



Better Homes, Better Futures



'Our Language Matters'

Naidoc Week 2 - 9th July 2017 Celebrations 'Our Languages Matter'

More than 1000 people completed this year's Naidoc Week in style with a march through the streets of Cairns on Friday 7th July 2017. Indigenous members of the Australian Navy, community groups and Cairns residents sang in the region's native Yidinji Gimuy Walabura language before celebrating Cairns' oldest culture in Fogerty Park. (Pictures: Left: ACHC stall and staff. Right: Canvas of Languages written by visitors to our stall)

From the CEO's desk

July has been a great month with NAIDOC celebrations, CIAF, some big footy matches in town and the annual show bringing the town alive. During NAIDOC week I was lucky to hear presentations at CQ Uni, including Michael Mansell and a group of impressive young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women who spoke about their lives and dreams. I feel the future is in good hands after listening to them. Staff also attended the High Tea, the NAIDOC March and we had a tent in the park on the Friday. It was the biggest and best NAIDOC to date.

I have a few thank you messages to share with you. Firstly, thanks to all

the tenants who completed the tenant survey, it is great to read your responses and examine ways that we can achieve some of the things you have suggested. We have got about 170 surveys back but happy to keep receiving them. Contact us if you have lost your copy and would still like to provide feedback to us. It is great to read your comments and congratulations to the 3 lucky winners of our draw, each receiving a \$100 voucher.

Also a Big thanks to a lovely young couple who having moved to Cairns at the start of the year were transferred back to Brisbane in July and donated all their furniture and white goods to us. The gear, which was only 6 months old, has gone to a couple of our tenants who were thrilled to be the recipients of such a generous offer.

Finally, thanks to all of our tenants who live in complexes who responded to the fire drills. These annual fire drills are very important and help us to safeguard against future dangerous events. Please respond whenever you hear a fire drill. The next one could be a real fire!

August is shaping up as a big month with Homelessness Awareness week and Seniors Week, so I would encourage you to get involved and attend some of the activities that we have mentioned in the newsletter.



Donna-Maree



Cairns Tropical Pride celebrates LGBT+ life in Tropical North Queensland. The series of events start with Out After Elton, a dance party following the Elton John concert on Sept 30th and culminating with the Pride weekend of October 6-8th, the Tropical Gaze Art Launch, then Queer Spring Break and finally the signature event, Pride Fair Day, the largest ever gathering of LGBT+ people in North Queensland. Please visit www.cairnstripicalpride.com.au for individual event details.

RUOK? DAY™

A conversation could change a life.

Thursday 14 September 2017

RUOK is a national day of action dedicated to encouraging everyone to connect with the people they care about and giving them the skills to have a conversation with someone they're worried about any day of the year. Taking part can be as simple as asking your friends, family and colleagues, "are you

Early Survey Comments...

We are still receiving tenant surveys back and will provide a comprehensive report in the next newsletter as to the feedback. Some early requests and messages from tenants...

- Noisy neighbours are annoying, please be considerate of others
- When wheelie bins are emptied please take back to your unit/house
- Don't leave out food scraps as they attract vermin
- If your maintenance request is not attended to in a reasonable time, call us back to let us know



Easiest-Ever Carbonana

Ingredients

- 375g Penne Pasta
- 20g Butter
- 200g Bacon thinly sliced (rind off)
- 300ml Cream
- 2x Large Eggs – lightly whisked
- 1/3 Cup of Shredded Parmesan

Method

1. Cook the penne in a large saucepan of boiling water following packet directions. Drain, reserving ¼ cup (60ml) of the cooking liquid.
2. Meanwhile, melt butter in large frying pan over high heat. Cook the bacon, stirring, for 3-4 mins or until crisp. Add cream. Bring to boil. Reduce heat to low and simmer, stirring, for 2-3 mins or until the sauce thickens slightly.
3. Add the reserved cooking liquid to the frying pan. Remove from heat. Stir in the egg and parmesan.
4. Add the penne to the carbonara sauce and toss to combine. Serve sprinkled with chives.



Winners are grinners

Congratulations to the winners of the \$100 voucher, who were drawn out from those tenants who completed the survey.

Phetsamay from Edge Hill
Dick and Lorna from Parramatta Park (left)
Heather from Trinity Beach (right)



CPR and First Aid Training

Training and skill development of our staff is important at Access Housing.



Diary Dates 2017

TERM 4



School Holidays 18 Sept – Tues 3 Oct

Daffodil Day 25 August 2017

Dental Health Week 7-13 August 2017

White Balloon Day 8 September 2017

RUOK Day 14 September 2017

World Heart Day 29 September 2017

Making a will Everybody should have one!

Recently a lawyer said to me that they had witnessed a lot of distress and family fighting when a family member had died without a will. Having a valid and up-to-date will can help reduce stress for your family and friends, limit the costs to administer your estate, and lessen the possibility of disputes over your estate. You should make a Will even if you think you have little to leave.

A will is a legal document that says what you would like to happen with your belongings, money and other assets (your estate) when you pass away. Your will names who you want to give your estate to (your beneficiaries) and who you would like to administer your estate when you pass away (your executor).

What if I don't have a will?

If you pass away without a valid will, you pass away 'intestate'. This means:

- your assets will be distributed according to the Queensland laws of intestacy
- there is no guarantee that your assets will be distributed as you would like
- your family or friends may not be provided for as you wish
- it may take more time and money to finalise your estate.

Who can make a will?

To make a valid will, you must be at least 18 years old, and of sound mind, memory and understanding.

To be valid, your will must be:

- in writing
- signed by you in front of 2 witnesses, both of whom must be over 18 years old, cannot be visually impaired and should not be included as beneficiaries in the will.

Who can I contact for more information?

- You can get an online will kit and complete
- Cairns Community Legal Service may also offer advice about wills and estate planning
- You can go to a lawyer to have a will prepared



TENANT INCENTIVE PROGRAM (TIP)

TIP is an initiative that Access Community Housing has introduced to acknowledge and reward our tenants.

Maree Samwells (winner of \$50)

CAIRNS LIFESTYLE EXPO
 LOCAL HOME & LIFESTYLE SHOW

100%
 LOCAL BUSINESSES

23RD & 24TH SEPTEMBER 2017

FRED MOULE PAVILION &
 CAIRNS SHOWGROUNDS

SATURDAY 9AM-4PM & SUNDAY 9AM - 3PM

On the 18th August 2017 Uniting Care community Gambling Help and Financial Wellbeing is visiting shopping centres once a month. Financial Wellbeing will be having a 'bring your bills' booth, encouraging people to bring in bills they are having trouble paying or need help understanding.

Stall open from 8.30 am – 4.30 pm,
 Bring Your Bills booth open from 12 noon – 2 pm,
 Today's shopping centre: **Smithfield**

Access Community Housing

Out of Hours Emergencies

For plumbing and electrical emergencies where there is a health risk, a risk of injury or a risk of serious damage to the property

1300 782 586

This service is for emergencies only
 You may be charged if you call out a tradesman for a non-emergency repair

INTERNATIONAL TENANTS' DAY

COMMUNITY PRIDE
 "IT STARTS AT HOME"

3RD OCTOBER

FOGARTY PARK

PERFORMANCES
 CULTURAL FASHION PARADE
 DIY WORKSHOPS
 INFORMATION STALLS
 HANDMADE ARTS/CRAFTS STALLS
 FOOD AND MUSIC

11AM - 3PM

FREE EVENT

THIS EVENT IS PROUDLY SPONSORED BY CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL AND THE HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS SECTOR

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE EVENT PLEASE CALL 40316702