



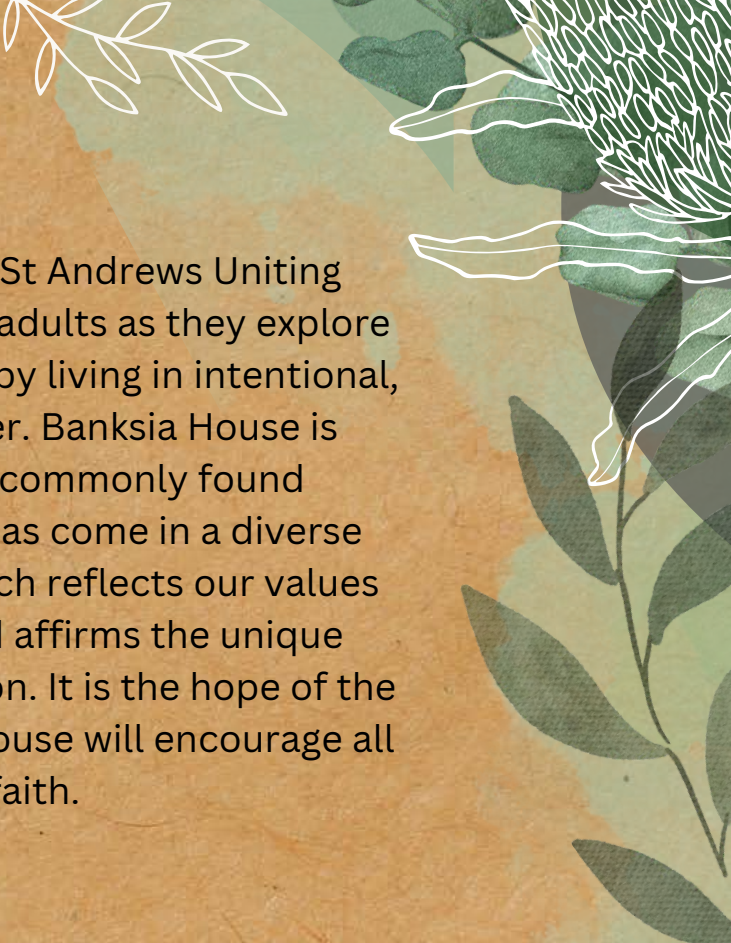
BANKSIA HOUSE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS BANKSIA HOUSE?

Banksia House is a newly refurbished, furnished 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom home across the street from the St Andrews Uniting Church in Glenbrook, New South Wales, gateway to the Blue Mountains National Park. It is a very short walk from Glenbrook train station and local shops and cafes.

Banksia House seeks to be an intentional Christian community where residents support each other in friendship and faith. Residents are between the age of 18 to 30 (or by arrangement). The household collectively and independently shares in decision making and day to day activities and planning such as cooking, cleaning, and shopping. The household is supported by an advisory group made up of members of the St Andrews Uniting Church congregation, who provide administrative and practical support as needed. Designated mentors, along with the Minister and the congregation work together to pastorally support the residents.




Banksia House is a mission initiative of St Andrews Uniting Church, which seeks to support young adults as they explore the questions of faith in today's world by living in intentional, inclusive, Christian community together. Banksia House is named after the native flower which is commonly found throughout the Blue Mountains. Banksias come in a diverse range of colours, shapes and sizes, which reflects our values of being a church which celebrates and affirms the unique beauty and preciousness of each person. It is the hope of the congregation that the life of Banksia House will encourage all members to flourish and grow in their faith.

IS THERE A CODE OF CONDUCT?

We ask all residents of Banksia House to be respectful and considerate of one another, to resolve any differences in a mutually caring and mature way, to support the vision of Banksia House, and to treat the property with care. If in doubt, chat with your housemates to sort it out. If still in doubt, there is an advisory group, including the Minister, who are willing to help. In the unlikely event that a resident's conduct has an ongoing impact that is not able to be resolved within a reasonable period, ultimately the church may give notice and require the resident to leave Banksia House.

DO I HAVE TO BE A CHRISTIAN?

Yes, however Christians come in many different varieties. It doesn't matter if you are a life-long Christian, reconnecting with your faith journey, deeply questioning your faith or seeking God for the first time. It also doesn't matter whether you are a member of the Uniting Church or any other denomination. All are welcome. As an intentional Christian community, Banksia House members seek to grow together in discovering and sharing God's love in the world.



