

## Keeping you connected to the Mount Gravatt Community Centre and your neighbourhood



### CHANGES TO LEGISLATION: INSTALLATION OF PHOTOELECTRIC SMOKE ALARMS

When you sleep, your sense of smell also sleeps. If a fire starts, toxic fumes can overcome you. Photoelectric smoke alarms see smoke and will alert you early, so you can escape. These alarms are interconnected alarms so you will be alerted no matter where you are, or where the fire starts.

New legislation introduced in January 2017 specifies the type, positioning and interconnectedness of alarms, which are critical factors for an early warning and quick escape.

#### FOR EXISTING DWELLINGS FROM 1 JANUARY, 2017

- Existing smoke alarms manufactured more than 10 years ago must be replaced with the photoelectric smoke alarms which comply with Australian Standards (Smoke alarms should have the date of manufacture stamped on them).
- Smoke alarms that do not operate when tested must be replaced immediately.
- Existing hardwired smoke alarms that need replacement, must be replaced with a hardwired photoelectric smoke alarm.

To give your family the best chance of surviving a house fire, Queensland Fire & Emergency Services recommends you check that all your alarms are working and properly maintained.

A well-practised fire escape plan will also ensure a quick escape.

**Please call us if you would like further information or would like to book in to have your smoke alarms replaced. This is a subsidised service for our clients.**

If you have a specific question or require further clarification, please contact Queensland Fire and Emergency Services: email

[SmokeAlarms@qfes.qld.gov.au](mailto:SmokeAlarms@qfes.qld.gov.au)

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# INSTALLATION OF PHOTOELECTRIC SMOKE ALARMS (CONT. FROM PAGE 1)

## SUBSIDY FOR PEOPLE WITH HEARING IMPAIRMENT WANTING TO UPGRADE THEIR SMOKE ALARMS

The Deaf Services Queensland Smoke Alarm Subsidy Scheme is now available. It is funded by the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services and managed by Deaf Services Queensland.

### Who is eligible?

The Smoke Alarm Subsidy Scheme is available if you:

- are deaf or hearing impaired, and
- have a current pensioner concession card, and
- are a resident of Queensland, and
- have not previously received a smoke alarm under the Smoke Alarm Subsidy Scheme.



Who do I contact for more information?

### Deaf Services Queensland

For more information, visit the Deaf Services Queensland Alarm Subsidy Scheme website.  
<http://www.deafservicesqld.org.au/Services/Community-engagement-development/Smoke-Alarm-Subsidy-Scheme>

Email: [smokealarms@deafsq.org.au](mailto:smokealarms@deafsq.org.au)

Phone: 07 3892 8500

TTY: 07 3892 8501

## NDIS INFORMATION SESSION



### Come along to our FREE NDIS Information Session

**Saturday 14 October: 1.30pm to 4.00pm**  
**Mt Gravatt Community Centre**  
**1693 Logan Rd, Mt Gravatt**

Afternoon Tea will be provided.  
Please RSVP to [Janene@mgcci.org.au](mailto:Janene@mgcci.org.au)  
or Ph: 3343 9833.

Hosted by the Mt Gravatt Community Centre in conjunction with Carers QLD.



*Our mission is to deliver high quality services that are "flexible, accessible and responsive to changing community needs".*

## COMING UP AT THE CENTRE

### CONNECTING COMMUNITIES HIGH TEA 27 SEPT: 10AM

Connecting Communities is a group of local organisations and individuals who are raising money to fund a community meal happening in November 2017. Tickets are \$17 a head. Get a table together and support this community initiative. Ring 3343 9833 for more information. To be held at the Newnham Hotel.

### A JOURNEY TO HAPPINESS WORKSHOP AND SAUSAGE SIZZLE 7 OCTOBER: 12PM-2PM

Join us at Bernie's Place on Saturday 7 October, 12pm – 2pm. Hear stories of Mental Health Recovery and learn tangible steps you can take towards finding happiness. Ring 3343 9833 or email [info@voicesforchange.org.au](mailto:info@voicesforchange.org.au) to RSVP.

### SONG WRITING WORKSHOP SEPT + OCT

Have you got a song in you! Would you like to try writing one about your experiences of living in this community? We are holding some song writing workshops through September and October. If this is something you would like to try then ring 3343 9833 and speak to Denise for more information.

