



20th September 2013

Mark the Date: Tasmanian Community Housing: Trends, Transfers and Tenants

Shelter will be holding a one-day forum on the 29th of November, 2013 at the Salamanca Inn in Hobart. The program will have a particular focus on stock transfer and community housing, but will cover a range of issues that are relevant to all who work in the affordable housing sector.

We have some fantastic interstate and local speakers, including Professor Kath Hulse from AHURI; Peter White, Director of Housing Tasmania; Tony Gilmour, President of the Australian Housing Institute; Carol Croce, CEO of the Community Housing Federation of Australia and Maria McKenzie from Homes North in NSW. The day will be facilitated by the enigmatic Michael Lennon. Keep an eye on our [website](#) and [Facebook](#) pages for details and how to register in the coming weeks.

Housing and Homelessness News

Students Move into Homeless Housing

International students are living in \$27 million housing complexes built to provide homes for Hobart's most vulnerable people, Common Ground: <http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/students-move-into-homeless-housing/story-fnjj6013-1226715704241>

Housing Borrowing Increasing for Everyone Except First-Home Buyers: ABS

Total lending on houses has continued to grow steadily according to the Australian Bureau of statistics, but The Real Estate Institute of Australia says first home buyers are missing out. The number of owner-occupied finance commitments rose by 1.6% – following increases of 2.1% in June and 2.4% in May, in trend terms, according to the ABS. Read more at:

http://www.propertyobserver.com.au/news/housing-borrowing-increasing-for-everyone-except-first-home-buyers-abs/2013090964880?utm_source=po&utm_medium=aida&utm_campaign=newsplus&utm_source=Property+Observer+List&utm_campaign=6f58cdfdae-June+21+1+29+2013&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_a523fbfccb-6f58cdfdae-245331593

UN Housing Expert's Call to Axe Bedroom Tax

The Tory party chairman, Grant Shapps, has described as an "absolute disgrace" a call from the United Nations for the government to scrap the so-called bedroom tax. Accusing Raquel Rolnik, the UN special rapporteur on housing, of having an agenda, Shapps said he had written to the UN secretary general, Ban Ki-moon, demanding an apology and an explanation of Rolnik's findings. Go to: <http://www.theguardian.com/society/2013/sep/11/un-housing-bedroom-tax-absolute-disgrace>

Research

“On the Margins: Permanent Residents in Caravan Parks”

A Victorian research paper, “On the margins: Permanent residents in caravan parks” by Chris Chamberlain and David Mackenzie from Swinburne University/RMIT, investigates whether permanent residents of caravan parks should be included in the tertiary homeless population: <http://homelessnessclearinghouse.govspace.gov.au/whats-new-3/research-release-semi-permanent-and-permanent-caravan-dwellers-2013-australia/>

ACOSS Report Calls for Action on Energy Efficiency for Low Income Households

The Australian Council of Social Service report titled, ‘Energy Efficiency and People on Low Incomes’ identifies a series of measures to empower households to become active participants in controlling their energy use, becoming more actively engaged in the energy market and reducing energy costs. A link to the full report is available from the [ACOSS website](#).

Training/Workshops

Governance Workshops - Burnie and Launceston

Places are available in the “Legal Matters & Risk Management” workshops in Burnie (24th September) and Launceston (25th September). Contact Dale Rahmanovic on (03) 6231 0755 or dale@tascoss.org.au for more information and to register.

Bridges Out of Poverty Training, Launceston 3rd and 9th October

Tasmania Medicare Local is co-ordinating a series of workshops (Bridges Out of Poverty) as part of its Social Determinants of Health initiative, to provide practitioners with practical tools to assist Tasmanians affected by poverty and disadvantage. The all-day workshops will be held on 3rd and 9th October 2013 at the Tramsheds, Launceston. Contact Maree Gleeson on 6425 0800 or mgleeson@tasmedicarelocal.com.au for further details and registration (by Friday 20th September).

Financial Literacy Education Training

Colony 47 and Matrix on Board Training, with the support of the Tasmanian Government are providing Financial Literacy Education Training to workers in Tasmania under the FLEX grants program, as 1-day and 4-day workshops across Tasmania. For dates and locations of these courses, go to www.surveymonkey.com/s/Colony47 and click ‘Next’ at the bottom of the screen until the list of dates appears.

Places are still available for:

- Huonville (Monday 23 September 2013)
- Scottsdale (Monday 14 October 2013)

For further information phone 03 6222 1530 or email admin@colony47.com.au.

Conferences/Seminars/Forums

Tasmanian Association of Community Houses - State Conference 2013

TACH’s State Conference for 2013, ‘Building and Rebuilding Creative, Connected Communities’ will be held from Wednesday 25th September to Friday 27th September at the Brighton Civic Centre. Go to the TACH website for more details at <http://tach.asn.au/>, or click here for the [program](#) and [registration form](#).

Tasmanian Community Housing: Trends, Transfers, Tenants

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National Housing Conference—A New Way Home, 30 Oct – 1 Nov, Adelaide

The 8th [National Housing Conference](#), convened by AHURI in partnership with Housing SA, will be held from October 30 – November 1 in Adelaide. This is an opportunity to debate critical housing issues such as housing affordability, the under-supply of housing, homelessness and Aboriginal housing. Program and registration details are available [here](#).

If you are interested in a pre-conference workshop on older persons and housing that Housing for the Aged Action Group are conducting, then contact Jeff Fiedler at jeff.fiedler@oldertenants.org.au or 0417 117 232. Or call Pauline at Shelter Tas on 6224 5488.

2013 Tasmanian Disability Support Workers Conference

Save the Date - National Disability Services, in conjunction with DisabilityCare Australia and DHHS, will be hosting the Tasmanian Disability Support Workers Conference on the 11th and 12th November at the Hotel Grand Chancellor in Hobart.

Other News

Mental Health Referral Guide for Young People in Tasmania

This guide has been developed by the Statewide Youth Collaborative Group (SYC) and identifies services in Tasmania providing support, counselling, and therapeutic interventions for young people experiencing poor mental health. It is designed to assist your agency to identify the most appropriate service to provide the necessary support for a young person presenting to your agency. See the link on the YNOT [website](#).

The National Tobacco and Mental Illness Project

The National Tobacco and Mental Illness Project consists of a 10 week “Tobacco Free” course (which is peer facilitated), awareness raising sessions (called “Talking about Tobacco”) and staff information sessions in Hobart. Talking about Tobacco is an awareness-raising session to be provided in places where people with mental ill-health gather. These sessions provide an opportunity to encourage smokers to think about their tobacco use, to receive information and to consider what they would like to do about it.

For all Inquiries and bookings, phone –

Office: 62287448 **Mobile:** 0455 168 683

Email: Lalita Holmes, Project Officer NTMIProjectofficer@mentalhealthcarerstas.org.au

Melani Daley, Peer Facilitator NTMIpeerfacilitator@mentalhealthcarerstas.org.au

Partnership Agreement Scorecard Survey Open Until 30th September

A Partnership Agreement between the Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Premier and Cabinet and the Tasmanian community sector is a pledge to work together in relationships built on mutual understanding, respect and co-operation. A short online survey is now being undertaken to gauge where your organisation feels your current State partnerships are working well, and where you would like some support to work with your partner(s) more within the Partnership Agreement principles. Please complete the [Partnership Agreement Scorecard survey](#) by **30th September 2013**. Responses are welcome from community sector organisations (as many people per organisation can complete it as you want) or from government agencies providing funding services.