



HANZA NEWS

September 2013

Issue number 13

Promoting Homeshare in Australasia

NEWS

HOMESHARE LAUNCH IN THE ACT



Community Connections Homeshare was launched in great style at the Canberra Hyatt on August 29th 2013.

ACT Minister for Disability Joy Burch did the honours and was clearly delighted that her department is supporting the Homeshare initiative.

Exec Director, Ian Ross and Homeshare Manager, Lee Harrison gave the background story to establishing Homeshare at Community Connections. Ian's own experience of homesharing with a householder with a disability in his university days was definitely an inspiration for his commitment to the homeshare idea.



Beris Campbell presents the HANZA Certificate of Membership to Exec Director Ian Ross and Homeshare Manager Lee Harrison at the Homeshare launch

Lee enthralled the audience by telling of the fantastic start that has been made in starting up Homeshare. In the first 8 months Lee has made 12 matches involving 10 householders (2 have been re-matched) and 8 matches are in place at the moment. A grand total of 143 weeks of homeshare in just 8 months – or, as Lee pointed out, 1001 nights!

The newly made DVD was screened – highly recommended viewing. Go to CC's website at www.comcons.org.au

A Q&A panel discussion was a highlight of the afternoon with Homeshare match participants, parents of young householders, Ian Ross, Lee Harrison and HANZA's Beris Campbell all taking part. A very lively and worthwhile discussion. The enthusiasm for Homeshare is really inspiring. Well done, Community Connections!

HACC HOMESHARE REFERENCE GROUP FOR NEW VIC PROGRAMS

The Vic Department of Health has set up a reference group bringing together all the Melbourne Homeshare organizations, two of which are brand new, as mentioned in our last newsletter. The group will guide the development of the model across metro Melbourne.

We at HANZA consider this a great initiative. Not only does it ensure that the community is getting acceptable and consistent services but it ensures that the basic principles of the International Homeshare model are instilled and perpetuated. We are inclined to think that Victoria is doing it well!

INTERNATIONAL HOMESHARE

THE HOMESHARE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

HI is offering membership to organizations and individuals. HANZA is joining on your behalf. However, if any among you wish to join in your own right it would be useful as time goes on and HS takes over the world. 50 euros for organizations and 20 euros for individuals.

MELBOURNE HOSTING THE NEXT CONGRESS?

An event at the recent Homeshare International Congress was our offer to host the next meeting of the World Homeshare Congress in 2015. We presented the gathering with HANZA brochures, a Visitors Guide to Melbourne and other persuasive arguments. This was received with enthusiasm with several delegations promising to come. However, in the cold light of day I think they will find the expense too great since most of them come from Europe and Europe is not flush with funds as we all know – especially the NFP sector.

TRAVEL WARNING

There were raised voices at the Singapore Airlines security gate on our way to the Homeshare International congress. The guard tried to take away our sealed bottle of Vegemite. I think that the vision of two grey haired old ladies sabotaging an international airliner with a jar of Vegemite is worthy of the attention of crime fighters everywhere. Of course we prevailed and carried off the offending item in triumph. It is no mean undertaking, trying to separate an Aussie girl from her Vegemite.

THIS IS NOT HOMESHARE

At the HI conference one of the most inspirational presentations had little to do with Homeshare, except in that it embraced the same philosophy of mutual help between people with little expense and great outcomes. You need to know. Who can tell, one of you might like to introduce it in Australia.

The presenter was Professor Heinz Wolf, a man with an international reputation as an engineer, inventor and general wise person. You can look him up on the ubiquitous Google. Prof. Wolf is 86 and looks it until he starts speaking like an energetic 50 year old. He has decided at this stage of his life that what we need most is not another physical invention to help with the vagaries of ageing, but the power of a pair of hands.

His invention is CARE4CARE. The initiative is underpinned by the belief that the economic downturn is permanent and we cannot expect to maintain the sort of government professional support as we now experience. So we must help one another. Time given to help another person is recorded as an item in your hours of credit, for when you might need help yourself. You build up your 'bank' of hours by such services as getting breakfast for a housebound person, playing chess, help with dressing, hygiene or other less socially acceptable things. You can leave your hours in your will or credit them to a relative who may need them. Of course, you can see the problems that might arise, but with good will (as with Homeshare) it would work. Please look up www.care4care.org and see the good professor explain it himself.