### NEW ACTIVITIES AT THE CENTRE

- \* Boomerang Bag making: sewing environmentally friendly bags with liked minded people. Tuesday nights 6:30pm – 8.30pm, fortnightly. Please contact Marina on M: 0423 913 004
- \* Tara Kadmpa Buddhist Centre Meditation: Monday nights 6:30pm – 9.30pm  
Please contact Ph: 3217 2888

## MT GRAVATT COMMUNITY CENTRE SENIORS WEEK 2017





# HOME ASSIST SECURE



A service for Queenslanders aged 60 years and over, or people of any age with a disability, which provides safety related information, referrals and subsidised assistance to eligible clients unable to undertake or pay for critical maintenance services without assistance.

## WHAT CAN HOME ASSIST SECURE DO FOR YOU?

**Free information and referral**

Your local Home Assist Secure service can provide information about:

- ⇒ home maintenance;
- ⇒ repairs;
- ⇒ minor modifications;
- ⇒ home security;
- ⇒ other assistance provided by the Department of Housing and Public Works.

Staff can also refer and/or assist you with employing tradespeople to undertake repairs or modifications, or plan future work.

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF HOME ASSIST SECURE?

Home Assist Secure will allow you to:

- ⇒ make more informed decisions about home maintenance, repairs, minor modifications and security;
- ⇒ have easier access to and within your home;
- ⇒ feel safer living in your home;
- ⇒ incorporate home security procedures and routines into your daily activities;
- ⇒ increase your confidence about employing tradespeople.

## Free home security assessments

Staff can conduct an independent and unbiased security assessment of your property and provide information to help you make informed decisions about security-related repairs and installations.

## Subsidised assistance—\$500 annual limit per household

If eligible, you may receive a financial contribution towards labour costs for minor home maintenance or modifications relating to your health, safety or security, which are required so that you can remain in your home.



# HOME ASSIST SECURE

To be eligible for a financial contribution, you must also:

- ⇒ hold a Pensioners Concession Card;
- ⇒ be unable to complete the work yourself because technical expertise is required or your health and safety would be at risk if you attempted the work yourself;
- ⇒ be unable to make use of alternative forms of assistance, such as through the Home and Community Care Program, Queensland Community Care Services, the Department of Veterans' Affairs, family or friends.

Please note that Home Assist Secure does not undertake maintenance or repairs that are considered to be the responsibility of the landlord (lessor) under Residential Tenancies legislation or tenancy agreements.

## Types of assistance may be subsidised by Home Assist Secure.

NB: Eligibility and limits depending on geographical location, pension status, type of service and individual circumstances.



### Lawns

Lawn mowing, including whipper snipping.



### Handyperson Work

Small job repairs and maintenance which only require a handyperson.



### Qualified Trades Work

Jobs, repairs and maintenance which are performed by a suitably qualified Queensland Building and Construction Commission licence holder or licensed tradesperson (eg. Electrician) for trade work which cannot be legally performed by a handyperson.



### Yard and Outside Maintenance

Clearing/cutting back branches over paths and other maintenance reduction strategies, removing junk, cleaning gutters.



### Smoke Alarms

Smoke alarm related jobs eg. installing, changing battery, cleaning vents.



### Security Work

Work that in all circumstances can only be considered for security purposes and includes assistance with the installation of security equipment.

## HOW TO ACCESS THE HAS PROGRAM?

1. Contact to MGCCI team |
2. Check your eligibility |
3. Arrange your First Interview

Check with one of our team for more details about Home Assist Secure, we will be glad to help you!

*Our vision is to "provide, without discrimination, service to our community".*

# BEATING THE INCREASING COST OF LIVING IN QUEENSLAND



Concessions and rebates are available for Queenslanders who are doing it tough because of the increased cost of living. To find out about eligibility and application requirements for concessions and rebates please visit the Smart Savings Concessions and Rebates website:

<https://campaigns.premiers.qld.gov.au/smart-savings/#category=Cost-of-living>

If you do not have access to the Internet please call our office and one of our friendly staff will be happy to find the information you are looking for and give you contact details of organisations or government departments who provide these services.

## Some examples of the types of concessions and rebates you may be eligible for:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| * Travel and accommodation subsidy for rural and remote apprentices and trainees | * Community Aids Equipment and Assistive Technologies Initiative |
| * Translink Transport concessions (South East Queensland)                        | * School Transport Assistance for Students with Disability       |
| * Rail Concession Scheme   | * Non-Government Schools Transport Assistance Scheme             |
| * Taxi Subsidy Scheme  | * Living Away from Home Allowance Scheme                         |
| * Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme  | * Deaf Services Queensland Smoke Alarm Subsidy Scheme            |
| * Pensioner Rate Subsidy Scheme  | * Vehicle Options Subsidy Scheme                                 |
| * Electricity Rebate Scheme  | * Spectacle Supply Scheme  |
| * Electricity Life Support Concessions Scheme                                    | * Public Trustee of Queensland Concessions                       |
| * Oral Health Care Scheme  | * Water Subsidy Scheme   |
| * Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme  |  |

## QUALITY SELF-ASSESSMENT

Mount Gravatt Community Centre Inc. (MGCCI) has recently submitted a self-assessment on our performance against the Human Services Quality Standards for our community centre funding under Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services.

