

#### SPRING 2022 ISSUE

# TENANT AND MEMBER NEWSLETTER



# Message from our CEO- Lizz Bott

Spring is a season for new beginnings, which is fitting as I write this update from our new office in Spring Hill. Thank you to all tenants and stakeholders who worked with us as we continued service delivery whilst in temporary office space. I would also like to acknowledge the wonderful team at Bric Housing for hosting us during this challenging time for our organisation.

The past few months has seen Jacaranda Housing host several tenant events, relocate to new office space, secure new housing under the Better Homes Strategy, and consult widely with our members on proposed constitutional change.

It was also terrific to bring tenants together after a challenging year apart due to COVID restrictions. I encourage tenants to RSVP to our next event scheduled for October and watch this space for details on our upcoming Tenant Christmas Party!

Jacaranda has also had success in securing new homes for existing tenants and those on the social housing register. It has been rewarding to provide more housing to people in need as the state grapples with a severe housing crisis. We are also working closely with several tenants to support their relocation to better homes. We can't wait to share the details of these new homes with you.

Don't miss our events section of the newsletter as the Brisbane Festival and Riverfire promises to be unmissable this year!

On a final note- October is National Mental Health Month. Our mental health is serious and important. Reach out if you need help. Be kind, be caring. You never know what the person standing beside you is going through.

Stay safe and happy.

- Lizz

# This issue:

Message from the CEO

#### **TENANT UPDATE:**

- Office Relocation
- COVID / Flu Season
- International Tenants' Day
- Tenant Events
- Emergency Maintenance
- Smoke Alarms
- Concessions
- Membership
- Upcoming Events

#### **MEMBER UPDATE:**

- Annual General Meeting
- Special General Meeting
- Better Homes Update

Homelessness Week and Mental Health Month

**Emergency Contacts** 

#### **JUST FOR FUN:**

• Recipes

# **MOVED!**

# **NEW OFFICE**

Due to the 2022 flooding event, Jacaranda Housing has relocated to a new office in Spring Hill.

Our office is centrally located for the convenience of tenants, contractors and other valued stakeholders.

#### Attendance is by appointment only.

Our new space will also meet the long-term needs of our growing organisation.

## LOCATION

Level 5 490 Upper Edward St SPRING HILL QLD 4000

# **POSTAL ADDRESS**

PO Box 106 Spring Hill QLD 4004



### Our contact information remains the same:

info@jacarandahousing.com.au (07) 3392 8848

### **COVID and Flu Update**

Although Queensland appears to have passed the peak of winter COVID and Flu season, Jacaranda Housing will continue to exercise protocols to ensure the safety of tenants, staff and contractors.

This means:

- Face-to-face meetings between Jacaranda Housing and tenants will be by appointment only
- Jacaranda Housing staff will wear masks when visiting tenants in their homes
- Tenants must advise Jacaranda Housing or contractors if they are unwell before allowing staff and contractors to visit their home.

Please be assured that our team will continue to be available via phone and email for all your tenancy requirements. You can reach our team on (07) 3392 8848 or via email info@jacarandahousing.com.au

### **International Tenants' Day**



**Monday 3 October 2022 is International Tenants' Day.** International Tenants' Day has been celebrated annually on the first Monday in October since 1986 as a day to promote and raise awareness of tenants' rights across the world.

Tenants Queensland invites all tenants across Queensland to participate in our competition. Share with us and tell us with your entry why it is so important for you to "CONNECT TO HOME" This can be done with a photo, a poem, a painting or drawing.

You have until 1 October to send your entry. This years' theme "CONNECT TO HOME"

#### How to enter

Email or mail your entry to Tenants Queensland via <u>mail@tenantsqld.org.au</u> or 1/87 Wickham Terrace, Spring Hill 4000. When you send your entry make sure it contains the competition eligibility information, your name, preferred contact details and where you are renting in Queensland

You can also share your entry on the <u>Tenants Queensland Facebook page</u>

# Jacaranda Housing Tenants are invited to a

# **Morning Tea**

# Friday, 21 October 2022

10:00am to 11:30am Metro Community Hub Level 1 / 22 Qualtrough Street, Woolloongabba

Tea, coffee and light refreshments will be provided



RSVP's ARE ESSENTIAL FOR COVID-SAFE PLANNING. You can let us know if you will attend by 19.10.2022 via phone **(07) 3392 8848** or email **info@jacarandahousing.com.au** 

IMPORTANT NOTE - Jacaranda is closely monitoring government COVID 19 and Influenza health advice and warnings. Should Jacaranda deem it unsafe to continue with the scheduled event, we will keep you informed. If you are feeling unwell, please do not attend.

