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Dwelling in harmony

By **JULIEANNE STRACHAN**
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ENVIRONMENTALLY friendly housing units have been bought by the NSW government to boost social housing stock at Kurri Kurri.

Housing Minister Frank Terenzini and Cessnock MP Kerry Hickey opened six new units yesterday, built by Living Green Designer Homes.

"Each unit is designed to be environmentally sustainable and provides tenants with water harvesting features such as rainwater tanks for gardens and toilets," Mr Terenzini said.

The construction of the

homes was offset, giving the units a "carbon neutral" rating.

Living Green Designer Homes managing director Craig Riddle said the homes had a five star energy rating.

"We have minimised the emissions during the manufacturing process and have assembled the units on site so we were able to really limit the waste," he said.

"They are really well insulated, we used high performance glazing, compact fluoro lights, solar hot water.

"We use clever design, minimise the carbon emissions in the building stage and use

naturally based materials where we can. We also had our emissions measured and we were able to pay for that to be offset through Climate Friendly [a member of the International Carbon Reduction and Offset Alliance]."

All the units have north

facing living areas, insulated floors, timber deck courtyards and a cross ventilation design.

Mr Terenzini said Aboriginal Housing Office would manage the units.



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LIVING:
Above and left, the environmentally friendly housing units in Kurri Kurri.