

The

# ARGYLER

Client Newsletter | Spring 2024



*Created by Clients,  
for Clients*

**AH** Argyle Housing

# Acknowledgement of country

Argyle Housing acknowledges the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

## Environment

Argyle Housing cares about the environment and is committed to a sustainable environment and follows a comprehensive environmental protocol. The Argyle is printed on FSR® certified paper traceable to certified sources. We use a new varnish coating process that is environmentally-friendly. We use soy-based inks with low VOC and recycle all unused ink. We recycle all scrap paper.



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### Argyle Housing

Gundungurra Country

32-36 Wingecarribee Street  
Bowral, NSW 2576

P.O. Box 1026, Bowral NSW 2576

**1300 274 953**

**[www.argylehousing.com.au](http://www.argylehousing.com.au)**  
**[info@argylehousing.com.au](mailto:info@argylehousing.com.au)**

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The Argyle is a newsletter created by Clients, for Clients.

We welcome and encourage contributions and feedback from all – to get in touch simply email:  
[editor@argylehousing.com.au](mailto:editor@argylehousing.com.au)

Connect with us



# CEO Welcome

## Welcome to our Spring Edition of The Argyle.

It has continued to be a very busy few months, as you will see by the many events shared in this edition. Thank you to the clients that attended our 40th Anniversary celebrations with a very special thanks to those who have participated in our photo and video exhibition in celebration of our 40th year. Thank you for sharing your story with us and allowing us to share your story with so many others.

We have reached an important milestone in the delivery of the Tolland Renewal Project with the management transfer of the clients in Tolland, Wagga Wagga. To these individuals and families we would like to welcome you to Argyle Housing and thank you so much for working so closely with us and the DCJ/ Homes NSW teams over many months to plan and prepare for this transfer. We hope that your experience with Argyle Housing is a really positive one and we look forward to continuing to work together on the renewal of your community.

I am thrilled that we have finally completed the 20 townhouse development at Griffith, it was such a joy to handover the keys to our first few clients who now get to call this place home. Within the next few months another four will be completed in Griffith and the placemaking project at Dave Taylor Park and the Community Hub will also be completed. I am looking forward to sharing with everyone in the next edition the completed project.

Finally thank you to everyone who has contributed to this great edition of The Argyle. This is a Client Led publication and we welcome contributions from all our Clients, whether it is a story to share, tips and tricks, community events or celebrations.

This is your publication so we would love to hear from you.

Stay well,

**Carolyn Doherty**  
Chief Executive Officer



**Carolyn Doherty**  
CEO - Argyle Housing

“

**I am thrilled that we have finally completed the 20 townhouse development at Griffith, it was such a joy to handover the keys to our first few clients who now get to call this place home.**

”

# Editorial

Dear Argyle Housing Clients,

## What an incredible few months it has been for all of us at Argyle Housing!

We recently gathered together at the Mittagong RSL Club to celebrate an important milestone—our 40th Anniversary. This special occasion truly reflects our dedication to providing sustainable and inclusive housing solutions over the years. The atmosphere was alive with joy and camaraderie, filled with heartfelt stories from our clients that showcased the meaningful impact we've made in our community. Be sure to check out the amazing client stories captured during the celebration by clicking on the QR code link in this newsletter.

In a heartfelt tribute to connection and understanding, Ruby's inspiring narrative on Reconciliation shone through as a guiding light for us all. During NAIDOC Week, we came together across our various Argyle Housing offices, honouring Australia's rich Indigenous culture and heritage. These celebrations deepened our appreciation for the wonderful diversity within our community and sparked conversations that will contribute to lasting reconciliation efforts.

We're also excited to share the story of Griffin Green, the official opening of our latest development that features 20 beautiful townhouses in Griffith. This project not only showcases our commitment to improving housing availability and quality but also reinforces our belief that everyone deserves a place to call home.

Let's keep this journey going together, building a vibrant community, celebrating our successes, and working towards a hopeful and united future. Thank you for being such an essential part of our story.

I truly hope you enjoy all the highlights in this Spring issue of The Argyle.

**Scott Dunstan**

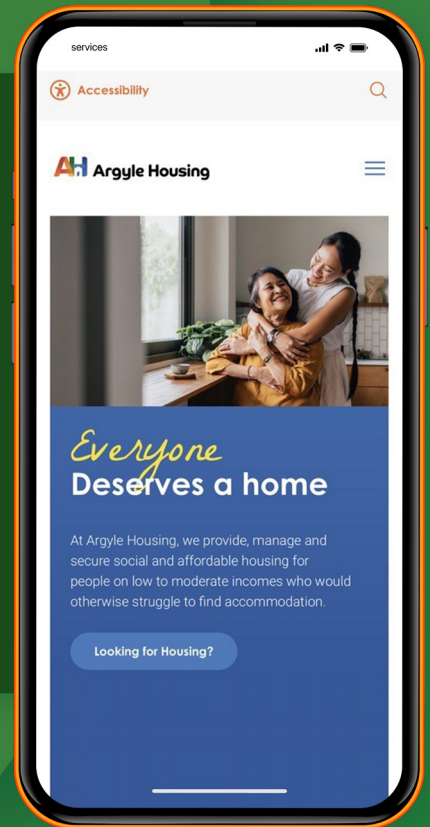
Editor and Communications, Marketing Manager

