

grounded



CGA
City
Playgroup



CGA
supports
OzHarvest



CGA
Christmas
Proms



Costa Georgiadis with staff of Common Ground at the gardening workshop.

Costa Georgiadis visits the CGA Community Garden.



The CGA community garden has existed for several years but has had new life breathed into it with the move in 2015 to The Joinery - an environmental and community hub created and managed by the Conservation Council of SA and National Resource Management Board.

The garden has been successful in engaging a broad range of community members - from children to the elderly, sharing knowledge, skills and friendship. It is a place of creativity, healing and growth. The food produced is both shared amongst the community and used in Common Ground Adelaide's weekly cooking program.

In collaboration with the Adelaide City Council and The Joinery, the garden group started a new venture in keeping chickens.

The Community Garden is providing another opportunity for people to engage, learn new skills and be involved in food production. It is also about showing people how they can live more sustainably.



A workshop with Costa Georgiadis on how to keep chooks and build gardens for flourishing communities. The event was attended by over 40 community members, and was the result of a collaboration between Common Ground Adelaide, Conservation Council SA and the Natural Resource Management Board SA.

Costa said, *"This facility here is an absolute crackerjack of a space that is just growing and growing literally, not just in terms of the garden and plants but also the groups and collaborative community organisations that are attaching to this wonderful place."*



CGA City Playgroup.



Michael Lennon - Housing Choices Managing Director - explores his artistic side at the Light Square City Playgroup.



A city playgroup, set up by Common Ground Adelaide to support a growing number of families living in the CBD, is thriving.

The Light Square City Playgroup started in July 2015. Facilitated by the Department for Education and Child Development through Sturt Street Children's Centre, the initiative is being held at CGA's Light Square premises, off Waymouth Street in Adelaide's CBD.

Common Ground's State Manager, Julie Duncan said the playgroup provided a comfortable way for families from all over

the community to come together to learn and develop. "Playgroups have been proven to be a powerful platform to support both children and parents in those crucial early years," Ms Duncan said. "We are welcoming parents, carers and most importantly, children from all over Adelaide, including those who live at Common Ground.

"We want to ensure we not only support our tenants to go out and connect with the wider community but also, to bring the community into Common Ground. This is important for our organisation, our residents and our city."

The Playgroup received a boost this year with the installation of a new indoor play house and updated play equipment, thanks to a grant from the Morialta Trust.

Light Square City Playgroup runs every Wednesday (except school holidays) from 10am until 11:30am at Common Ground Adelaide.

For more information or to register interest, phone 8205 1600.

Collaborating on Community Safety



Last year, Liz Syngajewski, CGA Acting Executive Manager and the South Australian Police (SAPOL) joined forces to promote community safety in the CBD. SAPOL and CGA residents held a series of meetings to put together an action plan for promoting community safety initiatives.

The wider Common Ground community have now embraced the relationship and have reported feeling safer and more confident about working proactively on community safety with Police". - Liz Syngajewski

CGA true colours shine through art.

Common Ground's 10th anniversary is about to come to an end, and 2016 marked another great year for Common Ground and Adelaide.

The highlight of the year was the *I am 10* event, an art exhibition to mark a decade since the launch of Common Ground in South Australia. Special guest, Common Ground New York founder Rosanne Haggerty, spoke at the fundraiser attended by founding board members Gary Storkey and Stephen Young and more than 80 people in Adelaide during Homeless Persons Week. Ms Haggerty, now President and CEO of Community Solutions in the United States, used the opportunity to highlight how important collaboration is to solving homelessness, addressing housing stress and helping people turn their lives around. She highlighted how CGA set the agenda for a new way of



MC Belinda Heggen and artist Christine McDonald in front of her artwork.

addressing the issue across the nation.

Seven pieces of art were sold with all proceeds going to the residents who kindly donated a portion of the proceeds back to Common Ground. The Housing Choices Group Managing Director Michael Lennon spoke about how art was very much at the heart of Common Ground – in New York and Adelaide.

"It's no co-incidence that art work adorns most of the corridors and foyer areas of the apartment buildings and offices at Common Ground Adelaide.

"For some, this is a relatively new discovery,

something that has surfaced as they've found more stability, security and self-worth with the support of Common Ground."

The event was supported by Walter Clappis from Hedonist Wines who donated 30 bottles of red for sale and Bronte Manuel from Toop and Toop Real Estate who gave up his time at no cost to auction two paintings under the hammer.

Other special guests included former Common Ground Managing Director Sue Crafter, founding board member Gary Storkey and State Member for Adelaide, Rachel Sanderson MP.



CGA proudly supports OzHarvest Food Rescue.

CGA residents were among 55 volunteers who assisted in OzHarvest's annual Great Food Rescue Race on Friday 4th November 2016. 20 teams competed in a "pressure-cooker" series of 'food rescue' themed challenges across the CBD, raising a total of \$73,920. Common Ground hosted a checkpoint with SA Life's Rosa Matto where racers were given 15 minutes to write and illustrate a recipe for an easy to prepare, delicious and nutritious meal. Common Ground Adelaide State Manager, Julie Duncan said CGA was delighted to be involved in the event at Light Square.



Staff, residents and Oz Harvest Food Rescue racers.

"OzHarvest provides invaluable support to Common Ground," Ms Duncan said. "The partnership we have is very special and the CGA community is proud and excited to be able to give something back.

"Many who live at Common Ground have overcome enormous challenges in their lives. Our involvement in the food rescue challenge provides great insight

into our community and how inspirational our residents are."

OzHarvest collects quality excess food and distributes it free of charge for over 600 charities including those at Common Ground. The money raised from the 2016 Great Food Rescue Race will mean 147,840 meals are delivered to people in need in the South Australian community.



Staff and residents' at The Great Gatsby - Christmas Proms.

Christmas Proms!

Late last year, during the festive season, Common Ground was offered 50 tickets to The Great Gatsby Themed Christmas Proms at the Adelaide Festival Centre. Staff from CGA jumped at the offer and set about organising a resident BBQ dinner followed by a group of residents attending the event together. A portion of funds raised during the Proms has also been distributed to the participating charities. Thanks to the Adelaide Festival Centre for involving the Common Ground community in the Proms. Here are a couple of images from the evening. If you attended, we hope you thoroughly enjoyed it!



Something to say? Tenant feedback forms are available in or near the common areas at Light Square, Franklin Street, Mellor Street and Augusta Terrace. Feedback from all members of our community is welcome at any time. Email admin@cgadelaide.org



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