

Art Show Wrap Up

Clear Home, Clear Mind

Spring Picnic

E-bike safety



CEO Update

Hello everyone,

As Bridge Housing celebrates its 40th birthday, I am really proud to become Bridge's third CEO and help to build upon the valuable legacy created by Rebecca Pinkstone, John Nicolades and countless extraordinary individuals at Bridge committed to affordable, secure homes for all.

My first day coincided with the first day of Homelessness Week, which shone a light on the desperate state of housing across Australia. Rental and cost-of-living pressures continue to deprive many Australians of a permanent home. My purpose as CEO is to help Bridge deliver more homes and to serve you, our tenant community.

My career began as a registered mental health nurse in the East End of London during the 1990s where I worked across community crisis response teams and in Emergency Departments supporting people going through acute mental health crisis. This really showed me how important a safe home is for all of us to be able to thrive. I moved to Sydney in the early 2000s and since then have worked across several different sectors: health, aged care and disability. Throughout my career I have loved working with people to help improve lives and wellbeing. I am very excited to be able to do that now with Bridge.

I am looking forward to meeting many of you at our first Northern Beaches picnic on 17 September (details are on page 5 of the newsletter). It will be a chance for me to learn from you, whether you are a new tenant or have been with us since the early SWISH and ESHRA days.



If you can, I would also love to see you at our AGM on 13 November at Redfern Community Centre, where we will celebrate our milestone anniversary.

I look forward to seeing how your, mine and Bridge's stories weave together in the years to come.

Take care,

Laurie Leigh
Chief Executive Officer



Photo Album



**Aboriginal Heritage
Walking Tour Manly Dam**

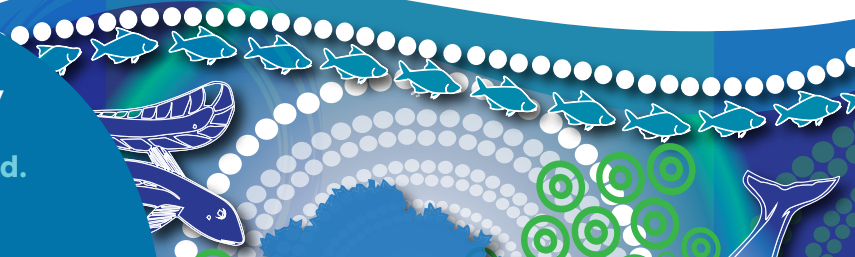


**Knitting Nannas on
the Northern Beaches**



**Art in Nature with City West
and City of Sydney**

We acknowledge Aboriginal people as the traditional owners of the land, and pay our respects to elders past and present. Always was. Always will be. Aboriginal Land.



Garden Gurus



Simon Duffy AM, the new CEO of Botanic Gardens of Sydney, toured Elger Street community garden in Glebe. The rooftop garden showcases the Botanic Garden’s **Community Greening** program, which “connects people, plants, and places to empower local communities”.

Tenant champions Jonathan and Christine shared stories on co-designed garden of herbs, veggies, and colourful plants. As founding members of the Elger Street Garden community, they have worked with Phil Pettit’s garden team for over five years, sharing the seasons and their ideas.



Simon Duffy new CEO of Botanic Gardens of Sydney (extreme left) with a radish from the Elger St gardens.



Tenant Art Show

Bursting with creativity, our Tenant Art Shows celebrated Reconciliation Week’s theme of “Now more than ever!” at 107 Projects Redfern. Kyra Kum-Sing from Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-Operative curated over 80 unique artworks ranging from paintings, jewellery, photography to poetry and sculpture.

Tenant Wayne wrote and performed a song on opening night. Entitled “That Extra Mile” it captured the spirit of “healing and home” and invited guests to experience “the magic of going that extra mile”.



Celebrate with us

Spring Picnic

Enjoy **free BBQ** lunch, games, and good fun with friends (old and new!)

Meet Laurie Leigh our **new CEO**. Try Bird and Plant Bingo, craft activities and lots more.