“  
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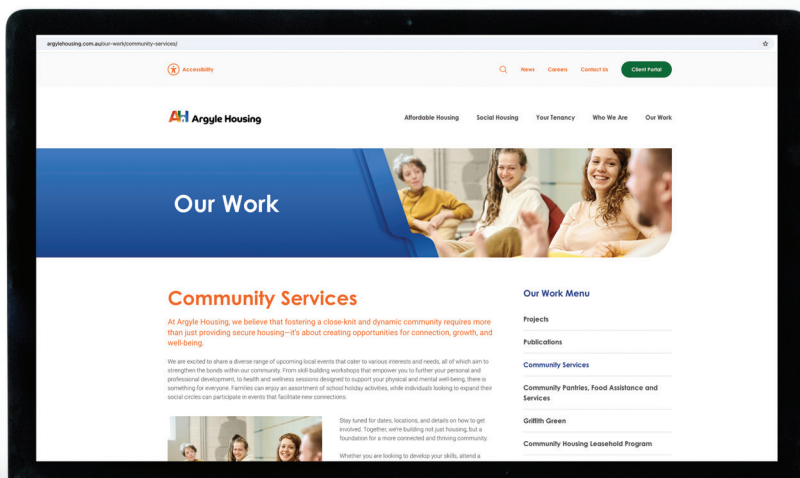
# Do We Have Your Latest Details?

At Argyle Housing, we really care about our relationship with you, our clients. To help us stay connected and keep you updated about our services, we ask you to check if your contact details are correct. If you need to change your mobile phone number or email address, please contact your Client Support Specialist through the Client Portal. Keeping your information up to date is important so you can receive the latest news and resources from Argyle Housing. We appreciate you being a valued member of our community!

[www.portal.argylehousing.com.au](http://www.portal.argylehousing.com.au)



## Community Services



For the latest local community events and services in your area, we have compiled categories on our website for you to access. For more information, go to:

[www.argylehousing.com.au/community-services/](http://www.argylehousing.com.au/community-services/)

# Join The Argyler Editorial Team



## Client Editorial Team

We need your ideas and stories to keep The Argyler relevant to you.

- Do you want to contribute to The Argyler?
- Do you have a great news story that you would like to share?
- Would you like your ideas published to our community?

If so, we would like to hear from you.

For more information, contact Scott Dunstan at:  
[editor@argylehousing.com.au](mailto:editor@argylehousing.com.au)



## The Argyler Digital Version



### We need your latest email address

Do you want all of the latest Argyle Housing news directly into your email inbox? It's really simple...

Get in contact with your local Argyle Housing Client Support Specialist and pass on to them your email address or update your email through the Client Portal.

[editor@argylehousing.com.au](mailto:editor@argylehousing.com.au)

# The Argyler Award



**Write  
and  
WIN!**

**Prizes  
of \$50 or  
\$100**

**At Argyle Housing, we want to highlight the stories and experiences of our clients. We are thrilled to announce the first-ever Argyler Award for the Best Story, which will celebrate the amazing tales that showcase our community.**

All clients are invited to submit their written stories, there are prizes of: \$50 gift card for the runner-up contributions and \$100 gift card for the overall winner, chosen by our Client Participation Committees. This is a great chance for you to share your experiences and creativity with others, while also inspiring our community. We're excited to hear your stories!

## Story Topics for The Argyler Award

We encourage you to explore a variety of topics that reflect your unique experiences and perspectives. Here are some ideas to spark your creativity:

**Personal Journey:** Share a significant moment or turning point in your life that has shaped who you are today.

**Community Impact:** Describe an initiative or project you've been involved in that has made a positive difference in your community.

**Overcoming Challenges:** Tell us about a challenge you faced and how you navigated through it, showcasing your resilience and strength.

**Cultural Heritage:** Reflect on your background or traditions and how they have influenced your identity within the community.

**Acts of Kindness:** Write about a time when you experienced or witnessed kindness—either given or received—and the impact it had on you and others.

