SPRING - SEPTEMBER 2025

**NEW SOUTH WALES** 

RAG Chat - p2

In memory of Fred Avakian

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Bikes & Brakes

10am - 2pm / 1st October

**Rock Climbing** 

10:30am - 2:30pm / 9th October

Save the date -p5

Gone Fishing - Men's Day Out

10am - 3pm / 5th November

End of year cheer 2025



Evolve Housing resident Murray and his carer



### ACKNOWLEDGMENT 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.



Fred Avakian, 2025

"Fred's generosity, friendship, and gentle spirit touched so many lives. He will be dearly missed but never forgotten."

# RAG Chat

# In Memory of Fred

It is with heavy hearts that we share the passing of our dear Resident Advisory Group (RAG) member, Fred Avakian.

Fred joined the RAG in 2022 and quickly became a much-loved voice around the table. He rarely missed a meeting, often arriving early with a smile and a willingness to share his thoughtful ideas. His passion for making life better for residents shone through in everything he did.

Beyond the RAG, Fred was a kind and caring neighbour in his Guildford community. As Caretaker of his block, he not only kept the shared spaces clean and welcoming but also looked out for others — always ready with a helping hand or a kind word. Many residents didn't just know Fred as a neighbour, but as a true friend.

Our RAG members remember him with warmth:

#### GEORGE:

"Fred was always ready to contribute to the group and bring positive change to tenants everywhere. He will be missed."

#### BRUCE

"Fred was a colleague and friend. I will miss our chats before meetings."

#### AMINATA:

"Fred and I lived in the same area, and we would often run into each other at the shops. I will miss those times."

We understand this may be difficult news, if you feel you need further support please reach out to our Support Pathways team on 1800 693 865.

# **Annual Residents Meeting**

Join us to hear about Evolve Housing's achievements and updates on the programs for the year ahead.

You will have the opportunity to speak to Board Members and connect with Housing Managers and fellow residents.

DATE: Tuesday 18 November 2025

TIME: 10:30am - 2pm

LOCATION: Jack's Bar & Grill, Parramatta Leagues

Club, 1 Eels Place, Parramatta NSW 2150

PARKING: Free on-site parking



To register to attend scan the QR code.

# Save the Date



Our Imaginate school holiday program are free activities for Evolve Housing tenants to attend, learn and enjoy!

### Bikes & Brakes

Join us for a free biking workshop on how to ride a bike, basic bike safety and maintenance skills!

DATE: Wednesday 1st October 2025

TIME: 10am - 2pm

LOCATION: Holroyd Gardens Merrylands

(Corner Pitt St & Walpole Road, Merrylands, 2160)





## **Rock Climbing**

Climb into a day of fun at the Elevate rock climbing gym in Villawood!

DATE: Thursday 9th October 2025

TIME: 10:30am - 2.30pm

LOCATION: Elevate Climbing Villawood (5/850 Woodville Road, Villawood, 2163)

\*Suitable for all ages.



Lunch will be provided at both events with dietary options available.

Scan the QR code to register





## Ryde Community Support Hub

Need support with food assistance, Centrelink, NDIS, My Aged Care, or employment services? Or simply looking to connect with your local community?

Join us at the FREE Link Wentworth Ryde Community Support Hub where dozens of support providers will be available to help! Free light lunch provided by Link Wentworth.

DATE: Thursday 2nd October 2025

TIME: 11AM - 1PM

LOCATION: St. Anne's Church, 42 Church St, Ryde, 2112

Contact Yvonne if you would like to attend

**P/SMS:** 0478 690 320

**E:** community@evolvehousing.com.au

## **Boost Your Money Skills**

### Want to feel more confident with your money?

Join our free Money Workshop and learn practical tips for budgeting, saving, and making your money go further. It's a relaxed, friendly session with plenty of time to ask questions and share ideas. Come along, enjoy a cuppa, and take home tools to help you reach your financial goals.

