

# TENANT NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2025

### Hi Everyone,

As we step into Spring, I'd like to extend a warm welcome to all our tenants and thank you for being part of our vibrant housing community. This season brings not only fresh beginnings but also some exciting updates across our housing developments and community initiatives.

We are delighted to introduce our new Senior Wellbeing and Lifestyle Coordinator, Reem Zitawi, who has already hit the ground running. Reem is passionate about supporting tenants to feel connected and included. You may see her out and about with our Tenancy Officers during home visits, so please say hello and make her feel welcome.

It has also been a season of recognition and celebration. We are proud that UnitingSA was recently acknowledged at the UDIA SA Awards for Excellence, receiving first place in both the Social and Community Housing Award and the Medium Density Development Award. These achievements highlight the quality, innovation, and strong community focus that underpin our housing developments.

At Bowden, we recently celebrated the topping out ceremony for Uniting on Second, marking a major milestone. Once completed, it will offer 70 apartments, of which 46 will be allocated as affordable rentals, providing more South Australians with a safe and secure place to call home. Work is also progressing on Uniting on Hawker, which will deliver 30 social apartments for women aged 55 and over who are at risk of homelessness, a much needed and important initiative.

Looking ahead, we are excited to share that plans are well underway for our End of Year Family Celebration. A lot of preparation has gone into making this a wonderful event, and we're pleased to confirm it will be held indoors to ensure comfort for everyone.

Please save the date, 17th December as you won't want to miss out! Invitations will be distributed closer to the event.

We also welcome your ideas for future newsletter content, so please let us know what you'd like to see featured.

Until next time, take care.

Kind regards,

Ben Moore Chief Development, Property & Housing Officer





# **Kidman Park Taking Shape**



Above: Kidman Park two weeks ago and the architect's 3D render below.



Our Kidman Park community housing project is beginning to take shape. The \$3.5 million community project features a mix of 2- and 3-bedroom, two-level homes designed for families.

Supported by \$1.89 million in funding from the 'Homes Today' Social Housing Accelerator Payment—a joint initiative between the Federal and State governments—the development is progressing well. Wall frames and roofing are now complete, with most exterior cladding and windows installed.

This project will add to our existing housing precinct in Kidman Park, strengthening our commitment to providing safe, affordable homes for those who need them most. Tenants are expected to move in between March and April 2026. Stay tuned for more updates as we bring this important project to life!

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# **Uniting on Second**







Our Uniting on Second housing development has reached its highest point of construction. To mark this milestone, we hosted a traditional Topping Out Ceremony symbolising good fortune for the next phase of the build.

When finished in early 2026, Uniting on Second will deliver 70 modern apartments in Bowden, providing affordable homes for South Australians on low to moderate incomes.

We were pleased to celebrate with the Federal Member of Adelaide, the Honourable <u>Steve Georganas MP</u>; Senator Karen Grogan; the South Australian Minister for Housing and Urban Development, the Honourable <u>Nick Champion MP</u>; the Deputy Mayor of the City of Charles Sturt, Edgar Agius; the CEO of the City of Charles Sturt, Paul Sutton; our project partners <u>Kennett Builders</u> and RenewalSA and members of our Executive Team and Board.

Together, we are building more than housing, we are building communities.

Learn more about Uniting on Second: https://bit.ly/42BZsqa

### **UDIA Awards**

We're proud to share that Uniting on Devonport took out two awards at the 2025 Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA SA) Awards for Excellence





### New Team Member - Reem Zitawi

Hello everyone! I'm Reem, and I'm excited to be joining this amazing community as your new Senior Wellbeing and Lifestyle Coordinator!



I'm passionate about creating spaces where people feel connected, supported, and inspired. Whether it's through fun events, meaningful conversations, or collaborative projects, I'm here to help make our community a lively, welcoming, and joyful place to call home.

I've enjoyed meeting some of you recently and having those little chats that make our community special.

