



CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2022



How would you like Cornerstone to pay your rent for a week or a fortnight?

There will be two chances to win this amazing prize in our upcoming tenant survey. All you need to do is fill in your survey and return the information as instructed to be eligible.

The first prize is two weeks of rent paid by Cornerstone. The runner up prize is one week of rent paid

by Cornerstone. The surveys will be posted to you in early April and can be completed online or hard copy. The survey closing date is 13 May.

Unfortunately, this survey is only being conducted for tenants living in Cornerstone Housing owned properties and not properties we manage for other owners.

Need someone to talk to? Try a chaplain ...

1800Chaplain is a nationwide toll-free service offering confidential chaplaincy support to all Australians run by Chaplaincy Australia.

Call 1800Chaplain (1800 24 27 52) for caring, confidential and non-judgemental support from wherever you are in Australia.

Their well trained, accredited, and experienced chaplains can help you find support, comfort, reassurance, and, where needed, referral to other services.

Find out more at
1800chaplain.com

 **1800Chaplain**
caring always

**CALL 1800
242 752**

Prayer group

We run a weekly prayer group every Wednesday morning at 8.15am, open to all tenants. If you'd like to join or you have a prayer request, please reach out to Dan on 0427 928 868 or dan.pisulak@cornerstonehousing.com.au

Facebook page

Did you know Cornerstone Housing is on Facebook? Like our page to receive extra Cornerstone updates, information about events in your community and helpful resources and links. Search for @cornerstonehousingltd



Kim has been in her Cornerstone home for seven years. Hear her story ...

As a registered nurse for over 30 years, Kim absolutely loves working in varying positions within the nursing field, as well as managing roles in the area of occupational health and safety. 'Once you are a nurse, you are always a nurse!' she says.

After a year's contract working in the country about nine years ago, Kim became quite depleted, and when coming back to the city, she found that she was feeling drained. She has since also required several operations, which have made her unable to recommence work, which has been very hard for her.

Before coming into her Cornerstone home, Kim says things were not good at all. She had been staying with friends who had their own agenda. Then there were limited options for rentals with all types of unhelpful landlords.

She nearly became homeless as she needed to quickly get away

from dangerous neighbours and find a safe place to move into.

Then a friend of Kim's, named Rosalie, spoke of her friend who worked with Cornerstone Housing. There was a home that was vacant at the time.

'God has provided this home, and I have had a chance to find more peace of mind.'

'Out there in private rental land, some landlords can be pretty unhelpful.'

'When my boat was blown around by life, I needed a safe place to dock, and I am thankful for having a safe Cornerstone home for the past seven years and for not being

abused by my neighbours.'

Although Kim has had a good career, life can suddenly change,

putting us in precarious situations. 'One never knows what is going to happen next. But as Christians, we can be aware of God guiding us.'

Kim had a heart attack 18 months ago, but with

different symptoms from the usual ones. The cause was put down to stress. She has had no recurrence or ongoing issues to date, and she says that she now appreciates every day.

While life has been difficult, Kim says, 'I am currently in a good place'. She hopes to be in her home for many years to come!

WHEN MY BOAT WAS BLOWN AROUND BY LIFE, I NEEDED A SAFE PLACE TO DOCK, AND I AM THANKFUL FOR HAVING A SAFE CORNERSTONE HOME.



LSGs = LOCAL SUPPORT GROUPS

Organisations that partner with us to provide you with support, which is part of the mission of Cornerstone and helps you feel part of your local community.

LSG SPOTLIGHT

by Bec Drury



Rostrevor

BAPTIST CHURCH

Enrich Life is the community services arm of Rostrevor Baptist Church. Compelled to express the love and compassion of Jesus in practical ways, Enrich Life offers a range of programs and activities designed to support and empower individuals and families.

Some of our programs include:

- Fresh Food Fridays – an opportunity for those on low incomes to receive free nutritious food and build connections with others.
- COACH family mentoring – a trained volunteer mentor meets regularly with a parent to build a relationship and support them toward life goals.
- Kids COACH mentoring – a trained mentor meets with a child experiencing disadvantage in a local school to support and connect in a fun and engaging way.
- Clay Cup – our experience café offers skills training and hospitality experience for people experiencing

marginalisation and a warm, friendly environment with great food and drinks at affordable prices for customers.