DATE: Thursday 16th October 2025

TIME: 10:30AM - 12:30PM

LOCATION: Evolve Housing Office 9-13 Argyle Street Parramatta

#### Contact Rob

P: 1800 693 865

**E:** community@evolvehousing.com.au





## **Digital Basics**

### New to tech? We've got you!

Our Digital Basics Workshop is the perfect place to start if phones and computers feel a bit confusing.

We'll take it slow, keep it simple, and make learning fun. No silly questions, no stress — just friendly help.

#### **Contact Rob**

P: 1800 693 865

E: community@evolvehousing.com.au

## Women's Coffee Club takes on Western Sydney

The Women's Coffee Club offers a safe space for Evolve Housing women to connect, build new friendships, and share local support services and resources.

DATE: Thursday 6th November 2025

TIME: 10am - 3pm

LOCATION: Chambers Coffee Parramatta Square (Shop 1/169 Macquarie St, Parramatta, 2150)

Contact Yvonne if you would like to attend

P/SMS: 0478 690 320

**E:** community@evolvehousing.com.au



## Gone Fishing — Men's Day Out this November!

Grab your rods and your best fishing yarns — we're heading out for a cracking day on the water!

Whether you're a pro with a reel or just in it for the banter and big catches, this men's fishing trip is all about mateship, laughs, and a few tall tales. Gear, lunch, and good vibes provided. Limited spots – hook yours now!

DATES: Wednesday 5th November 2025

TIMES: 10am - 3pm

LOCATION: Kamay Wharf Kurnell (Kamay Botany Bay National Park, Botany Bay 1455)

TRANSPORT: Transport available from Evolve

Housing Office





To register to attend scan the QR code.













# End of year cheer 2025

To celebrate the end of year with our residents we will be providing two different options for our Adults & seniors + Families with children.

## Adults & Seniors event:

DATES: Friday 5th December 2025

TIMES: 10am - 2pm

LOCATION: Liverpool Catholic Club 424-458 Hoxton Park Rd, Preston's NSW 2170 ACTIVITIES: Lunch, bingo, performances TICKETS GO LIVE: Monday 6th October 2025

## Families with school aged children

This year we are doing things a little differently providing Festive options for families, to share the cheer we will be giving **a limited number of vouchers** away to Evolve Housing residents that have families with children.

You can choose 1 of 3 available experiences that best suits your family.

For more information please contact the Community Engagement team on 1800 693 865 or email community@evolvehousing.com.au

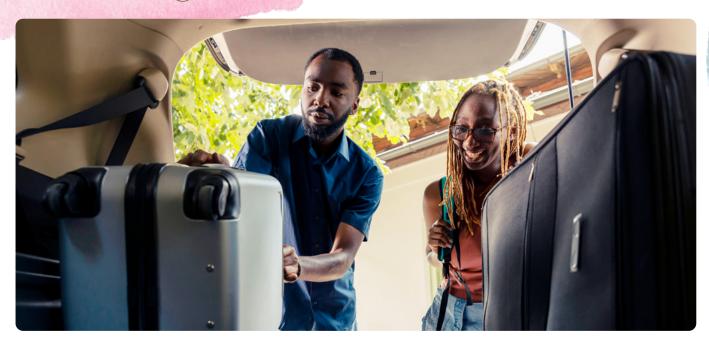


Keep a close eye out for updates to book, as tickets are limited & conditions will apply!

For more info scan this QR code on MONDAY 6 OCTOBER.



# Tenant obligations



## Planning to Be Away from Your Home?

If you're going to be away from your Evolve Housing property, it's important to let us know.

Here's what you need to do:

#### **Before You Leave:**



Notify your Housing Manager of your absence (e.g. holiday, hospital stay).



On chilly mornings, open up once it warms to help clear out overnight condensation.



Ensure all rent and non-rent accounts are up to date.



No one else may live in your home while you're away without approval.

### **Absence Guidelines:**



Absences over 6 weeks must be approved.



You can be away for up to maximum 3 months.