Want to join our next one or have ideas of what we should do next? Get in touch with us on (07) 3392 8848 or email info@jacarandahousing.com.au!

### **Emergency and After Hours Maintenance**

It is the priority of the Jacaranda Housing team to have all responsive maintenance responded to within reasonable timeframes.

If you require urgent maintenance within business hours, please contact the Jacaranda Housing office.

For urgent maintenance outside of business hours, please refer to the relevant trades person detailed on the After-Hours Emergency Contact list.

To contact Jacaranda Housing in the event of an after hours emergency, please call: 0408 798 951.

More information on emergency maintenance can be found via Jacaranda Housing's website:



https://jacarandahousing.com.au/maintenance/

### What is emergency maintenance?

#### **Emergency/Urgent**

Urgent repairs are faults or damage are likely to cause injury, further damage to the property if not addressed urgently, or damage that makes the property unsafe or insecure.

#### Examples:

- Burst water service
- Blocked or broken pipe/toilet overflowing
- Serious roof leak (storm damage ring SES)
- Severe storm damage
- Gas Leak
- Live bare wires
- Fire
- No power (contact utility provider as well)
- Structural damage endangering occupants
- Smoke alarms are not working

#### **Priority Repairs**

Examples:

- Partially blocked pipes, sewerage not overflowing
- Toilet cistern not working and overflowing
- Faulty external locks
- The full stove is not working
- Fast dripping taps
- No hot water
- No power to multiple power points or lights'
- Communal area lights are not working
- Unsecured yard for small children

### **Emergency and After Hours Maintenance (Continued)**

See our helpful infographic below on what is an urgent / emergency maintenance matter. The guide also highlights what Jacaranda Housing will respond to and what maintenance matters are tenant responsibilities.



### PAGE 06

### Smoke Alarms- DO NOT REMOVE!

Tenants should never remove smoke alarms in the household, even if they are beeping. Removing them can place you in danger as well as cause damage to the alarms and their brackets.

Tenants who remove smoke alarms can be liable for breaches to their tenancy as well as on-charged the replacement costs if there is any damage to the alarms.

#### Cleaning

It is important to clean the smoke alarms.

Please use a vacuum to regularly remove dust on and around smoke alarms. This will reduce the likelihood of false sounding.

You can download the full guide to managing these Smoke Alarms here.

#### What to do if alarms are beeping

If these alarms begin to go off, you can follow the below procedure:

**STEP ONE:** Check for fire – if there is a fire present, evacuate immediately and call 000 from safety. If there is no fire, proceed to Step Two.

**STEP TWO:** Find initiating smoke alarm with flashing red light.

**STEP THREE:** Press hush on initiating alarm to silence all smoke alarms (Press and hold for 3 seconds)

If this does not resolve the issue, call Jacaranda Housing during business hours to report the issue.

If after-hours, first try Safe Homes to request an urgent property visit to remedy.

Safe Homes is available on 1300 20 12 29 or call Jacaranda after-hours on 0408 798 951.



# Concessions, support, and training opportunities

The Queensland State Government has a range of concessions and grants to help assist with Cost of Living pressures:

#### \$175 off electricity

Queenslanders will receive a \$175 Cost of Living Rebate on their electricity bill in 2022.

#### **Electricity Rebate Scheme**

Helps eligible Queenslanders pay their electricity bill with a rebate of up to \$372 per year.

#### Textbook and Resource Allowance

Helping parents cover the costs of secondary school text books and learning resources. Parents can sign over the allowance to the school and reduce the fees associated with the school's textbook and resource scheme.

<u>Click here to find more concessions</u> on the Queensland State Government website.

