

WHC's new Empowerment Program



In September, we commenced the George and Jaqui Maree Fellowship, a program designed to support women looking to embrace the next chapter of their lives in understanding what they want and how to achieve it. It incorporates sessions with leadership and communication coaches, improving relationships with money, 1-2-1 life coaching, and even understanding how food impacts your mood. The holistic touch points are designed to support women in all areas of their lives. This program was by application only, and the 12 women participating exemplified their want to improve their financial circumstances through steps towards work and, for some, self-development to support their existing business or work endeavours. The program is underway and finishes in late November.

The Fellowship is thanks to new friends of WHC, George and Jaqui Maree Stamas. We launched the event in August at Parramatta with a sit-down lunch and our classic self-care activities, with each woman leaving with an outfit thanks to Jaqui Maree.



You're invited!

You are invited to the Women's Housing Company 2025 Annual General Meeting to be held on Friday, 28th of November 2025 at a new venue, **The Redfern Town Hall**.

Join our tenants, the WHC Board and team, along with our valued partners and collaborators, as we celebrate the achievements of 2025 and look ahead to an exciting year to come.

We hope you'll join us for this memorable occasion.

RSVP by calling Frankie on 0417488829.

NEWSLETTER Spring 2025

WHC closure period

The WHC will be closed on Wednesday, 25 December 2025, and will reopen on Monday, 5 January 2026. For emergency repairs, call 1300 556 057.

You can call LIFELINE to reach out for support if you feel lonely, isolated or need help. They are available 24/7, 7 days a week – call 13 11 14

CEO message



CEO, Nada Nasser being fitted in a Sari by staff member Indrani at the recent celebration of Diwali

It is with great pleasure that I welcome our new tenants to their new homes at Airds and Merrylands. These brand-new properties represent more than just bricks and mortar, they are the foundation for new beginnings, community, and opportunity. We understand that moving can be both exciting and challenging, and our dedicated team is here to support you every step of the way.

I was thrilled to attend the newly reinvigorated Tenant Advisory Group and connect with such a wonderful and passionate women members. Your feedback and participation will help shape the way we work with our tenants and the programs we deliver to ensure we continue to meet the needs of our tenants and clients.

I encourage you to get involved in our upcoming events, connect with your neighbours, and make the most of the services and empowerment programs available to you.

With spring well and truly in the air, I hope you make time to get out into your community gardens to tend to them and enjoy what they have to offer.

Warm regards,
Nada Nasser
CEO, Women's Housing Company

Ideas for connection during the festive period

If this year you find yourself without your usual company during the festive period, please know you're not alone. It's a time full of expectation, and it can also bring up feelings of loneliness. But it doesn't have to be that way. For instance, the 25th can be one of connection, kindness, and small moments of comfort.

Here are a few things you might try:

- Reach out to a neighbour, friend, or someone in this community and invite them to join you for a simple meal or a cup of coffee.
- Bring along or treat yourself to something you enjoy, such as a favourite dish, a good book, or a gentle walk.
- Consider joining one of the public community events happening in Sydney (some are below) — you might be surprised how many others are looking for the same friendly company.
- Above all: be kind to yourself. It's OK to feel whatever you're feeling. Take things at your own pace.

We will text a link to what is available this year in early December. If you don't have access to this, please call Frankie 0417488829.

What we have been up to



Above: Welcome afternoon tea to the new members of WHC in Airds. Below: A trip to Bondi's Sculpture by the Sea.

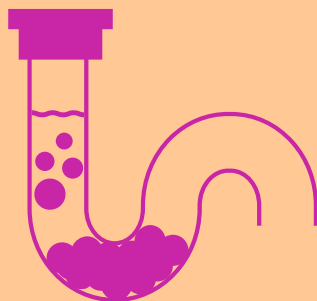


Keep It Flowing

Avoid Blocked Sinks

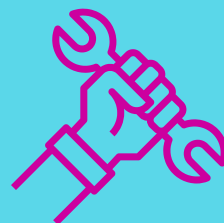
Please be mindful of what goes down your sink. Cooking oils, food scraps, coffee grounds, and wipes can cause blockages that lead to unpleasant smells, leaks, or plumbing issues. Even small amounts of grease or food can build up over time and block pipes.

Use sink strainers to catch food particles and empty them into the bin. Wipe greasy pans with a paper towel before washing, and never pour oil, fat, or chemicals down the drain as they can damage pipes and harm the environment.