Car pool with neighbours or book your place on Bridge free transport to Davidson Park, Healey Way, Forestville

There are limited spots on the Bus.
Book your seat by scanning this QR Code



Bus 1

10am Pickup from Redfern Community Centre, 29 Hugo St, Redfern
10.30am Pick up from 3 Elger St, Glebe

Bus 2

10am Pickup from The Granville Centre, 1 Memorial St, Granville

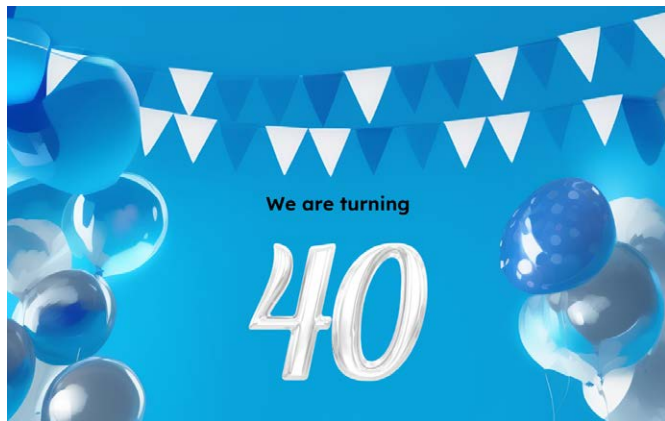
Bus 3

10.45am Pick up from Bridge Housing Northern Beaches office, 660 Pittwater Rd, Brookvale

RSVP to community@bridgehousing.org.au or call **8324 0836**



No pets - sorry it's a national park so support animals only



Bridge Housing AGM

You are invited to our 2024 Annual General Meeting to be held on **Wednesday 13 November** between 10am and noon at the Redfern Community Centre, 29 Hugo Street, Redfern.

We will celebrate our 40th birthday at this year's AGM.

Registration will start at 9.30am and lunch will follow the meeting.

Sign up to Bridge Membership



All Bridge tenants can become members and vote at our AGM. Once you are a member, you will remain a member until you move out of your Bridge home, or you choose not to be a member.

Fill out your membership form here

Or email customerservice@bridgehousing.org.au, or phone the office on **02 8324 0832**



Tenant End of Year Celebration

By popular demand, our Tenant End of Year celebration will be back under the Harbour Bridge this year.

Mouth-watering BBQ smorgasbord, Ben and Jerry's ice-creams, games and prizes will bring old and new friends together, next to the sparkling waters of Sydney Harbour. Block out Tuesday 10 December in your diary and come for fun.

Date: 10 December from 11.30am at Bradfield Park South, Milsons Point



Free lunch made with love

Enjoy a free, gourmet vegetarian meal cooked by the great chefs at **Refettorio OzHarvest Sydney** in Surry Hills. Book your spot at the popular eatery by texting **0493 163 136** or email **refettorio@ozharvest.org**.

OzHarvest teamed up with world renowned chef **Massimo Bottura** to create this unique community space. Meals are freshly prepared and the menu changes every week. Located at 481 Crown Street, Surry Hills, they are open from Tuesday to Sunday, with lunch served at 12:00 pm, 12:30 pm, 1:00 pm, and 1:30 pm. All guests are served with dignity and respect by a team of volunteers.

Don't miss out—book your spot today and enjoy a nourishing meal in a warm, welcoming community hub!



Free birth certificates for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander People

@ Redfern Cultural Hub
119 Redfern Street Redfern

Sign-up Day: Tuesday 29 Oct | 9:30am - 3:00pm

The Pathfinders National Aboriginal Birth Certificate Program (PNABC) is making it easier for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to apply for and receive their birth certificate.





Tenant Portal

Get all your tenancy information at your fingertips through the MyBridge Tenant Portal:

You can use the MyBridge portal to look at rent, water and maintenance accounts. You can email yourself a copy of account statements and update your contact information directly. You can also report a repair and complete forms to help with your tenancy.

To access the MyBridge portal you will need a mobile phone number to log in. The portal can be accessed from this link <https://my.bridgehousing.org.au>

October Rent Review

October Rent Review has started. Thank you to everyone who has submitted their rental subsidy form and paperwork. We review rents twice a year to make sure you're receiving the correct subsidy. If you haven't sent through your paperwork, there's still time to do so.

