SBH QLD CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

CELEBRATING 1969 - 2019

SBH Spina Bifida Hydrocephalus Queensland

YEARS OF SERVICE

SUMMER EDITION 2019
This edition has us starting to celebrate our 50th year and we have increased the size of Spinet to bring you the stories that we believe tell our story as an organisation and as a community. The last few years have been a major transition for us and at times it has been difficult as we change to the new world under NDIS. Despite those challenges our staff have made enormous strides in changing to a service provider that is proactive.

The challenges have meant that staff have higher levels of administrative tasks required by the NDIA as well as higher reporting standards for State Government programs that we are involved with. This has impacted on capacity to deliver services and I need to thank staff for their commitment to this process and clients for understanding. You have read my articles in the past regarding your NDIS plans and the services that we offer and I encourage clients to contact us for all your NDIS requirements and ensure you receive not only the service you deserve but also the comprehensive expertise of staff who have the knowledge and passion to assist you with your needs. We have recently engaged another Support Coordinator to ensure we can meet the demand and you can read about our new staff on page 18 and 19.

On a brighter note, we have registered the SBH Queensland Foundation which has been established to manage investments for us and raise funds as part of a plan to make us more financially independent. The Board Members of the Foundation have volunteered and their details are on our website. I want to thank all of them for their time, patience and commitment. The Foundation is to be a registered charity and therefore contributions are tax deductible. We are also reviewing the Wheel & Walk with a view to growing into the future and making the event a “must do” for people in Brisbane.

To everyone who have been with us from the beginning I want to wish you, previous Board Members and Staff, congratulations on creating an organisation that has proven itself and urge you to join us, volunteer and participate, as we head towards the next 50 years with confidence, passion and commitment.

David Power

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Are you ready for the NDIS? We are a registered NDIS provider!
ASSIST Calendar

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<td>April/May</td>
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<td>Aquatic Therapy – Gladstone</td>
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<td>2 - 4 July</td>
<td>Wheelchair Skills Program Ages 6-11 Years</td>
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<td>8 – 11 July</td>
<td>Teen Camp – Gold Coast</td>
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<td>30 / 31 July</td>
<td>Mobility Program – Under 5 years</td>
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<td>23 – 26 September</td>
<td>Children's Camp - Mapleton</td>
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<td>1 - 3 October</td>
<td>Wheelchair Skills – 11-17 Years</td>
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Wheel and Walk - Sunday 21 July
PROGRAM AND WORKSHOP DATES MAY CHANGE - PLEASE REGISTER SO YOU CAN BE NOTIFIED OF ANY CHANGES.

A full list of dates can be found on our website, www.spinabifida.org

DONATION FORM

Please mail to SBH Queensland, PO Box 8022, Woolloongabba 4102.

☐ Please tick for a receipt

I would like to support SBH Queensland in the following way:

☐ Membership at $20 per year  ☐ Life membership $200
☐ Donation ☐ $25  ☐ $10  ☐ $50  ☐ Amount..............................
☐ Once only  ☐ Fortnightly  ☐ Monthly

Please charge  ☐ MasterCard  ☐ Visa

Account number........................................ Expiry date…............. /..............……

Signature…………………………..................................

Name……………………..................................................................................................................

Address…………………….............................................................................................................

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Phone………….......................................................  Date…………...................................

To donate online, please visit www.givenow.com.au/sbhqld

Please send information on:

☐ Regular payroll deductions
☐ How my group can help raise funds
☐ Making a bequest in my will
In 2019 SBH Queensland turns 50 years. Since 1969, we have been serving the spina bifida and hydrocephalus community to support clients and their families to reach their potential.

Over our fifty years, we have had the pleasure of connecting with countless incredible people within the spina bifida and hydrocephalus community. Our clients have inspired us each and every day, being the reason our organisation’s existence. Our families, volunteers, supporters, board members and staff, both past and present, have dedicated themselves in the pursuit of improving the lives of others. It is the remarkable people of our community, their kind spirit and dedication, that has made SBH Queensland such a special community.

