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## Lottery tickets help clean up Sydney's graffiti

**Almost three acres of Sydney's graffiti has been cleaned up, in a ground breaking project partly funded by the BoysTown Charitable Lottery.**

In the past 12 months, 10 young indigenous people from social housing in Blacktown and surrounding areas, have been employed and trained to remove graffiti.

"Focusing on the Bidwill/Mt Druitt area of western Sydney, the team has since removed over 11,000 square metres of graffiti and repaired roughly 300 timber fence palings," according to BoysTown's General Manager Fund Raising, Mr Keith Coventry.

He said that the project was a partnership between Housing NSW and BoysTown.

"Some people don't realise that when they buy a BoysTown Lottery ticket, they are not only giving themselves a chance for a fresh start, but also someone in need.

Community feedback has been extremely positive, according to Mr Coventry.

"Residents tell us they feel safer and now have a greater pride in their community. Many have come to recognise that, when young people are given an opportunity to make a fresh start, everyone in the community can benefit, he said.

Mr Coventry said that changes seen in participants have been significant.

"All have experienced barriers which prevented them from reaching employment and participating positively in society. Issues ranged from substance abuse and low literacy through to low self esteem and confidence.

"As a result of the program, the work and life skills of participants have improved, including in areas such as communication, self esteem and well being. Many have moved onto other employment or further training. Some have moved out of social housing into private rental accommodation. Generally, these young people are starting to feel really positive about their future."

He said that BoysTown's latest luxury prize home, located at inner-city Annandale, opened for viewing and tickets on 25 February. The home is a two level terrace house, which has been renovated to the highest standard.

This two bedroom terrace has everything for the young professional couple or family. There are many luxury touches including C-Bus home control, an underground wine cellar and a kitchen with quality fittings. It is perfect for entertaining, with the living area flowing to an outdoor deck and landscaped courtyard. The home is only five kilometres to the city and is close to local shops, Bicentennial Park, local transport and cafes.

The lucky winner will choose between this Annandale home and a luxury four bedroom home at Tallebudgera on Queensland's Gold Coast. Both first prize package options are valued at \$1,184,585 and include furniture and electricals, gold bullion and a travel voucher. The Sydney prize home is located at 54 Ferris Street, Annandale and will be open for inspection and ticket sales from 9am to 4pm daily until 14 April and from 9am to 3pm on 15 April (closed Good Friday on the 10 April). The lottery will be drawn on 17 April 2009. Entries are also available via [www.boystown.com.au](http://www.boystown.com.au).

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