

WNEWS

Wentworth Community Housing
Tenant Newsletter

Issue 30 September 2016



Message from the Chief Executive Officer



Office closing times for Christmas 2016

All Wentworth offices will close over the Christmas and New Years period.

Friday 23 December 2016 the Penrith, Windsor and Katoomba offices will be closed from 12.30pm and will then all reopen on Tuesday, 3 January 2017.

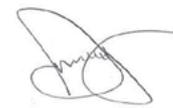
Welcome to the Spring edition of WNews, where the warming weather is encouraging us to spring clean and get out and about in the community, whether it be to a local event or organising tenant activities. You'll find a list of upcoming local events featured in this newsletter including contacts for school holiday programs.

Since our last WNews a highlight for Wentworth has been the recent opening of our Rouse Hill affordable housing apartments. It has been fantastic to see the property filling with tenants excited about their new homes, and the opening was a great opportunity for the Rouse Hill community to come together.

Wentworth has been branching out its social media reach and we're now on Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram. You'll find more details in the newsletter and I encourage you connect with us. Please also send us any pics or

stories you would like to share to admin@wentworth.org.au attention: social media. We would particularly love to hear about any community activities.

I would like to acknowledge two important employees of Wentworth who have recently moved on to new opportunities. Kathryn Williams, Manager Housing Services and Lisa Eggers, Sustainable Communities Project Officer would be known to many of our tenants for the great work they did in our Wentworth communities. They will both be missed and on behalf of Wentworth I would like to thank them for their service.



Stephen McIntyre
Chief Executive Officer

RENT STATEMENTS

Your rent statement included with this newsletter was printed as at 23 September 2016. If you have made payments after this date they will appear on your next rent statement.





Tenant Engagement Advisory Members (T.E.A.M)

Christmas in July at Derby St Complex in Penrith

On Wednesday 20 July, two of our T.E.A.M members (Barbara and Sheila) organised a Christmas in July event for all the residents at our Derby St Complex. They did a fantastic job in organising invitations, food and decorations. It is great to see the residents taking control of organising their events and get-togethers. Despite the dismal weather approximately 20 residents arrived to celebrate the event with such Christmas cheer. All the food was supplied by residents and a great afternoon getting to know each other was had by all.

Thanks to Amanda Kevric, CSO for joining the residents. They were very pleased to meet and talk to their CSO and get to know us a little better. The residents of Derby Street Penrith are looking forward to organising another opportunity to get together in the near future.



Interested in participating in the T.E.A.M?

WNews is based on topics of interest raised by the T.E.A.M. If you are interested in participating please contact Lisa on **(02) 4777 8000** or email **admin@wentworth.org** with attention to Lisa.

Tenant Incentive Program (TIP) – Paying your rent and water on time

Wentworth is delighted that nine out of 10 tenants pay rent on time. This enables Wentworth to plan well across its business.

It's a little over 11 weeks till Christmas, which means now is a good time to start planning your rental and water payments for this period to avoid missed payments and escalating debts.

Pay your rent and water for a chance to win

Tenants who continue to pay their rent and water on time from 1 November 2016 until 30 January 2017 will go into the draw to win \$500. Wentworth will have four prizes – one going to each of our LGA's.

If you would like to find out where your rent account is currently paid to or what you need to pay to get your account up-to-date by November please call us on **(02) 4777 8000**.



Client Service Officers

Wentworth is in the process of recruiting additional Client Service Officers to ensure we are delivering the best service to our tenants.

We will keep you updated in our newsletter if our growing team means any changes to who manages your tenancy.

Wentworth's keystone affordable housing project to address rental pressure in The Hills District

Unused land which long sat vacant alongside the Rouse Hill Town Centre in The Hills Shire has been renewed and transformed into affordable housing for about 50 residents with the opening of Wentworth Community Housing's apartments.

A first for Wentworth Community Housing in The Hills Shire, the 28 unit property which provides rents to occupants up to 75 per cent the local market rate, houses tenants who are employed across a wide range of sectors including retail, financial and community services.

Wentworth Chief Executive Officer, Stephen McIntyre, said the Rouse Hill affordable housing apartments will ease rental pressure on tenants and provide much-needed affordable accommodation close to shopping, community services and transport.



