

Your Home

December 2020 ISSUE 92



Pods of Growth

ROBERT is a passionate community gardener in Sutherland Shire. Together with other tenants in his area, he cares for new veggie pods, delivered as part of the Royal Botanic Garden's community greening program. The new pods mean tenants can grow their own vegetables and develop their gardening skills. Robert enjoys the physical exercise of gardening and bringing his neighbours together.

Inside this issue

- Scholarships for students
- Staying COVID Safe during the holidays
- Fire safety tips
- Fun caption contest

For more information about our programs and support services, visit www.facs.nsw.gov.au/myhousing



Scholarships for students

Do you know a student who could benefit from a \$1,000 scholarship?

DCJ is providing scholarships to school students in year 10, 11 or 12 or studying the HSC equivalent at TAFE. The scholarships are open to students living in social housing or out-of-home care. It can be put towards IT equipment like a laptop, textbooks, courses or other educational and training costs to help students complete their studies.

There are up to 1,000 scholarships available across NSW to help young people in social housing complete their education. Students who received a scholarship in past years can reapply.

Applications are now open online and will close on 19 February 2021. The outcomes will be available in term two of 2021.

Find out more

Visit www.facs.nsw.gov.au/dcj-scholarships or email education@facs.nsw.gov.au

Minister's message

Welcome to the last edition of *Your Home* for 2020.

This has been a trying year for many. From bushfires to COVID-19, we have learnt exactly how important it is to come together and support one another.

As your minister, I have listened to your needs and put in supports to help you sustain your tenancy. I have introduced measures to prioritise health and safety including regular cleaning of common areas of high-rise buildings to make sure they are COVID Safe.

Another great initiative is the DCJ scholarships for students. Find out if a teenager in your care is eligible to apply in this edition.

The holidays are usually a time to get together with our loved ones. This year, they may look a little different. Find tips on staying COVID Safe these holidays on page 3.

Finally, make sure to stay fire safe this summer. Brush up on your fire safety knowledge on page 3.

Warm regards,

Gareth Ward MP
Minister for Families,
Communities and
Disability Services



Image photographed in 2019

Staying COVID Safe during the holidays

The holiday season is right around the corner.

Usually, this is a time we celebrate by getting together with our loved ones. This year, the holidays may look a little different. Here are some tips to make sure you stay COVID Safe this Christmas.



PLAN AHEAD AND SHOP EARLY

Finish your Christmas shopping early to avoid large crowds.

KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE

Maintain a distance of 1.5m from others in public. Wear a mask if you can't socially distance.



HOST SMALLER GATHERINGS

Try to celebrate with a smaller group of friends and family. If possible, try to get together in the backyard or a park.

STAY HOME IF YOU ARE SICK

Even if you are only slightly unwell, cancel your plans.



GET TESTED

If you have symptoms, get tested.

Find your nearest testing clinic

Visit nsw.gov.au/covid-19/how-to-protect-yourself-and-others/clinics

Fire safety tips

The best way to stay fire safe is to prevent fires from happening in the first place. You should also know what to do in case there is a fire. Here are some tips on staying safe this summer.

GENERAL FIRE SAFETY

- Keep looking when cooking. Stay in the room when you cook food.
- Keep kids away from candles, heaters and stoves.
- Never smoke in bed. Always put cigarettes out in a deep ashtray.
- Put out candles before you go to bed or go out.

FIRE SAFETY IN UNIT BLOCKS

- Never leave fire doors open or obstructed.
- Know where the fire exits, fire stairs and firefighting equipment are located in your building.
- Make sure fire stairs and common areas are clear of items such as door mats, pot plants and bicycles at all times.
- Never use a lift during a fire.

You should report damaged or open fire doors immediately on

1800 422 322



EXIT

Fun caption contest



How to enter

Tell us what this dog is thinking. Best caption wins a \$25 voucher. Send entries to:

Your Home, Locked Bag 4001, Ashfield BC 1800
or email Your.Home@facs.nsw.gov.au



Congratulations to Julie who was last issue's winner. Her caption was, "I said I need a power nap not a shower cap!"



Housing Outcomes and Satisfaction Survey

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Housing Outcomes and Satisfaction Survey (HOSS) this year. The results will help us to better understand your health, wellbeing, how you connect with your communities and how we can improve our services. The prize winners have been selected and contacted.

If you've submitted a response and would like to check if you've won, please visit www.facs.nsw.gov.au/housing/survey or email education@facs.nsw.gov.au

Contact us

The safest way to contact us is over the phone, online or by downloading the MyHousing mobile app.



Housing Contact Centre
1800 422 322
24/7 for general enquiries



MyHousing Online Services
www.facs.nsw.gov.au/myhousing



Download the **MyHousing App** from the App store or the Google store.



Sustainability: Your Home is printed on paper certified by the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC).

Interpreting

If you need help with interpreting, phone All Graduates on **1300 652 488**.

Chinese (Simplified)

如果您需要口译服务，请拨打

1300 652 488 致电 All Graduates

Russian

Если вам необходима помощь с устным переводом, позвоните в компанию All Graduates по номеру телефона 1300 652 488

Vietnamese

Nếu quý vị cần giúp đỡ về thông dịch,

xin gọi All Graduates qua số 1300 652 488

Arabic

إذا كنت بحاجة للمساعدة في الترجمة الشفهية،

اتصل بشركة All Graduates على الرقم 1300 652 488

Dari

اگر به کمک ترجمان ضرورت دارید،

به آل گریجویٹس (All Graduates) به شماره 1300 652 488 زنگ بزنید.

Persian

اگر در مورد ترجمه شفاهی به کمک نیاز دارید،

به اول گریجویٹ به شماره 1300 652 488 زنگ بزنید.