THE NUTS AND BOLTS OF WORKING TOGETHER

The HANZA Community of Practice is rapidly becoming the useful forum for learning from each other that we had all hoped it would. The hard working HANZA team were immensely pleased to receive positive feedback from Ian Ross from ACT Community Connections after the September meeting: *PS. Just want to say congratulations on the teleconference today. I think it was a really useful discussion, and well organised. Both Lee and I really hold in high regard the value HANZA provides in uniting the various homeshare services and enabling us to share experiences and ideas.*

HELPFUL HINTS

REMEMBER. For those of you who plan to attend our AGM teleconference, Victoria goes to Daylight Saving Time on October 6th. It makes a difference.

AGM AND TELECONFERENCE 14TH NOVEMBER 2013

Joining instructions will be sent as we get your RSVP. So let us have that so we can cater for you all. Topics for the conference have already been called. Let us have your paper on it NOW. If we do not have time to cater for all your suggestions we will work on them during the coming year through CoPs.

HANZA COM propose two topics:

- “Developing the Evidence Base for Pure Homeshare”
- “What’s in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet”.

Members have already commenced discussion on the first topic via their participation in CoP, but there is still much to think about.

The second topic comes about from all the vigorous discussion that occurs within HANZA as we see that a word can be a “landmine”. Harmless sounding words have implications as to where responsibility or jurisdiction lies. For example if the word “rent” is used in relation to a Homeshare agreement then it has implications for the householders insurance, it may affect their pension or benefits and involve the Tenancy Act.

To maximise member participation in this “name” debate, here is a list of words and terms. If you want to debate one or two let us know ASAP. It is best to choose something now as you all know the dangers of not volunteering. Here are the words and terms:

Volunteer. Rent. Sharer. Carer. Service. Agreement. Caregiving. Homesharing. Even one conference topic has a debatable term. “Pure Homeshare” other terms to consider are:

Full service homeshare. Partial Service Homeshare. Complete Service Homeshare. Active Service Model. Client Directed Service.

DISABILITY HOMESHARE

The ACT Government was in discussion recently with DisabilityCare about the services they fund in Canberra and called on Ian Ross, Executive Director, Community Connections, to provide some information about Homeshare.

Given the limited time Ian had to respond the information was put together pretty quickly using Community Connections original business case, and other documents to hand. Ian tells us that “policy is currently still being developed for Disability Care and I think we might benefit from developing a more considered HANZA submission promoting Homeshare, perhaps backed with some quantitative information about prevalence, numbers of people participating etc.” This is an excellent suggestion that we will follow up with the HANZA members whose prime focus is on Disability Homeshare.

NEWS FROM HANZA MEMBERS AROUND AUSTRALASIA

CARA SA

CareConnect Vic, in partnership with Spectrum Migrant Resources

Michelle Bawden is hard at work setting up the new Homeshare program in Melbourne’s North West. Recruitment of Homeshare Coordinators is well underway. Enquiries and referrals are already coming in which is very encouraging.

Communities @ Work ACT

Community Based Support South Tas

Community Connections ACT

Homeshare up and running – see front page story.

Community Living Program Qld

Geelong DoCare Vic

Rod Nockles has appointed his Homeshare coordinator and is ready to fire up.

Independent Disability Services Association – ISDA, Vic

Mackay Regional Council Qld

Returned member for the Mackay region, George Christensen, promised in his election material that he would, if elected, make every effort to see Homeshare established in Mackay. Go George!

Perth Home Care Services

Queensland Community Care Network

Ken has an ongoing relationship with his only Homeshare applicant who insists on doing her own recruiting then after a short time, chucking out the Homesharer and getting another. On each occasion she calls in Ken who is supposed to fix things. She is up to number 4 in just a few months. This, chums, is not Homeshare. His attempts to divest himself of her is not working so far.

St John Ambulance services QLD

Judith Allen's new role this year is strategic, looking at; "sustainability & innovation which is the planning of growth strategies, new product categories, services or business models that change the game and generate significant new value for consumers, clients and the organization" She hopes in this way to engage support for Homeshare as part of her "strategic way forward". Goodonya Judith! (This woman will never give up).

Uniting Care Community Options Vic

Tony Cavedon has appointed two staff to coordinate the new Homeshare program in Eastern Metro Melbourne. An encouraging level of interest is already emerging so the program will be off and running well before Christmas. UCCO played host to our highly successful HANZA workshop for new Victorian programs on 2nd October. Thanks again UCCO.

Uniting Communities SA

Trish Roberts gave us the sad news at the recent CoP meeting, that Kellie MacGillivray has had to resign to stay in South Africa and care for her parents. A great loss to Homeshare that we hope will be reversed in the not too distant future.

Carmel Hurst
For HANZA Inc.