#### **Financial counselling and support services**

#### National Debt Hotline 1800 007 007

This hotline is a free not-for-profit service that helps people tackle their debt problems. <u>Click here to visit their website.</u>

#### **The Salvation Army**

When you can talk through your situation with their caring, professional counsellors, you'll receive personalised advice on how to get through your money problems, and avoid trouble in the future. <u>Click here to find out more about their financial support service.</u>

#### **Pensioner Concession Card or Health Care Card**

If you hold a Pensioner Concession Card or Health Care Card, you may be eligible for:

- Concession fares on <u>public transport</u> and <u>long-distance rail</u> services.
- Concessions on motor vehicle and recreational boat registration.
- <u>Electricity and reticulated gas</u> rebates.
- Free prescription <u>spectacles</u>.
- Free <u>dental care</u>.
- Concessions on <u>medicines</u> covered by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

You can <u>click here to read more</u> about these concessions.

#### **Inner Brisbane Free Food Locations & Times**

The Community Canteen publish a regular bulletin of food and other emergency support available across inner-Brisbane. <u>You can check out this list of services here</u>.

## Membership

#### Did you know that Jacaranda Housing is a member-based organisation?

Our membership base includes tenants, supporters, industry allies, and people who are passionate about better housing for people in need.

Members of Jacaranda Housing can also vote in our Annual General Meetings.

Jacaranda is a charitable public company established for public benefit. As a member of Jacaranda Housing, you can support us in our mission to provide safe, secure and affordable housing for Queenslanders.

Join today and help our organisation become even stronger at a time of great housing need.

Click here to find our charitable status at the ACNC and for further information on our organisation.



# Interested in becoming a member?

Click here to print and complete a membership application form.

# Want more information about membership?

Click here to visit Jacaranda Housing's website.



### **RIVERFIRE - Brisbane Festival 2022**

Brisbane festival and Riverfire kicks off this September! Check out the free fireworks display along the Brisbane River on Saturday 3rd September 2022. There's also a great mix of free and paid events and performances throughout September, **so click here to view the full program**.

You can also **pick up a printed program** at a range of cafes, libraries and community centres.



'The Pool' free interactive installation



Lord Mayor's City Hall Free Concerts



Riverfire – get in early for the best viewing spots!

### **Queensland Museum - Discovery Centre**

The Discovery Centre is a free interactive space on Level 4 of the Queensland Museum in South Bank.

Showcasing more than 1300 objects, digital displays and more, get engaged, ask questions, discover, play and have fun in this exciting space.

The Queensland Museum is open daily 9.30am to 5.00pm.



# Upcoming Events -Redlands

### **Redlands Indigiscapes Centre**

The Redlands Indigiscapes Centre is an environmental education centre, treasurehouse of native Australian flora and fauna, rewarding family destination and serene sanctuary for the solo stroller.

The Centre is open 8.00am to 4.00pm seven days a week.

<u>Click here to visit their website</u> and find out what programs, exhibitions and events are happening!

You can find the Centre at 17 Runnymede Road, Capalaba

### Free Activities - Redland Art Gallery

The Redlands Art Gallery are hosting free fun Sunday art activities throughout 2022! <u>Click here to find out more information.</u>

The gallery can be found at 95-97 Bloomfield Street, Cleveland and you can drop in to the events anytime between 10.00am and 1.00pm.

#### Sunday 25 September 2022 Yarn art

Explore pattern and colour using yarn wrapping techniques.

#### Sunday 23 October Cyanotype prints

Create your own sun print using botanicals and found objects

#### Sunday 27 November Holiday cards with Gail Headley

Create a unique holiday card for loved ones using pressed botanicals.





# **Member Update**

### **Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on **Saturday 26 November 2022.** A venue and time will be advised closer to the meeting date.

Nominations for the Board have also now called as per section 11.3 of the Company Constitution and the Jacaranda Housing Governance Policy Manual.

Director nominations are called as follows:

- Two (2) Independent Director's nominated and elected by all members.
- Two (2) Stakeholder Director's nominated and elected by Class C members only.

The meeting agenda will be provided at least 21 days before the meeting.

For more information and the AGM Notice, please click here to visit our website.

For more information or to request Director position descriptions and nomination documents, contact the Company Secretary, Ms. Lizz Bott, on (07) 3392 8848.

### **Special General Meeting - Constitutional Change**

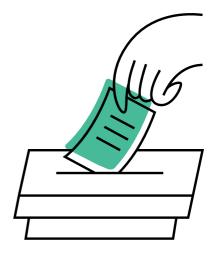
Jacaranda Housing members came together on Saturday 27 August 2022 to vote at a Special General Meeting.

This meeting put forward a resolution for the members of the Company to adopt a modified Constitution which aligns with the ACNC and best practice governance standards and as made available to the members.

