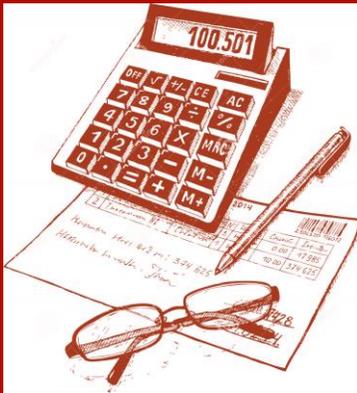


# Co-op Connect

Promoting the housing co-operative model

Winter 2017



## NEED SOMEONE WITH A NOUS FOR NUMBERS?

Audit season is fast approaching, and our BAS-registered bookkeeper can help you get your financial records in order for a seamless audit process.

A new simplified BAS is also on the way, which might well make it feasible for you to save money by completing your own BAS. Our bookkeeper can help you to set up this process.

These services and more are available at the very reasonable rate of \$65 per hour (+ GST).

Please contact us  
for more information.

Let's Celebrate!

## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF CO-OPERATIVES 2017!

Co-operation Housing has once again joined forces with FOHCOL (the Federation of Housing Collectives) to celebrate International Day of Co-operatives 2017. This year's celebration will be a sundown event and will feature some special guests from Access Housing and SHAC (Sustainable Housing for Artists and Creatives). Please join us!

**When:** 4pm (arrive from 3.45pm) to 6.30pm on Saturday 1 July 2017

### *4pm Presentations and Discussion*

Access Housing's Su Groome will reflect on co-creating SHAC, the first new rental housing co-op in nearly 20 years. We'll then tour SHAC.

### *5.15pm Refreshments and Networking*

A renaissance of co-op housing is afoot. Catch up with some of the new players planning affordable co-ops for purchase or rent.

**Where:** Sullivan Hall, 2 Nannine Ave, White Gum Valley

**Book:** Robyn at [admin@fohcol.org.au](mailto:admin@fohcol.org.au) or 0424 587 262

## UPDATE ON OUR GROWTH ACTIVITIES

In previous issues we've mentioned our work towards establishing a potential new housing co-operative on the City of Fremantle's Quarry Street development site. Our original expression of interest successfully progressed to the second round, but the City of Fremantle then suspended the selection process while it considered modifying its selection criteria.

It has now invited all applicants who met the original criteria (which includes our group) to tender for the purchase and development of the site, based on a redeveloped set of selection criteria.

We are working on a tender to meet the new criteria. We remain optimistic, and will keep you posted!



### Co-operation Housing

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## RE-REGISTRATION PROCESS UNDERWAY

As part of the transition to the new Community Housing Regulatory Framework, the Housing Authority requires all currently registered community housing providers to apply for re-registration.

Co-operation Housing has committed to this process, and has been attending the relevant information sessions to ensure that it proceeds smoothly.

We hope to confirm Co-operation Housing's successful re-registration as a community housing provider in the near future.

## DOCUMENTING THE BENEFITS OF HOUSING CO-OPS



Recently we were contacted by a film student from the University of Notre Dame in Fremantle, who wanted to interview us for a documentary project about the importance of housing co-operatives as a model of sustainable housing in the 'progressive' city of Fremantle.

We were happy to participate, and outlined for her the benefits of housing co-operatives, why we believe their popularity is currently on the rise, and how we see the future of housing co-operatives in an age of housing need.

We see this as another opportunity to spread the word on this unique model.

## STRONGER TOGETHER

Recently we've been supporting our members in the following ways.

We've offered each of our member co-ops a free 'Annual Check-up', where we check how confident they are in meeting their compliance and reporting obligations, where they'd like more support from us, and anything else they need to stay healthy and happy.

We've offered our member co-ops a free customised workshop on Tenancy Law as it applies specifically to housing co-ops.

We've provided each member co-op with a simple checklist to determine whether they're compliant with ACNC and ATO requirements. If not, or if they're unsure, they can ask us for support.

Our Policy Advisory Committee has been meeting regularly and making solid progress on our new rent-setting policy.

By the way, congratulations to our member co-op First Fremantle Housing Collective on celebrating its 30th anniversary!

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## PLEASE LIKE US!

Co-operation Housing now has a Facebook page, where we'll be listing our latest news and upcoming events.

Search for "Co-operation Housing, Western Australia".

## BUILDING

### 'A NEW ECONOMY'

Later this year we will host a screening of *A New Economy*, a film about building a more co-operative future by changing our standard business model.

Check our Facebook page for updates!



## WANT TO START A CO-OP?

Green Fabric, one of our partners on the Quarry Street project, will be hosting a number of upcoming events to educate and bring together people interested in new housing co-op and co-housing opportunities, and connect them with available resources.

### More information

[www.greenfabric.com.au](http://www.greenfabric.com.au)