 Blot, don't rub:** Blot the area with paper towels until almost dry; avoid scrubbing or using hot water/detergents which can set the stain
- 3 Apply vinegar:** Spray with a solution of one part white vinegar to one part water
- 4 Add bicarb:** Sprinkle a generous amount of baking soda (bicarb) over the damp spot
- 5 Scrub and dry:** Gently scrub with a nylon brush, let it dry completely (using a fan or heater if needed), then vacuum thoroughly
- 6 Repeat if necessary:** The fizzing action of vinegar and bicarb neutralizes odours; repeat the process if the smell persists



Affordable UV lights can be purchased from Bunnings or Amazon

## Preventing mould in your home

Keeping the air moving can help prevent mould. Opening windows can help. **But did you know the split system air conditioner in your apartment has a built in 'DRY' feature?** This increases air flow and can stop mould from growing. Using this feature regularly can help minimise mould and keep your home comfortable.

For more tips, ask for a copy of our fact sheet on managing mould and condensation.

# Community connect

## **Home Library Service:** Books delivered to you!

The Home Library Service is a FREE delivery service for City of Ryde residents who can't go to the library due to frailty, disability, illness or carer's duties. It delivers large print, audiobooks, DVDs/CDs. Language resources available.

For more information call the Home Library Officer **9952 8365** or [HLS@ryde.nsw.gov.au](mailto:HLS@ryde.nsw.gov.au)

## **Mission Australia:** Psychosocial Support Service

Psychosocial support is a non-clinical service for people living with mental health challenges and helps people to build social skills, maintain their home, and improve physical wellbeing.

For more information: **9480 2500** or email [northernsydneyservices@missionaustralia.com.au](mailto:northernsydneyservices@missionaustralia.com.au)

## **The Northern Centre:** Support for Families

**Did you know the Northern Centre at West Ryde provides parenting programs and supported playgroups for families to thrive?**

You can also access financial counselling, mental health support, women's legal clinic and youth counselling at the centre. More information, visit [thenortherncentre.org.au](http://thenortherncentre.org.au)

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