

What's Happening at

YourPlace.



A Message from the CEO

Welcome to the December edition of What's Happening at YourPlace.



As the incoming CEO, I feel incredibly privileged to be working for an organisation that is deeply committed to providing suitable and affordable housing to you and your families.

I have spent two decades working in housing, in the government, non-government, and private sectors. I am excited to be back in the community housing sector as it offers the greatest opportunity to directly work towards providing better houses and better services.

2020 has been a challenging year. We are fortunate that so far South Australia has not had to endure the same hardships as other places in Australia and internationally. Our community has still felt the impact. The YourPlace Board and staff members are keenly aware of this and are eager to ensure that we play our part in supporting people who are doing it tough through this difficult time.

I am hopeful that restrictions will continue to ease, and that we can start to reignite some of our community engagement activities in the early New Year. I am very much looking forward to meeting many of you over the coming weeks and months to hear your thoughts and ideas about YourPlace, and I am also eager to share with you some of the great things we are hoping to achieve into the future.

On behalf of the team at YourPlace we would like to wish you and your loved ones a restful and happy Festive Season, and we hope that the New Year sees your home filled with laughter, love and good health.

Geoff Slack
CEO

Visit our website www.yourplacehousing.com.au

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

Feliz Navidad y Próspero Año Nuevo

gayaay gaangangindaay

Frohe Weihnachten und ein gutes neues Jahr!

Joyeux Noël et bonne année

Auguri di buon Natale e felice Anno Nuovo

Meri Kirihimete Ngā mihi mō te Tau Hou

Καλά Χριστούγεννα και Ευτυχισμένο το Νέο Έτος

Wesołych Świąt i szczęśliwego Nowego Roku

ما عالا لول حب تاين مال بي طاع
دي دجل

Chúc Giáng Sinh An Lành.
Chúc Mừng Năm Mới 2021!

त्योहारों की बधाई एवं वर्ष 2021
के लिए शुभकामनाएं!

کرا بام ون لاس

年末年始のご挨拶。2021
年も良い年をお迎えください。

OFFICE CLOSING TIME OVER THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PERIOD

YourPlace Housing will be closed from Friday 25 December 2020 and will re-open on Monday 4 January 2021.

If you have any urgent maintenance issues please call our Emergency Maintenance Service on 0414 367 735.

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Join the Pack

Our newest member of the **'YourPlace Pack'** is BettyBoo, a 6 year old, short-haired Dachshund and loyal companion to Audrey since November 2019.

Betty Boo was originally from New Zealand and was brought to SA as a breeding dog. She won numerous competitions and had 18 puppies during the early years of her life. Complications during the delivery of her last litter meant that Betty Boo was unable to have more puppies. Audrey took her in as she was no longer wanted by the breeder.

Betty Boo enjoys sitting in the trolley basket during their regular outing to Bunnings. She loves her vegies and believe it or not can consume up to 6 bags of carrots and 25 cucumbers a week, either by hand or with her regular meals. This is just as well as BettyBoo doesn't care much for water.

At night, she snuggles up with Audrey in her matching dressing gown.

Audrey's daily routine is now dictated by the charming but demanding BettyBoo. Luckily Audrey is retired and has plenty of time to devote to BettyBoo. Not that Audrey is complaining as she believes BettyBoo deserves the attention.

During COVID-19, Audrey and BettyBoo have been inseparable: "She saved me and in turn I saved her" says Audrey.

The story of Audrey and BettyBoo is a heartening example of the benefits of pet ownership.

TIP

Genuine meat bones may be tempting, but it's best to stick to rawhide. Bones can chip and hurt your dog if sharp fragments are ingested. Rawhide is completely healthy and improves the teeth, and therefore is preferable to animal bones.

If you would like to share your favourite story about your pet email the details to: tenancy@yourplacehousing.com.au

DID YOU KNOW ?

No, it's not just to make themselves look adorable.

Dogs curl up in a ball when they sleep due to an age-old instinct to keep themselves warm and protect their abdomen and vital organs from predators.

YPH Staff Festive Seasons Favourites

- Food... all the food
- Christmas lights
- Time with family
- Shopping and Boxing Day sales
- Holidays
- Gift giving

AND WATCHING MOVIES – SOME OF OUR FAVS ARE:

- The Santa Clause 1, 2 & 3
- It's a Wonderful Life
- Miracle on 34th Street
- The Grinch who stole Christmas
- Jingle All the Way
- Elf
- Die Hard

Taking Care of Yourself

Holidays can trigger a range of emotions – sadness, stress, excitement and more. Taking care of yourself during the busy season can help make sure these emotions don't become overwhelming.