To celebrate this wonderful milestone, within each Spinet edition for 2019 we will turn back the clock and explore the history and people of SBH Queensland.

1969 – 1980
On December 11th 1969, the Spina Bifida Association of Queensland was established by Queensland neurosurgeon Dr James Geoffrey Toakley CBE and a group of dedicated parents and supporters. The following year on February 24th marked the official launch of the Association. The occasion was celebrated with a spina bifida presentation by Dr Toakley, guest speaker and president of Salisbury Rotary Club Mr. George Eggleton and the launch of our first appeal for $50,000.

It was the hard work and dedication of our original Patron, Trustees and Management Committee, that we owe for our wonderful organisation:

- Patron: Hon. Mr Justice Douglas, Supreme Court judge.
- Trustees:
  - Mr K.D. Morris – well known in Australia for his company’s engineering and construction operations
  - Mr L. McCray, General Manager, United Foods Ltd
  - Mr R. Turner, Queensland Manager, Lombard Australia Ltd.
- Management Committee Dr J.G Toakley, (President), Mr W. Dillion (Vice-President), Mrs Nancy Clark (Hon. Secretary), Mrs R. Howsan (Hon. Treasurer) and Committee Members Mrs J.S (Bunty) Clark, Mr F. Leeson, Mr K Carroll.

The original Spina Bifida Association of Queensland emblem was designed by Mr Noel Hill, a local freelance artist. Noel designed the unborn baby cradled within the ‘S’ to catch the eye of the people. Spinet was born in 1971 in the pursuit of keeping families informed on the latest news, treatments and experiences.

Throughout 1971 and 1972, the association fundraised extensively through hard-working volunteers and the support of local Rotary, Lions and Apex Clubs. The following year, we purchased our first premises at 387 Old Cleveland Road in Coorparoo, only to purchase the adjoining premise the following year.

Throughout the 1970s, we grew in staff to facilitate the growing need for support of people with spina bifida and hydrocephalus. In 1974, our team consisted of a part-time office coordinator, Social Worker (then referred to as a Welfare Officer) and one therapist.
Two years later, through the support of the Department of Education, we employed an Occupational Therapist and another part-time Social Worker. In another two years time, additional support by the Department of Education enabled the employment of our first Preschool education teacher.

By 1980, our association had grown to nine staff members, a range of services and a number of very popular group programs. In this year our children’s camps commenced, with three successful camps within the first twelve months. Early intervention Playgroup programs for children under five years were achieving exceptional outcomes across programs throughout Brisbane, while our client Christmas parties were great fun, being attended well by clients, families and staff.

Next edition of Celebrating 50 Years, we explore the 1980’s and the incredible achievements within our community.

Do you have a wonderful story to tell to celebrate our 50 years? We would love to hear from you. Join us at https://www.spinabifida.org/news/50years
A week of pure imagination! We had a wonderful time at SBH Queensland’s Willy Wonka themed camp for 10-13 year-olds. The camp was held at Bribie Island and was staffed by our therapy and education team as well as some enthusiastic volunteers. Twenty happy campers came along from various parts of the state.

The four-day camp is a valuable opportunity for children to meet and socialise with others who share their condition. The peer-based learning environment helps children to understand their health needs, whilst also providing a safe and supportive space for them to learn about their own health management. The program aims to work towards goals of independence and personal development. We saw gains in the self-confidence of children within the week as they worked towards their own individual goals.

Activities enjoyed by campers included an inflatable water adventure playground by Holt Bolt, sustainable craft with Reverse Garbage, paddle boarding and a trip to Sea Life at Mooloolaba. All the kids and staff had a great time participating in the Willy Wonka themed week. A fun party on the final night saw the kids up in front of everyone performing choreographed dances, magic acts and singing. There were smoothies made on blender bikes and cream pies thrown at staff! A lot of fun was had and new friendships formed.

10-13 Year-Olds – You Have Been Chosen to Join Our tribe!

The Survivor Children’s Camp is a must-do event for 2019.

