

WIN Movie Tickets

Family entertainment during the July School Holidays. Enter the Find-a-Word Competition for a chance to win 2 x \$100 Hoyts gift cards. See page 7



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in @evolvehousing f @evolvehousing @evolvehousing

WINTER ISSUE • JUNE 2024

IN THIS ISSUE

Update from your RAG

Exciting things are coming.

Page 2

Happy Life Garden Winner Announced

Congratulations!

Page 2

Event roundup with our renters

Yoga and Sea Life Aquarium.

Page 4

Safeguard your home from mould

How to protect your home from mould this winter.

Page 5

Meet Jacob Johnson

Our newest member of the EHVIC family.

Page 6

Win Movie Tickets

Your chance to win movie tickets!

Page 7

Upcoming Events

Join us for some fun!

Page 7



SCHOOL HOLIDAY
Events see page 4

Celebrating National Sorry Day



EVOLVE HOUSING NEWS

THRIVING COMMUNITIES FOR ALL PEOPLE

In a heartfelt gesture of reconciliation, Evolve Housing staff and tenants gathered with special guests at the Parramatta office to observe Sorry Day 2024. The event provided a solemn opportunity to reflect on the generational impacts of the Stolen Generations, fostering a deeper understanding and commitment to healing within the community. **READ MORE ON PAGE 3.**

RAG Chat



The Residential Advisory Group (RAG) meets every second month to discuss important issues with Evolve Housing staff to address them.

The members understand and empathise with the current cost of living pressures and are currently working to share information with you that might help connect you with services in your area. The RAG is also currently working with our Community Connections Officer to plan community events and activities for renters to participate in.

If you have any questions, issues or concerns that you think should be discussed at the RAG meetings please email: viccommunity@evolvehousing.com.au



COMMUNAL GARDEN WORKSHOP

The Communal Garden Workshop is a space where residents are educated on growing fruits, herbs, and vegetables.

Evolve Housing works alongside Cultivating Communities Officer Gabi, who is well educated and experienced in horticulture. Communal Garden Workshops run every second Tuesday of the month in the Happy Life Garden space next to Block 28. For more information, please contact our Community Connections Officer on 0421 348 040 or via email viccommunity@evolvehousing.com.au

Happy Life Garden



GARDEN SIGN WINNER

A big CONGRATULATIONS to our talented Dunlop Avenue renter **Angela**, who won the **Garden Sign Competition**.

Angela won a **\$150 Coles voucher** as the prize for her participation and design. Evolve Housing would also like to thank all the talented artists who participated in the competition for your fantastic submissions!

Acknowledgement of Country

Evolve Housing acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land where we deliver our housing services.

We acknowledge and pay our respects to all Elders past, present and future. We welcome all First Nations Peoples to our services, as we walk together towards reconciliation.



EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT PATHWAYS INFO SESSION

Uniting Employment and Education Services will be attending the Wingate Drop-In session on **June 26th** to provide information and support to any interested renters.

Uniting can help with finding career opportunities, developing training, building skills and strengths for employment and understanding your goals. They can also provide lots of other useful information to support you in finding a fulfilling role or training in an environment that's right for you.

When: 26th June 2024

Where: Wingate Shed, 13A Wingate Avenue, Ascot Vale

Time: 2pm–3pm



Above: Les Daniels, a Koomurri performer with staff and tenants for National Sorry Day at Evolve Housing, Parramatta.

Celebrating National Sorry Day at Evolve Housing

In the spirit of reconciliation, Evolve Housing staff and tenants were joined by special guests to reflect on the generational impacts on the Stolen Generations as part of Sorry Day 2024 at the Evolve Housing Parramatta office.

This event is part of our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) commitment to reflect, to build awareness and to show our respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We were honoured to be joined by Thelmerie Rudd, an educator and Dharug woman, who Welcomed us to Dharug Country, and offered stories of her lived experience and her family's experience of the impacts of forced removal and connection to culture.

