

Tenant News

February 2021



Good News Story

Great things are happening! More Aboriginal community housing is becoming available.

Many Rivers are excited to be managing a new house in Forster. The Aboriginal Housing Office recently completed this build. It is now home to a very happy tenant and her family.

We are also managing two new builds planned for Boggabilla.



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Many Rivers Annual General Meeting

Many Rivers Annual General Meeting is being held on Tuesday, 23rd February 2021 between 1:30pm - 2:30pm. Join us for lunch and a yarn, we would love to share our work with you and hear what you'd like to see your organisation achieve.

There are a few ways that you can join:

- In person at the Many Rivers Office, Suite 2/66 Lord Street Port Macquarie.
- In person Dunghutti Elders Council, 17-23 South Street Kempsey.
- Or speak to Jade about how to join remotely via phone or online.

Please RSVP to Jade (02) 6562 2576 or email jadeh@mrrahms.com.au

Housing News

Fats, Oil and Grease down drains

If you put fats, oils and grease down sinks or toilets, they cause blockages. The liquids cool down and become thick and solid. The blockages can cause sewage overflows.

Fats, oils and grease come from cooking oil, meat drippings, butter gravy and dairy products, just to name a few.

What should you do with fats, oils, and grease?

Three easy steps

- cool it
- scrape it
- put in green or red bin



Picture of oil being poured down the drain

Purfleet NAIDOC Competition

COVID -19 meant that many of our normal NAIDOC Week celebrations were not possible in 2020.

Purfleet Aboriginal Community found a creative way to celebrate. They held a door decoration competition. The community jumped right into the NAIDOC spirit with this initiative.

Many Rivers supported the event by providing prizes for tenants that participated.



Shout Out!

Many Rivers knows that money can be tight during the Christmas - New Year period. We would like to say a big thank you to all the tenants that continued to pay their rent and payment plans over the holidays.

Many Rivers will draw the winners of our rent payment prize give away shortly. Stay tuned.

Housing News

Beat the Heat! - Tips for keeping your house cool.

Close the house up

- Close all doors, curtains, blinds to keep the heat out. Open it all up again in the cool of the evening.

Fans

- Make sure that your ceiling fans are working and are cleaned regularly.
- If you do not have any ceiling fans, buy a pedestal fan. They are cheap to run.

Air Conditioners

- Turn on the aircon if you have one.
- Service and clean your air conditioner regularly. Many Rivers services the aircons every twelve months give us a call if you think yours is due.
- Don't set the temperature extra cold. You may think that having your air conditioner set on the coldest setting is the best way to beat the heat. But it can blow your energy bill and increase wear and tear on your air conditioning unit.

Lights out

- Turn off the lights in the rooms you are not in.



Community Services and Tenant Support

Managing Money

Money Smart provides information and resources on managing money for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

The website contains information on:

- Moola talk (money, credit cards and loans)
- Paying for funerals
- Super and us mob (superannuation)
- Dealing with family pressure (giving money to your mob)

Money Smart has an Indigenous Outreach Team who can:

- Provide advice and information about managing money and debts
- Assist with complaints



You can contact the team through the Indigenous Help Line on 1300 365 957 or visit the website <https://moneysmart.gov.au/indigenous>.



Dreamtime Story

The Goanna that Lives on Sugarloaf Mountain



Long ago, a group of men, they went to Sugarloaf Mountain.

The young men and the older men, they are travelling together to the bora ground, to initiate the teenage boys into their first stage of initiation.

That little boy wanted to go, but he was too young.

The old men said: "No, you are very young. You can't go to be made a dhilgirr".

That little boy did not listen to the older man. He was very naughty. The old men told him: "Stop playing up!"

The old men said: "You will travel with the women. You all make a camp on the mountain, then you stay with the women!" The old men said to the women: "Goodbye."

That boy sneaked after the old men. That little boy followed the old men. They travelled up Sugarloaf Mountain.

That old man knew the little boy was following. The really old man told one of the other men: "Wait here then take the little boy to the women's camp."

When it was getting dark, the boy saw the old man. The old man killed a goanna. They ate it and then lay down, to sleep.

In the morning, the old man threw a rock at him, to make him get up and go to the camp. The man hit him on the head with a rock, and he killed the little boy.

He – the boy- became a goanna; he became a spirit. Today we can see that little boy spirit. He's like a goanna. He's living in the trees, on Sugarloaf Mountain.

Colouring in competition



Told by Rita Scott (nee Holten)

Retold by Caroline Bradshaw

Illustrations and animation by

Frank McLeod

Colour the picture to the left and return by mail, or take a photo or snapshot of your finished colouring in and send it to 0492996935 or through Facebook Messenger to win an art prize!