

# Winter Wrap

## Building for the future

*Bric's innovative partnership with Reclink Australia will see some of our tenants gaining a Certificate 1 in Construction. Twelve trainees are participating in a 22 week course to learn new skills. They will also complete a Certificate 2 in Skills for Work and Vocational pathways to provide job readiness skills.*



Works include the repair and painting of doors, patching and painting of walls, new fencing, and minor landscaping works.

Reclink experience from similar programs shows participants have much improved job chances at the end of the course and after obtaining the qualification. The program is about helping people rebuild their lives, learn new skills and benefit from peer support.

Participant Jacob comments: "It makes me feel happy, I can see a direction now, I have hope for the future, it helps me to have something to do with my days, I am just so grateful"

A second group of twelve people will have the chance to participate at the end of the first round. We congratulate all those taking part on their hard work so far and also thank all of the partners involved.

*Proudly funded through the Skilling Queenslanders for Work Initiative made possible by the Queensland Government.*

## We are moving, but not far!

We are pleased to let you know that Bric headquarters will move to a new office location on 1 July 2019, located at **First Floor, 56 Little Edward Street, Spring Hill** (very close to our existing office – diagonally opposite across the street).

### Better for tenants

- Two new meeting rooms
- Disability access
- Still handy for many of our properties in the central Brisbane area

### Better for staff

- More space and better facilities in a modern building.

Please note that all phone numbers and email addresses will stay the same!



# WHO ARE THE WHOOPEE DO CREW?

The Whoopee Do Crew is the musical brainchild of Tom Smith. It's a chance for people from all walks of life to perform music and songs about anything and everything. Currently, tenants from our Spring Hill boarding house are taking part in a music group held each week with Tom. They write songs based on their experiences in life. Some songs are happy and some are tough to listen to, but they all come from the heart:

A Housing Commission Street,  
Sydney Mt Drutt

I broke the mold got a Brisbane  
job, talked them into making the  
move

Homestead out in Goodna, good  
climate for Dad's health

Earn't his respect, kept hold of  
my job, every morning made me  
lunch got me out of bed

So many windows to look through,  
so many ideas at once

Can't stop turning round in circles,  
another season begun

I'm the same now a little wiser, back  
where I started from

Taking each idea as it comes

Saw an old mate who was homeless, he  
said come and join the tribe.

That's when the park crew saved my life.

When Xmas days are lonely I dress up  
and spread the word.

We're human and we all need to be  
heard.

When I breath my last breath, it's a  
legacy passed on.

A young voice will stand up and sing my  
song.

Time to follow and a time to lead  
Each take turns, fill the need  
Time to follow, time to lead  
When I follow my nose I find  
my feet

## STAFF NEWS

Many of you will know that Bric CEO, Bernard Wilson, resigned earlier this year. Eoin Quinlivan is acting CEO while the Bric Board recruit a permanent appointment.

It's all happening in the Asset Services Team with Sara Sewell (Housing Services Officer) welcoming a baby boy into the family. We welcome Mikaela Leadbetter into Sara's position for her maternity leave. Kirsty Tiratel (Asset Services Team Leader) is also leaving us soon on maternity leave. We wish her well and welcome Chrystal Campbell into her position while she is on leave. In other news, Teresa Cutler has recently joined us as HR Manager.

## When Eoin met Eddie...



Bric acting CEO Eoin recently met fellow Irishman and Bric tenant, Eddie. Eoin arranged a special gift for Eddie - an Irish rugby jersey and a cap as well. Just in time to support the boys in green at the Rugby World Cup later this year!



# Fire evacuation training

We had great participation from tenants during our fire evacuation training held recently at all our unit complexes.

