Hi everyone,

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas, and we would like to welcome you to the new year.

Alongside her position of Housing Manager, Katy has also taken on the role of Community Development. If you have any ideas for tenant activities Katy is the person to speak to. Compass Housing actively encourages tenants to get involved in, and play a part in shaping the delivery of social housing through tenant participation and consultation.

Katy will be going around doing tenant surveys in the next month and also having general discussions regarding tenancies. The feedback we receive from tenants ensures we are able to provide the highest quality services to our tenants.

If there are any new mums out there looking for clothing for their little boys or girls, please contact Katy at the branch. These clothes have been donated by the generous people at CareWest. Alternatively you can catch up with Katy when she does the bread and donut run every second Saturday.

We are planning on having a good year, please feel free to call in at anytime to discuss any ideas or anything regarding your tenancies.

Katy & Ron

The Compass Tenant Engagement Panel (CTEP) members are tenants from Branches who have either been elected or applied to represent the interests of everyone living in a Compass property. These members provide an avenue for tenants to provide feedback on the services Compass deliver.

CTEP is part of the solution to helping tenants live and co-exist in healthy and sustainable communities. We are committed to ensuring everyone has the opportunity to be heard on issues relating to our housing.

Our "Have Your Say" video conference sessions are held in your Branch at every CTEP meeting. Tenants have the opportunity to attend to pass on feedback and ideas. These are then passed onto to Compass management though the CTEP Board representative.

If you would like join CTEP to represent your Branch or have an idea you would like to share, write to:
CTEP C/- Compass Housing Services Co Ltd
PO Box 967 Hamilton NSW or email: ctep@compasshousing.org or ask Branch staff who will put you in contact with us.

Here are some little tips to save water:

- Water the lawn/gardens in the early hours of the morning or in the evening. In the middle of the day it will be lost to evaporation.
- Use a plug when washing up.
- Wash your fruit and vegetables in a bowl of water instead of under running water.
- Make sure all your taps both inside house and outside do not drip. If any taps leak please contact the Branch immediately.

If you have any tips or tricks you would like to share with your fellow tenants, such as old fashion remedies for cleaning, please contact us at the office and we will publish them in the next newsletter.
What's On in Dubbo

Craft Alive
DATE: 28 March 2014 to 30 March 2014
TIME: 10.00PM - 5.00PM
COST: A $10 | P $8 | U/5 Free
VENUE: Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre

Annually bringing together both talented interstate and local exhibitors, focusing on creative Hand Finished Products, Do It Yourself Products, Craft Supplies, Home wares and Creative Workshops to inspire young and old. Customers have the opportunity to shop for something unique and special in the comfort of indoors.

You can enjoy lunch or morning tea at the cafe, wander into a Workshop and spend a leisurely hour having fun while learning new skills.

141st Annual Dubbo Show
DATE: 23 May 2014 to 25 May 2014
TIME: All Day
COST: A $10 | C U/5 free | P $5
VENUE: Dubbo Showground

The Dubbo Show is a recognised social meeting place for families and neighbours. It is an occasion for the exchange of ideas of all kinds and an opportunity to view trade displays. There will be plenty to see and do at the Dubbo Show.

Live music will be playing at the Show on Friday Night. Saturday, 24 May will feature the Grand Parade, The Golden Axe wood-chopping carnival, harness racing, shearing and much more.

There will also be the usual side show and show bags.

For more information on Dubbo’s events, accommodation, attractions, activities, and more visit: www.dubbo.com.au

Congratulations to our Tenant Incentive Scheme Winners

July 2013
Gold: Michelle
Silver: Kathy
Bronze: Antoinette

August 2013
Gold: Michelle
Silver: Melissa
Bronze: Maralene

September 2013
Gold: Edith
Silver: Kathy
Bronze: Tina

You are eligible to go into the monthly TIS draw automatically if your rent is in advance, your invoices are paid and up to date, and you are taking good care of your home. Gold winners receive a gift card to the value of $50, bronze and silver winners receive a certificate and all winners go in the draw for the major prize in December.

For more information about TIS please call the Branch for a flyer!

Green Tenant Incentive Scheme

The “Green Reward” is an initiative which recognises and rewards tenants for their environmental sustainability actions, either in their home or in the community.
To be eligible you need to be a Compass tenant, have your rent in advance by at least one week, keep your home in good condition, and demonstrate how you have changed your way of living to result in a way that is beneficial to the environment and personal sustainability.

Examples include:
◆ Recycling e.g. compost, worm farm
◆ Community gardens
◆ Undertake the Home Power Saving Program
◆ Participate in local council tree planting day
◆ Evidence of household water or energy saving

Quarterly prizes will be awarded to tenants from each Branch who enter.

Call the Branch for a flyer if you want more information on how you can participate in this scheme!

The number for emergency maintenance matters outside office hours is 1800 633 496

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