



# PACIFIC LINK POST

YOUR TENANT NEWSLETTER

## GLENDALE DEVELOPMENT & CANTON BEACH

Construction on the new 21 units at Glendale (Lake Macquarie) is now well underway. The ground floor slabs for both buildings are now poured, and the first bricks and windows are being installed.

Over the next month the builders will complete the ground floor structures and then start work on the first floor slabs.

This is the first of the Communities Plus developments to be commenced in NSW, and will provide 11 additional affordable and social housing units for management by PLH. The project should be ready for occupation in early 2020.



The design of the Canton Beach New Generation Boarding House is almost complete, with the structural and engineering plans being finalised.

The builders have begun demolishing the redundant buildings on the site in preparation for the construction works to commence in May this year.

The development is undertaking in a partnership between Pacific Link Housing & Evolve Housing, and when complete will provide a further 30 self-contained units as social and affordable housing.



### IN THIS ISSUE

PAGE 1: NEWS & DEVELOPMENTS

PAGE 2-3: TENANT PROGRAMS

PAGE 3: TENANT PROGRAMS

PAGE 4: COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

PAGE 5-7 : NOTICEBOARD

PAGE 8: COMPETITIONS



# TENANT PROGRAMS

## WHAT'S ON OFFER

### SHEILA ASTOLFI EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

What a response we had this time round. The most we have had to date with over 30 applicants

The presentation was held in the Gosford Smart Work Hub, as the PLH boardroom was too small to accommodate the numbers attending.

Again it was great to see such a mix of diverse people. From the popular laptop packages for the kids who have to BYO Device to school, and many university / TAFE students studying Social Sciences, Community Services, Nursing, Paramedics, Graphic Design, to those individuals who are looking to start their own business in photography and /or studying a Business Certificate.

We are proud to say that we have given over **240 scholarships to tenants, to date.**

If you are in school and need a tablet, or need assistance with electives in high school, or you may be thinking about studying, let us help you.

**Apply in the next round of Scholarships, which opens in June 2019 here:**

<https://www.pacificlink.org.au/EDUCATION-SCHOLARSHIPS/>



*Scholarship Recipients Round 2, 2018*

### COPNOR AVE MEET & GREET

Tenants of Copnor Avenue, were the first to be invited to meet the Pacific Link's Executive Management Team for a Q&A session, followed by morning tea.

This is an initiative of the CEO, who's aim is to get to meet as many tenants as possible, and taking the senior management team along, so tenants get to meet the decision makers of the organisation.

Tenants discussed their thoughts on living in the unit complex and provided some great feedback for the team to take away.

Hopefully we will be coming out your way soon. So keep your eye on the mail box for your invitation.

# TENANT PROGRAMS

## WHAT'S ON OFFER

### NORTH GOSFORD COMMUNITY GARDEN - WORKING BEE

It was the first official working bee since the North Gosford community Garden was established at Dunbar Way.

The aim of the day was to introduce Wayne, who will be the gardens' volunteer caretaker from here forward. Wayne has a background in horticulture and a vast knowledge of all things green!

PLH staff along with Brendon Moore, Botanical Gardens Community Greening educator, Phil and maintenance crew from GRCC and several tenants, trimming plants, rearranging of garden beds, moving corn and planting new fruits and veggies.

Brendan and Wayne are wonderfully patient teachers, even for those of us without the green thumb! It was a great opportunity to network and learn more about the benefits of growing your own food, and how companion planting is a great way to introduce good bugs in to your garden crops.

The next session will be:

#### **How to Grow Worms**

*Thursday, 4th of April*

*10am - 2pm*

*North Gosford Community Garden*

*Dunbar Way*

*Kids & adults welcome, just turn up*



# COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

## & LOCAL EVENTS

### DEAN STREET FOOD PANTRY

This is a community outreach program run by Gosford Seventh Day Adventist church and is staffed by church and community volunteers.



#### Hours: 12:30 - 2pm on Thursdays

All you need to do is turn up and register. You will be given a number, and a seat in the cafe. You are welcome to a hot or cold drink and/or a snack, while you wait for your number to be called.

There is FREE items like fresh produce and bread, or Pantry food items + Free items for a \$10 (donation) and cold & frozen food items \$15 (donation).

### PARK RUN

Parkrun organise free, weekly, 5km timed runs around the world. They are open to everyone, free, and are safe and easy to take part in.

These events take place in pleasant parkland surroundings and we encourage people of every ability to take part; from walkers or those taking their first steps in running-we welcome you all.

If you're interested in signing up to run at an existing parkrun event, or you fancy starting an event where you live, click the buttons below to find out more <http://www.parkrun.com.au/>



### FUN FACTS



- There are more possible repetitions of a game of chess than there are atoms in the known universe
- The average person walks the equivalent of three times around the world in a lifetime
- You cannot snore and dream at the same time
- A hippo's wide open mouth is big enough to fit a 4-foot-tall child

# NOTICEBOARD

## & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### NSW GOVERNMENT IS HELPING YOUR COST OF LIVING

Did you know that you can now make **face to face** appointments at any Service NSW Centre, to help you reduce the cost of living?

