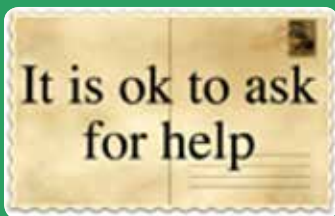


# AROUND THE HOUSE

## Stay Ahead With Your Rent This Christmas



*At this time of year tenants can get behind in their rent. It may even be because Christmas and school holidays are approaching. Unity doesn't want to see tenants experience undue stress – we're here to assist you. So if you are behind with your rent, make the call.*

*If you're having money troubles the most important thing to remember is to act early. Don't put it off.*

*Call your housing officer and discuss the options available to you*

## Planning on going away on holiday? Extended absence from home?



There are a few things you need to do to ensure your tenancy remains secure whilst you are away.

When a property is unoccupied for more than 6 weeks there are certain things that Unity need to make sure are in place. Unoccupied properties affect our property insurance and may affect your tenancy. We want to make sure that we provide you with as much information as possible

to ensure your tenancy remains in place whilst you are away and that your property is safe and secure.

If you are planning on being away from your property for longer than 6 weeks please contact your Housing Officer well ahead of time to make the necessary arrangements. Your Housing Officer will be able to tell you what you need to do based on your specific circumstances

### SAVE THE DATE – TENANT CHRISTMAS PARTY 2015

Unity's annual tenant Christmas party will be held on 16 December from 11.00 am to 3.00 pm. It's become our very own Christmas tradition and you're the guest of honour.

Bonython Park has proved to be a very popular location, so please join us there for a FREE BBQ, raffle prizes, games, music and a kids magic show.

If you would like to attend please RSVP by 1<sup>st</sup> December:-

For the Boarding House – call Lisa on 8232 5459

For Housing – call Lauren on 8287 8600



# World's Greatest Shave

*This year we had a team of brave shavers called the City Snippers! The four team members raised over \$250 for the Leukemia Foundation which provides support to people facing the challenges of blood cancer, as well as investing in vital research.*

Kingsley, a City Snippers member said "I was inspired (to be involved) by one of my colleagues at Meals on Wheels who actually had leukaemia and survived, as well as other friends who have had cancer over the years.

I also like to raise funds which help go towards the cure of all cancers."

We also fondly remember City Snippers team member, John O'Connor who has sadly since passed away. John was an eager participant who held a genuine concern for others and he is missed by many.



Thank  
You!

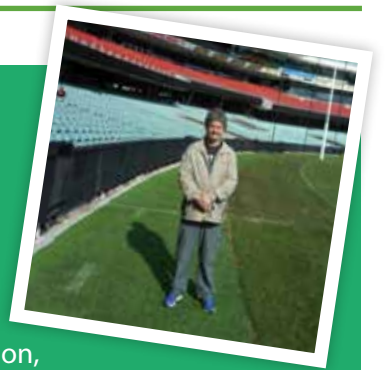
**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE  
WHO GENEROUSLY DONATED  
MONEY TO THE CITY SNIPPERS.**

# In Memory of John O'Connor

Tenants and staff were deeply saddened by the sudden and untimely death of John O'Connor. John was a friend of many within Unity focussing much of his time on the health and welfare of others.

We would also like to acknowledge the huge contribution John made to Around the House as both editor and writer.

## Adelaide Oval Tour



An eager group of footy and cricket fans set off from The Terrace en route to Adelaide's newly refurbished venue, Adelaide Oval. The group was treated to a 360 degree guided tour that kicked off with a viewing of a multimedia presentation, highlighting the tremendous antiquity and cultural significance of The Oval.

Stopping off at the training and locker rooms, the group made their way up the famous heritage listed scoreboard, a highpoint of the tour. Heading around to the Media Box where everyone was bowled over by the view, the tour guide continued to point out significant facts and information along the way. The group would like to extend a big thank you to Andrew Ainger from SANFL for handballing the tour tickets our way.



# Mosaic Group

A Mosaic Group is currently meeting in the Marion area every Tuesday between 11.30 am and 1.00 pm and tenants are busy creating a mosaic table to use under the pergola for summer BBQ's. Work is well underway and the table will be completed and ready for use during the beautiful spring and summer months ahead.

Tenants also grow herbs, fruit and vegetables together. They love the joint effort and are reaping the results. Just recently the Department of Communities and Social Inclusion's Community Benefit SA grant programme funded the installation of an outdoor kitchen so the tenants can cook together as well.



## Ever considered buying your own home?

Just because you're on low income, doesn't mean that home ownership is out of reach. Many South Australians, from single parents to retirees, from Centrelink recipients to Housing SA tenants, have bought a home of their own through talking to Homestart and with careful management of their budget

If you are interested in learning more about the types of loan packages offered by HomeStart call 1300 636 878 or visit [www.homestart.com.au](http://www.homestart.com.au)



# Smoke Alarm Solutions

Unity is happy to announce that we have appointed a new contractor, Smoke Alarm Solutions, to manage our smoke alarm servicing.

Smoke Alarm Solutions will ensure they provide quality customer service and will contact you within the next 12 months to arrange an appointment to check, test and service your smoke alarms.

