

# Housing Upgrade project update

## Hanson Court Apartments

Two of the Hanson Sisters towers are finished and tenants have moved in. Work is well under way on the new road to the southern Sisters – this will provide parking and improved access. The last of the Sisters, Block C, is buzzing with contractors, who are working steadily towards completion early next year. Once Block C is open we'll be working with the Community Action Team on the opening of the new Community Room.

Hanson Court Apartments



The outdoor communal space at Central Park Apartments Central Park Apartments

## Central Park Apartments

Stage three of the Central Park upgrade is complete, with 18 one-bedroom units ready for tenants.

Work has started on the final stage, which includes the Tower block. This is scheduled for completion in August 2012. Landscaping in the courtyard is complete with gardens, trees, seating areas and a great atmosphere.

The work on the community outdoor space was completed early and the internal fit-out is under way. This will be phased, with the tenancy manager's office being the first stage of the project. The fit-out is due to be completed by August 2012.

## Berkeley Dallard Apartments

A tenant information session was held in November and outlined the timeline for the construction programme. At present this is scheduled for 2013. Significant investment is planned for site-wide landscaping to integrate the Central Park Apartments, Nairn Street townhouses and Berkeley Dallard to provide a shared outdoor space.

Berkeley Dallard Park Apartments



Regent Park Apartments

## Regent Park Apartments

The three-bedroom townhouses are complete with surrounding landscape work under way. The four-bedroom townhouses are nearly finished. Work is progressing well on the 18 two-bedroom apartments. A total of 27 apartments and townhouses will be completed by the middle of next year.

## Newtown Park Apartments

Newtown Park has seen significant progress in the past few months. With the Mansfield block handed over in October, the contractors are now spread across three blocks. The Fire Station block is scheduled for completion before Christmas with tenants moving in early in the New Year. The Russell Block will be ready for tenants towards the end of 2012.

Newtown Park Apartments



# city housing news

Pānui – Noho Whare, Noho Whānau

## A champion in our midst

**Wellington-born Kerrill Harkness, from Granville Flats, was a winner at the 13th Australian Masters Games in Adelaide in October.**

Kerrill represented New Zealand in ten pin bowling and did us proud by returning with two gold medals and a bronze medal.

Before participating in the Masters Games, Kerrill spent 10 years competing in the Special Olympics, winning 76 medals, two trophies and lots of ribbons.

With the help of sponsors, Kerrill has travelled to Australia each year for five years

for the Masters. Kerrill says the Masters Games organisers are very caring and encouraging. "Recently I suffered with tennis elbow and they supported me throughout the competitions in many ways, including providing massage on my arm between events."

When she is not playing ten pin bowling, Kerrill enjoys catching up with friends and family, and is an active member of the Salvation Army.

Next October, Kerrill plans to compete at the 2012 Master Games in Alice Springs.



Bowled them over – Kerrill Harkness with her medals from the Australian Masters Games in Adelaide in October.

## Christmas and New Year hours



City Housing staff wish you a very safe and happy holiday. If you need to contact us over this time, these are our office hours:

### Service Centre

Closed Monday 26 and Tuesday 27 December 2011 and Monday 2 and Tuesday 3 January 2012. Open Wednesday 28 December from 8.30am to 5pm.

### City Housing staff

There will be less City Housing staff on duty so your first point of contact should be the Service Centre until Wednesday 4 January.

### Who to contact by phone

Please use the Contact Centre phone number, 499 4444, over the Christmas holiday period, as the City Housing office will be closed and staff members will not be available on their direct phone numbers.

Don't leave a message as it won't be heard until Wednesday 4 January.

### Repairs over Christmas

Call the Contact Centre for maintenance or repairs over Christmas. You will need to make sure you are at home to let the tradesperson in or you may be charged a call-out fee.

### Emergency contact

In an emergency call the Police on 111 or your nearest police station.

## EARTHQUAKE STRENGTHENING

As part of our housing upgrade, we assessed all our high-rise buildings to see if they needed earthquake strengthening. Strengthening work is now well under way. We've also nearly finished an initial assessment of our smaller complexes. Like all Wellingtonians, we need to take some simple steps to prepare for an earthquake or any other

disaster. Make sure you have a basic household emergency kit that includes food and water for at least three days including: non-perishable food (canned or dried food); food, formula and drinks for babies and small children; water for drinking – at least 3 litres per person, per day; water for washing and cooking; a primus or gas barbeque for cooking; a can

opener; a radio and a torch. Check and replace food every twelve months.

Emergency preparedness booklets are available from the WHAT Office at Arlington Apartments, Tenancy Management Clinics and City Housing reception.

[civildefence.govt.nz](http://civildefence.govt.nz)  
[getthru.govt.nz](http://getthru.govt.nz)

Contact us: City Housing • PO Box 2199 • Wellington • Phone 499 4444  
[CityHousinginfo@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:CityHousinginfo@wcc.govt.nz) • [Wellington.govt.nz](http://Wellington.govt.nz)



Five stars – Housing Heroes pictured with their friends and family, Mayor Celia Wade-Brown (centre) and City Housing staff members.

