

UNITY *tenants*

Infamous Painter weds – Congratulations Peter Jungle and Kylie Philips

On Saturday 18th April 2009, South's tenant Peter "Jungle" Philips married his long time girlfriend/fiancé Kylie on a perfect sunny day in the lovely Tusmore Park under a beautiful old gum tree. A few of the Southern Office staff were fortunate enough to attend and enjoy the picturesque wedding and then a fun and scrumptious dinner.

Some people may have seen Jungle's paintings on his fence on Marion Road, or his articles that have featured in the *Adelaide Messenger*, or a documentary that covered disabled artists. There were lots of people that flew in from interstate from the "Art World" because of his contacts in Sydney and Melbourne through his art being displayed and sold interstate. Congratulations and best wishes Kylie and Peter on your future together.

Alison John – a Phoenix Employee of the year!

Unity Housing would love to congratulate Alison John, another tenant that not only received the prestigious award of Employee of the Year from Phoenix, but also received her 25 years of Service Award. It was quite a night for the shy Alison who didn't want to go to the event to get her 25 years of Service Award but found the courage to go and then get a very big surprise when she got another unexpected Award.

Congratulations Alison, we are proud to have such a good worker as one of our tenants (Photo unavailable at time of print - will feature in next TAG Newsletter). Keep up the good work Alison!!!!

Go-Get Car Scheme

Unity residents will be interested to know of a new car sharing scheme that has commenced in the Adelaide City South area. Car share is ideal if you use a car on an occasional basis. It gives you access to a network of new cars parked nearby and as member you will have all the benefits of a car without the hassles of owning one.

If walking, cycling and public transport are your primary modes of travel, there are still some times you may need access to a car...so why not join this 'pay as you go' service. You can drive a new car such as a Toyota Yaris for low membership costs, kilometre and hourly rates with no maintenance! More details are available at www.GoGet.com.au

The car sharing service is a joint initiative of Urban Ecology Australia (UEA) and GoGet Car Share - A Sydney based company with around 150 cars in the CBD and fringe areas of Sydney and Melbourne.

Commercial car sharing has been operating successfully in Europe and North America for over 30 years. It has boomed in the last 10 years and with the advent of web-based booking and management in conjunction with user-friendly 'smart card' technology.

Call Norm Rohde on 04047 613 009, or email urbanec@urbanecology.org.au for more information.

UNITY TAG newsletter

2nd Edition

July 2009

LOGAN STREET



Unity Housing Company opened the Logan Street Affordable Housing Project in April 2009. This project has delivered 16 units for long term affordable rental to low income people in the City Of Adelaide.

The project brought together partners in the commercial, financial and philanthropic fields as well as Local, State and Commonwealth Governments. The Adelaide Bank Charitable Foundation contributed substantial funding to the project, whilst Unity contributed approximately 40% of the total project cost of \$4.06m. The business model applied to this development will contribute to the financing and development of similar housing projects by Unity in the future.

The chronic undersupply of affordable housing to those on lower incomes in our community is a challenge to us all and this project is indicative of our capacity as a community to respond effectively.

This development, located in the heart of the city, is also about community building. The diverse tenant population will help contribute to the maintenance of a robust, socially inclusive and sustainable local community.

The success of the Logan Street project is reflected in the level of participation of tenants in the local community, the high level of satisfaction expressed by the tenants and the ongoing financial viability of the site.

NEWS & VIEWS

Do you have any stories, ideas or opinions you'd like to share with other readers?

Please call Jayne on 8237 8779 or mail your stories to TAG Newsletter, 213 Gouger St. Adelaide SA 5000

As part of my social work degree, I am fortunate to be conducting a research project in partnership with Unity Housing. The project aims to explore the impact that housing has on young people's pathways through childhood and into adulthood. I have been meeting with young people aged 18-25 and asking them to talk about the importance of where they lived when they were at high school. Early results show that quality housing makes a big difference to building strong families, and also helps as a foundation for better schooling. Young people are going through a lot of uncertain changes in their lives, but feeling good about where you live and feeling like you belong to a community seems to help young people move more confidently into adulthood. I look forward to sharing the final findings when the project is completed in late October, and I thank Unity Housing for their tremendous support and interest in the study.

Paula Rowe

STAFF welcome... *update*



Adrianna Burnes-Nguyen

My name is Adrianna and I started working for Unity on 20th April as a newly appointed Housing Manager for the new 'inner suburbs' portfolio. Prior to this I was in a similar role as a Community Tenancy Officer at The Women's Housing Association. So far I have really enjoyed working at Unity

and actually look forward to coming into work everyday (I'm waiting for that to wear off!). Despite being the youngest member of the team, I get along with everybody and find it's a unique but fun mix of people to work with. In my spare time I enjoy seeing my friends and family, watching movies and listening to music. I love to cook and try new recipes from Italian to Asian inspired dishes. My last travel destination was Vietnam, where I've visited three times, including living there for a year when I was younger, and being half Vietnamese has helped me to pick up on the basics of the language, I'd recommend a trip to anyone!

Terry Herne – Administrative Officer, Boarding Houses

I commenced with MACHA in 2002 as a Boarding House Worker just around the time MACHA took over the management of The Afton. After 6.5 years of working rotating shifts at the Boarding Houses I was appointed to the newly created role of Administrative Officer with Unity Housing and am now enjoying working Monday to Friday - no more weekends and nights for me!

In my current position I am responsible for managing rent payments for the 160 tenants living in Unity boarding houses in the city and for maintaining all the necessary computer registers associated with keeping our records.

On another note, I enjoy walking for enjoyment and exercise and watching sport when I am not at work. My favourite football team is the Adelaide Crows...GO THE CROWS!

I love all food including Chinese food and pizza as long as there are no furry little anchovies or oysters...capers and jalapenos are out too.

farewell...

Unity Support Team

The Unity Support Team – comprising HACC Home Support, Boarding House Outreach and Complex Needs – have recently farewelled a valued colleague and are about to say goodbye to another.

Nicol Chumak, one of our Complex Needs workers, was successful in obtaining a permanent position with the Commonwealth Rehabilitation Services at Port Augusta and left Unity on 24th June. Typically Nicol brought her own cake to the farewell bash and even gave us a present – look for the Aboriginal artwork soon to be hung in the reception area of the city office! We will miss Nicol but wish her all the best for the future.

Kathleen Cooper has also been successful in obtaining a permanent position with Housing SA and will be leaving Unity on 8th July. Kathleen has been working with the Boarding House Outreach Team in her most recent employment with Unity but has also worked with the HACC Home Support Team. Although happy at Unity, Kathleen was keen to stretch her professional wings and hopes to eventually find her way into a policy role in government. Kathleen will also be missed but we wish her every success in her new position

David Norman – Boarding House Worker

David was recently featured in a Messenger press article about a memorial service for people who died whilst homeless.

The service is an annual event, held this year at St Stephens Lutheran Church on Wakefield Street.

Those who attended the service were privileged to hear David speak about his experiences living on the streets after a number of life circumstances lead him to lose everything, including hope.

After three years of homelessness David became determined to rebuild his life.

He began by selling the *Big Issue* to generate a little income and found accommodation through Byron Place.

David credits the support and encouragement of people from a number of agencies for helping him to make the changes in his life that now see him as a valued member of the Homelessness SA Board and of the Unity Boarding House team.