FIVE TIPS FOR LOOKING AFTER YOURSELF:

1

Plan something special to treat yourself or contact a friend and set a date, time and place to catch up outside of the Christmas rush

2

If you are feeling lonely, volunteer to help serve Christmas Day lunch with a charitable organisation

3

Attend community celebrations. Contact your local council for details of events. Make sure you follow social distancing rules and other COVID-19 restrictions that are in place

4

Make a list of things you are thankful for and all of the positive things in your life

5

Keep things simple and prepare in advance – slow and steady wins the race





NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTION

This is your newsletter and we want it to reflect what you want to read and what you enjoy.

We'd love you to share your ideas with us!

To share your comments, ideas and contributions you can:

- Email us at tenancy@yourplacehousing.com.au
- Call the Tenancy Team on 8351 8466
- Or write to us at
338-340 Tapleys Hill Road
Seaton, SA 5023

Your Finance Team

The Finance Team needs no introduction as no doubt you have dealt with them many times in the past to discuss rent, water invoices and anything finance related.

Rob, Jess and Trudi make up the team, but behind this hardworking trio are three engaging personalities.

Funny guy Rob lights up the office with his jokes, crazy dance moves and his versions of the 80's and 90's hits. He is active in community service and is a mad Hawthorn supporter.

Jess is a busy mother to two young boys, a gym junkie and an outdoor activity enthusiast. She will bundle up the troops for a caravan expedition whenever the opportunity arises.

Trudi on the other hand, is a devoted mother to 3 adult children. Aside from being our office fashionista, she is also famous for her lasagna, lemon cake and almond biscuits.

Please don't hesitate to call the Finance Team for any rent queries or to discuss payment plan options for your water or repair invoices.

Rent Review

You should have received a letter from our Finance Team regarding the upcoming rent review. This is YourPlace Housing's first scheduled rent review for 2020. You may recall that the rent review scheduled in April 2020 was postponed as a result of the COVID-19 legislative changes.

Unless you have already done so, it is very important that you return the required information outlined in the letter as soon as possible. Failure to return the required information will result in market rent being applied.

If you have any queries regarding the rent review, please contact our Finance Team on 8351 8466.



Merry Money

It's not called the silly season for nothing. The end of the year presents a delicate balancing act between having fun, being generous and not starting the New Year with a financial headache.

If you're determined to avoid a post-Christmas budget hangover this year, it's time to start planning. Try out these Christmas budgeting tips to ensure you stick to a budget and avoid a financial hangover come January.

“ MAKE CHRISTMAS FUN – not financially stressful. ”

1 STICK TO A BUDGET

- Budget for each area of spending including gifts, food, drinks and decorations.
- Most importantly it has to cover all your usual overheads: don't miss rent and utility payments.

2 MAKE A LIST

Making a list, checking it twice and sticking to it will help you avoid a yuletide budget blowout.

3 FORGET THE CREDIT CARD

Do your shopping in cash – don't use expensive credit cards (you'll be thankful in January).

4 SHOP EARLY AND ON-LINE

Avoid the cost and poor selection of last-minute spending.

5 SHOP SOLO AND SHOP AROUND AT CHRISTMAS

- Shopping is business, not a social outing with friends.
- Buy joint gifts – team up with friends or family.

6 DON'T BUY ON STORE FINANCE OR SPECIAL TERMS

They always cost you more.

7 TRACK YOUR EXPENSES

Use apps to track your spend. There are many free apps such as PocketGuard, Wallet, MoneyStrands, Money Lover, Dollarbird, Honeyfi, Fudget. Search “best budgeting and personal finance apps for 2020” to find the right one for you.

8 EMBRACE YOUR CREATIVE SIDE

A quick online search will reveal thousands of ways you can create, make or bake personalised Christmas gifts, saving you big money.

9 IT'S THE THOUGHT THAT COUNTS

Instead of purchasing gifts, shower your loved ones in experiences they'll never forget. Slip a note in their Christmas card promising a one-on-one experience with you, in lieu of a gift. Take them on a picnic, have a day out exploring your local area or offer to come over and make them dinner. The gift of time and undivided attention is priceless.