Monday 23rd September 9.30am – Thursday 26th September 10.00am 2019
QCCC Mapleton, 70 Obi Obi Road, Mapleton

Action packed outdoor activities include the flying fox, archery, canoeing and team challenges. All activities are accessible

Special Note – Unfortunately, Children’s Camp is no longer supported under the NSO grant program. Traditionally, children's camp has been a community benefit program. Due to a restructure of the government NSO grant program, SBH Queensland and similar organisations will no longer be funded for our independence camps. Despite this, SBH Queensland is passionate to continue this wonderful experience for children.

Moving forward, it is critical to integrate the Children’s Camp into your child’s NDIS plan. Please download the Children’s Camp NDIS flyer (including NDIS line items, program goals and outcomes) to take to your NDIS planner – visit www.spinabifida.org/childrens-camp

If you are unsuccessful with your NDIS plan, please speak to SBH Queensland.

Please RSVP ASAP - Numbers Limited

To register your interest or to learn more, please contact Sophie Wilson (07) 3844 4600 or swilson@sbhqueensland.org.au
In the July school holidays of 2019, SBH Queensland will be running our first teenage camp for clients with Spina Bifida and/or Hydrocephalus, aged 14-17 years. Children’s camp is always such a hit that our clients and families have been asking for a teenage camp. We are finally able to deliver! We are super excited and planning is well under way.

Teen camp will be held at The Southport School (TSS) on the Gold Coast this year. It will be staffed by occupational therapists, physiotherapists, speech pathologists, nurses, social workers and volunteers.

Our camps provide a unique opportunity for students to get together with peers who have shared similar life experiences. On camp, our clients get the opportunity to step outside their comfort zone in a safe and supported environment, allowing them to learn more about themselves and grow in their independence and confidence both physically and emotionally.

This year the theme is “The Amazing Race” where we will be engaging the campers in fun, action-packed activities as well as activities targeting some of the challenges that teens face in this day and age. We are looking forward to hosting our wonderful teens this July!

For more information, please contact Inga on 07 3844 4600 or email ihollstein@sbhqueensland.org.au

Teen camp is made possible by our wonderful supporters at East Leagues Foundation. Through their Community Benefit Fund, their contribution is creating a life-changing opportunity for our participants. Thank you East Leagues Club for your support of SBH Queensland.
Do you suffer from anxiety, depression, grief and loss? Statistics show that one in five adults suffer with mental health every year. Our GOALS retreat programs can help you tackle mental health issues within a supportive and empowering environment. SBH Queensland social workers Jodie and Sonya coordinate the GOALS retreats, which have been successfully operating for over 10 years.

The GOALS Retreat program is currently held at Tangalooma Island Resort. The program has a major emphasis on mental health and wellbeing. Topics include self-image, anxiety, depression, grief and loss, stress, goal setting. Past participants from the program have gained greater personal insight, understanding, motivation, change, and confidence. The program is an opportunity to stop and take a close look at who you are, who you have been and most importantly who you want to be.

Board member and client George Kambouris is a strong advocate for the program, having attended himself a number of times.

“It is a life-changing experience. You come away with new skills to take into everyday life. It gives you the confidence that no matter what you face, there is always a way to work it out”, says George.

To express interest for the upcoming GOALS Retreat or for information to include the program in your future NDIS plan, please contact Jodie or Sonya on assist@sbhqueensland.org.au or (07) 3844 4600.
After strong demand from our community, late last year SBH Queensland successfully launched our Adult’s Mobility Program. Facilitated by SBH Queensland staff Angela (Occupational Therapist) and Nathan (physiotherapist), 10 clients successfully enhanced their independence and mobility skills.

Participants gained valuable knowledge and experiences including correct seating posture, prevention of pressure injuries and musculoskeletal issues, wheelchair entry/exit strategies, learning about new mobility equipment, wheelchair maintenance and the impact of the NDIS.

Participants progressed to indoor and outdoor practical wheelchair skills, with some participants braving backwards and forward gutter descents. The program also featured hands-on experience with power-assisted mobility equipment.

Clients said that they enjoyed the program, citing the trialling of power-assist options for manual wheelchairs and the NDIS session on mobility equipment as very fun and informative.