## Send your articles to:

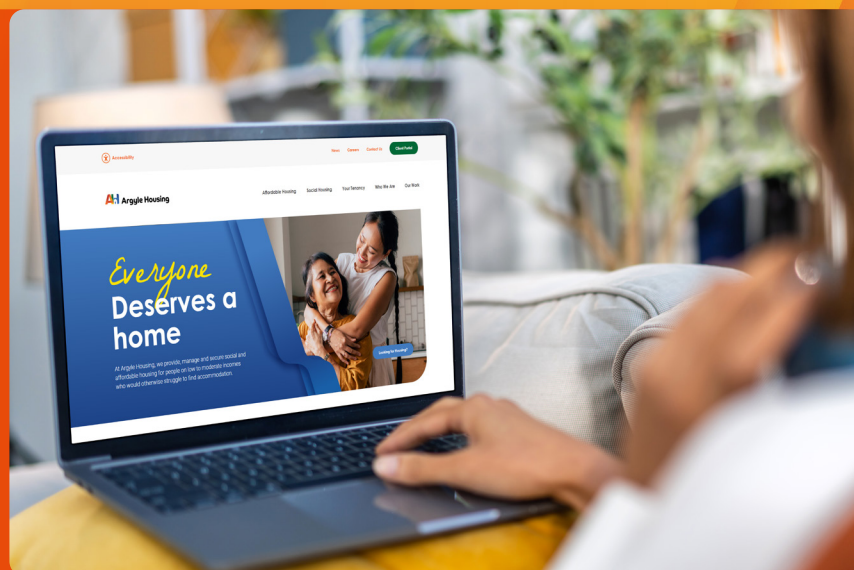
[editor@argylehousing.com.au](mailto:editor@argylehousing.com.au)

**Closing date: 30 September 2024**

Winning stories will be published in Future issues of The Argyler and on our social media channels.



# Getting Started with the Argyle Housing Client Portal



[www.portal.argylehousing.com.au](http://www.portal.argylehousing.com.au)

At Argyle Housing, we strive to ensure that our clients can easily access essential services and support online. Our Client Portal is designed with you in mind, providing a user-friendly experience that allows you to manage your information efficiently. Below is an outline to help you navigate the portal and make the most of its features:

## 1. Accessing the Client Portal

**Visit the Website:** Go to the Argyle Housing homepage and locate the "Client Portal" link.

**Sign In:** Enter your Tenancy ID and then you will be asked for the 6 number verification code on your mobile or via email.

## 2. Navigating the Portal

**Dashboard Overview:** Familiarise yourself with the dashboard where you can see 4 categories of options and functionality for you to choose from.

## 3. Key Features of the Portal

**Access to Resources:** Easily find information regarding Repairs & Maintenance, Pay your rent, or make a complaint right at your fingertips.

**Communication Tools:** Contact your Client Support Specialist directly through the portal for quick assistance or inquiries.

**Stay Updated:** Check the Useful Information section for the latest news about Argyle Housing and upcoming events in the community.

By utilising the Argyle Housing Client Portal, you can stay connected with us and access the resources you need, all from the comfort of your own home. We're here to support you every step of the way!

# Spare keys cut



Argyle Housing is currently working to ensure that we have spare keys for all our properties. In the near future, you may receive a letter requesting your assistance in obtaining a spare set of keys for your property. We will provide information on where you can have these keys cut at no cost. Once we have a spare set, it will be securely stored at our office.

Having a spare set is crucial for emergencies or if you happen to misplace your keys. If you receive a letter about this request and have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact your Client Support Specialist or call us at **1300 274 953**.

**Thank you, Argyle Housing**



# Welcome Tolland Clients to Argyle Housing

## We are happy to welcome our new Clients from Tolland in Wagga Wagga

As you become part of our community, remember that you are more than just clients; you are important members of a supportive and connected network. We understand that moving to a tenancy management company can be both exciting and nerve-wrecking, and we are here to help make your transition as easy and welcoming as possible.

Be sure to keep an eye out for information on our Community Engagement activities, as well as the exciting events happening around the Tolland Community Centre. We invite you to come and chat with our staff member, Georgia, every Thursday at 12pm. Join us for a delicious BBQ meal and take the opportunity to ask her any questions you may have about your tenancy with Argyle Housing. We look forward to connecting with you and enhancing our community together!



Our team is committed to providing you with the resources and support you need to feel at home. Please don't hesitate to reach out, ask questions, and connect with other community members, as building relationships is what we value most. Together, we can create a caring environment where everyone can flourish.

Welcome to the Argyle Housing family—we look forward to this journey with you!



# 40th Anniversary Celebration



In June 2024, we gathered at the Mittagong RSL Club to commemorate a significant milestone - Argyle Housing's 40th Anniversary. This memorable event united a diverse group of attendees to honour our rich history, celebrate our dedicated team and Clients, and envision our future together.



Brian Murnane, our former long-standing Manager and Director with 28 years of service, captivated the audience with an engaging narrative of Argyle Housing's journey. Brian's speech illuminated the highs and lows we've experienced, showcasing the resilience and growth of our company.

Following Brian, our current CEO, Carolyn Doherty, took the stage to express profound gratitude to our staff and clients. Carolyn's heartfelt words acknowledged the relentless commitment and passion of our team, which have been instrumental in driving our mission forward.

Our Chair of the Board, Yvette Pietsch, then delivered an inspiring outlook on Argyle Housing's future. Yvette's visionary address underlined our dedication to innovation, sustainability, and strengthening community ties as we move forward.

