

# AROUND THE HOUSE

SUMMER 2020 EDITION 19



## Congratulations to our Christmas card artwork competition winner

Millicent tenant, Mandy, is the winner of our Christmas card artwork competition with her bright and eye-catching artwork 'Wishing for Peace'. Read about what inspired Mandy's piece and see who the runners up are on page 3.



Please find your Christmas card included with this edition.

## Successful SALA Festival wraps up

Congratulations to the talented artists who participated in Unity Housing's 2020 online SALA Festival exhibition 'Stronger Than Ever' which, this year, was showcased in an online gallery instead of a walk-in venue due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Our virtual gallery featured creative work by 11 tenant and staff artists living in Adelaide, Bordertown and Port Lincoln, who all received a Certificate of Appreciation for their participation.



Tenants Trevor and Allan and staff Debra and Andrea at a thank you morning tea held on 15 October at Port Adelaide.

The exhibition was open for 60 days, accessible for viewing 24/7, and received 750 individual views.

We've been blown away by the incredible standard of creativity shown in this exceptional collection of artworks which also highlights resilience and strength of all participating artists.

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### We thank you all:

- Allan G
- Andrea B
- Annette C
- D.M
- Debra R
- Jody B
- Justine S
- Olive L
- Tomi T
- Trajan J
- Trevor S





## From the EDITOR'S DESK

Welcome to the Christmas edition of Around the House. Our favourite time of the year has arrived and we are greeted with the lovely Christmas card from Mandy, who won the Christmas card artwork competition. Knowing her sincere thoughts and wishes, which led to her creation, makes it even more meaningful.

Congratulations also goes to runners up D.M. and Hailey for their warm-hearted expressions for their Christmas wishes.

The ingenious new form for the SALA Festival showed extraordinary talent from the participating artists. Well done! I just love the paintings.

Take to heart the budget-saving suggestions for your Christmas food and present shopping before your outgoings exceed your income. Handmade gifts are great favourites. Last year I made all my gifts in a wood turner course (\$5 per session). Candle holders, bowls, tools, chopping boards, plates and more were well-received. It is a bit late for this year but keep it in mind for the future. However, spending quality time together and being there for each other is always highly appreciated. And not to forget – have a great experience in nature.

Wishing you a very special Christmas 2020.

Thank you,  
**Giselle**

**Please send your contributions to  
editor@unityhousing.org.au**

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# Exhibition's new format strikes a chord with viewers

A comment section was available at the end of the online gallery for viewers to leave their feedback. Here are some of the comments viewers left:

*"This is a fabulous initiative by Unity Housing. Connecting talented people to this collaborative art exhibition is a fantastic way of celebrating 'Stronger Than Ever'."*



Olive L

*"This is a brilliant exhibition. Congratulations to the talented and creative artists."*



Tomi T



Debra R



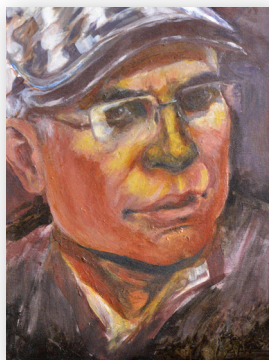
Trevor S



Justine



D.M

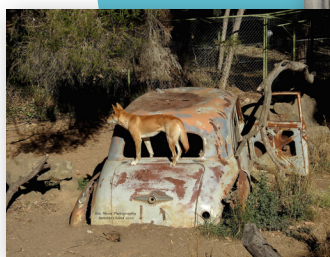


Allan G

*"Some talented artists and a great variety of mediums in this exhibition."*



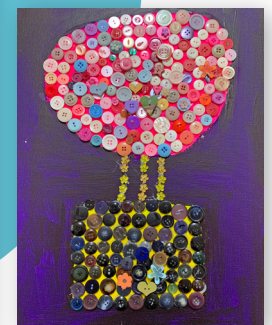
Trajan J



Annette C



Andrea B



Jody B



## Meet our christmas card artwork competition winner



We interviewed our tenant Mandy about her winning piece which features on the front of our 2020 Christmas card.