Your Kitchen with Serina & Trudi

CHRISTMAS PRAWN SALAD

INGREDIENTS

SALAD

- 300g dried penne pasta
- 1kg cooked prawns, peeled, deveined, tails intact
- 1 Lebanese cucumber, halved, thinly sliced
- 1 avocado, thinly sliced
- 60g baby leaf salad mix
- 1 bunch fresh chives, finely chopped
- ¼ cup small fresh mint leaves
- 2 tablespoons coarsely chopped fresh dill, plus extra sprigs, to serve
- Lemon wedges, to serve (optional)

DRESSING

- 170g (¾ cup) whole-egg mayonnaise
- 1 ½ tablespoons tomato sauce
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- 3 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce

METHOD

- 1 Cook the pasta in a large saucepan of boiling salted water, following packet directions or until al dente. Refresh under cold water and drain.
- 2 Meanwhile, for the dressing, whisk together the mayonnaise, tomato sauce, juice and Worcestershire sauce in a large bowl.
- 3 Arrange the pasta, prawns, cucumber, avocado, salad mix, chives, mint and dill on a platter. Season. Drizzle with the dressing and scatter with extra dill. Serve with lemon wedges, if you like.

OREO CHRISTMAS HATS

INGREDIENTS

- 1 x punnet strawberries tops removed
- 12 x Oreo Cookies
- ½ cup butter (softened)
- 1 Tablespoon whole milk
- 1 Teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 cups icing sugar

METHOD

- 1 Wash strawberries and remove the hulls. Place on paper towels to dry.
- 2 Freeze strawberries for 30 minutes or until firm.
- 3 In a medium bowl, cream butter. Stir in milk and gradually add icing sugar a little at a time until you reach your desired consistency.
- 4 Pipe frosting into a circle on the top of the oreo to make the strawberry stick and to resemble the fur ring.
- 5 Press strawberry into piped frosting large end down.
- 6 Pipe a dot on top of the strawberry to resemble the hat's fluff ball.



Your Go-To-Guide: Christmas Day meals & gatherings

* Subject to change, participant numbers may be limited due to covid restrictions. Please call the organiser to confirm.

Adare Uniting Church,
The Drive, Victor Harbor
Christmas Day Luncheon
from 12 noon – no charge
Call the Church office on 8552 8377
on Tues, Thurs or Friday Mornings

Hutt Street Centre,
258 Hutt Street, Adelaide
Open on Christmas Day from 9am–1pm.
Christmas lunch provided
from 11.30am–12.45pm.
Call 8418 2500 or email
dchutt@huttstcentre.org.au

Marion LIFE Community Services,
887 Marion Road, Mitchell Park
Christmas Day BBQ in the car park of
Marion Church of Christ from 12.30pm
Call 8277 0304 or email
info@marionlife.org.au by 13 December

Mount Barker Family House
31 Princes Rd, Mount Barker
Christmas Day Lunch from 12 noon
Call Chris on 0411 051 116

Salvation Army
99 Wynn Vale Drive, Wynn Vale
Christmas Day Luncheon from 12 noon
No charge. All children receive a free
gift. Please register by calling church
office on 8289 4784

St Lukes
35 Whitmore Square, Adelaide
Lunch on Christmas Day – all welcome
Call 8231 4149 or email
stlukes@internode.on.net

Community Christmas Lunch
South Adelaide Panthers Club,
Galloway Road, O'Sullivan Beach
Christmas Day Luncheon: 11am–2pm
Call 8202 5010 by 17 December

Gawler Community House
2 Scheibener Tce, Gawler
Sunday 25 December
Call 8522 4601 by Monday
19 December to book

Byron Place Community Centre
61–67 Byron Pl, Adelaide
Sunday 25 December
Christmas Brunch 10am–11.30am

Aldinga Community Centre
7 Steward Ave, Aldinga Beach
Sunday 25 December
Free 2 course lunch. Santa will be
bringing presents for the children
Email Mario at St Vinnies at
divermario@yahoo.com.au or
call Kylie Leffers on 8202 5010



Paul was considering a transfer to a nursing home when Paraplegic & Quadriplegic Association of South Australia (PQSA) brought to his attention the wheelchair accessible cluster homes that were being built in Brighton. Paul described how the move significantly changed his life. Living in a 24/7 supported cluster accommodation gives him the much-needed confidence, privacy and independence. At the same time, it also provides a sense of security that the carers are just a phone call away whenever he needs help.

Paul says that he loves where he lives as the house is beautiful, wheelchair accessible, Eco-friendly and designed with a low maintenance garden that he can easily look after.