The celebration saw a wonderful turnout, including local government officials, key partners, and valued clients of Argyle Housing. The event not only provided an opportunity to reflect on our achievements but also facilitated meaningful discussions about the collaborative efforts needed to advance affordable housing in our community.

We extend our deepest thanks to everyone who joined us in celebrating this landmark occasion. Your presence and support are indispensable as we continue to strive for better housing solutions and a more robust, connected community.

Visit our website to watch these interviews:

[argylehousing.com.au/who-we-are/40th-anniversary-2024/](https://argylehousing.com.au/who-we-are/40th-anniversary-2024/)



“To honour and celebrate our special bond with clients, we have captured some wonderful stories from our clients through heartfelt interviews.”

Scan QR Code



# Picton and District Historical and Family History Society Inc

In the quaint town of Picton, nestled amidst rolling hills and rich heritage, the Picton and District Historical and Family History Society has become a beacon for the curious. It all began when a handful of history enthusiasts gathered under the warm light of the local library, sharing stories and unearthing the past. Each meeting, held on the first Saturday of every month at 11am, is a portal to a world where the region's history intertwines with the personal narratives of its residents.



As newcomers walk through the library's doors, they are greeted with warm smiles and the promise of camaraderie. Some seek to delve into their family trees, while others are simply eager to learn more about the community they call home. The dedicated members share resources, exchange research tips,

and form friendships, all while fostering a deep appreciation for the local heritage.

Outside of meetings, the society encourages connections via its vibrant Facebook page and welcomes inquiries through email. With a mix of storytelling, historical

inquiry, and a shared love for Picton, the society transforms ordinary Saturdays into extraordinary journeys of discovery, inviting all to come and be part of the narrative.

Follow us on Facebook all  
Email **Pictonheritage@outlook.com**

Written by Tony, an Argyle Housing client

# Your car use costs a lot!



**Where to save some money? When you are struggling financially, you need to make the best decisions to save money. Cars are a big part of our lives, and can be a little less of a financial burden with minor care.**

## **Maintenance matters:**

- Always check your oil – your engine will have less friction, and run more smoothly, if oil is at the optimum level.
- Keep tyre pressures correct – the manufacturer's recommended pressures for your car are often shown on a sticker inside your passenger door or in your glovebox guide. You will use more fuel if you run your car on low pressures. This is for several reasons including increased friction on the road leading to greater fuel consumption. And you will wear out your tyres more quickly.
- Get the car serviced regularly. This is costly, but if it prevents a major breakdown at an inconvenient time and place, it is worth the money. Breaking a timing chain on a lonely back road so you have to have a tow truck and an overnight stay is no fun and even harder on your wallet than a scheduled maintenance job.

Empty out the non-essential bits and pieces that seem to build up over time in the vehicle – you don't need items like the swim bag in wintertime, the cricket set when you are driving to work, or your old water container that is not used any more.

Try to drive smoothly. Gentle acceleration and braking is better for fuel consumption, and with the price of petrol, it matters. Avoid stop/start driving situations where possible. There's usually no need to accelerate heavily in a built-up area. Anticipate the slow-downs when you see traffic building up ahead or when you are coming into town. There is no point in speeding approaching a stop sign.

Plan your trips, including the local ones, so you aren't going back and forth unnecessarily. If you have a number of trips to make, perhaps you can combine two or three even if you cannot completely reduce all of them. Park centrally at the shops and walk between them. Choose to go out at the quieter times rather than

when the streets are very busy. This might help reduce stress even if it doesn't save much money. Using cruise control can help reduce fuel consumption while using air-conditioning will use more fuel. Turn off the engine when stopped.

Get your older children a bus pass for school transport, and see if you can sometimes car pool with other parents when sporting teams are playing away. Encourage walking for short trips – it is good exercise and good for the environment as well as the pocket.

You can work out your fuel consumption over a distance by dividing the amount of fuel used by distance travelled to get the litres per hundred kilometres.

Statistics from the ABS show that passenger vehicles consume an average of 11.1L/100km, motorcycles consume an average of 6.1L/100km, SUVs consume an average of 12.8L/100km, and light commercial vehicles consume an average of 9.9L/100km.

Safe a happy travels.

# Keep The Fire Burning! Blak, Loud & Proud: NAIDOC Day at Moss Vale

Written by Ruby, an Argyle Housing client

## This year's NAIDOC Day celebration at Moss Vale was nothing short of electrifying.

With the theme 'Keep The Fire Burning! Blak, Loud & Proud,' the event was a vibrant tapestry of culture, creativity, and community spirit. I had the pleasure of not only attending but also volunteering, and I'm thrilled to share my experience.

The day was a kaleidoscope of activities, each one a tribute to the rich heritage and artistry of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures. I had the honour of running the flag-creating workshop, where participants of all ages came together to design flags bursting with colour and meaning. Watching the creativity flow was truly inspiring – from intricate traditional patterns to bold contemporary designs, each flag was a unique expression of pride and identity.