You'll see me out and about, so please don't hesitate to say hi! I'd love to hear your ideas, chat with you, and learn what matters most to you.

I am excited to meet you, hear your stories, and collaborate with you to achieve great things. I am especially looking forward to our end-of-year celebration, which will provide an opportunity to celebrate our community and enjoy some fun together. I can't wait to see all of you there and to continue building meaningful connections with each of you.

# **New Team Member - Deb Beverley**

I'm excited to introduce myself as half of the new Wellbeing & Lifestyle team here at UnitingSA. I'll primarily be working within the Retirement Living department, but I'm also looking forward to collaborating with Reem on a number of exciting projects across Tenancy Living.



It's been a pleasure meeting some of you already, and I look forward to connecting with many more in the near future.

As we approach the end of the year—a season often filled with family, friends, and reflection—it's important to remember that this time can also be challenging for some. Let's take a moment to check in on our neighbours, offer a kind word, and remind one another that we are seen, valued, and never alone. Sometimes, the smallest gestures can make the biggest impact.

Thank you all for the incredibly warm welcome into your communities. I'm truly grateful and excited for all that we'll create and achieve together in the new year.

Warm regards, Deb

# **New Team Member - Maria Latella**

The last 6 years I have been in an Accounts and Administration role,

Before that I worked for as a Service and Maintenance Scheduler for 10 years.



I come from a big Italian family with 4 other siblings, and 8 nieces and nephews.

I am really looking forward to settling into my new role as Maintenance Operations Support Officer and getting to know everyone here.



# How do tenancy officers support you?

Your partner in building a safe, supported and stable home

Tenancy officers play a central role in community housing — supporting tenants from the day they move in and throughout their tenancy. While much of their work happens behind the scenes, they're there to ensure homes remain safe, stable, and connected to community.

Their role goes beyond property management. Tenancy officers help tenants understand their rights and responsibilities, guide them through rent and maintenance, and provide support if challenges arise. They also check in through inspections and welfare visits — not just to look at the property, but to build trust, address concerns early, and connect tenants with services when needed.

They assist with neighbourhood issues, respond to anti-social behaviour, and work closely with local services to support tenants facing more complex challenges such as financial stress, health needs, or family issues. For those requiring extra help, they coordinate with caseworkers, carers, and support agencies to sustain long-term housing.

Tenancy officers also help strengthen community by linking tenants with events, wellbeing programs, and opportunities to connect.

More than housing managers, they are partners in a tenant's journey — offering compassion, advocacy, and consistency. Together, we're not just providing homes — we're building communities.



Pictured (Left to Right) Alicia, Sladjana, Lark, Sara





### **Tenant End-of-Year Celebration!**

Let's wrap up the year in style with a special afternoon at the Odeon Cinema!

Join us for a fun and festive gathering to connect with fellow tenants, share some laughs, and celebrate the wonderful year we've had.

Expect good vibes, great company, and a few surprises! \*



**When:** Tuesday, 17th December · 1pm – 4pm

Where: Odeon Cinema ⋅ 65 Semaphore Rd, Semaphore SA 5019

Keep an eye out for the official invitation, which will be sent closer to the date.

# **Public holidays**

- Christmas Day 25th of December
- Boxing Day 26th of December
- New Years Day 1st of January
- Australia Day 26th of January
- Adelaide Cup Day 9th of March

# Locked yourself out?

If you have locked yourself out, please call Housing Maintenance on 1800 023 023.

Tenant's can pick up a spare key at the office and should always call 1800 023 023 prior to attending.



Please note if there is not a maintenance team member available or if the call is made after hours, you will be charged for a locksmith to attend.



A huge thank you to all our amazing tenants who've entered this year's CHARTS (Community Housing Arts Awards)! we're so proud of everyone who took the leap and submitted their work.



What's next?

