



Tēnā koutou, Tēnā koutou, Tēnā koutou katoa – Greetings to you all

Hello Tenants,

The first six months have flown by with some very positive input at TAG. Most notably is the City Harvest/Foodbank programme where tenants are picking up and distributing donated food supplies to tenants within their own and other complexes.

A huge thank you to Katarina and Keith who started out volunteering their time to do this for tenants at Harman Courts. They now collect and deliver food parcels to 10 complexes. If you would like to volunteer, please call the OCHT office for more information.

The social calendar is unfolding nicely with our bus trips, Devonshire teas, inter-complex pool competition and an upcoming ten pin bowling outing. Keep an eye on the Our Chat newsletter where outings are advertised.

A TAG page has been established on the OCHT website www.ocht.org.nz/tenant-advisory-group-tag/ where you can learn more about the TAG and contribute.

Finally, one of our top priorities is to get through winter healthy and well so please take good care of yourself.

Until next time,

Noeline Monsef

(Chairperson-TAG)



We've been busy!

It's been a busy few months for OCHT. Our fantastic tenancy management and property teams have been busy, and we have a range of tenant initiatives underway.

We have worked closely with Christchurch City Council to see that insulation in our properties was compliant by the 1 July 2019 deadline.

In July we purchased eight new homes from Housing Plus Charitable Foundation. The homes are in Hornby, and OCHT expects to have new tenants placed in all the properties by the end of July.

All tenants will be selected from the MSD Housing Register. The two-bedroom homes are modern, warm and dry and will increase housing options for families. OCHT has worked with MSD to ensure these homes are available as social housing for 25 years or longer.

In July we will also begin work on three sites in Christchurch where we are building forty new homes that will be available in 2020.

The OCHT now owns approximately 10% of the 2,300 properties we manage, and we have recently started property condition assessments on these properties. Over the coming 12 months we will focus on assessing and understanding longer-term maintenance needs.

As we know more about our assets, we will engage with tenants at complexes we own, on our capital maintenance programmes.

Finally, I encourage you all to nominate people in our complexes, that make a difference, for a Housing Heroes Award. You can find information on this later in the newsletter.

Ngā mihi nui

Cate Kearney
(CEO)



Lesley Keast Place Complex



New Gardening Service offered to tenants

Gardens bring a flash of colour throughout the year and they are also a source of vegetables for some tenants.

OCHT gardeners manage the communal gardens in housing complexes and maintenance of gardens adjoining the rental units is the responsibility of individual tenants. OCHT can arrange for our garden contractor to complete one-off garden works for you - there are charges associated with these services. Two options are available to tenants:

- **One-off garden tidy up** - \$109 - the price is standard for all units. After the tidy up, tenants are responsible for ongoing maintenance. You can pay off the garden tidy up at a minimum of \$5.00 per week.
- **Garden removal** - \$247 - the garden removal option is designed for tenants who no longer want to manage or maintain their garden. This is a one-off fixed cost. You can pay off the garden removal charge at a minimum of \$10.00 per week.

Talk with your Tenancy Manager if you have any interest in this service.



Community Services

Worried about unpaid power bills leading to your power being cut off?

Power is expensive and winter can be a difficult time to keep on top of power bills. If you are having trouble with paying your power bills, there are organisations who can help.

- ◇ City Mission: ph (03) 365 0635
- ◇ Mayor's Welfare Fund: ph 0800 800 169
- ◇ Kingdom Resources: ph (03) 332 1700
- ◇ The Maurice Carter Trust (Contact via your local MP)

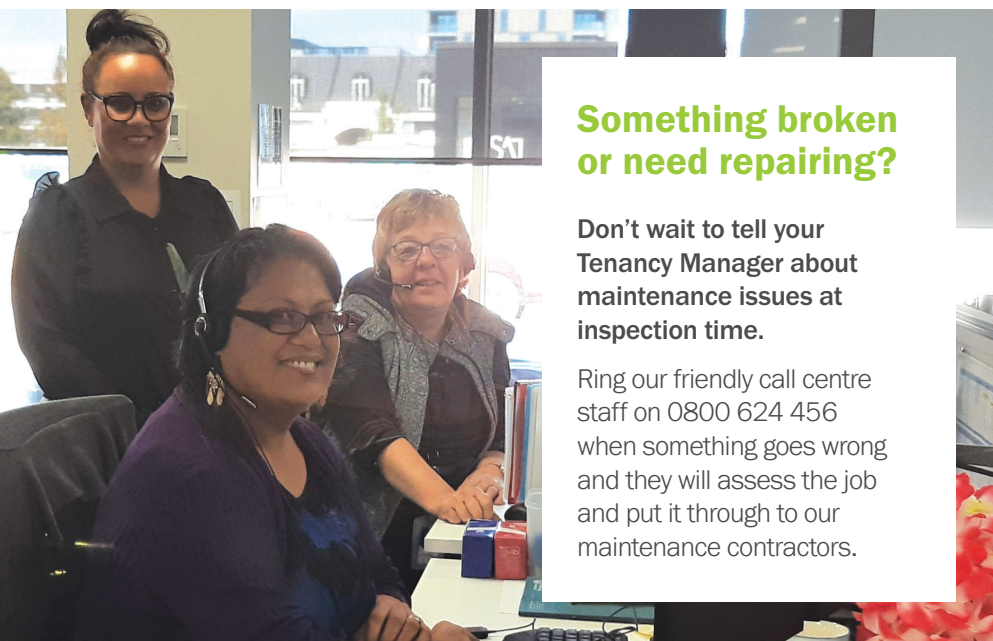
Or talk to your Tenancy Manager who can provide contact details.