But the fun didn't stop there. Nearby, the boomerang painting station was a hub of activity. Children and adults alike picked up their brushes to decorate boomerangs with beautiful, symbolic patterns. The sense of connection to ancient traditions was palpable, as everyone put their heart into creating pieces of art that tell a story.

The button-making station added a playful touch to the day. Hosted by the other volunteers, it was a hit with the younger crowd. Little hands worked diligently to craft buttons that were as bright and cheerful as the smiles on their faces.

And what's a community event without some delicious food? The Rotary Club kept everyone well-fed with free sausage sandwiches, a perfect blend of community spirit and good old-fashioned barbecue goodness. The aroma of sizzling sausages filled the air, drawing people together to share a meal and stories.



NAIDOC Day at Moss Vale was a powerful reminder of the importance of keeping the fire burning. It was a day to celebrate, to educate, and to unite – all while having a fantastic time. As I look back on the vibrant flags, beautifully painted boomerangs, and the cheerful crowd, I can't help but feel a renewed sense of pride and excitement for the future. Here's to keeping the fire burning, loud and proud!

# National Reconciliation Week 2024

**National Reconciliation Week at Ngununggula Art Gallery in the Southern Highlands offered a profound and enlightening experience, underscoring the vital role of reconciliation within our community.**

During this event, we had the invaluable opportunity to hear Djon Mundine share his heritage and background, illuminating the significance of this week and its evolution in the region. The presence of Argyle Housing staff further emphasised our collective commitment to fostering understanding and respect among all community members. As we immersed ourselves in the vibrant crafts and artworks created by local Indigenous artists, alongside the Makers Market at Ngununggula, the atmosphere buzzed with celebration and a deep acknowledgement of our cultural diversity. This gathering served as an educational moment and reminded us of our ongoing journey toward healing and unity.



Ngununggula Art Gallery stands as a central hub for showcasing and celebrating Indigenous art and culture, making it an ideal venue for events during National Reconciliation Week, observed annually from 27th May to 3rd June. This week invites us to reflect on the relationship between



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians, urging us to acknowledge the complex history of our nation and the injustices faced by Indigenous communities. The theme for this year, 'Now more than Ever,' reinforces the necessity of understanding Australia's history and encourages us to move forward collaboratively towards reconciliation with courage and determination. The event at Ngununggula enabled us to come together as a community, learn from one another, and gain deeper insights from Djon Mundine's personal stories. Yet, National Reconciliation Week transcends mere learning; it is also a call to action. The active participation of Argyle Housing staff signifies their dedication to nurturing an environment of understanding and respect within our community—an ongoing commitment aimed at strengthening relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians beyond just this week.

# NAIDOC Week 2024: Keep the Fire Burning! Blak, Loud And Proud

NAIDOC Week stands for the National Aboriginal and Islander Day Observance Committee. It is a very significant week of celebrations in the Australian calendar. During NAIDOC Week we celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Islander Culture that showcases traditions, food, craftsmanship, culture and much more!

The theme for 2024 was; Keep the Fire Burning! Blak, Loud & Proud.

This year, some of Argyle Housing staff members had privilege to attend NAIDOC Week events across different regional areas in NSW.



## Wagga Wagga

Argyle Housing, as a Sponsor attended the Wagga Wagga 2024 NAIDOC Ball and Awards! Some of our staff attended to celebrate the rich culture, achievements, and contributions of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Argyle Housing celebrated NAIDOC Week at RivMed, learning the richness of Aboriginal culture with traditional dance and painting through workshops. It was joined by the local community and lots of people who were willing to learn.







### Moss Vale

Argyle Housing attended a Flag Raising Ceremony at Moss Vale Civic Centre. Aunty Joyce Honoured us with a beautiful Welcome to Country, and Viv May warmly greeted us all. A traditional smoking ceremony made the whole event special for everyone.



### Southwest Sydney

Argyle Housing had a privilege to attend the family fun day in Campbelltown and engage and learn about the services specifically for our First Nation clients across the Campbelltown and Wollondilly area. Thank you to Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation for organising such a beautiful event!

### Griffith

Argyle Housing joined the Griffith NAIDOC Gathering and Community March. Special awards were presented for outstanding contributions by amazing First Nations people in the local area. Rainy and windy weather did not stop the spirit of the celebrations.



# Argyle Housing Day Out

Argyle Day Out is a fresh approach to engaging with our clients across the Argyle Housing portfolio. This initiative brings clients and team members together in various regions, offering a chance to connect on a personal level, explore new locations, and enjoy a cost-free day out.

The destinations for Argyle Day Out are chosen based on feedback from forums, meetings, and tenant groups, ensuring they reflect the interests and preferences of our community. These outings are open to all Argyle Housing clients.

