


Camden Haven Community at 3 Inc.
ABN 79 652 261 007

Edition 12 October 2021	YOUR NEWSLETTER Do you need a hand? Call Alan (0419-370076) or Theo (0438-358057) or at Comboyne call Ray (0427-117950)
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Committee Members: Theo Hazelgrove (Chairman), Alan Kilminster, Fran Burns, Glenn Maas, Hima Karnati, Ann Macinante, Brian Giles-Browne, Nathan Killick (Public Officer and Chaplain), Ray Peters (Assistant Chaplain), Dr Sam Nelapati (Patron)



MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN THEO

How blessed we are to live in this area with the protection from storms that other areas receive and of course, the Coronavirus. So far, we have been kept safe & for that it is a good time to say thank you to God for His love and protection. The Virus has meant changes for Community where we have to adapt with everyone else, to lockdowns etc, but the good news: we will be **recommencing the BBQ on Wednesday 1st December**. I must send appreciation to our Volunteers who have been on the job and available to support our community over the past few months. Thank you. Our intention was that no one would be left behind and because of the commitment of so many people we have achieved that goal. Sadly, there still remain people homeless, and as housing is in short supply, it is currently not easy to find a home, **but we won't give up!** We will continue to find ways to support the homeless and the lonely. Please contact me if you feel led to join us.

 **Crisis Accommodation in the Camden Haven** 

In the 2021 year to date, Community at 3 has worked with a total of 116 individuals in need of Crisis or Short-term housing. We, alongside other Government and Non-Government organisations have struggled to find placements through traditional methods i.e., Shelters, Estate Agencies, existing group style homes.

Our data includes only those who have approached us and does not include those who are couch-surfing, living in vehicles or camping out in state forests.

The data is even more frightening when you understand that 36 children are included in our figures.

We believe the time has come to address this situation by purchasing an accommodation property in the Camden Haven that will be used to provide Short-term and Crisis housing to address the needs of our community.

To begin this process, we have called a Public Meeting of interested, involved, and motivated people to "Think Tank" the work needed to move the project into a reality. We believe that your attendance would enhance our knowledge and understanding of both the issue and complexity of the task ahead.

Building our community into a stronger, more supportive and inclusive entity relies on each of us to help with the heavy lifting. We would appreciate not only your attendance at the "Think Tank" but also your energetic support in spreading the word through your networks.

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PUBLIC MEETING / THINK TANK
Thursday 2nd December 4pm – 5.30pm
Laurieton United Services Club

Please contact Brian Giles-Browne 0439-569992 or Theo Hazelgrove 0419-370076 for further information or to confirm attendance.

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- ✓ Did you know you that gorillas can't swim?
- ✓ Did you know that over 500 meteorites hit the Earth each year?
- ✓ Did you know that it takes a plastic container over 50,000 years to start decomposing?
- ✓ Did you know that, throughout the Covid lockdowns, Community at 3 has never stopped providing food and other assistance to those in need – always in a Covid-safe way, of course. We are here for the long-term!



**Our new (used) Nissan Micra
...for all those many needs where only
one or two people need transport.**

YOU WON'T BELIEVE THIS!

Many of you may know that early this year we had a 12-seater Bus donated to us. Well, it has been constantly used to benefit our local community, however, we often have the need to assist just one or two people (medical appointments, small deliveries etc.) and it seemed extravagant to use the Bus in such cases. So, we looked for a cheap car and someone who might assist with the cost. Not only did a generous person offer his car at less than half price, but a donor came along with *all* the funds needed. We also have 3 new Volunteer drivers who are rostered and available to drive the car when required. **THANK YOU** so much to our generous seller and equally generous donor, both who reside in the Camden Haven and want to join with us in caring for those not so fortunate as themselves.

We cannot do everything, but with the many people & organisations with whom we **partner**, much can be achieved.



Another homeless flood victim's story

Josaia and Kerry lived in a house they owned at Brigadoon Caravan park when the floods hit earlier this year. Not only was their home destroyed but Josaia lost his wheelchair. We made an approach to the **Rotary Club of Laurieton**, and with their usual generosity, Josaia has a new wheelchair. As well, we have been working hard looking for suitable temporary accommodation for Josaia and Kerry while their home is rebuilt. Their friends accommodated them for 3 months and, upon our request the government has paid for one month's accommodation, which expires on Friday 29/10. The insurance company said their home rebuild could be up to another 12 months. We will continue to help.



Josaia receiving the chair from the Rotary Club of Laurieton President Nicholas



Alex and Rosalie receiving a doona
From our Volunteer Jayne. It was
donated by another generous local
partner, the **Catholic Parish Laurieton**

And the flood affects continue

Many think that for the 2021 Camden Haven Flood victims, all should be back to normal by now. No, there are so many who continually contact Community at 3 seeking help as a direct result of the floods. Alex and Rosalie are such a couple. Their home has been so damaged that they now reside in their garage. Another of our partners, the **North Haven Baptist Church**, together with an anonymous lady donor, provided the funds for an air conditioner to enable them to endure living in their garage in Summer conditions. Another partner, the "Serve Team" of the **Camden Haven Anglican Church** are installing a cover over the entrance, to also keep out more heat. Like so many without the cover of expensive flood insurance, **Resilience NSW** have said that it may be up to two years before their home can be repaired, however, they are most thankful that at least they have a garage in which to reside in the meantime.