# INTERVIEW

- » **Tell us about the piece you created – what was your inspiration and how did it come about?** The theme for the competition was 'My Christmas Wish'. My theme is peace and is symbolised by the candles. When you blow candles out you make a wish. Looking at candles is calming and peaceful.
- » **What is your background with art?** I have drawn and painted since I was young. My first exhibition was in the Southern Ocean Art Show in Robe more than 10 years ago.
- » **Are you self-taught?** Yes. I've never had any training.
- » **What is your favourite medium?** I like to use acrylics but I do like to dabble in everything at times and mix all the mediums.

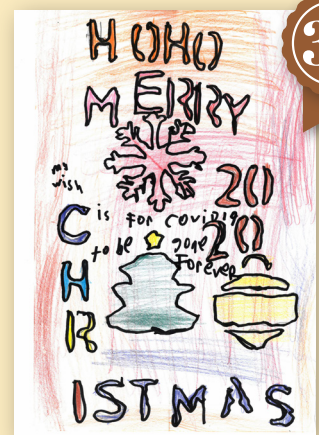
- » **What do you enjoy creating and why?** I can't stop at just one thing. I also create with shells, clay and wire to vary it up a bit. Art is calming and is a good way of expressing myself, my opinions and thoughts.
- » **What is your background/where were you born?** I was born in Glenelg, SA. I grew up in Karratha, WA.
- » **How did you become a tenant with Unity Housing?** I came over to Unity Housing with the stock transfer properties from Housing SA. I have been living in Millicent for about six years. I was offered a house while I was living in Kingston SE.
- » **What do you enjoy doing in your spare time/ what are your hobbies?** I love beachcombing to collect shells for my sculptures. I also enjoy 10-pin bowling, catching up with friends and seeing movies at the cinema.

## Congratulations

to our tenants D.M and Hailey for placing second and third respectively.



2<sup>ND</sup>



3<sup>RD</sup>

# Christmas on a budget

## Six tips for making your Christmas affordable and enjoyable



Christmas gift-giving can be a drain, both on your mental health and your wallet. So we have put together a list of ideas to help you celebrate Christmas within your limits.

2020 is rolling to a close and that means the Christmas holiday season is upon us.

Christmas shopping doesn't have to be a budget-buster; there are plenty of ways you can cut back on holiday expenses, shaving off a few dollars or even eliminating them entirely.

- 1 Set a budget** – To avoid overspending, decide how much you can afford to spend on Christmas and then make a list of all your Christmas expenses, including presents, travel, food and decorations. Then, decide a dollar amount to each item.
- 2 Draw names** – Instead of buying each person a present, draw one name and set a price limit, such as \$30. That's enough to buy a substantial gift without ruining your holiday budget. This is perfect for big families, where gift-giving can get pricey once partners and children come into the mix. Some families even decide to skip presents for adults and only buy gifts for the kids.
- 3 Homemade Gifts** – Consider making a handmade gift or purchase a handmade gift. This is a brilliant money saver and can help you cut costs significantly. Ideas include homemade jams, Christmas cookies, soap and candles.
- 4 Start early** and buy a few food and table items each week towards your Christmas lunch or dinner and freeze or store them. You can start weeks, even months, in advance.
- 5 Shop in the sales all year around** – Spread your bargain hunting and spending throughout the year to afford more, looking at sale bargains as a cheaper way to buy many of your Christmas gifts.
- 6 Give the gift of time** – Could you arrange with your family to give the gift of time? Maybe you are good at DIY, sewing, cleaning, baking or walking/washing someone's dog. Could you offer an hour of your time to help a family member, especially an elderly one? Or simply spending quality time doing an activity you both enjoy. This could potentially save hundreds of dollars and everyone gets to spend time together.

## Tenant Satisfaction Survey results COMING SOON

Results of our 2020 Tenant Satisfaction Survey are being collated and will be published in the first edition of Around the House in 2021.

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