Stop Smoking Canterbury

Do you want to stop smoking or know someone who does?

Smokefree are here to help. Call on 0800 425 700 to find out more or check out their website

www.stopsmokingcanterbury.co.nz



Something broken or need repairing?

Don't wait to tell your Tenancy Manager about maintenance issues at inspection time.

Ring our friendly call centre staff on 0800 624 456 when something goes wrong and they will assess the job and put it through to our maintenance contractors.



Housing Heroes - Reminder

We are still looking for nominations for this year's Housing Heroes Awards.

The person/people you nominate needs to be someone you think is a housing hero and is an OCHT tenant. Call us with your nomination on 0800 624 456 before Friday 30th August.

OCHT Events

organised workshops
and information sessions

Will writing /end of life sessions

Back by popular demand, and with thanks to the support and involvement of Canterbury Community Law, CDHB and the Funeral Directors Association, we will be running free will writing and end of life sessions again.

Sessions cover things like having a will and a power of attorney, what you can do without a lawyer and when you need to involve a lawyer, important documents you need to organise, and choosing a final resting place.

The information provided will be the same at each session and you are welcome to come along to any of the sessions listed below:

- ◆ Monday 9th September at Fletcher Place Lounge, Fletcher Place, Upper Riccarton 1pm – 3pm
- ◆ Tuesday 10th September at Jura Courts Lounge, 30 Jura Place, Woolston, 1pm – 3pm
- ◆ Wednesday 11th September at Clent Lane Lounge, 62 Cobham Street, Spreydon, 11am - 1pm
- ◆ Thursday 12th September at Bryndwr Courts Lounge, 26 Lees Road, Strowan, 11am – 1pm
- ◆ Friday 13th September at Jecks Place Lounge, Jecks Place, Dallington, 1pm-3pm.

You are welcome to bring a support person/family member if you wish.

Please arrive 15 minutes prior to start time as the sessions will start promptly on time. Refreshments will be provided.

Upcoming workshop Positive Tenancies

OCHT is organising workshops with guest speakers from Tenants Protection Association, Community Mediation Services and Tenancy Services/Tenancy Tribunal. You will learn about tenant rights and obligations, addressing issues between landlord/tenant and issues between tenant/tenant and mediation services.

Sessions will be held in October with dates and locations still to be confirmed. We will keep you up to date.

Otautahi Community Housing Trust Art Exhibition 2020

OCHT will host their first Art Exhibition from Monday 24th February to Sunday 1st March 2020. The exhibition will be held in the Pumanawa Exhibition Space at the Arts Centre on Worcester Boulevard.

This exhibition will be open to the public.

We know there are talented artists among you and this is the chance to show off and celebrate that skill!

Categories:

- Paintings/drawings: must be framed and be no larger than 42 cm x 60 cm and weigh no more than 10kg. Any medium is accepted e.g acylic, oil, watercolour.
- Sculptures: must be no more than 1 metre square and weigh no more than 10 kg.
- Craft: must be no larger than the specifications for paintings and sculptures.
- Photography: minimum size 20 cm x 30 cm, maximum size 42 cm x 60 cm. Print on photographic paper or heavy quality paper. Preferably framed.

Art work must be created by OCHT tenants only. Maximum of two entries per tenant.

Entry forms will be in the next Newsletter (October) and entries will close on Monday 20th January 2020

For more information, contact Rick Fraser, OCHT, phone 0800 624456.

Hot Tip!

Healthy Homes Helpful Tips

Here at OCHT we have created two handbooks for tenants - a guide for new tenants about your responsibility's and the Healthy Home Guide which has lots of tips about how you can keep your home healthy, safe and warm. If you would like a copy of the Healthy Home Guide, please ask your Tenancy Manager, or you can find both of these handbooks on our website <https://www.ocht.org.nz/news-and-publications/ocht-publications/>



TAG Tenant Events

Friday 30th August - 1.30pm

Event: Social afternoon with cards and games
Address: 60 Vincent Place, Opawa
No need to book just turn up on the day.

Friday 6th September - 10.30am

Event: Ten Pin bowling at Garden City Bowl
Cost: \$7.50 for 1 game
Address: 15-21 Iversen Terrace, off Moorhouse Avenue
Booking required, phone Yasmin 0211332909

Friday 1st November - 8.00am

Event: Kaikoura Bus Trip
Cost: \$35 per person
(payment required by 15th October – no refunds)

Depart from bus exchange Litchfield Street at 8.00am (sharp)
Return to bus exchange 6.00pm (approx.)

53 seats available on the bus so you will need to book and pay early. Stops en-route will be in Amberly and Cheviot. BYO lunch or buy something out. All enquiries and payment to Noeline 021 240 4463 or Yaz 021 133 2909.

The bus does have space for storing walkers but we need to know how many so make sure you mention this when you book.

Christmas Party for all tenants

TAG members are working through plans for a Christmas Party just for OCHT tenants early December. More details to come in the October Our Chat newsletter.

Thank you from...



Ōtautahi
community
housing
trust

Ōtautahi Community Housing Trust

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