Have any suggestions for your local community? Reach out to our Community Engagement Team at [whatsup@argylehousing.com.au](mailto:whatsup@argylehousing.com.au)



## Bidgee Strawberry and Cream Farm

We had over 50 clients attend our Argyle Day Out - Strawberry Picking. Clients were treated with a free day out to enjoy themselves at Bidgee Strawberry and Cream Farm, where many clients had the opportunity to pick their own strawberries and try freshly home-made strawberry ice cream.

## Symbio Wildlife Zoo

Over 100 clients attended our Argyle Day Out - Symbio Wildlife Zoo. Clients were given an opportunity to indulge themselves at the Zoo, feed some cheeky kangaroos and watch the Cheetah. Many clients stated that they had a fantastic day away from their local community, thanked all the staff for coming out, and expressed how much they liked it.



## National Museum of Australia

More than 30 clients were given an immersive experience at the National Museum in Canberra, where they learned about the historical significance of rocks, Tony Armstrong's Extraordinary belongings, and First Nations culture (to mention a few). After a wonderful meal at The Jetty Cafe on the lake in ACT, we stayed toasty with fresh hot chocolate and coffee.

## June Licorice & Chocolate Factory

Over 50 clients attended our Argyle Day Out - June Licorice & Chocolate Factory. Clients delighted in delicious homemade licorice and chocolate, spoiling our sweet craving. We even had the opportunity to throw a licorice ball at pins in an attempt to knock them down, we have a few champions among us.



# Griffin Green Official Opening

On a bright afternoon on July 31, 2024, there was a palpable sense of excitement in the air as Griffith City Council and Argyle Housing came together to celebrate the official opening of Griffin Green, our innovative affordable housing project.



This momentous event took place on-site, welcoming community members, local leaders, and supporters who eagerly gathered to witness the unveiling of a vision brought to life. Griffin Green represents the power of collaboration, made possible through the combined efforts of Griffith City Council, Argyle Housing, and the Australian Government, generously supported by the Building Better Regions Fund. It marks a significant milestone in addressing the critical need for affordable accommodation in our beloved Griffith.

As the ceremony unfolded, Mayor Doug Curran took to the stage, delivering heartfelt remarks about the positive changes ahead. "We are thrilled to see Griffin Green come to fruition. It's a testament to what can be achieved when government, community housing providers, and the community work together for a common goal," he stated, eliciting enthusiastic applause from the crowd. Following his inspiring words, Carolyn Doherty, CEO of Argyle Housing, underscored

the transformative impact of this initiative. "This project represents a crucial step towards ensuring that everyone in our community has access to safe and affordable housing. Griffin Green is not just about buildings; it's about cultivating a healthy and supportive community for all of us."

With 20 thoughtfully designed townhouses and 42 build-ready lots, Griffin Green is more than just a housing development; it is a home where quality living fosters a sense of belonging. As the festivities continued, community members engaged in guided tours, exploring their future homes and envisioning the vibrant community they would soon join. This event marks not only the launch of a new development but the beginning of an exciting new chapter for Griffith, where collaboration and compassion guide us toward

a future filled with hope and opportunity for everyone.

On this special day, we were also warmed to see Wendy Middleton's children in attendance, as the project was particularly dear to Wendy's heart. Their presence added a heartfelt dimension to the event, culminating in the unveiling of the Wendy Middleton Memorial plaque. This plaque, graciously donated by PowerHousing Australia, serves as a recognition of Wendy's invaluable contributions to the Community Housing Sector. As we gathered to honour her legacy, it became clear that Wendy's spirit would continue to inspire us in our quest to create positive change within the community. Her commitment to affordable housing and community support has left an enduring mark, reminding us of the importance of compassionate collaboration in the journey ahead.



# Spring Cleaning Tips: Focus on the Kitchen



## Declutter and Organize

### Pantry:

- Remove all items and wipe down shelves.
- Discard expired or unused items.
- Group similar items together (e.g., canned goods, spices).

### Cabinets and Drawers:

- Empty and wipe down the inside.
- Donate or discard items you no longer use.
- Use organisers for utensils and other small items.



## Appliance Cleaning

### Refrigerator:

- Remove all food and wipe down shelves and drawers.
- Defrost the freezer if needed.
- Clean the exterior, including handles and seals.

### Oven and Microwave:

- Use an oven cleaner for the inside, or a baking soda paste for a more natural option.
- Wipe down the microwave inside and out, using a vinegar solution to remove odours.



## Surfaces and Floors

### Countertops:

- Clear all items and wipe down with a mild cleaner.
- Pay special attention to stains and sticky spots.

### Sink and Faucet:

- Scrub the sink with baking soda and rinse thoroughly.
- Use vinegar to remove any build-up around the faucet.

### Floors:

- Sweep or vacuum to remove debris.
- Mop with a suitable cleaner for your floor type.



## Extra Tips

### Windows and Curtains:

- Clean window panes and sills.
- Wash or replace curtains and blinds.

### Trash Bins:

- Empty and clean the inside and outside of trash bins.