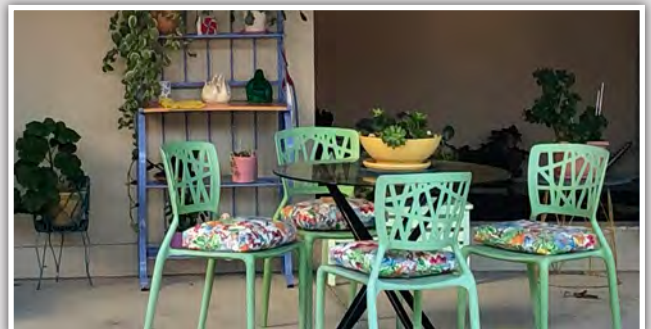
Those taking part ran through evacuation procedures, and had some hands-on training in how to use portable fire equipment such as fire extinguishers. This important training will continue to be held annually as part of our fire safety program.



## Our Board: Your Community

Members of the Bric Board recently enjoyed a tour around a number of Bric properties to see for themselves the range and diversity of our housing portfolio. Board members held informal chats in courtyards and common spaces and heard directly from tenants they met. Members of the Board commented on how important and useful it was for them to get a full understanding of the properties and neighbourhoods in which Bric operates.

Chair of the Bric Board, Eddie Chung said: "It's great to see close-knit communities being formed in some of these properties and our tenants looking after each other. It really brings out the true meaning of 'supporting people and communities'."



## Feedback

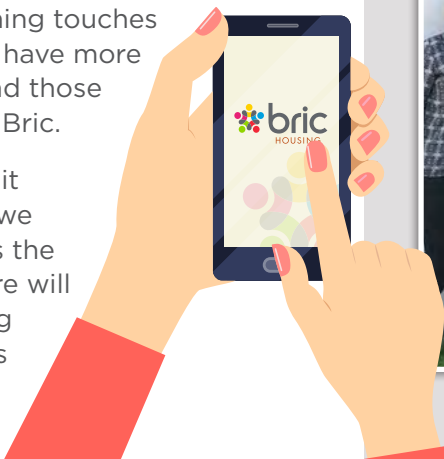
Feedback from the recent morning tea at Hooker Street:

Tenants personally named Bric team members Donna and Tanya saying they are "awesome", "easy to deal with" and when they report maintenance they "get it done".

## Coming soon: New Bric website!

Keep a look out in cyberspace for the new Bric website. We've been overdue an update and we are busy putting the finishing touches to a new website that will have more information for tenants and those who want to partner with Bric.

We'll also be making sure it works well on mobiles as we know many people access the web on their phones. There will be new ways of contacting Bric and up to date details on the organisation.



# Meet the Team - Tanya Bastiaans

## 3 INGREDIENT CHOCOLATE CRACKLES

These cute chocolate crackles have just three ingredients and none of them are the dreaded Copha! They are not health food but they are EASY!

- 200g compound chocolate
  - 1/4 cup (20g) desiccated coconut + a little for sprinkling
  - 3 cups rice bubbles
1. Place chocolate in a glass heat-proof bowl and microwave on medium high for 1 minute and then stir well. You may need to heat in further 10 second bursts to entirely melt.
  2. Add the coconut to the bowl and stir
  3. Pour in the rice bubbles
  4. Stir to coat with chocolate and fill mixture, sprinkle with coconut and refrigerate for 10 minutes to set.

*They certainly would be considered a less healthy choice of food however they are easy to make and can be enjoyed in moderation as a special treat.*

**How long have you worked for Bric?**

2 years & 8 months

**What is your favourite part of your job?**

I feel like I have a purpose in this role. Assisting people & having good service delivery is important to me.

**Where did you grow up?**

Many places... Holland, Brisbane & Cairns

**How do you like to relax?**

I love to be around friends & family for any sort or social gathering.

**Do you have any pets?**

1 x 12 year old cat named Mia & 2 cockatiels named Lee Lee & Angel

**Do you have any secret talents or unusual hobbies?**

Hmmmm, this is a tricky one.... I can whistle loud, my friends get me to whistle at concerts / festivals! I think I'm also good at food tasting haha I love food!!

**If you won lotto, what's the first thing you'd buy?**

A new TV!!! I'm in desperate need of one as mine has a line going through it!!!

**What was the best holiday you ever went on?**

Europe for 6 months when I was 18! I worked & travelled!



*a home • a life • a future*