Complete your rental subsidy form

You'll need the paperwork listed below to fill out the rental subsidy form in this QR code:



- Payslips
- Tax lodgement for 2023
- Profit and Loss from your accountant
- Centrelink income statement
- Bank Statements

ELECTRIC BIKE AND SCOOTER CHARGING SAFETY

Lithium-ion batteries are the fastest growing fire risk in New South Wales. Charge E-bikes and E-scooters safely to reduce your risk.

Don't charge when you're asleep.

Once the battery is full, disconnect it from the charger.

Always use the charger that came with your device. Just because the plug fits, it doesn't mean it's compatible.

Don't charge in or near living-spaces like bedrooms or living rooms. Charge in an open area like a garage or shed, away from exits. Make sure you always have a working smoke alarm.

Charge batteries on hard surfaces like concrete or tiles. Make sure that there's nothing around it that could catch on fire.

Buy known brands with the Australian Regulatory Compliance Mark tick.

For more information go to fire.nsw.gov.au/chargesafe



The recent 10% increase in the Commonwealth Rent Assistance payments will increase most tenants' rent by \$10-\$20 per week.

Start Work Incentive

Call us on 8324 0864 if you have started working in the last 21 days.
rentreview@bridgehousing.org.au

What's On

Meet and connect with new people at our community events



Every Thursday	Narraweena - Social Inclusion Group	20 Sep	Brookvale - Financial Wellbeing Workshop
Every Thursday	Manly - Outreach/ One Meal Service	27 Sep	Brookvale - Financial Wellbeing Workshop
Every Wednesday	Elger St - Outreach	30 Sep	Yagoona - IT Skills
Every Friday in September	Elger St - Arting with Nature	30 Sep	Elger St - Community Gardening Workshop
6 Sep	Balmain - Community Gardening Workshop	30 Sep	Yagoona - Repairs Information Centre
6 Sep	Brookvale - IT Support	4 Oct	Brookvale - Financial Wellbeing Workshop
13 Sep	Elger St - Arting with Nature	11 Oct	Brookvale - Painting with Paola
13 Sep	Brookvale - Painting with Paola	25 Oct	Balmain - Community Gardening Workshop
17 Sep	Forestville - Spring Picnic	28 Oct	Yagoona - IT Skills
19 Sep	Granville - Relax and look after your emotional health		



Find out more on Facebook

Tenant Advisory Group (TAG)

Tenant Advisory Groups are at the **heart** of our community. TAGs help you to give us feedback, improve our services, share ideas and information, host events and help solve local issues.

Today, we have 7 tenant advisory groups (TAGs) that help shape the Bridge community: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander TAG, Vietnamese TAG, West TAG, Elger Street Community, Northern Beaches TAG, Central/East TAG and the Tenant Reference Group.

Tenant Advisory Group



Be involved, have your say

Upcoming TAG meetings:

Group	Next Meeting	Location / Details
North TAG	16 October	Community Room above Warringah Mall Library
ATTAG	23 October	TBC
West TAG	24 October	The Granville Centre
Elger Street Community Meeting	29 October	Community Room 3, Elger Street
VNTAG	30 October	Bridge Housing Central Office
East/Central TAG	31 October	TBC

Bridge Housing Offices



Head Office

Level 9 59 Goulburn St
Haymarket

Northern Beaches Office

Level 1, 660-664 Pittwater Rd
Brookvale



Opening hours:

9am-4.30pm Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday and Friday
1pm-4.30pm Wednesday

Call Us



General enquiries - 8324 0800

Repairs - 8324 0800, Press 1 for Repairs

Housing Management team - 8324 0885

Communities team - 8324 0836

Leasehold Manager - 8324 0858

Outreach

3 Elger St Glebe

Wednesdays 1.30pm-4pm
in Community room

South Coogee

Wednesday 3-4pm, Orange Room,
Junction Neighbourhood Centre,
3 Yamba Place South Coogee

Manly Cove

Thursday 11am-12pm, Cove Avenue and
Stuart Street Manly

West Outreach

Thursday, date TBC 2:30pm-4:30pm
The Granville Centre, 1 Memorial Drive, Granville



Have something to share? Drop us a line @ community@bridgehousing.org.au