Entries closed: 30 September 2025 Finalists announced: Mid-October 2025

Awards Ceremony & Exhibition Opening: 4 December at The Mill Gallery

**Exhibition open:** 5–17 December, 10 am–4 pm daily People's Choice Award winner revealed: 16 December



## **Rent Review**

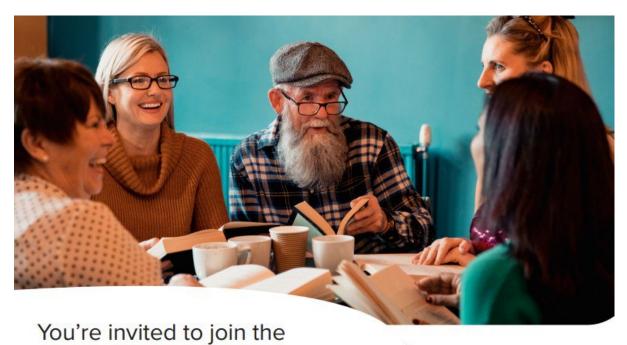
Recently the Commonwealth Government announced an increase to benefits, supplements, pensions, and various other offsets. This increase marks the beginning of our scheduled Rent Review process.

Your Income-Based Rent Subsidy Application form and Proof of income documents are due to us by 20 October 2025.

To make it easier for you, there are many ways that you can submit this information to us;

- Email us your information via our rent review email address <u>rentreview@unitingsa.com.au</u>
- Deliver your information in Person to 70a Dale Street, Port Adelaide
- Post your information to us at PO Box 3032, PORT ADELAIDE SA 5015

Navigating the Rent Review process doesn't have to be daunting. Our team is here to provide support in any way that we can.



TENANT BOOK CLUB



Scan to register

# Do you possess a passion for reading and sharing your thoughts with like-minded individuals?

Are you a book lover looking for a friendly community to share your passion? The UnitingSA Book Club has been meeting for over a year, bringing together readers for engaging discussions and warm connections.

We gather every four to five weeks to dive into the latest book we've all read—books are conveniently provided after collection from a local library. Each meeting is a wonderful opportunity to share your thoughts, savour a cup of coffee, and make new friends in a welcoming and supportive environment.

Whether you're keen on deep literary conversations or simply want to meet likeminded people, our group is the perfect place to connect and unwind. Interested in joining? Contact Reem at  $0457026349 \pm 1000$ 

wellbeingandlifestyle@unitingsa.com.au to learn more and get involved.

We'd love to welcome you to our next gathering!



# **Spring into Gardening**

Spring is here – and it's the perfect time to get your hands dirty and your garden growing! Whether you've got a backyard, a balcony, or just a windowsill, here are some quick tips to get started:

**Start Fresh** – Clear out weeds and old plants to make room for new growth. **Plant Smart** – Try easy, colourful flowers like marigolds or pansies, or grow your own herbs like mint, basil, or parsley in pots.

**Water Wisely** – Water in the early morning or evening to save water and keep plants happy.

**Reuse & Recycle** – Use old containers, tins, or bottles as plant pots – gardening doesn't have to be expensive!

**Get the Kids Involved** – Let them plant a few seeds or decorate pots – it's fun and educational!

**Join In!** – Chat with neighbours about swapping seeds or cuttings. A community garden could even be a fun future project!

Got a garden you're proud of? Share your pics with us for a chance to be featured in our next newsletter! Send your photos to: wellbeingandlifestyle@unitingsa.com.au



### **Maintenance matters**

If you need to report a maintenance issue to be attended to, please ensure that you leave your name, address and a contact number when leaving a message on our Housing Maintenance phone line. Without this information, we might not be able to address your concern in a timely manner. You can report your maintenance issue via the contact details listed below:

Phone: 1800 023 023 (including after-hours emergencies)

Email: housing@unitingsa.com.au

Business Hours: 9am- 5pm After Hours: 5pm- 9am

**Examples of emergency works are:** 

- Plumbing Burst water pipes, blocked drains, leaking taps (continuous flow of water)
- Electrical No power, faulty power points
- General Major roof leaks, broken windows, lost keys/lock out, falling ceilings

We ask that you do not send text messages for maintenance requests under any circumstances, as different UnitingSA Housing staff members may be on-call and your text may go to the wrong person. If you change your telephone number please advise the UnitingSA Housing team.