We shared a minute of silence to reflect on the implications of forced removal for generations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

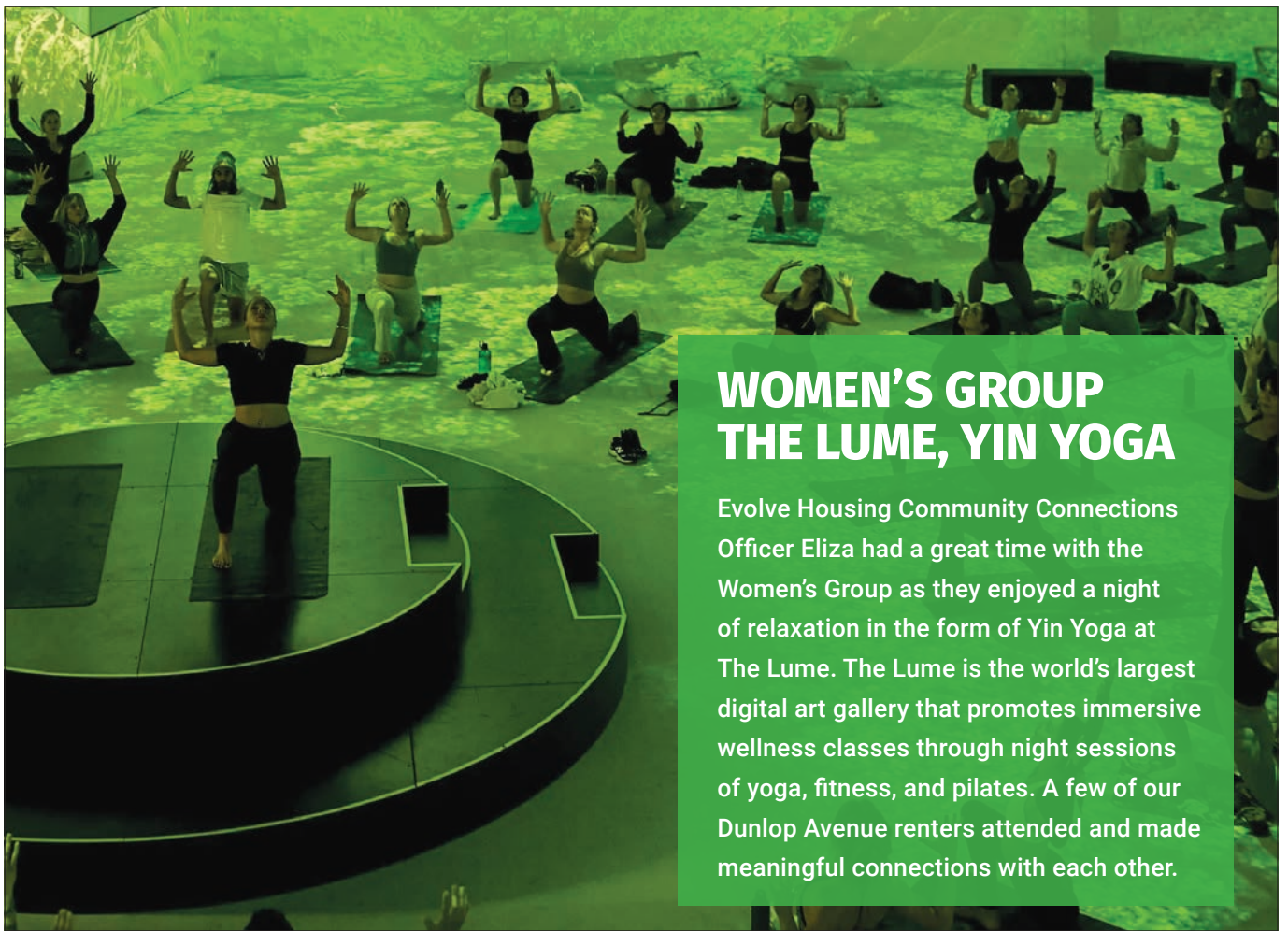
Les Daniels, a Koomurri performer who sang in language,

and shared a smoking ceremony with everyone, and Todd Dorward, a Dharug man who is also an Evolve Housing resident and designer of the artwork on our Evolve Reconciliation shirts, and one of our Reconciliation advisors, played didgeridoo and shared the benefits of connecting to country.