In 2019 the program is going to expand to integrate recreational and sporting activities. To register your interest, please contact a member of our ASSIST team on assist@sbhqueensland.org.au or (07) 3844 4600.
2019 SBH QUEENSLAND WHEEL AND WALK FUN RUN

QUEENSLAND’S MOST INCLUSIVE FUN RUN

SUPPORTING SPINA BIFIDA & HYDROCEPHALUS

The 2019 Wheel & Walk will be a wonderful family fun day:
• Wheel & Walk Fun Run
• Family Activities & Wheelchair Competitions
• Sausage Sizzle BBQ and Motorbike display by Southern Cross Association
• Live Entertainment
• Sports and Relaxation massages

Sunday 21st July 2019
Orleigh Park, West End, Brisbane – New Location!

Now calling Fundraisers and Supporters
• Would you like to fundraise to support spina bifida & hydrocephalus?
• Could we come to speak at your school assembly to promote the Wheel & Walk?
• Do you know a business that could sponsor our event and gain community exposure?

Please contact Aaron Hall, (07) 3844 4600 or ahall@sbhqueensland.org.au

Do you live in Regional Queensland and cannot attend our Brisbane event?
Create a walk with your family, friends and neighbours to show your support. Contact Aaron Hall ahall@sbhqueensland.org.au for your Regional Queensland Wheel & Walk event pack.
ANOTHER YEAR SUPPORTING SBH QUEENSLAND.

After supporting since 2010, SSKB is extremely proud to be getting involved and supporting SBH Queensland for another year in 2019.

WHY WE SUPPORT SBH QUEENSLAND.

The work SBH Queensland does and the support they provide hits close to home for SSKB Director, Tim Sheehan, and wife Elizabeth. Their son, William, was just 20 weeks old when he was diagnosed with Spina Bifida and this was when the Sheehans were first exposed to SBH Queensland and the work they do. In 2017, Will Sheehan finished the entire course for the first time and this year in 2019, is setting out to achieve a new personal best time. The Sheehan family and SSKB are proud supporters of SBH Queensland and proud sponsors of the SSKB Wheel and Walk.

WHO IS SSKB?

SSKB is the trusted name in body corporate and community management and has achieved this by offering a superior service that is second to none in the industry. Being engaged, involved and charitable towards our communities, both those we manage and those we live in, is very important to the SSKB team.
SBH Queensland is achieving outstanding client success through our state-wide Aquatic Therapy program. Within a hydrotherapy pool environment, clients are achieving their therapy goals with reduced pain and increased scope of movement.

The program is available in small groups, as well as individual therapy formats, with activities tailored to client’s mobility and fitness needs. The program is suitable for all ages, children and adults, with all levels of swimming abilities.

Adult clients have enjoyed the ability to participate in a group environment, creating a fun, social dynamic. Other clients with high focus goals pursued individual therapy with exceptional outcomes. Participants have reported reduced pain, increased activity levels, weight loss and increased mobility.

For children clients and families, Aquatic Therapy integrates play-based therapy for a wonderful combination of therapy and fun. Children love water play and experience less fatiguing. As a result, children have been achieving greater therapy outcomes and goals. For families in coastal areas or with pools, we have experienced great success with families taking home activities to focus on in between therapy visits.

The programs have been successfully running in South East and Regional Queensland. In October and November, regional intensive programs were conducted in Cairns, Rockhampton and Nanango. Block programs were also successfully conducted in Algester, Redcliffe and Aspley.

Having conducted children Aquatic Therapy in Brisbane over the past years, SBH Queensland are incredibly proud to increase our services to adult clients, as well as expanding to regional Queensland.

Thank you to Jillian, one of our adult clients, for sharing your experience with our Aquatic Therapy program:

“I enjoyed the sessions, they work you but no more than you are physically capable...I’ve had less pain in my knees since. I would thoroughly recommend doing the sessions next year.”

If you need help reaching your mobility goals and enjoy engaging activities and a social, group therapy environment, please register your interest with our Aquatic Therapy Program. SBH Queensland can help you include Aquatic Therapy in your upcoming NDIS plans for 2019 and beyond.