If you notice slow-draining water or unusual smells, let Repairs know early so it can be checked before it becomes a bigger issue. Call 92811764.

Report Repairs



As we head towards the holiday period, we'd like to remind all tenants to report repairs and maintenance as soon as you notice an issue. Please don't wait until it becomes urgent or a safety hazard.

Reporting early helps us keep your home safe and comfortable and ensures repairs can be completed before the busy holiday period.

If you're unsure whether something needs attention, it's always best to let us know. Our team is here to help.

Call 9281 1764.

Tenant Advisory Group Updates

We're excited to share that the Women's Housing Company has reinvigorated our TAG, bringing together a wonderful group of women passionate about sharing their ideas and experiences.

In October, we held our first meeting with the new members. Many spoke about how WHC's stable, income-based housing has provided safety after difficult times and how they now want to give back to their community. Our CEO, Nada Nasser, provided an overview of her role, WHC's vision and five-year strategy, tenant engagement updates, and details about the upcoming Annual General Meeting. Members also shared some great ideas for future initiatives, including:

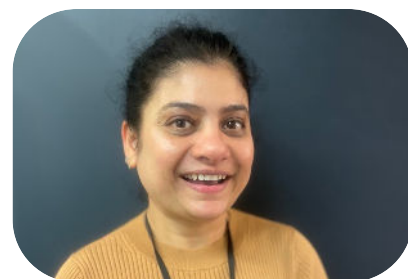
- Intergenerational programs
- Support for women transitioning to private housing
- Increased engagement in the Northern Beaches
- Exploring solar panels across WHC properties

We're pleased to share that Susan was unanimously elected as Chair and Shaymaa as Secretary. Members also requested that WHC promote the Head Start Homes program, which supports women interested in pathways to home ownership.

It was a fantastic first meeting filled with collaboration, insight, and enthusiasm. We look forward to working closely with our TAG members, both in and outside of meetings, to ensure tenants' voices continue to shape the future of WHC.

If you would like to add anything to the agenda for the team to discuss, email community@womenshousingcompany.org

Do you want to work, study or volunteer?



Purposeful Pathways was on a break but is back up and running! We welcome Arpita Swami, who, with a passion for supporting women into work or study and years of experience, is ready to help you find their purpose. If you are interested in having a conversation or simply want to update your resume with support, get in touch with Arpita on 0407 382 681.

Upcoming Events and Activities



We welcome you to our upcoming events. Dates can change so we encourage you to always talk to Frankie first.

You can call Frankie on 0417488829.

November

- 19th Walking Photography Workshop** 10am – 1pm, Parramatta Park
- 25th No More Empty Shoes** (*Lou's Place event*) 12pm, Martin Place
- 28th End of Year Celebration** 11am - 2pm, Redfern Town Hall

December

- 1st 16 Days of Activism Forum** 10:30am – 2pm, The Holyrod Centre, Merrylands
- 3rd Parramatta Coffee Connect** 10:30am – 12pm, Café Lelunar Westfield Parramatta
- 8th Gift making workshop** 10:30am – 1:30pm, 174 Dowling St, Woolloomooloo
- 9th Self Defence Workshop** (*16 Days of Activism*) 11am - 1pm, Surry Hills
- 10th Laughing Yoga** 1 - 2pm, Parramatta Library
- 22nd Kids Gift Making Workshop** 10:30am -1:30pm, Harris Park Community Centre

Reconnecting with You Have Your Say

Over the past year, the Women's Housing Company has delivered almost 50 events across Sydney including digital literacy workshops, employment support sessions, art programs, gardening activities, and social outings. These opportunities have helped women build skills, confidence, and community connection.

Recently, we have noticed a drop-off in engagement, and we want to understand what matters most to you. That is why we have relaunched our "Have Your Say"



events to give tenants the chance to share ideas, feedback, and suggestions about the types of activities and programs you would like to see in your community.

Your voice helps shape what we do next. To find out more or get involved, please contact Frankie at 0417488829.

Business Hours: 9.00am – 4.30pm Monday – Friday (Wednesdays 1.30-4.30pm)

Customer Service: Phone: 02 92811764 Email: contact@womenshousingcompany.org

Repairs and Maintenance: Phone: 02 8202 9313 Email: repairs@womenshousingcompany.org

Website Form: <http://www.womenshousingcompany.org.au/tenants/maintenance> After Hours Emergency Repairs: 1300 556 057

Translations and Interpreter: 131 450