After the formal proceedings, and wearing our Evolve Housing Reconciliation shirts, we all shared kangaroo sausages and salads to share our reflections and connect with each other.

To read our Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan, scan here:





WOMEN'S GROUP THE LUME, YIN YOGA

Evolve Housing Community Connections Officer Eliza had a great time with the Women's Group as they enjoyed a night of relaxation in the form of Yin Yoga at The Lume. The Lume is the world's largest digital art gallery that promotes immersive wellness classes through night sessions of yoga, fitness, and pilates. A few of our Dunlop Avenue renters attended and made meaningful connections with each other.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITY SEA LIFE AQUARIUM

During the April School holidays, parents and children dived into the wonderful world of Melbourne Aquarium Sea Life.

Children were able to participate in some turtle-y awesome activities such as meet the newly arrived sea turtles, hold a star fish, and watch Sea Life Staff feed the hungry crocodiles.

Parents and children were also able to discover the new 'Night on the Reef' experience where they were educated on the different fish species, sharks, stingrays, and jellyfish. There were many interactive animal displays, marine stories, and plenty of views of coral reefs.

If you have any suggestions for future school holiday activities, please contact our Community Connections Officer Eliza on **0421 348 040** or email:

viccommunity@evolvehousing.com.au





Safeguard your home from mould this winter!

Winter has well and truly set in and there are many different things that could lead to mould in your home such as cooler temperatures, heavy rainfall, and even heaters. Safeguard your home with some of our mould prevention tips

What is mould?

Mould is a form of fungus and is spread primarily by airborne spores that will develop and grow on almost any surface providing the following conditions are present:

- A relevant indoor humidity of 80% or higher
- Moisture, usually from condensation. Mould can develop in the absence of condensation, but its growth is accelerated by the presence of moisture
- A nutrient. Research shows that certain ingredients in most paints, household dust, and cooking fumes all provide excellent food for mould

Sooty mould, the most common type, leaves surfaces with a brown or black stain and usually occurs on the walls and ceilings of bathrooms, bedrooms and in cupboards. Untreated, this mould will spread to other rooms in the house. Green furry mould grows on organic or organic-bearing surfaces, such as shoes or clothes.

Condensation and mould

The winter season brings with it condensation and mould growth problems in houses, units, townhouses and villa homes. Condensation and mould can occur in any type of home construction, including weatherboard, brick veneer, solid brick, and brick veneer.

Condensation and its causes

When highly humidified air comes in contact with any cold surface such as a wall or ceiling, it chills and water vapour is extracted from the air, remaining as condensation on the cold surface. High humidity has an accumulative effect on absorbent materials such as clothing hanging in the cupboard or bedclothes, making them damp. Condensation will also cause rust on metal surfaces such as spring wire mattresses.

How to prevent condensation

Condensation cannot occur if humid, moist air is removed and replaced by dry air. This can be achieved very simply through better ventilation in your home.

Tips to improve ventilation in your home:

- Open windows and doors when weather permits to improve cross ventilation
- Room ventilators and exhaust fans should be kept clean. Normal house fluff can block or partly block wall or ceiling ventilators and exhaust fans and impede proper ventilation of the property
- Turn on exhaust fans, particularly when bathing, showering, cooking, doing laundry and drying clothes

Warm moist air

Warm air will not cause condensation on a cold surface, but warm moist air will. Warm moist air can be created by:

- steam from cooking
- washing dishes or clothes
- clothes dryers that are not externally vented
- steam from bathrooms
- drying damp clothes inside

How to reduce mould in the property?

Promote Air Circulation

- Open doors and windows, especially in bathrooms and during cool weather.
- Ensure proper ventilation in all rooms.

