

# MY PLACE

NEWSLETTER FOR NEW ZEALAND TENANTS ISSUE 1 JANUARY 2023

# Home *in* Place



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# Welcome to 2023!

## Welcome to 2023 and the first MYPLACE Newsletter for Home in Place New Zealand tenants.

2022 was a year of adjustment, cultural experience, change and growth for our organisation. The Home in Place New Zealand team continued to demonstrate our mission in day-to-day workings with all of our whānau and those we work with in Aotearoa.

Our name change in April 2022, from Compass Housing Services to Home in Place, was a significant milestone.

### So why Home in Place?

We believe that social and affordable housing is about more than just the accommodation, and we devote so much energy trying to help our whānau feel connected and active members of their local community.

For 35 years, Compass Housing Services believed that housing is more than just a roof over your head, Home in Place shares this belief. Home in Place is not just a name, it's an expression of our identity and a statement about who we are, and what we do.

### Chris Trypas

Chief Executive Officer

Home in Place (New Zealand)



## Tenants win big during 12 Days of Christmas

In 2022, our New Zealand tenants participated in the annual 12 Days of Christmas extravaganza for the first time and it won't be the last!

We love being able to brighten our tenants' days, especially during the festive season, so it was great to give away a different prize each day for 12 days during December by random draw.

Check out some of our local winners below.



Clockwise from top left:

Dean V and Tenant Accounts Officer Puni (Entertainment pack)

Maria M with Tenancy Coordinator Bec (Air fryer)

Mahdi H's family, (Relax Pack)

Diane O with TRDO Renee (Bunnings voucher)

Tēnā tātou katoa,

We see ourselves as supporters, as guides to ensure that people and families have what is needed to live a healthy and prosperous life providing a strong hononga (connection) to kainga (home) and hapori (community).

**HOME IN PLACE**  
**HE RINGA AKIAKI**

## INTRODUCING THE MY PLACE PORTAL

We are excited to announce the launch of the My Place Portal website.

Once registered, tenants will be able to use the portal to view account balances, rent history, invoices, and past payments.

We will continue adding more functionality to My Place Portal, including raising and viewing Maintenance Requests.

Home in Place Tenants will be able to register for My Place Portal after receiving an email invitation.

We are about two thirds of the way through the roll out, so, if you haven't already received an email invitation (check your mailbox), then you should receive an email invitation in the next week or two.

The email invitation contains instructions on how to logon and register for My Place Portal.

Feel free to contact us if your invite doesn't arrive.



## TENANT SPOTLIGHT

### Riana's story

Before getting her own two-bedroom apartment, Riana was living with her mother, brothers and sisters, her sister's two children and her own two children. Her mum's three-bedroom home wasn't big enough for everyone.

"We had mine and my sister's stuff stored in one room, so my mum and siblings had to sleep in the loungeroom. My sister and her kids had one room and I had the other room with my kids," Riana says. She says it was very overcrowded and overwhelming at times.

With high rents and the high costs of living Riana had no alternative until she was able to move into her apartment in Whanganui this year.

Riana loves her new apartment and is enjoying the peace and quiet. She says it has taken away a lot of worry.

Having their own place has made a big difference to her two year old and one year old.

You can read more of Riana's story as well as other tenant stories on our website [homeinplacenz.org](http://homeinplacenz.org)

## Partnerships make Palmerston North Christmas event possible

**We were excited to host a wonderful Christmas event for some of our tenants in Palmerston North in December, thanks to the support of some awesome organisations.**

We had support from New World Pioneer, Te Tihi o Ruahine Whanau Ora Alliance, Te Whare Pukai, Te Wakahuia Manawatu Trust, Highbury Whanau Centre, Palmerston North City Council, Palmerston North Women's Refuge, Just Zilch, Mission4Men Charitable Trust, Housing Advice Centre, and He Puna Hauora.