The resolution was not passed at the meeting with a vote of 64% in favour and 36% against.

The Board, members and supporters understand the need for strong governance and a modern constitution for Jacaranda Housing. We will keep on working towards our aims to modify the constitution in the future.

The Board of Directors thanks all members who participated in this process, including those who are part of the Constitutional Change sub-committee, those who attended briefing sessions and provided feedback, and to those members who voted at this Special General Meeting.



# **Member Update**

### **Better Homes for the Future Update**

Since our last update, Jacaranda Housing took ownership of four more amazing homes for existing tenants and people on the social housing register. We took ownership of two homes in July and early August and a further two dwellings in early September. We are excited for the new tenants who will be moving into these homes over the coming weeks.

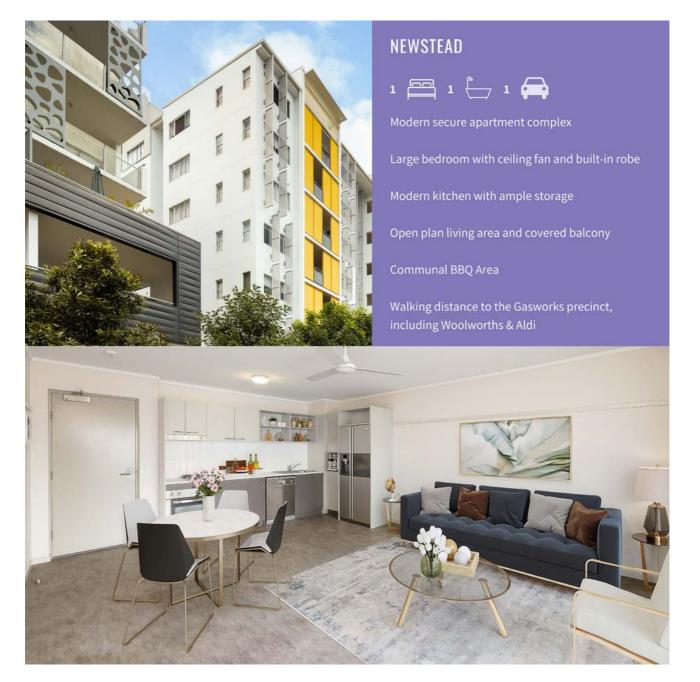
We have been busy supporting tenants to relocate to our new homes that are more accessible, easier to maintain, and located in proximity to public transport and amenities.

We are also delighted to be able to offer life changing opportunities for people on the social housing register looking for a safe space to call home.

Details on two of the homes are featured below.



# **Member Update**



#### Last month, we also touched base with some of our tenants who relocated to a new home:

We moved into a unit as the stairs at our former house were becoming an issue to use. We are now in a lovely unit complex that is very community focused. The complex has a social club and we just had communal gardens built. Because the place is so new, we never really seem to have maintenance issues and it is a breeze to keep clean. The unit is terrific as it is designed to be accessible inside, and we can use the stairs or lift to get to the unit as well. Although there are things we miss about the old house, we couldn't be in a better home right now. I would encourage people to really think about their housing and accessibility needs sooner rather than later. Although I don't need help getting around right now, it is good to know that we'll be okay when that time comes.

- Jas and Amira tenants of 25 yrs (not their real names for privacy reasons)

We are continuing to progress the Better Homes Strategy with several more properties under assessment and we will keep you updated very soon!

99

# Homelessness and Mental Health

### Homelessness Week 2022

In August, Jacaranda Housing marked National Homelessness Week.

It's become evident that Australia is in the grip of a full-blown housing crisis.

This crisis is being felt everywhere through a lack of social housing, tightening private rental market, and skyrocketing levels of debt required to secure home ownership.



As a community housing provider, we are contacted regularly by people desperately seeking housing support.

We join our industry colleagues and the Everybodys Home Campaign to call for a plan to end homelessness.

You can click here to find out more about Homelessness Australia and their advocacy work.

### National Mental Health Month - October 2022



National Mental Health Month is an important time where the Australian community comes together to raise awareness and promote better mental health for all.

We know that having a secure home allows people with mental illness to focus on recovery and treatment.

Events to mark this month will be published on the Mental Health Foundation Australia's website and social media platforms.

<u>Click here to find out more information</u> on what events will be taking place in South-East Queensland in October.