Maintain Dryness

- Keep bathroom surfaces, showers, curtains, and basins dry.
- Wipe away moisture on windows and walls regularly.
- Allow sunlight into the property, particularly in damp areas.

Manage Moisture Sources

- Dry damp clothes, shoes, and fabrics promptly.
- Leave wardrobe doors open for air circulation.
- Clean evaporation trays in appliances frequently.

Proper Cleaning

- Clean bathrooms and the property regularly.
- Vacuum surfaces using a HEPA filter vacuum cleaner.
- Open windows when running evaporative air conditioning systems.



Introducing Jacob Johnson, our second Housing Manager in the Evolve Housing Victorian office. Jacob comes with great knowledge and experience in the field of Community Housing and will be working alongside Gavin and Eliza to ensure quality service and assist with various duties. You'll see Jacob conducting residential visits and attending programs and events. He will also be at the Drop-In sessions, so be sure to say hello.

When did you join the team?

I have been working at Evolve Housing since April 2024. In this short time, I've had the pleasure of meeting some of our renters and I look forward to meeting more in the future! You've all given me a warm welcome and your positive interactions with me has made this time truly special for me, so I thank you all.

What experience do you have in the housing industry?

I used to work as a Housing Manager in London—believe it or not! I held a similar role there supporting resident and their tenancies. My experience in London has provided me with valuable skills that I am now eager to apply here.

What attracts you to this role?

I wanted to work at Evolve because I genuinely enjoy working alongside renters to build positive changes in their lives. In London, the relationships I built with my residents were very rewarding, and I am eager to continue developing those connections here with you!

What kind of tasks does your job involve—what is a typical day like for you?

My day is never the same and varies depending on the renter-related enquiries that come through. On any given day, I may find myself responding to renter questions, addressing maintenance requests, conducting property

inspections, and ensuring compliance with tenancy agreements. Additionally, as an assistant housing manager, I work closely with Gavin (your housing manager), to support various aspects of property management and tenancy admin. Whether it's coordinating property viewings or assisting with lease documentation, my role is multi-layered, ensuring that our residents receive the support and assistance they need.

What kind of impact do you think your role has on residents?

I believe I play a crucial role in my renters' lives as I assist with their housing and support needs. I always aim to contribute to our renters' overall wellbeing and quality of life, whether it's addressing maintenance concerns, assisting with tenancy agreements, or simply being a reliable point of contact.

What's your favourite thing about working for Evolve Housing?

My favourite thing about working for Evolve Housing is being able to make a real difference in the lives of our residents. Whether it's helping someone find their perfect home or providing support during difficult times, knowing that I'm contributing to their well-being brings me satisfaction. I also appreciate Evolve Housing's dedication to equality and inclusivity, ensuring that everyone receives the support they need to thrive.

WIN Movie Tickets



To keep the family entertained during the July school holidays we will be holding a find-a-word competition with 2 x \$100 Hoyts gift cards as the prize!

THE PRIZE:



We have 2 prizes to give away. Each winner will receive a \$100 Hoyts gift card.

HOW TO ENTER:

Locate the listed words in the grid that are horizontally, vertically and diagonally placed, then take a photo of the completed find-a-word and send by SMS to the Community Connections Officer on: **0421 348 040** or email **viccommunity@evolvehousing.com.au**.

Use the subject line **"Movie Tickets"**. Please include your full name, Evolve Housing address and phone number.

PLEASE NOTE you must be an Evolve Housing resident to enter.

Entries close midday **Monday 8th July 2024**, and we will contact the winners directly.