There was moko stencilling by Whanau Ora Navigators from Te Tihi o Ruahine Whanau Ora Alliance, chalk drawing and games for the children by the Whanau Ora Team from Te Wakahuia Manawatu Trust and our BBQ was manned by Mission4Men Charitable Trust.

Because of the generosity of these groups we had some kai parcels we were able to gift out to 13 whanau with milk was donated by Just Zilch, and Home in Place along with New World Pioneer created a big Christmas Hamper for one lucky whanau.



# STAFF PROFILE **Bec**

## **BEC BAILEY TENANCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR**

### **How long have you worked for Home in Place?**

I have just celebrated my seven year anniversary. I worked for Home in Place in Australia in tenant relations before moving to New Zealand in July last year.

### **What do you love most about your job?**

I just love seeing people happy. Whether that be someone we have just been able to house collecting their keys or someone moving out who has been accepted for their first private rental property or purchased a home. I love being a small part of people's big picture - seeing the difference being housed in affordable and appropriate shelter makes to the lives of so many people and families, regardless of how long they are tenants with us.

### **What's your biggest tip for tenants?**

We love hearing from our tenants. We want to hear from them before we need to call them about your tenancy. We don't mind if it is about your rent, maintenance, damage to your property, something you are struggling with or if you just someone to talk something through with. Keeping in contact is the best thing tenants can do to sustain a positive, rewarding tenancy with us.

### **Who is your hero?**

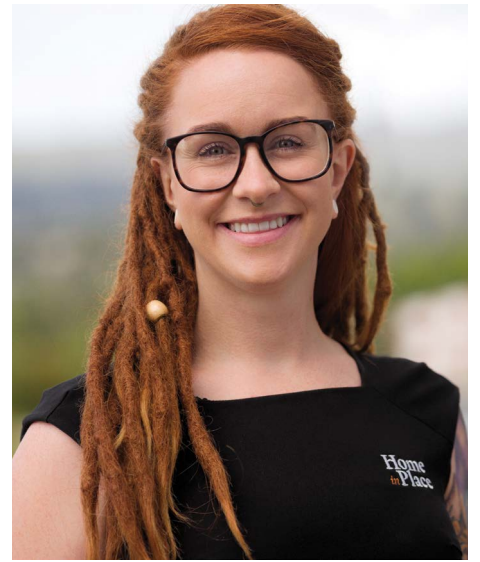
My heroes are my grandparents. My Grandad is the hardest worker and the most selfless person I have ever known. He always thinks of everyone else before himself. My Nan is the most head strong and talented person I will ever have the pleasure of knowing. My grandparents are the reason I am where I am today. They push me and inspire me every day to be the best version of myself. I will always strive to make them proud of me.

### **Are you a dog or a cat person?**

I am very much a dog person, or dog mum as they say. I have two dogs - a Dalmatian and a Jack Russell who made the move from Australia with me and are settling in well.

### **How do you relax when not at work?**

I love spending time with my husband and dogs. I enjoy hiking, cooking, going to the gym and getting out on our motorbike.



## **Grow a Star**

### **Home in Place is proud to support young talent through our charity, Grow a Star.**

Grow a Star is an innovative, youth mentoring and scholarship program that helps young people from disadvantaged backgrounds overcome the financial or generational obstacles that are preventing them from following their academic, sporting, or artistic dreams.

The program was created by Home in Place and is the first of its kind to be designed and operated by a community housing provider.

By enabling young people to pursue their passions, the program aims to build the self-confidence in young people to achieve their highest ambitions and foster habits and behaviours that can set them up for life.

**Do you have a young star in your whanau? Someone with big dreams and the talent and drive to reach them with a bit of help?** Learn more about the Grow a Star program, the application process, or how you can support the program at [growastar.org](https://growastar.org).

## **Stay in Touch**

**CALL 0800 124 663 E [NEWZEALAND@HOMEINPLACE.ORG](mailto:NEWZEALAND@HOMEINPLACE.ORG) W [WWW.HOMEINPLACENZ.ORG](http://WWW.HOMEINPLACENZ.ORG)**



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