Living in a cluster provided him with a small close-knit community where they can gather together with his neighbours and carers for BBQ's and small birthday celebrations. Having a spare bedroom also enables his family members to visit and stay overnight. He also feels safe knowing that the carers will always be around to look after his home and garden when he visits his family in Yorketown.

Paul is a man of multiple talents and varied interests. He is actively involved in the PQSA Recreation Program, he takes the train to meet friends, go to museums, the theatre or the Fringe. He loves all sports and watches his favourite SANFL team, the Bulldogs. School holidays are normally spent with nieces and nephews and other family members whom he adores. He spends the rest of his free time working on his computer, mouth painting, collecting sports memorabilia, and minding his massive egg shell collection.

Despite his ongoing challenges, Paul's ability to maintain a very positive outlook in life is truly remarkable.

Paul is a valued tenant of YourPlace Housing and we are delighted to support him to achieve a full and comfortable life.

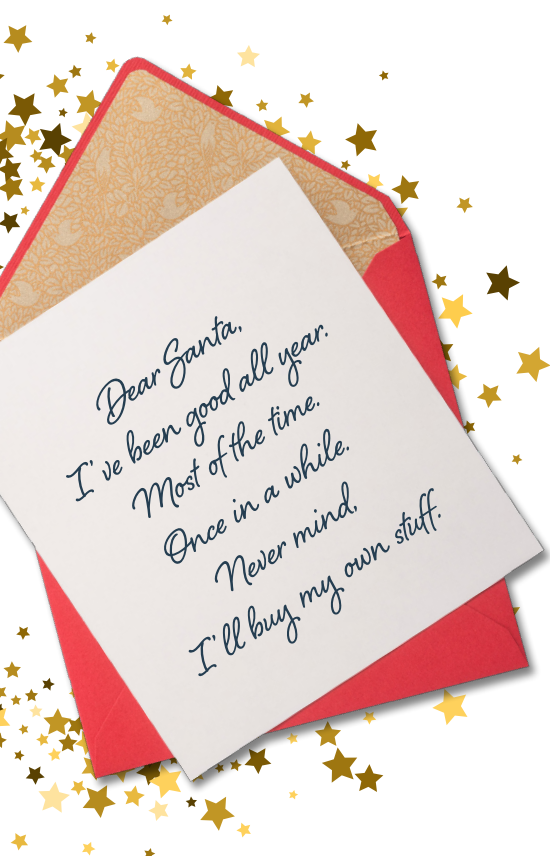
Meet the Unstoppable Paul

Paul has been living in one of our supported, cluster homes in the southern suburbs since 2004. Paul grew up in Yorketown, a small community in the Yorke Peninsula with a population of less than 1000.

Just like other teenagers in the 70's, Paul loved to hang out with friends and enjoy outdoor activities. At 17, Paul had a diving accident which resulted in a broken neck and left him quadriplegic for the rest of his life.

In true Australian Country spirit, the whole Yorketown community rallied together to help the family. Paul recalls how family, friends and local builders worked hard to raise funds and build their new family home to make life easier for him and his family.

Whilst he values his very close-knit family and supportive community, he did not want to be a burden to his ageing parents. In 2004 he decided that it was time to move out of the family home and become independent.



PQSA Recreation Program

PQSA runs Recreation Programs for persons who require a wheelchair for mobility.

Activities include trips to the Art Gallery, the Botanic Gardens, Adelaide Town Hall, Parliament House, Central Market, and Mosley Square as well as lunches and afternoon teas.

Interested applicants need to meet the eligibility criteria and must be willing to undergo a home assessment.

For further enquiries, please contact the PQSA Program Facilitator on 0411 759 415 or 8355 3500 or michaelo@pqsa.asn.au

Christmas Word Search

Find all 14 Christmas Words on the tree!



BELLS
STOCKINGS
WREATH
ELVES
SLED

CELEBRATE
EGGNOG
TREE
JOLLY
SANTA

MERRY
MISTLETOE
CHIMNEY
REINDEER

Dear Santa,
This year please give me
a big fat bank account
and a slim body.
Please don't mix those
two up like you did
last year - Thanks!

Home Renovations over Christmas

The Christmas/New Year break is a great time to undertake those small jobs around the house that you have put off during the year. Before making any Modifications to your Property you must:

1



ASK FIRST

Complete YourPlace's Property Modification Application Form. You can download a copy from our website or contact your Tenancy Officer on 8351 8466 for a copy.

2



GET APPROVAL

Obtain our written permission before you start any work.

3



PROVIDE INFORMATION

Name and contact details of any Contractors you intend to engage before they start any work.

Then you will be good to go!!!