## Housing Heroes

The 2011 City Housing Heroes Awards were presented by Mayor Celia Wade-Brown in September. The awards went to five tenants:

**Leigh Harrington**, Arlington Apartments, who encourages other tenants to participate in community life.

**Bruce Hurley**, Hanson Court Apartments, who gets tenants involved in community building activities such as art groups and social events.

**Kathleen Peoples**, Queens Court Flats, who has been a member of the WHAT

(Wellington Housing Association of Tenants) executive for 14 years.

**Debbie McGill**, Granville Flats, who holds down a full-time job and spends the rest of her time working for change in her community.

**Shelagh Tidy** (posthumously), Heath Street Flats, who always welcomed new tenants to the community and made them feel at home. Raymond George, Claire Pringle and their daughter Jamie George accepted the award on her behalf.

## Neighbour lends a hand

**Ryan James**, a Council tenant since 2007, was among the first group of tenants to move house in the housing upgrade project. Ryan, who knows that moving can be a stressful time for people, offered to support a neighbour through her move. The City Housing relocations team presented him with a certificate of appreciation for his support, which not only helped the tenant, but made their job easier as well. "We were so grateful for Ryan's support, particularly because he could provide a friendly face and offer assurance that we'd be there every step of the way to make the move as stress-free as possible – and he even helped us with packing," says Jirayu Chotimongkol, Tenancy Liaison Coordinator.

Photo: Good neighbour – Ryan James is presented with a certificate of appreciation by Jirayu Chotimongkol of City Housing.



### Tenant Summit – Celebrating Neighbours Day Aotearoa

Did you know that Neighbours Day Aotearoa is celebrated in March every year? City Housing is hosting a Tenant Summit in March 2012 for City Housing communities to come together. The summit will be a celebration of Neighbours Day, and a chance to meet others and share stories. There'll be discussion groups about various hot topics in your communities.

If you'd like to be involved with this event, register your interest by contacting Rosie Gallen on 499 4444.



## Holiday survival tips



Help with Christmas stress is available from a variety of different agencies, but these tips may help you survive and even enjoy the holiday period:

- Don't spend more on Christmas than you can afford. Christmas can be about spending time together as a family, not about buying expensive presents.
- Set aside money to cover bills in January and February.
- Ease up on the drink – alcohol is a major contributing factor to violence. Pace yourself and don't blow your cool.
- Don't drink and drive. Arrange for transport home before you go out or appoint a sober driver.
- Don't spend all your time on top of one another – plan activities that give you breathing space and identify areas or issues likely to cause pressure.

- Seek advice – various agencies offer assistance on relationships, budgeting and managing stress.
- If you share custody of children, come to an agreement before Christmas so that your children get to spend time with each of you.
- Take time out. If you find yourself under pressure, go somewhere and calm down.
- Most importantly, if you fear for your own or anyone else's safety, call the Police immediately on 111.

### Call Police Emergency 111 when:

- someone is badly injured or in danger
- there's a serious risk to life or property
- a crime is being committed and the offenders are still there or have just left
- you've come across a major public inconvenience, like trees blocking a

state highway

- any of these things are happening now or have just happened.

If you can't decide whether it's a real emergency and you're still worried, call 111 and ask for advice.

For more information on calling 111, visit [111.govt.nz](http://111.govt.nz) If it is not an emergency, phone your local police station.

### The following are 24-hour numbers:

**Wellington Women's Refuge**  
crisis line 473 6280

**Victim Support** 0800 842 846

**Life Line** 0800 543 354

**Youth Line** 0800 376 6333

**Crisis Team** (Mental Health) 0800 745 477

**Family Violence.** It's not OK 0800 456 450, or visit [areyouok.org.nz](http://areyouok.org.nz)



Contributed by Falaknaz Saiyed of Berkeley Dallard Apartments

## Global recipies

### Haleem

Haleem is a thick soup blended from wheat, lentils, meat and spices.

- 500g chicken (4-6 large boneless pieces)
- 350g or 2 cups ghee/oil
- 2-3 onions, sliced
- 200g or 1 cup wheat
- 100g or ½ cup Dal Chana (split yellow lentils)
- 25g (3 tablespoons) barley
- 1 packet (Shan) haleem masala mix (use less for mild)

Soak wheat, barley and lentils in water for at least 1-2 hours.

To ½ cup of hot ghee/oil add chicken and haleem masala mix. Fry for few minutes, then add 1/2 glass of water. Then add soaked lentils, wheat and barley. Cover and cook on low heat until the meat is completely tender (4-6 hours). Stir occasionally.

Remove from heat and separate meat from the curry. Finely shred the meat by mashing it with a wooden spoon or in a blender with some water.

Pass the rest of the mixture through a sieve and collect the drained

liquid. Blend the grains with a wooden spoon or grind in a blender to make a coarse paste.

Mix together the shredded meat and grains. Bring to boil. Cook on low heat for 30 minutes, stirring frequently.

Heat the remaining ghee/oil. Fry the sliced onions until golden and stir in. Cover and cook on low heat for 10 minutes.

To serve: garnish with fried onions, finely chopped ginger, green chillies, Shan Chatt Masala and lime juice.

Serves 6-8.

If you'd like to share a recipe send an email to [cityhousinginfo@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:cityhousinginfo@wcc.govt.nz) or post your recipe with your name and address to City Housing, PO Box 2199, Wellington – Re: City Housing Newsletter