By focusing on these key areas, you'll have a fresh and clean kitchen ready for spring!

# Wendy Middleton Scholarship Spotlight: Bridgett's Journey

At Argyle Housing, we are committed to supporting our clients in achieving their educational and career goals. One of the ways we do this is through the Wendy Middleton Scholarship, which provides financial assistance of up to \$1,500 to help alleviate the burdens of higher education. If you are part of the Argyle Housing community and are pursuing your studies, this scholarship is for you. It's more than financial aid - it's an investment in your future, designed to ease the burden of educational expenses from course fees to textbooks and technological resources. We're keeping the application process straightforward; a brief form could pave the way to reducing financial hurdles in your educational journey. Remember, every eligible family member can apply, whether enrolled full-time or part-time.

**In this Spring edition of Argylar, we are delighted to feature Bridgett, a bright and ambitious recipient of the scholarship. Bridgett is currently pursuing her Bachelor of Nursing at Western Sydney University. We had the pleasure of interviewing her to learn more about her experiences and aspirations.**

## **Tell us a bit about yourself.**

My name is Bridgett, I am 19 years old, and I am currently studying at Western Sydney University to obtain my Bachelor of Nursing.

## **What course are you studying and where are you at in your course?**

I am studying to obtain my Bachelor of Nursing and eventually complete my Bachelor of Midwifery in the future. I am currently halfway through my first year.

## **Can you tell us about why you have chosen to study and why you have chosen this specific course?**

I have chosen to study due to the feeling of wanting to find a stable job where I can support myself in the constantly changing economy and environment we live in. I chose to become a nurse because I have always wanted a

job that is helping other people, and after the COVID pandemic and watching all the nurses and doctors struggle, it made me more excited to step into a field where I am supporting the local community and helping others in the same field.

## **How has this opportunity to study impacted your life (yourself and your family)?**

- Choosing to study has affected me financially and physically. I am studying five days a week on campus in Sydney, leaving at 7 am and not returning home until 6 pm some nights, which means if I can complete any work, it would only be in-between my studies. I have become physically tired after just one term. I pay for my own fuel, rego, car loan, and insurance, which is a huge burden but needed for the current study and future. I do not have a

chance to see my family as much as I would like. My family (especially my mum) have supported me through my studies, and I know they will always be there.

## **How is the Argyle Housing Scholarship continuing to help you on your study journey?**

The scholarship has helped cover my schooling costs for this semester and any equipment I have needed, which has taken stress away from me about how I was going to afford it while barely working. Further payments will help pay for tyres for my car as during the travel I have punctured two tyres from the shocking roads. Lol but also help cover the coming up rego or servicing.

## **If you were to recommend an Argyle Housing Scholarship to Argyle Housing clients, what would you say?**

I would tell them to take the offer if they have it, it can be a huge help to you and your family. The scholarship is an opportunity that should be taken by anybody that it is offered to; it can be a tremendous help. Just apply and follow your studying dreams.

Bridgett's story is an inspiring example of how the Wendy Middleton Scholarship can make a significant difference in the lives of our clients. We are proud to support Bridgett on her journey and wish her continued success in her studies and future career.

# Kerbside Collection: A Convenient Service for in your Local Community

We understand how important it is for our community members to maintain a clean and tidy living environment, and we're pleased to share that your local council offers a kerbside collection service that can help you achieve just that. This convenient initiative allows residents to dispose of their waste and recyclables right from their homes, reducing the need for trips to the local tip and promoting better waste management practices.

Kerbside collection typically operates on a designated schedule, so it's essential to be aware of your specific collection days. Residents are encouraged to place their bins out the night before or early on the day of collection to ensure they're emptied. Remember to follow the guidelines provided by the council regarding what can and cannot be placed in your bins to avoid

contamination and ensure a successful collection.

Utilising this service not only contributes to a cleaner community but also supports

local initiatives aimed at recycling and sustainability. By properly separating your recyclables, you play a vital role in minimising landfill waste, protecting our environment, and promoting responsible living.

Get in contact with your local council to book your next kerbside collection.



## R U OK Day 2024

**R U OK Day is an annual event dedicated to inspiring and empowering individuals to connect with one another and have meaningful conversations about mental health.**

Scheduled for September 12, 2024, this day encourages everyone to check in on their friends, family, and colleagues by simply asking, "Are you okay?" By fostering an open dialogue about mental health, R U OK Day aims to reduce stigma and provide support to those who may be struggling.

Participants are encouraged to share their experiences, resources, and tips for listening and being there for others. Remember, reaching out can make a significant difference in someone's life.

**Let's come together this R U OK Day to promote connection and support within our community! [www.ruok.org.au](http://www.ruok.org.au)**

# How to Pay Your Rent



## Stay up to date with your rent

Every Argyle Housing Client is supplied with a payment reference number. This is the number that you use to pay your rent for that property. If you move house, you will be given a new number. Please ensure you make the change on the deposit or your money will go into the wrong account.