WHAT IF I AM LGBTIQI+?

St Andrews Uniting Church is an inclusive and affirming church. We are committed to the equality of all people, regardless of gender identity or sexuality. Your sexuality or identity have no bearing on how welcome you will be as part of Banksia House, or how you might contribute to the life of our church community.

WILL THE CHURCH RESPECT PRIVACY?

Yes, Banksia House is your private accommodation. Others may only visit the house upon invitation, mutual arrangement or in the event of an emergency. As a Banksia House member, being open and actively participating in the life of the church is a vital part of belonging and caring for others. Banksia House members may decide to host church-related activities in Banksia House, – e.g., social gatherings, shared meals or discussion groups. Likewise, the Church may invite Banksia House to join activities held elsewhere.

WHAT IS THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA & WHAT ARE ITS BELIEFS?

The Uniting Church in Australia website <https://assembly.uca.org.au> can answer this best. To understand the theology and mission of the Uniting Church in Australia, it is recommended that you read the Basis of Union.

HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE IN THE LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION?

Residents of Banksia House are encouraged to explore and participate in the worshipping life of St Andrews Uniting Church Glenbrook. The focus is on discovering and developing your gifts, while developing meaningful relationships with others. Just some of the many opportunities include:

- Participating in Sunday worship
- Joining a ministry team
- Joining a Connect Group
- Social events, fund-raising activities or 'working bees'
- Supporting wider Uniting Church activities, such as climate action or social justice.



WHAT IF I'M GOING TO ANOTHER CHURCH OR HAVE OTHER COMMITMENTS ON A SUNDAY MORNING?

We would ask you to prioritise your relationship with the congregation at St Andrews Uniting Church Glenbrook, if not through Sunday morning worship, then in other aspects of the life of the church.

WHAT AGE LIMITS APPLY?

Residents are required to be at least 18 years old. Since Banksia House is an intentional community of young adults, we expect most residents will be aged in their twenties, with an upper guideline of 30 years old.

MAY I ENTERTAIN FRIENDS, FAMILY & PARTNERS?


Rooms in Banksia House are set up as single accommodation. If you wish to have guests visit, please ensure that this happens in a way that is respectful and considerate of the other residents. This means always checking with your housemates first, and if in doubt, chat with your housemates to sort it out.

WHAT ARE THE DAY TO DAY EXPECTATIONS?

Residents are free to make their own decisions, but all housemates are expected to communicate and work together to complete normal chores, including cooking, cleaning, tidying, shopping, caring for the garden, and any other regular activities. Repairs and maintenance issues should be reported promptly to the designated property contact who will arrange for the work to be done. The designated property contact will arrange regular maintenance such as gutter cleaning.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Anyone who is working and/or will be studying and wants to be an active member in an intentional Christian community at St Andrews Uniting Church Glenbrook.



I'M MOVING OUT OF HOME FOR THE FIRST TIME, CAN I STILL APPLY?

Yes! Banksia House is a great place to settle into a new stage of life by being in a supportive and caring Christian community.

HOW LONG CAN I LIVE AT BANKSIA HOUSE?

There is currently no restriction on how long a resident may stay in the Banksia House as long as they fulfil the requirements of the house. All new residents will be subject to a 3-month review and annual reviews after that.

HOW MUCH IS THE RENT?

Rent is \$180 per week per person and includes wireless broadband internet and water and electricity. Residents have their own bedroom, and share the two bathrooms, kitchen, laundry, garden and living room. The house is fully furnished. Bond of four weeks rent is payable upon moving in. Each resident will be a tenant with a separate formal lease with the church.

WHAT IS THE APPLICATION PROCESS?

After carefully reading through these FAQs, please fill in the online application form. Once the application form is received, you will be given an appointment for an interview.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Please fill in your details on the online application form found at [<https://forms.gle/JQy8pSLfKuiGc3UQ8>].

I HAVE A QUESTION THAT IS NOT ANSWERED HERE, WHAT DO I DO?

For any additional questions or information, please contact Banksia House at banksiahouse@glenbrook.unitingchurch.org.au and we will respond to you as soon as possible.

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<https://glenbrook.uca.org.au>