

Fact Sheet

Member Participation

Membership

Everyone who signs an Application Form agreeing to the objects, policy and procedures of the Association and is subsequently granted accommodation becomes a member of the Association. This gives you (**yes YOU!**) the right to have a say on matters that affect your housing. The Association has a strong commitment to members' participation, and encourages everyone to get involved if they possibly can. Here are some ways for members to participate:

Participate in the Social Events:

Over the course of a year the Association attempts to organise a number of events for members. The main ones are the Association's Birthday Party, Melbourne Cup, Annual General Meeting and a Christmas get together.

There could be more events but it is really up to members to organise them. In the past there has been a very active Social Committee. It would be great to see a Social Committee re-established. It could help organise the above events and others, such as barbecues, quiz nights, trips, pool competitions, just to mention a few. If you would like to be involved in the Social Committee please speak to your Housing Manager.

Come to the Housing Members Meetings (Residents Meetings):

Housing Members Meetings or sometimes called Residents Meetings are held every month at Havelock House. Meetings are also organised on occasion in the north and south of the ACT for other members. Meetings are also organised at Ainslie Village. These are forums for members to talk about issues which affect them. If you have an issue you want discussed relevant to your accommodation, bring it along to the next meeting or ask for a meeting to be called.

Join the Board of Directors:

Currently five Housing Members actively participate on the Association's Board of Directors. The role of the Housing Members on the Board is an important one because they ensure that the needs and issues of members are voiced. They also report outcomes and decisions taken by the Board back to the members and the Housing Members Meetings.

If you have never been part of a committee before, being on the Board provides great experience and looks good on your CV. Training is provided for any Housing Members who wants to join the Board and wants to improve their meeting and management skills. Please don't be scared off participating!

The Havelocker:

The *Havelocker* is the Association's newsletter, which is published every quarter and distributed to all members. The *Havelocker* is always looking for creative, fun contributions. Just speak to your Housing Manager if you are interested. It is your magazine, so please contribute to it. We are always looking for an editor – interested?