Please continue to contact your Housing Officer if you have any issues with your smoke alarm such as constant beeping or if the alarm does not appear to be working. Your Housing Officer will arrange for a technician to visit.



**Smoke Alarm Solutions**  
PROTECTING AUSTRALIANS



The City of Playford provides a number of programs and services for older people at various locations in the area. Should you wish to become involved or just find out more about these programs, please contact The City of Playford Council on 8256 0333.

The Grenville Community Connects Hub has a range of services and events for people of all ages and is situated at 8 Playford Boulevard, Elizabeth. Please telephone 8256 0377 for a copy of the Weekly Timetable.

*"The Hub is a vibrant and welcoming centre bringing people together in the spirit of friendship and shared interests"*

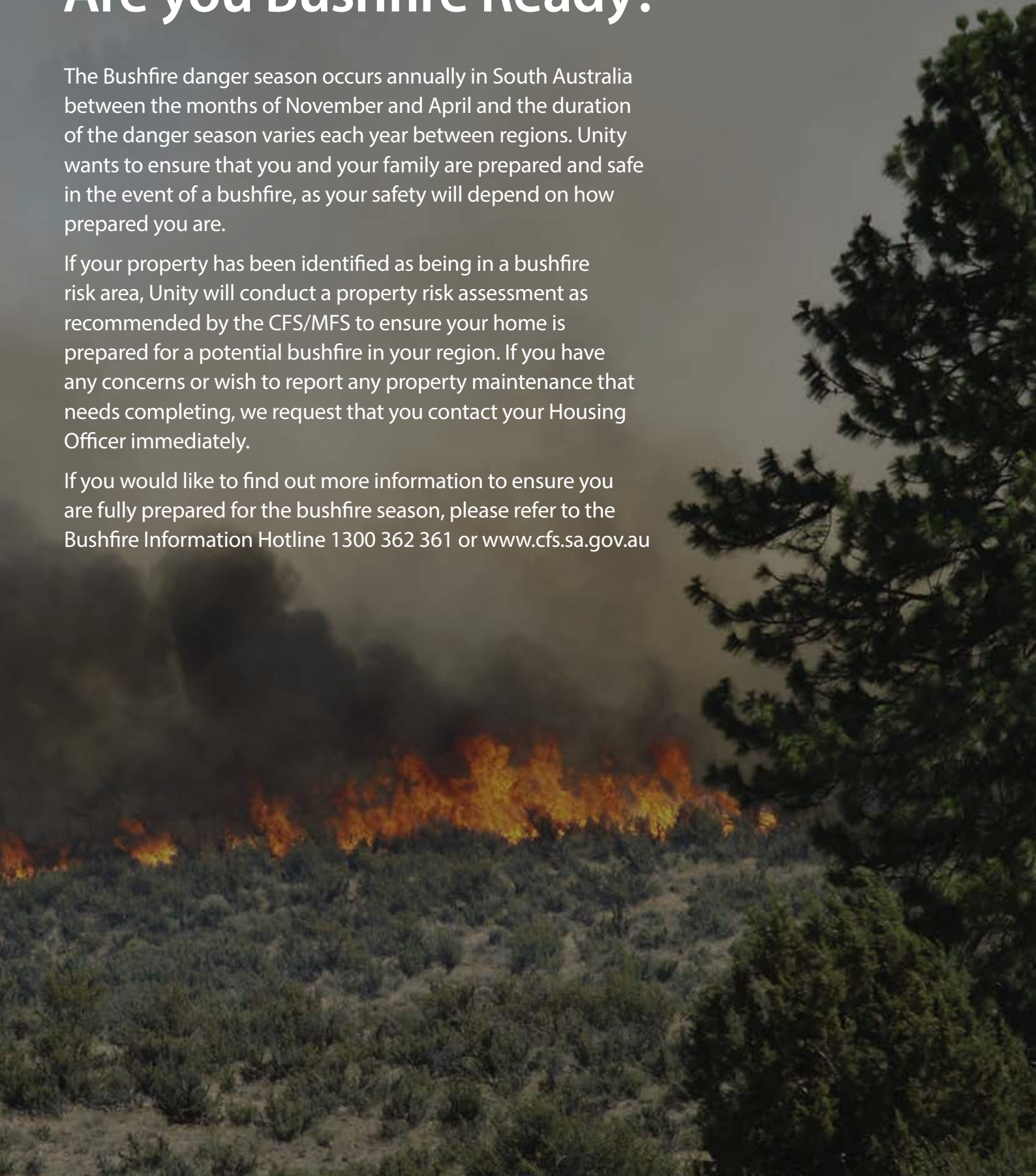


# Are you Bushfire Ready?

The Bushfire danger season occurs annually in South Australia between the months of November and April and the duration of the danger season varies each year between regions. Unity wants to ensure that you and your family are prepared and safe in the event of a bushfire, as your safety will depend on how prepared you are.

If your property has been identified as being in a bushfire risk area, Unity will conduct a property risk assessment as recommended by the CFS/MFS to ensure your home is prepared for a potential bushfire in your region. If you have any concerns or wish to report any property maintenance that needs completing, we request that you contact your Housing Officer immediately.