Contact enquiries@sbhqueensland.org.au for more information.
"AQUATIC THERAPY HELPS TO KEEP ME MOVING, WHILE KEEPING FIT AND STRONG. I ENJOYED IT AS A WAY OF SOCIAL-NETWORKING."
NATASHA

AQUATIC THERAPY PROGRAM
• Combines therapy and goals within a group or individual setting
• Aquatic Therapy reduces pain, promotes muscular strength and coordination
• For all ages and swimming abilities
• South East and Regional Queensland

Find Out More
(07) 3844 4600
www.spinabifida.org
enquiries@sbhqueensland.org.au
TRACY REITANO

One of our clients, Tracy Reitano, has just experienced one of life's great wonders again with the birth of her second child, Jazlyn Rose Reitano. Jazlyn is now one month old.

Little Jazlyn is insistent on taking naps on Tracy. Although she is sleep deprived, Tracy is taking advantage knowing Jazlyn will not want to do it forever.

“It’s early days and I’ll have to learn new skills in how I manage looking after two kids as well as remembering ways in how I managed with a baby when Caleb was born”, says Tracy.

We wish Tracy and her beautiful family all the best.

LOGAN MACKEY

Logan Mackey, 2-year-old with spina bifida from Gladstone, had lost motivation and confidence in his development of independent walking. Rectifying this became the main goal of his Aquatic Therapy sessions with SBH Queensland.

Logan and his mother Helena (shown in featured photo) are embracing after Logan dramatically improved in his walking practice session the night following our Aquatic Therapy. Helena has reported that our Aquatic Therapy sessions have helped to significantly boost his ability and confidence.

We have every confidence that Logan will continue to conquer future hurdles in life. Thank you to Logan and Helena for sharing the wonderful results from our Aquatic Therapy program.

BRENDAN SOMERVILLE

SBH Queensland client Brendon Somerville has started his own business, a local recruitment agency called My Bespoke Recruiter. After completing high school in 2004, Brendan dedicated himself to his education, completing a degree, two certificates and the government's New Enterprise Incentive Scheme.

Brendan specialises in Human Resources, Sales, Information Technology and Community Service on the Sunshine Coast and Brisbane. Brendan estimates businesses may save up to 60% on recruitment expenses. You can learn more about Brendan and My Bespoke Recruiter at www.mybespokerecruiter.com.au. We wish Brendan all the best in achieving his business dreams.
The twins from Bunderburg, Hallee (left) and Jada McCoombes (right), have been fulfilling their dreams by making the impossible possible in the world of athletics. The youngest twin Jada fuels her relentless passion for running with 24 medals and a whopping 5kms a week of running on average that puts most people to shame. The eldest, Hallee, has not let Spina Bifida stop her as she has amassed her own haul of medals by conquering the track and field across multiple events. She hopes to one day find herself on tv by competing in the Paralympics.

Just as the Christmas holidays began my daughter Rainey received the best present ever – a hand propelled tricycle. The givers were Trish at SBH Queensland, NDIS and Wicked Wheelchairs. A huge thank you to all three!!

The trike works wonderfully and all that, but it was the feeling of getting into nature, the excitement of finding families of ducks, nesting birds of prey and water snakes. It was the rare enjoyment of seeing my daughter power on ahead (without me), letting her push her own boundaries, seeing her take risks, watching the independence of both my children grow, something my friends take for granted with their children and all this was paired with exercise. What a strange feeling to actually enjoy exercise – first time in my life I have to admit.

None of us were prepared for the changes this piece of equipment would bring to our lives, but gee are we happy about it! I’m keeping an eye out for a mini number plate that says “GAME CHANGER” I wonder if they make them in orange...

Just wanted to say how much Hannah and I have enjoyed the block of aquatic therapy we recently completed. We have noticed huge improvements since Hannah commenced the program. She is now able to roll from tummy to back and can sit up for longer periods without support. We have enjoyed getting to know the other mums and kids who are doing the program too.