Federal Member for Mitchell, The Hon Alex Hawke MP with tenant Anne Fulford



Ray Williams MP, NSW State Member for Castle Hill and Yvonne Keane, Hills Shire Council Mayor with Stephen McIntyre, Wentworth Chief Executive Officer

Appliance replacement offer

The NSW Government is offering discounts on new fridges and televisions when you replace your old models with new, energy efficient appliances.

The government is offering:

- › 40 per cent discount on the cost of a fridge
- › 50 per cent discount on the cost of a TV

If you're eligible you can:

- › Choose from a range of energy efficient fridges and televisions from retail partner The Good Guys
- › Have your new appliance delivered to your home and installed
- › Have your old appliance removed and recycled

Conditions apply. To be eligible you must meet the following conditions:

- › Be a NSW resident
- › Hold one of the following valid concession cards: Pensioner Concession Card, Health Care Card or Low Income Health Care Card from Centrelink, Veterans' Affairs Gold Card
- › Own a fridge six years old, or older, and want to replace it OR
- › Own a plasma or cathode ray tube (CRT) television and want to replace it

For more information visit:

www.environment.nsw.gov.au/households/appliance-replacement-offer.htm



Sustainable Communities Update



NAIDOC 2016

NAIDOC celebrations this year ran from 3-10 July, with the theme songlines: The living narrative of our nation.

NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

A wide range of events were held across the Nepean, Hawkesbury and the Blue Mountains with Wentworth staff attending events at Riverstone, Richmond, the Blue Mountains and Penrith.

The events showcased Aboriginal culture, food and activities. Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal staff at Wentworth proudly participate in NAIDOC.



"Girls with Goals" Netball Scholarship

Saturday 10 September saw the conclusion of the Penrith Netball season, with Grand Finals Day.

Three Wentworth scholarship recipients (Carla, Shanay and Miranda) had the opportunity to play against Cambridge Park Netball Club in the 10D division. The team which was made up of all new players worked hard all through the season learning and developing their skills, developing friendships and playing fantastic netball.

The girls played their first ever grand final and displayed such commitment, good sportsmanship and great skill to win, amid much cheering and encouragement from the sideline.

The girls were cheered on by their families and their own little cheer squad, (thank you to Rihana and Leah) who managed to win the award for best dressed supporters for the day.



Blacktown/Riverstone

Koori Cuppa and BBQ 2nd and 4th Monday of every month 10:30am – 1:00pm

Riverstone Neighbourhood Centre,
Sam Lane Complex – Park Street,
Riverstone

Riverstone After School "Homework Help" Every Thursday during school term 3:00pm – 5:00pm

Riverstone Youth Centre
Sam Lane Complex – Park Street,
Riverstone
Contact Youth Worker on (02) 9627 3622

Riverstone School Holiday program and activities September school holidays

Riverstone Youth Centre
Sam Lane Complex – Park Street,
Riverstone
Contact Youth Worker on (02) 9627 3622

Kinross Christmas Tuesday 13th December 4pm – 6pm

Kinross Park, Kinross St Riverstone
Contact Claire on (02) 9627 3511
FREE family fun for everyone with
Reverse bungee action, petting zoo,
jumping castle, face painting, FREE BBQ,
DJ/Music, children's craft, PLUS a visit
from Santa

Hawkesbury

Hawkesbury Homelessness Hub Thursday 1st December 10:00am – 12:00pm

St Matthews Church Hall
Moses Street, Windsor

Penrith

Koolyangarra Outreach Last Tuesday of every month 10:00am – 1:00pm

Koolyangarra Aboriginal and
Family Centre
1 Kington Place Cranebrook
Transport provided for those in Penrith
LGA. Book essential for transport.

For members of the Aboriginal
Community across the Penrith LGA to
come and get information on service and
assistance with services on the day.

Cranebrook Youth Hub Young people aged 11-24 years of age Every afternoon Monday to Thursday Drop In will run every afternoon Monday to Thursday from 3pm to 5pm

3 Kington Place, Cranebrook, (next door
to Koolyangarra Aboriginal Child &
Family Centre, off Pendock Road)

Call (02) 4729 3907 for more information
and ask to speak to someone in the
Youth Team.



The Breakfast Club Wednesday 23rd June 7:30am – 8:45am Weekdays during school terms

Cranebrook Neighbourhood Centre
Hosking Street, Cranebrook

For students of Cranebrook High
School and Braddock Public.
Parents also welcome.

Nepean Community Neighbourhood Services – School Holiday Program September school holidays

Koolyangarra Aboriginal Family Centre
Contact Nerida on 0417 498 918.