There are over 40 rebates that you may be entitled to. You can meet with a specialist who will help you apply for these rebates and saving.

**Here's How:** To find out if appointments are available at your local Service NSW, visit the website at [service.nsw.gov.au](http://service.nsw.gov.au) or call 13 77 88 for further help on eligibility.



### CENTRELINK FIS SEMINARS

Centrelink is holding **FREE** seminars to help you understand your finances.

Do you want to know more about financial matters? Are close to retiring and want to know how to prepare, or have retired and want to understand your pension and the options you have.

You can email the FIS seminars booking team at least 3 days before the seminar [fis.seminar.bookings@humanservice.gov.au](mailto:fis.seminar.bookings@humanservice.gov.au)

#### Don't forget to include:

The title, date and location of the seminar you want to go to, and your phone number, or contact details, in case the seminar is cancelled.

You can also call the FIS seminar booking phone line and book over the phone - **136 357**.

### FINANCIAL HARDSHIP

Are you experiencing some hardship and need a hand?

There are services in the community that may be able to offer some assistance with;

- Food vouchers and food parcels
- EAPA vouchers for electricity & gas
- Telstra vouchers
- Chemist assistance
- Clothing and Financial options/support, and
- meals.

For further details contact your local Council or visit their websites.

Samaritans Outreach Centres **1300 656 336**.

St Vinnie's Family Assistance **1800 606 724**

NILS (No Interest Loans Scheme) up to \$1500 call **4032 3583**

# NOTICEBOARD

## & ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Residents are invited to join us for free, face-to-face support.**

Coast Community Connections and the Energy & Water Ombudsman NSW invite Central Coast residents to a free community event for help and support with energy bills, tenancy, financial and legal issues, outstanding fines and cancelled licences, free hearing tests, disability services, a giving space and much more.

### **Where**

Coast Community Connections,  
Peninsula Community Centre,  
93 McMasters Road, Woy Woy

### **When**

Thursday 11 April  
9.00am - 3.00pm

### **Don't forget to bring:**

- Current gas and electricity bills
- Past gas and electricity bills
- Letters from providers
- Pensioner or concession cards

## **RENT REVIEW TIME**

You will soon be receiving the 6 monthly rent review in the post.

You **DO NOT** have to return the form to PLH unless there are **ANY CHANGES** to your situation i.e. contact numbers, additional household members and/or additional income details.

Also, if you have given Pacific Link Housing authority to download your income details from Centrelink and there are no other changes, **DO NOT RETURN THE FORM.**

Please give us a call if you have any questions relating to this matter.

## **EXTRA RENT PAYMENTS**

Did you know you have the option to pay extra money towards your non-rent account?

By paying some extra money from as little as \$10 per fortnight, soon adds up to \$130 over 6 months. You could have a good part of your water bill paid for, or all of it in some cases.

Either way you're still ahead

For further information including payment plans and arrears enquiries, please contact Michelle B, PLH's Arrears Officer.

# NOTICEBOARD

## & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ABOUT THE NDIS

The NDIS will provide all Australians under the age of 65 who have a permanent and significant disability with the reasonable and necessary supports they need to enjoy an ordinary life.



The NDIS will help people with disability achieve their goals. This may include greater independence, community involvement, employment and improved well-being.

As an insurance scheme, the NDIS takes a lifetime approach, investing in people with disability early to improve their outcomes later in life.

To become an NDIS participant a person must:

- Have a permanent disability that significantly affects their ability to take part in everyday activities;

- Be aged less than 65 when they first enter the NDIS;

- Be an Australian citizen or hold a permanent visa or a Protected Special Category visa; and

- Live in Australia where the NDIS is available. **Can you still receive support if I do not meet the access requirements for the NDIS?**

The NDIS will connect people with disability, their families and carers, including people who are not NDIS participants, to disability and mainstream supports in their community.

To find out more about information, links and referrals to community and mainstream support services visit [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au) or call 1800 800 110.

### SMITH FAMILY SAVER PLUS

Could \$500 help you with education costs? Saver Plus will match your savings for education costs, dollar for dollar, up to \$500. Participants may be eligible to join Saver Plus if they:

Are 18 years or over

- \* Have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself
- \* Have regular income from paid employment (you or your partner)
- \* Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- \* Are in receipt of an eligible Commonwealth social security benefit, allowance or payment.



*everyone's family*

See if you're eligible, follow the link-

<https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/programs/financial/saver-plus>

# COMPETITIONS

## & ACTIVITIES

For a chance to win a family pass to the Sydney Royal Easter Show, children aged 0-13 are invited to design their own Easter Egg. Please return your egg design to Pacific Link in the enclosed reply paid envelope before Friday 12th of April 2019