- We have a weekly cooking class, English as a second language class, seniors' games group, craft group and Tuesday and Wednesday social lunch groups.

Several Cornerstone Housing tenants connect with one or more of our weekly programs. We have a strong connection and pastoral role with those living in the Cornerstone homes opposite our church property, and we visit and engage with them regularly.

Several years ago, a single mum with young children was referred to our COACH family program from a local government agency. The family were isolated with very limited supports – and without stable housing. We provided a mentor to meet with the family regularly to build a relationship. Soon after this, a Cornerstone Housing vacancy near our church

property became available, and we were able to move the family into this. With stable housing close to supports offered by the church, the family have been able to engage with a whole range of supports that have increased their capacity to manage life well. They are regular attenders at Fresh Food Day, youth group, church events and have built friendships with others. Stable housing through Cornerstone has provided many positive outcomes and opportunities that may otherwise have been missed.

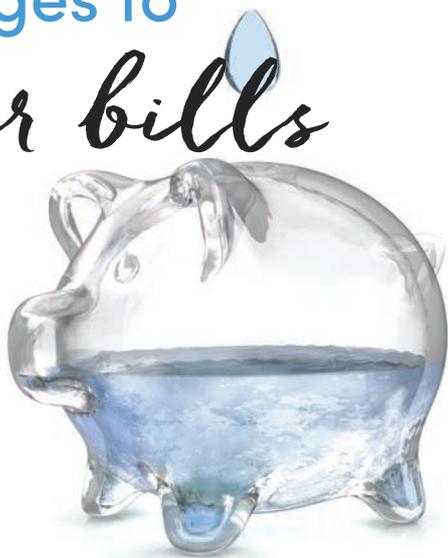
If you would like to know more about Enrich Life opportunities at Rostrevor Baptist, please contact Enrich Life Coordinator Bec Drury.

bec@rbc.org.au
8336 1466

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday

Rostrevor Baptist Church
288 Montacute Road
Rostrevor SA 5073

Changes to water bills



Cornerstone Housing is currently moving all tenants from leases requiring them to pay only for excess water to new leases under which they pay for all water use plus the supply costs.

We have always had some tenants paying all water use and supply, and all new leases signed are similar, so this is really just making sure all our tenants are paying the same fees and charges.

We realise this will be a change for some tenants who have been in their properties for a long time. One of the ways we can minimise the impact of this change is to ensure that you are receiving a concession if you are eligible for one.

A concession is a discount offered by the Department of Communities and Social Inclusion to people who are on eligible Centrelink payments. The water component of the concession is passed on to all tenants paying for supply by way of a discount on your Cornerstone Housing water bill.

Another way to save

Check out Energy Made Easy: a free Australian Government energy price comparison service, which can be used to find and compare electricity and gas plans. Find an energy plan, get information about understanding plans, bills and your rights, and get tips on reducing your energy bills.

Visit www.energymadeeasy.gov.au

WE ARE MOVING ALL TENANTS TO NEW LEASES, UNDER WHICH THEY PAY FOR ALL WATER USE PLUS THE SUPPLY COSTS. SOME TENANTS HAVE ALWAYS DONE THIS, SO THIS IS JUST ENSURING ALL TENANTS ARE PAYING THE SAME FEES.

We can provide copies of the relevant form to claim this concession, and we are happy to assist with the information required for filling out the form if needed.

If you believe you are eligible for a water concession and are not currently receiving one, please feel free to ring our office, and we can discuss the process with you.

New homes at Flinders Park

Cornerstone is pleased to announce the completion of six new dwellings at Flinders Park, and we are delighted with the high standard of construction.

The official opening on 25 February was attended by Cornerstone staff, board members and representatives from SA Housing Authority, who supported the project.

Tenants have already moved into the new dwellings and have expressed their appreciation for the lovely new environment. We wish them all the best as they settle into their new homes!



Contact us

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cornerstonehousing.com.au