Each week the therapists did a great job of coming up with interesting activities to work on everyone’s (different) goals. The water is so motivating for Hannah and takes her mind off doing some of the more challenging movements. It was great to participate in a program specifically designed for kids with Spina Bifida. So thank you and we look forward to future sessions in 2019!
Thank you to Brisbane City Council for their support of our upcoming 2019 Mobility Programs. This project is proudly funded by an Access and Inclusion Community Partnership Program grant from Brisbane City Council. Through their support, SBH Queensland can provide wheelchair and independence skills to increase an individual’s personal health, confidence, community access and overall wellbeing.

**GRILL’D’ LOCAL MATTERS**

Thank you to Grill’d Southbank for featuring SBH Queensland in last months Grill’d’ Local Matters program. We are very grateful for your support.

**GAMBLING COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND**

SBH Queensland is proud recipients of this round’s Gambling Community Benefit Round. The GCBF grant will enable the purchase of a fleet vehicle to support therapy, client contact and group programs. This grant will be a significant support for our SBH Queensland.

The SBH Queensland Mat and Chat Playgroup is a great way for parents to come together in a supportive and fun, early intervention therapy environment. SBH Queensland wishes to invite all families of children from 0-6 years to attend our monthly sessions. Playgroup helps to facilitate the development of children in many ways. Children learn through interaction with peers and play.

We have developed an education series to complement the program, delivered by SBH Queensland occupational therapists, physiotherapists and speech pathologists. We hope that parents will find the topics helpful and gain knowledge about how to best support their child’s development.

Mat and Chat playgroup is also an opportunity for parents to ask questions of therapists and each other in a relaxed environment. Queensland Children Hospital would like to assist regional families to attend the program when travelling to Brisbane. Please advise the clinic co-ordinator of your interest so that clinic appointments can align with our playgroup program.

Please join us for free monthly Mat and Chat Playgroup at 10:30am at SBH Queensland. To express your interest, please contact 07 3844 4600 or email Chloe at clymbery@sbhqueensland.org.au

Thank you to the Mazda Foundation for making early intervention possible!

Playgroup Education Series Dates are listed on page 3.
**WORK READINESS**

The SBH Queensland Work Readiness Program was established to increase clients ability to achieve their employment goals. Supported by the Queensland Government Skilling Queenslanders for Work grant program, our goal was to improve clients readiness skills and awareness of opportunities. The program was run for school leavers and adults with varying levels of work experience.

The program identified obstacles to employment and developed strategies to assist clients to overcome their barriers. Topics included job searching skills, developing CV’s and cover letters as well as interview skills. The program was attended by eight participants over the six week period. The program is individually tailored to each client’s needs and current work experience.

The program addressed barriers to sustainable employment due to potential functional implications of having spina bifida and/or hydrocephalus. In addition to the group program, each client received individualised follow up support for targeting individual priorities, employment goals and establishing support networks.

This year’s clients reported they found the program a highly valuable experience. In particular, they enjoyed improving their resume, practising interviewing skills, peer support and learning about the resources available to support their employment goals.

To register your interest for future programs, please contact Angela on assist@sbhqueensland.org.au or (07) 3844 4600.

**ASSIST XMAS PARTY**

Last year’s ASSIST Christmas Party was held at JoJo’s Restaurant and Bar on Saturday the 24th of November. Clients, partners and staff joined us for a great event. We were not disappointed by JoJo’s great menu and wonderful staff.

It was a fantastic way to celebrate the festive season with guests dressed in Christmas shirts, reindeer antlers and elf hats! Santa Claus himself even took time out of his busy schedule to deliver secret Santa gifts. It was a great time to share food, stories with friends and to offer Christmas well wishes.

**SPEECH PATHOLOGY TEAM**

SBH Queensland have a team of passionate speech pathologists that work across a wide range of areas from voice, eating and drinking during mealtimes, prescribing alternative modes of communication, speech, language, fluency, literacy and social/community interactions.

We are now available under NDIS funding to see ADULT clients and willing to support you in any of these areas.

We have developed a brief questionnaire to see if any areas stand out to you. This is available on our website in the ‘Resources’ Section. Please take the time to fill this out and if you would like one of us to be in contact, you can send it through to us. We look forward to working with you.