Penrith Homelessness Hub Wednesday 16th November 9:00am – 11:00am

Joan Sutherland Centre, Penrith

Heading Home – Ending Homelessness Here



Wentworth along with partners Platform Youth Services, Mission Australia and the Mercy Foundation are calling on all members of the community to help end homelessness in Penrith, the Blue Mountains and Hawkesbury. Ambassadors Mark Geyer, Tanya Davies MP and Wentworth Director Brodie Druett have taken the pledge to join the cause.

There are two stages to this important project:

Stage 1 – We will be holding a registry week from 1-3 November to identify specific needs of those experiencing homelessness in our district.

Stage 2 – Provide innovative Housing First solutions and wrap around support to people experiencing homelessness.

For more information on Heading Home visit:
www.headinghome-endinghomelessnesshere.org.au

How you can help?

Volunteer – Be part of registry week! To volunteer please visit <http://headinghome-endinghomelessnesshereregistryweek.floktu.com/>

Spread the Word – We need more housing. Do you know anyone who might be willing to rent a house or room for the project?

Donate – All funds received will go towards housing someone experiencing homelessness, so please visit www.givenow.com.au/headinghome to donate

For more information contact Jo at headinghome@wentworth.org.au or phone (02) 4777 8025
www.headinghomeendinghomelessnesshere.org.au

Find us on  [headinghomeendinghomelessnesshere](https://www.facebook.com/headinghomeendinghomelessnesshere)
or  [headinghome_](https://www.instagram.com/headinghome_)

HEAD OFFICE

Penrith

Address: Borec House, Suite 1002, Level 1
29-57 Station Street, Penrith 2750
PO Box 4303, Penrith Westfield 2750

Phone: (02) 4777 8000
Fax: (02) 4777 8099
Email: admin@wentworth.org.au

Opening hours:

8:30am-4:30pm Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri
1:00pm-4:30pm Wed

BRANCHES

Hawkesbury

Address: 409A George Street
South Windsor
Phone: (02) 4777 8000

Opening Hours: 8:30am-4:30pm Mon, Tue,
Thu, Fri (closed Wed)

Blue Mountains

Address: Shop 2, 23-27 Cascade Street
Katoomba
Phone: (02) 4777 8000

Opening Hours: 8:30am-4:30pm Mon, Tue,
Thu, Fri (closed Wed)

**OUT OF HOURS EMERGENCY
MAINTENANCE LINE
1300 761 315**

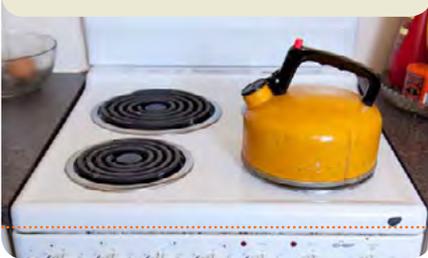
Next WNEWS

Our next edition of WNEWS will be out in December 2016 and will be mailed and displayed on Wentworth's Website www.wentworth.org.au/resources-newsletters

If you would like to see an article on a specific topic please email admin@wentworth.org.au

Maintenance Queries

Remember for all Maintenance Queries please ring **(02) 4777 8000** (select option 1)



Connect with Wentworth on Social Media

Interested in what's happening in your community, Wentworth and the housing sector? Connecting with us has never been easier.

If you are interested in finding out the latest news, job ads or up to date information from Wentworth, please like the Facebook Page today <https://www.facebook.com/WentworthCommunityHousing>

Or connect on

-  Twitter: @Wentworth_CH
-  Instagram: Wentworth Community Housing
-  LinkedIn: Wentworth Community Housing

Do you enjoy the outdoors?

A great job opportunity is awaiting you!

Trim & Proper Property Services (contractors for Wentworth) are looking for Wentworth tenants and/or their household members who are seeking work. Trim & Proper maintain Wentworth common area properties located in the Penrith, Hawkesbury, Blacktown and Blue Mountains areas which includes lawn mowing and the cleaning and maintenance.

No experience necessary – all training will be provided however you must be fit, reliable and enjoy working outdoors.

You will get the chance to learn and grow, perform a variety of tasks and be a part of a great team.

We're looking for people ready to start work and training right now! The work will be Monday to Friday, 38 hours per week between the hours of 6:30am – 3:00pm.

If you are looking for a challenging and rewarding role please contact Paul on **(02) 8738 0100** or pslack@scorecruitment.com.au