# RentRight SA

RentRight SA is a free, independent service helping people maintain their tenancies in private rental, community housing or public housing.



They can help with issues related to your tenancy such as leases, bond disputes, property maintenance and unpaid rent. Their advocacy team are available to anyone in South Australia, from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, via phone on **1800 060 462** and email.

### RentRight SA provides:

- Support to sustain or access a residential tenancy
- Education and information about a tenant's rights and responsibilities
- Advocacy and advice regarding tenancy issues and the housing options available
- Help navigating the housing system

They can also help you access legal services, health services, and social services to sustain your tenancy. Their advocacy team are experienced with SACAT proceedings and can support tenants to make sure they are fairly represented through the process.



# In a tough spot?

UnitingSA is here to help you and your family through it.

We offer a range of services programs for the immediate and long-term support you need to help manage any household or financial difficulties.

We also offer advocacy, support, information and advice and can refer you to other services and community activity.

### To access support, call us on (08) 8440 2299





# **Tenant column**

To keep updated with the latest events, forms, your rights as a tenant and information on how to provide feedback, please visit our website: <a href="mailto:unitingsa.com.au">unitingsa.com.au</a> and search for "tenant information"

### Alternatively, Do you have something you would like to share?

UnitingSA Housing encourages you to share any friendly correspondence with our tenants via this UnitingSA Housing Newsletter. You're welcome to share personal stories, jokes, quotes, recipes, or fun images. If you would like to participate please email housing@unitingsa.com.au.



# **Other Support Services**

**1800RESPECT - National Domestic, Family and Sexual Assault line** 1800 737 732 (24 hours)



**Domestic Violence Crisis Line - 1800 800** 

098 (24 hours) - connection to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander specific services and migrant specific services are available through this line

**Nunkuwarrin Yunti of South Australia** 8406 1600 - health and wellbeing support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families

**KWY Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Services** 8377 7822 - Whole of family services to support safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children

**Migrant Women's Support Program -** 8152 9260 - culturally sensitive support for women experiencing domestic violence

**Relationships Australia** - 1800 310 310 therapeutic, relationship and victims of crime counselling

Men's Referral Service - 1300 766 491 counselling, information and referral for men





#### Vanessa Munday

Senior Manager - Housing Services **P:** 08 8200 9206

#### **Gary Glenn**

Housing Maintenance Manager **P:** 1800 023 023

#### **Sunette Le Roux**

Tenancy Services Manager **P:** 08 8440 2262

### **Lark Eynon**

Tenancy Officer **P:** 08 8440 2134

### Sara Williams

Tenancy Officer **P:** 08 8440 2129

#### **Ted Graban**

Maintenance Coordinator **P:** 1800 023 023

#### **David Barreau**

Maintenance Coordinator **P:** 1800 023 023

#### Maria Latella

Maintenance Operations Support Officer **P:** 1800 023 023

#### Reem Zitawi

Senior Wellbeing and Lifestyle Coordinator **P:** 0457 026 349

#### **Deb Beverley**

Wellbeing and Lifestyle Coordinator **P:** 0409 620 228

#### **Laura Price**

Housing Services Operation Manager **P:** 08 8440 2126

#### Jose Giraldo

Administration Support Officer **P:** 08 8440 2244

#### Nadine Segura Abril

Administration Support Officer **P:** 08 8440 2219

#### **Alicia Marzinotto**

Systems & Compliance/Tenancy Officer **P:** 08 8440 2209

#### Sladjana Deric

Tenancy Officer **P:** 08 8440 2134

# Summer Word Search

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