FIND-A-WORD 2024

A P U V C O M A T I C K E T S
C W K Y H M O V I E V O A C Q
T R X W I G Y X O K P N I A V
O M D D L L Z Y D I A W S S V
R X R E D I R E C T O R L T S
N W Z S R B A A X L J S E H O
I N S G E X P O H N I T U D N
X M O Z N P O P C O R N Q K N
P N F T S E T L H Z Q N P F C
H M T H R C F F D O F B P I O
O J D Y J G R M H F R X Z S M
Y T R K A V H E W L P R X V E
T I I L D K H Y E Y K N O C D
S V N O S J G S W N Z J G R Y
H X K I C E C R E A M S T J D

soft drink	director	children	aisle
ice cream	popcorn	tickets	cast
screen	horror	actor	ads
comedy	movie	hoyts	

UPCOMING EVENTS: SCHOOL TERM HOLIDAY, 29 JUNE 2024 TO 14 JULY 2024

Our Moonee Ponds office will be closed on 1st July

Garden Workshop with Cultivating Communities:

Tuesday 9th July, 1pm–3pm at Communal Garden next to block 28

School holiday activity at Funtopia: Friday July 12th from 12pm, 3/98–108 Hampstead Rd, Maidstone (Limited tickets available)

Mums and Bubs—Art Sensory Session: Wednesday

24th July 2pm–3:30pm at Wingate Shed

Community Safety Day with Vic Police : 26th July 2024 from 1pm at Wingate Shed

Further information on all events and how to register will be provided via SMS soon. Please feel free to reach out to our Community Connections Officer Eliza on 0421 348 040 or email **viccommunity@evolvehousing.com.au**

HELPFUL HINTS AND USEFUL INFORMATION

Rent Arrears Assistance

If you or anyone you know is struggling with rent arrears and need assistance, please see below a few organisations that may be able to assist you.

Wombat Housing and Support Services

Tenancy Plus Program

Contact: (03) 8327 2222

Location: 91 Melrose Street, North Melbourne

Please be aware Wombat has an extensive waitlist.

Home Connect (St Vinnies)

Contact: (03) 9304 0147

Location: 175 Glenroy Road, Glenroy

Home Connect requires you to do a phone intake assessment to ensure you qualify for their services.

If you require more information around assistance with arrears, please contact Community Connections Officer on 0421 348 040 or email:

viccommunity@evolvehousing.com.au

RAG spotlight

Financial Assistance grants

Did you know we provide financial assistance grants to our residents?

KEY grants

Supports adults with educational expenses who are looking to or are currently completing tertiary education such as TAFE or university.

Highschool Help

Supports high school students with educational expenses that attend high school.

GO grants

Supports children with expenses related to physical or cultural activities.

For more information, please contact our Community Development Officer by emailing community@evolvehousing.com.au

Student School Broadband Initiative

Do you have a school aged child and have no internet access at home?

SSBI has been extended until 31st December 2025!

To be eligible, a family must:

- Have a child living at home that is enrolled in an Australian school.
- Have no active broadband service over the NBN network.
- Live in a premise where they can access a standard NBN service.
- Not have had an active NBN service during the previous 14 days.

If you're an Evolve Housing tenant & you meet the eligibility criteria, please complete the form by scanning the QR code:

Please note previous applicants need not reapply.



Ask Izzy

Ask Izzy is an online website that connects people in need with housing, a meal, money help, health and wellbeing services, family violence support, counselling and much more.

www.askizzy.org.au

INFORMATION ON NEEDLE AND SYRINGE PROGRAM

The Victorian Needle and Syringe Program (NSP) aims to minimise the spread of blood-borne viruses such as HIV, hepatitis B and C among people who inject drugs. There are organisations and pharmacies who provide a variety of assistance and support to those seeking assistance.

For further information on NSP and where to get help, please contact your Community Connections Officer, Eliza on 0421 348 040 or

viccommunity@evolvehousing.com.au



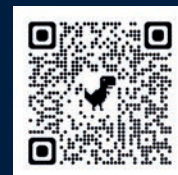
SEND YOUR COMPLIMENT OR COMPLAINT TO:

ihear@evolvehousing.com.au

CALL 1800 693 865

OR

Scan the QR code for our compliments, complaints and appeals forms



HOW TO LODGE AN APPEAL

If you are unhappy about a decision made about your tenancy you can lodge an appeal within three months from the date of the original decision.

To lodge an appeal, fill out our Appeals form on our website by scanning the QR code above or contact our office on 1800 693 865



evolvehousing.com.au/whats-on
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