Meeting the standards is a requirement for all service providers receiving this funding. This self-assessment provided MGCCI with an opportunity to review our policies and procedures as well as talk to people receiving services, our staff and volunteers about their experiences with MGCCI. This process helped us to check that we are meeting legislative requirements and identify any areas of improvement we need to make.

If you have any contributions or comments about the way we can improve services, we have a suggestion box located at the front counter in reception. You can also give us a call or drop in. Thank you!

Caroline Rolender - Quality and HR Coordinator





# MT GRAVATT COMMUNITY CENTRE

## MEET THE CONTRACTOR: GIMPEL ELECTRICS



Pictured:  
Peter Gimpel  
with his team

**Peter Gimpel from Gimpel Electrics shares the details of his association with the Mt Gravatt Community Centre and the surrounding suburbs.**

**Peter:** Our electrical contracting business commenced as a partnership in 1981 between two brothers, myself and Paul and we traded from Peter's House in Morialta Street, Mansfield. The business became a Pty Ltd company (Eastworth Pty Ltd) on 1st January, 1983 and we moved the business to its current location at 1705 Logan Road, Upper Mt Gravatt.

**Please tell us the type of work you carry out:**

**Peter:** We carry out all general electrical work in domestic, commercial and industrial premises. The domestic services now include all power and lighting installations, phone and computer wiring including NBN cabling inside the residence, security systems and home air conditioning.

**How many staff do you currently employ:**

**Peter:** We currently have a staff of eight qualified electricians, one group scheme apprentice, one full time office administrator and three part time office support including our two wives.

**How long you've been associated with MGCC:**

**Peter:** We have been associated with MGCC since they moved in almost next to us many years ago.

**What was your first job:**

**Peter:** Paul and I first worked for a company called Owen's Electrical in Devon Street at Annerley. This gave us a good grounding in the old homes in Annerley, Ekibin, Moorooka, Salisbury and Yeronga.

**What was your first connection with the area:**

**Peter:** I moved to Broadwater Road in 1973 from Holland Park and Paul lived at Bartels Street, Mt Gravatt in the early 80's. We have four children each who have been educated at St Catherine's and St Bernard's before going onto high schools.

**Do you have a favourite local place/restaurant:**

**Peter:** The Thai Orchard has always been a favourite, but there are so many to choose from.

## EVENTS IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

### Events at Hibiscus Stadium: 90 Klumpp Road, Upper Mt Gravatt

#### Indian Cultural Food and Dance Festivals

2, 16, 30 September from 6.00pm-10.30pm  
Alcohol and drug free event. Free entry.

#### Karate Tournament

17 & 24 September – free for spectators.

#### Wardrobe Warriors Clothing Market

20 August, 1 October – gold coin donation.



### Events at Holland Park Library—81 Seville Rd, Holland Park

#### TV Streaming on the internet

14 September - 1.30pm-3.00pm. Free event.

Learn about online streaming and how to use the internet to watch television on a laptop, mobile device or television. Basic computer and internet skills required.

Bookings required - Ph: 3403 7755.

#### Holland Park Gardeners

7 October - 8.30am-9.00am. Free event.

Visit the Holland Park Library deck to discuss the community citrus grove and herb garden.

#### iPad Skills One

26 October - 1.30pm- 3.00pm. Free event.

Learn how to use the basic features of an iPad. Explore apps, connect to Wi-Fi and search the internet. Perfect for the first time user. Bring your own iPad.

Bookings essential - Ph: 3403 7755

**MOUNT GRAVATT COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
**1693 & 1697 Logan Road, Mt Gravatt QLD, 4122**  
**PO BOX 806, Mt Gravatt QLD, 4122**  
**Phone: 3343 9833|Fax: 3849 8638**  
**Website: <http://www.mgcci.org.au>**



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**@Mt Gravatt CommunityCentre**



**MGCCI's Individual Services Programs and Community Neighbourhood centre are proudly funded and supported by the Queensland Government and Federal Government.**