Please ensure that you use your number when transferring from your bank account into Argyle Housing's account via Electronic Funds Transfer. Do not add any other content into the payment reference section.

**BSB:** 062 511

**Account number:** 10186391

**Account name:** Argyle Community Housing Ltd.

**Payment reference:** [Tenancy Reference Number]

## Other ways to pay rent:

- 1** Set up automatic deductions and make it easy for yourself by contacting your Tenancy Officer or Centrelink
- 2** In person at any Argyle office via EFTPOS card, savings or cheque account. No credit card or cash payments will be accepted.
- 3** Pay with cash or card at your local Australia Post,
- 4** Via the Client portal [www.portal.argylehousing.com.au](http://www.portal.argylehousing.com.au)

Already signed a consent for us to adjust your rent with Centrepay? Then leave it to us.



Anyone moving into your property needs to be approved by your Tenancy Officer.



Notify us within 21 days of any changes to your household income.



# How is My Rent Calculated?



**Argyle Housing provides a rental subsidy to eligible households living in social housing. Argyle Housing charges rent in accordance with the NSW Community Housing Rent Policy.**

The amount of rent you are charged depends on your individual and household circumstances. In general, Clients are charged between 25% and 30% of the household's income plus 100% of their Commonwealth Rent Assistance (CRA) entitlement.

## How will my rent be assessed if I have no income?

If you or a household member have no income or very low income, \*\*you will be assessed as having an income based on the equivalent Centrelink payment.

\*\*your income will be assessed based on the centrelink payment you are eligible for.

The equivalent Centrelink payment is the payment that most closely aligns with your circumstances.

## How is rent calculated?

The amount of rent you pay depends on your individual and household circumstances. For more detailed information please contact our Rent Service Team.

Argyle Housing determines a client's eligibility for a rent subsidy using any or all of the following depending on your situation. See the table below.

## Income

<b>Household Members</b>	Income for all other persons living in the household who are 21 years or over	25% - 30% of GROSS income
	Income for any other household member, including Maintenance (aged between 18-20 years)	15% of GROSS income
<b>Centrelink</b>	Family Tax benefits	15%
	Maintenance/Child support payments	25%
<b>CRA</b>	Rental assistance received	100% of the Commonwealth Rent Assistance (CRA) Entitlement

# Domestic Violence Assistance

**At Argyle Housing, we understand that domestic and family violence can impact anyone, regardless of their background or identity.**

We acknowledge that both men and women can experience domestic abuse, and we are dedicated to providing support to all victims, no matter their gender or sexuality. Our approach to domestic and family violence is rooted in empathy and a commitment to confidentiality. If you find yourself in a situation where you feel threatened or at risk, please call the police immediately at **000**.

For those seeking specialist assistance or advice, the Domestic Violence HELP line at **1800 656 463** is available to provide guidance.

If you cannot return home for safety reasons and need somewhere to go, we encourage you to contact Link2Home at **1800 152 152**.

**Your Client Support Specialist is also here to help; we can work together to enhance your safety and connect you with additional support services.**

To ensure your comfort, we offer the option to work with an employee of the same gender or your preference when dealing with sensitive matters. We are committed to meeting with you in a confidential setting at Argyle Housing offices, and we will respect your

choice of communication method—whether that's phone, text, or email—to maintain a supportive connection.

You are not alone, and we are here to help you navigate through this challenging time.



# Moving home?

MyConnect can arrange all your essential utility connections in just one phone call.



Our service is **FREE** and takes under **10 minutes**. **Simply:**

- 1 Complete our online form at [myconnect.com.au](http://myconnect.com.au) or fill out the application form.
- 2 MyConnect calls you to organise your connections.
- 3 Move in with your power connected!

## We have a buffet of choice

We partner with the best providers, so we can find a plan that works best for your lifestyle.

Our expert customer service team connect thousands of people every month and will be more than happy to assist you.



Google

4.7 star rating ★★★★★



Product Review

4.7 star rating ★★★★★

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# Wendy Middleton Scholarship



Up to \$1,500 for individuals

**Are you a new or continuing student, mature age student, at University, TAFE or with a registered training organisation?**

If you answered **YES** to any of the above, then you are able to apply for the Wendy Middleton Scholarship.

Scholarships are part of an annual education program for Clients, providing up to **\$1,500** for college, university or TAFE students. The scholarship money can be used to pay for any educational costs, such as course fees, text books, specific clothing, computers or anything which helps you to complete your education.

Applying for a Wendy Middleton Scholarship is easy: simply fill in a short application form, which takes around five minutes. More than one member of your family can apply. Scholarships are open to any household member enrolled in full-time or part-time tertiary education during 2024.

[arglehousing.com.au/about-us/scholarships/](http://arglehousing.com.au/about-us/scholarships/)

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If undelivered, please return to:  
Argyle Housing  
P.O. Box 1026  
Bowral, NSW 2576

**Argyle Housing**



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Client Newsletter | Spring 2024

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