**VALE CRAIG COOTE**

Our sympathies go out to the Coote family as Craig Coote passed away in November of last year at the age of 45. The Coote family has been highly dedicated to SBH Queensland over the years. Craig’s father was a member on our Board, his mother has been involved with fund raising activities for us and Craig himself has been involved with the Association since childhood. Craig had been working on improving his qualifications by studying psychology at Griffith University and planned to return to these studies when his health issues improved. Unfortunately, the world has lost a great man. Our deepest condolences to Craig’s family and friends.
Amanda Manso Occupational Therapist

I graduated as an Occupational Therapist in The University of Sao Paulo, Brazil, in July 2017. Since then, I have been living in Australia pursuing a Master’s degree in Public Health. The opportunity to join the SBH Queensland family came after participating as a volunteer in the kids’ camp last year. I admire the work of the association, going above and beyond to help our clients and their families to achieve the maximum of their potential.

I became an OT so I could contribute to people’s life improvement and I feel that being here is helping me achieve this life goal. Outside of work, I enjoy travelling and exploring the city, the state or the world. I also like to keep myself active, to cook and to be surrounded by friends. I am really looking forward to meeting all of you and to do my best to help each one to achieve their goals in life.

Amanda Kenny Speech Pathologist

Hello everyone, My name is Amanda Kenny and I am the newest Speech Pathologist to join the SBH Queensland team. May I just start by saying I am filled with excitement to be able to work with such a great group of people in an amazing organisation.

A little about me, I am a proud single mum of an almost six-year-old boy who lights up my life daily. I was a ballet dancer for many years and have had a strong interest in Allied Health for many years, having previously completed studies in Nutrition. I recently graduated from the Australian Catholic University with a Bachelor of Speech Pathology, and as a new graduate I look forward to the learning experience ahead.

A little about why I want to work for SBH Queensland. My passion for learning and supporting others fits well with my position at SBH Queensland. The energy and support available inspires me to be the best clinician I can and seeing the life changing services the team provide is something I want to be a part of. SBH Queensland has a family focused feeling and I look forward to meeting the beautiful families soon. Being new to The NDIS system and what it has to offer I look forward to working with you all and the team at SBH Queensland to continue to learn and empower the SBH family as a whole. See you soon!

Jessica Thackeray Occupational Therapist

I am so excited to be joining the SBH Queensland team as an Occupational Therapist! Some of you might recognise me from children’s camp over the past few years; it has been so special to get to know you all and to learn from you as I finished my studies.

As well as attending camp, I have also enjoyed working as a swimming teacher so I am looking forward to being involved in Aquatic therapy programs this year. It is such a privilege to be working with you and your families to make home, school and the community an accessible and enjoyable place to attend and explore.
Suzanne Lister  Occupational Therapist

I am delighted to be joining SBH Queensland in a part time capacity to provide services to adults, primarily for home modification assessments and advice. I have been an OT over 25 years and much of my occupational therapy career has been in the area of housing, including minor and major modifications as well as purpose-built housing for wheelchair users. I have an in-depth knowledge of the social housing system in Queensland and can assist with information relating to the interface between social housing and the NDIS.

Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my family, gardening, reading and travelling. Two years ago my teenage daughter and I travelled to India and Nepal where we trekked to the Annapurna Base Camp. It was extremely challenging but also very rewarding. We are already dreaming of a return trip when she finishes school at the end of 2020.

Liam Tincknell  Volunteer

I am extremely thankful to SBH Queensland for providing me with the opportunity to gain vital experience with their marketing and promotional operations. My goal while working at SBH Queensland is to help them to share all the inspiring work they do with the rest of the world. Ultimately, I hope my work brings more people to SBH Queensland so we can put a smile on more people’s faces.

I am currently studying a Bachelor of Business majoring in Marketing and Economics at the Queensland University of Technology. When I’m not working or studying I enjoy playing tennis and admittedly probably watching a little too much tv. I’m looking forward to meeting with and helping as many people as I can at SBH Queensland do their best work.
MADE TO MEASURE FRAME
LESS THAN 4KG GUARANTEED!