If you would like to find out more information to ensure you are fully prepared for the bushfire season, please refer to the Bushfire Information Hotline 1300 362 361 or [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au)



## Some useful Questions and Answers

### Letters to the Editor Aged Care Services

Dear Editor,

**Q. How can I find someone to help me at home? I have just turned 70 and am struggling to cope with the regular household chores such as cooking, cleaning and laundry. I am scared that I will not be able to cope in my own home for much longer.**

*By Don Morrison*

A. There are many different services that may support you to stay in your own home. These services may include help with housework, bathing and dressing, meals and food preparation and transport. Also assistance may be required with maintenance and modifications to the home and equipment to help you get around, like a walking frame.

To help you find the right service call the My Aged Care contact centre on 1800 200 422. When you call, the contact centre staff will ask you a range of questions over the phone to help them form a picture of your needs and care arrangements. The home care assessment team may arrange for a visit in your own home for an assessment by a trained assessor. The contact centre staff or your assessor will then refer you to aged care services.

The Australian Government subsidises a range of aged care services in Australia. If your personal circumstances allow, it is expected that you will contribute to the costs of your care if you can afford to do so.

**To read more about My Aged Care visit the website - <http://www.myagedcare.gov.au/>**



## Cost of Living Concession

Dear Editor,

**Q. I recently heard of the news something about a concession to help with the cost of living. I have never received a concession payment before and I would like some information about the payment and how often it will be paid? By Jack Dean**

A. More than 200,000 eligible South Australian households can now apply for the State Government's new cost of living concession up to \$200. The concession replaces the Federal Government's defunct council rate rebate. Tenants will need to apply for the concession which will be paid annually by cheque.

**Q. I am a tenant renting a property through Unity Housing. Do the new rules mean that I will be able to apply for a concession?**

A. The cost of living concession has now been expanded to include tenants and self-funded retirees with a federal health care card.

**Q. Can you tell me what I have to do to apply?**

A. Applications can be made by calling the Concessions Hotline on 1800 307 758

**Or visit the website on: [www.sa.gov.au/concessions/costofliving](http://www.sa.gov.au/concessions/costofliving)**



## South Project Update

There is still time to become involved in the project to help make a change in your local area. Is there something you would like to see happening in your neighbourhood? Mel from the South Project would love to chat with you about your ideas. So if you live in the City of Marion, City of West Torrens or the City of Holdfast Bay, give her a call on 8198 1666.

### Coming Activities

#### The Big Dish Up: Cooking in bulk!

- Six cooking sessions
- Take home meals
- Free crèche

Would you like meal ideas and more free time to do the things you enjoy? Would you like to meet new people? Come along to the Big Dish Up where we will have fun cooking meals together for you to take home and enjoy over the week.

**When:** Begins Friday October 30<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 11am to 1pm

**Where:** Side Gate Café, 887 Marion Rd, Marion

**Cost:** Free



### CPR Training

By popular demand, we are running another first aid training in CPR. Provided by Safe Place Training, participants will receive a statement of attainment for HLTAID001 Perform Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.

**When:** Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November

**Time:** 12:30pm to 3pm

**Where:** Mitchell Park Sports Club, Function Room.

**Cost:** Free, refreshments and lunch provided

### Local Community Services Tour

**When:** Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November

**Time:** Meet at Marion Sports Club at 10:50am.

**Cost:** Free

Come along and meet new people on an informative tour of the City of Marion's local community facilities, including a guided tour of the brand new Cove Civic Centre. The tour will take in some of the other highlights of the local area including, MarionLIFE Community Centre, Mitchell Park Neighbourhood Centre, and the Marion Aquatic Centre. We will be travelling by minibus to each location. Places will fill up fast so book early.



#### CENTRAL

Opening hours  
Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm

81 Osmond Terrace,  
Norwood 5067

Phone: (08) 8237 8777

Fax: (08) 8237 8700

admin@unityhousing.org.au

Emergency after hours  
maintenance: 8237 8799

#### SOUTH

Opening hours  
Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm

1/506 Brighton Road,  
Brighton 5048

Phone: (08) 8198 1666

Fax: (08) 8296 7705

south@unityhousing.org.au

Emergency after hours  
maintenance: 8237 8799

#### NORTH

Opening hours  
Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm

179B Philip Hwy,  
Elizabeth South 5112

PO Box 1195

Elizabeth Vale 5112

Phone: (08) 8287 8600

Fax: (08) 8287 6155

north@unityhousing.org.au

Emergency after hours  
maintenance: 8237 8799

#### PORT AUGUSTA

Opening hours  
Mon and Thurs  
by appointment only

36 Stirling Road,  
Port Augusta SA 5700

PO Box 322,  
Port Augusta SA 5700

Phone: (08) 8642 6412

l.edwards@unityhousing.org.au

#### THE TERRACE

##### BOARDING HOUSE

Opening hours  
Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm

South Terrace,  
Adelaide 5000

Phone: (08) 8232 5459

Fax: (08) 8232 4582

theterrace@unityhousing.org.au