You cannot be away for more than 12 months in total over 5 years.

### **Acceptable Reasons For Absence:**



Caring for family, hospitalisation, escaping threats, immigration matters, holidays, work/study, or imprisonment.

#### While You're Away:



Rent and charges must still be paid.



Your property must be maintained (e.g. mail collected).



Appoint someone over 18 to act on your behalf.

### **Important:**



If you don't tell us you will be going away, or you do not come back on the day you have told us, you may loose you rental subsidy which may place your tenancy at risk.

## **Need Help:**



Speak to your Housing Manager or call: 1800 693 865 or visit: evolvehousing.com.au



# Have your say on energy use and costs in your home

## We'd love to hear from you!

Evolve Housing is working with the Community Housing Industry Association NSW (CHIA NSW) to better understand how tenants use energy, manage bills, and access support or rebates.

By taking part in this short survey, you'll help us find ways to better support you - when it comes to the cost of energy use.

### Who should complete the survey?

We ask that the person in your household who usually pays the energy bills or manages electricity or gas accounts fills it out. This helps us get the most accurate and useful information.

#### Your privacy matters

All responses are confidential and will only be shared with us in a de-identified format.

#### Participation is voluntary

Your input is valuable, but it's completely up to you whether you take part.

Thank you, we really appreciate your input.



Scan the QR code to have your say:





Terina Tarawa, Kereane Kalekale, Natasha McDonald and Jo Henderson-Brooks attended the Yarramundi lecture, Western Sydney University

# NAIDOC Week celebrations

Our Reconciliation Action Plan group immersed themselves in NAIDOC celebrations during the month of July with this year's theme - "The Next Generation: Strength, Vision & Legacy."

Our team attended the Western Sydney University's Yarramundi lecture, Western Sydney University NAIDOC Gala dinner and the Penrith NAIDOC event.

#### What does NAIDOC stand for?

NAIDOC stands for National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee. Its origins can be traced to the emergence of Aboriginal groups in the 1920's which sought to increase awareness in the wider community of the status and treatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

#### RAP team resource share:

DREAMY: MINDFUL STORIES FROM FIRST NATIONS STORYTELLERS

Dreamy is a collection of mindful audio stories from the First Storytellers – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. These stories bring an 80,000-yearold oral tradition of storytelling into the digital space, helping people of all walks of life to quiet their minds and drift into dream by connecting to Country.

To listen, scan the QR code:
Dreamy | Mindful stories from
First Nations Storytellers



# Competition corner

# WIN tickets to Luna Park



To keep the family entertained during the October school holidays we are holding a "Spot the difference" competition with all correct entries going into the draw to win 4 x day passes to Luna Park Sydney!

THE PRIZE: We have 1 prize to give away. The winner will get 4 x day passes to Luna Park Sydney.

HOW TO ENTER: Look closely at the two side-by-side images that appear almost the same. Find and circle at least 5 differences between them, then take a photo of the image with the differences when you're done. Send the photo by SMS to the Community Engagement team on 0412 806 461. Use the subject line 'Spot the difference'. Please include your full name, Evolve Housing address and phone number.

All correct entries will go into the running to win, then we will draw 1 winner randomly. Please note you must be an Evolve Housing resident to enter.

Entries close midday Monday 6th October 2025, and we will contact the winners directly.







## Tenant Porta

Congratulations to Arzu, the lucky winner of our Tenant Portal competition! Arzu has scored a brand-new iPad air—perfect for staying connected and using our online services.

Haven't joined the Tenant Portal yet? Register today to easily check your rent, update your details, and stay up to date with important news all in one place. Just go to the Evolve Housing website https://evolvehousing.com.au/ to find out more and how to register.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

In the Tenant Portal, you'll find a Knowledge Base with tips and information designed to help make managing your tenancy easier.

Scan the QR code to access:





SEND YOUR COMPLIMENT OR COMPLAINT TO:

ihear@evolvehousing.com.au

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