



HOMESHARE

Australia

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NEWS: PUTTING THE "NZ" BACK INTO "HANZA!"



While passing through New Zealand in early June, HANZA's Beris Campbell caught up with Deb Biggs, who was responsible for the original NZ homeshare program (which sadly closed its doors in 2012). Beris was delighted to hear that Deb is leading the charge to give Homeshare another go! She is now the Manager of Age Concern in Hawkes Bay, which has recently approved a homeshare initiative. Funds have been applied for and plans are underway to start in September!

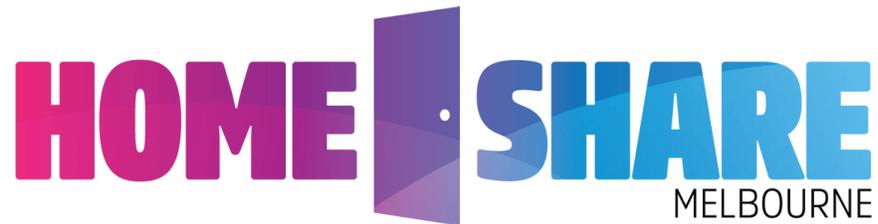


Householder Diana Kahn and homesharer Chelsea Yu

HOMESHARE ON SBS ONLINE

Journalist Vivienne Pearson has written a second great story about Homeshare for SBS's online magazine, LIFE. Pearson described it on Facebook as, "One of the loveliest stories I have had the privilege to write," and thanked "Uniting VicTas and Homeshare Australia for providing inspiration, information and support."

The [Facebook conversation](#) prompted by the story was lovely, and if you haven't read the story itself yet, you can check it out [here!](#)



HOMESHARE MELBOURNE: A NEW PROJECT FOR HANZA INC

Over the last 18 months, a partnership of Launch Housing, South Port Community Housing Group and HANZA has been working to create a 'housing focussed' homeshare program. The City of Port Phillip has also been involved, providing some support for the planning and model development phase.

Current homeshare programs in Melbourne are limited to householders who are 65 and over, and/or who have a disability and are seeking affordable live-in support and companionship. No housing-focused homeshare programs are operating in Australia. HSM aims to increase the amount of affordable rental housing available to those at risk of homelessness by sharing underutilised existing housing. The program hopes to match people with spare bedrooms — a demographic that's rising steadily in Melbourne — with people looking for affordable housing.

Through the program development phase it was decided that HANZA was the most appropriate 'home' for this exciting new venture. Funds to kickstart the pilot program in the City of Port Phillip and surrounds are being actively sought as we speak, and the hope is to take our first baby steps before the end of the year. We are very grateful to some of HANZA's private donors for enabling us to keep on track!

Find Homeshare on the web!



HOMESHARE IN SYDNEY: A NEW PROGRAM FOR HOLDSWORTH COMMUNITY

The budding Sydney and Melbourne Homeshare programs met up for a productive lunch in May. (Many thanks to Kathryn Brookes from Holdsworth Community, Sydney for a very stimulating visit.)

Holdsworth Community is working hard to establish Homeshare as a “social enterprise.” They’re tackling the daunting task of designing a “fee for service” model, focussing on matching international students with people living alone in Sydney’s eastern suburbs.

Holdsworth have had good success in securing grants to help with exploratory market research for a fee-paying model. They made a successful pitch for Homeshare at the NCOSS Investment for Good event at the end of 2017 — you can [watch video of their presentation](#) on YouTube. Holdsworth were also selected to be involved in the Macquarie Bank Kickstarter program to develop a business plan, and are now ready to pilot the model. They have advertised a position for a part-time Homeshare coordinator to initiate the first phase of Homeshare, with plans to start in September.

It’s such good news to have Homeshare on the move in Sydney again. Enquiries to HANZA about Homeshare in NSW continue to come in every month, so it has been great to be able to send these through to Wendy and Kathryn and even more gratifying to learn that some of these enquirers may join the new program. Interstate cooperation at its best!

INTERNATIONAL HOMESHARE



UPDATE ON HOMESHARE IN PRAGUE

Since the April news story about our new friend Dr. Vera Hoffmanner and her efforts to start Homeshare in Prague, we can report that she has made great progress. The Working Document/Manual for the program is complete; important presentations have been given at the University; a logo (left) has been designed, and an information flyer produced. Vera is very appreciative of the help she has had from HANZA and we are really pleased to have proved, yet again, the value of international networking to advance the Homeshare cause!



6th WORLD HOMESHARE CONGRESS - BRUSSELS

Our wonderful Belgian colleagues, UnToit2Ages, are almost ready for the next World Homeshare Congress and registration is open! The congress will be held in Brussels from 21 – 22 March 2019. The Congress theme will be "Celebrating Homeshare" and the event will bring together delegates from around the world to share experiences of running homeshare programs. Read more and register on the [congress website](#).

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