# **Emergency and After Hours Contact List**

Emergency Contacts List		
Service	Name	Contact Number
Jacaranda Housing	After Hours Number and CEO contact	0408 798 951 or 0439 942 438
After Hours Electrician	Helix Electrical	0409 266 297
After Hours Plumber & Gas Repairs	Bell Plumbing & Maintenance	07 3354 3300
Smoke Alarm Services	Safe Home Services	1300 20 12 29
Community Housing Provider	Jacaranda Housing (business hours)	07 3392 8848
Emergency Services	Police/Ambulance/Fire Brigade	000
State Emergency Services	SES	13 25 00
QLD Government Health Advice	13 HEALTH	13 432584
General Police Matters	Police Link	131 444
Council – Brisbane Region	Brisbane City Council	07 3403 8888
Council – Redlands Region	Redland City Council	07 3829 8999
Water Services – Brisbane Region	Queensland Urban Utilities	13 23 64
Water Services – Redlands	Redland City Council	07 3829 8999
Tenant Support Services		
Service	Name	Contact Number
Tenancy Support	Residential Tenancies Authority	1300 366 311
Tenancy Support	QSTARS (Tenants Queensland)	1300 744 263
Tenancy Support	Rent Connect	13 74 68
Bond Loan Support	DCHDE – Bond Loan Team	1300 650 282
Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy	DCHDE– General	07 3034 9800
Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy	Fortitude Valley Housing Service Centre	07 3034 6500
Domestic Violence Support	Brisbane Domestic Violence Service	07 3271 2544
Domestic Violence Support	DV Connect – Women's Line	1800 811 811
Domestic Violence Support	DV Connect – Men's Line	1800 600 636
Domestic Violence Support	DV Connect – Sexual Assault Line	1800 010 210
Domestic Violence Support	Aboriginal Family Domestic Violence	1800 019 123
Mental Health Support	Beyond Blue	1300 224 636
Personal/Crisis Support	Lifeline	13 11 14
Support Services - General	St Vincent De Paul	(07) 3010 1000
Support Services - General	Anglicare Southern Queensland	1300 610 610
Support Services - General	Salvation Army	13 72 58



# **Spring Recipes**

## Asparagus and feta frittata

This scrumptious asparagus and feta fritatta can be made ahead, stored, then reheated later. Perfect starters for a dinner party or summer BBQ.

#### Ingredients

- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 170 gram asparagus, trimmed, chopped coarsely
- 2 small zucchini (180g), sliced thinly lengthways
- 1 cup (120g) frozen peas
- 8 eggs
- 1/2 cup (125ml) pouring cream
- 1/2 cup lightly packed fresh mint leaves, torn
- 150 gram feta, crumbled

#### Instructions

- 1. Preheat oven to 180°C. Oil a 20cm x 30cm rectangular pan; line base with baking paper, extending paper 5cm over long sides.
- 2. Place asparagus, zucchini and peas in a small saucepan of boiling water. Return to the boil; drain immediately, transfer to a bowl of iced water until cold. Drain well, then pat dry with paper towel.
- 3. Whisk eggs and cream in a large jug until combined. Add mint; season.
- 4. Place feta and vegetables in pan; pour over egg mixture.
- 5. Bake frittata for 25 minutes or until set. Cool before cutting into slices.

### 4-ingredient triple choc brownies

#### Ingredients

- 4 eggs, at room temperature
- 220 grams jar chocolate-hazelnut spread
- ¼ cup (45g) milk choc bits
- ¼ cup (45g) white choc bits

#### Instructions

- 1. Preheat oven to 180°C. Grease a 20cm (8-inch) square cake pan; line base and sides with baking paper, extending paper 5cm (2 inches) over sides.
- 2. Beat eggs in a medium bowl with an electric mixer on high speed for 10 minutes or until stiff peaks form.
- 3. Meanwhile, place chocolate-hazelnut spread in a large microwave-safe bowl; microwave on HIGH (100%) for 20 seconds or until softened slightly.
- 4. Fold egg mixture into chocolate-hazelnut mixture, in three batches. Pour mixture into pan; bake 15 minutes.
- 5. Remove from oven; sprinkle with combined choc bits. Bake a further 10 minutes or until a skewer inserted into centre comes out clean. Cool in pan before cutting.

Recipes from Women's Weekly Food womensweeklyfood.com.au



