



# People count in our business

Imagine arriving home in your board shorts, singlet and thongs with just your wallet with you and finding nothing but charred remains of the lovely home you'd once enjoyed living in. Unfortunately that's the situation that faced Xavier Ewington, Accountant in our Business Services Team earlier this year.

On that devastating Sunday night Xavier had to work out where to sleep and then on waking even what to wear! When Xavier rang in to work the next morning to let his boss know he wouldn't be in he didn't realise that he'd set in motion a lot of people who wanted to help out. By the next day WHK Horwath had made a substantial cash payment to Xavier to help him with the day to day necessities and staff rallied around raising money in each of our locations to help tide him by.

Xavier in his thank you to staff said he felt overwhelmed at the generosity of all and was astounded how quickly they came to his aide without any hesitation. He said he truly felt the support of the whole organisation and was thankful to the many staff members who he hadn't even met who put their hands in their pockets to help him out.

But it didn't stop there. Soon some of our clients heard about Xavier's loss and they wanted to help. Goldquest Properties (who own the Radisson on Flagstaff Gardens) gave Xavier a call and asked if he wanted some furniture. As the hotel regularly updates their furnishings for clients they had some items that were still in excellent condition for Xavier.

So Xavier went down to their storage area and in no time they had him set up with a bed to sleep in, a TV and cabinet, a coffee table to put his feet up on and two arm chairs to sit in, then some dining table chairs, some mugs and even a sofa bed!

Then another client Spotlight Stores kindly gave Xavier a \$500 gift voucher to go shopping with great furnishings from their stores for his new lodgings. All up we're very pleased to say that Xavier is getting back on his feet thanks to the support of staff and some wonderful clients.

On behalf of Xavier we wanted to recognise the contribution of these firms and acknowledge the wonderful relationships that we very much value with our clients

People really do count in our business!!

## Fast Starters

# Villa & Hut

From the recent Fast Starter Edition of the BRW we were pleased to see one of our clients Franz Madlener say some positive things about his accountant. The article spoke to some of the fast starters about the ongoing issue of funding growth and this is what BRW wrote about Franz...

Another entrepreneur knocking on doors for funding is Villa & Hut Kafe's Franz Madlener, who is seeking funds to take advantage of a wave of franchise inquiries.

The established brand of the company has provided an advantage – National Australia Bank, ANZ Bank and St George Bank have independently approached Madlener after hearing about his business through third parties. But nothing is guaranteed, he says, before approaching the banks with an accounting report of the business's growth plans to ask for several million dollars in funding.

**“Don't be afraid to spend money on accountants and make sure you understand what finance institutions want before you go out cap-in-hand; often, you only get one shot”, he says.**

If you'd like assistance with funding business growth, purchasing equipment or even a new home speak to one of our finance team.

**Contact:**

Brian Kelly, in the CBD on (03) 9258 6700  
Danny Ferguson (Commercial) and Chris Reid (Residential), at Camberwell and Abbotsford on (03) 9882 6699  
Craig Parkins, Mortgage First, Ringwood & Frankston on 1300 734 753.

## Make the taxing time ahead a bit easier...

We'd like to welcome tax specialist Andy Briggs as a principal to WHK Horwath.

Andy has more than 20 years experience in both the UK and Australia within the Big 4 and has a wealth of experience with superannuation, executive remuneration, asset protection strategies and estate planning.

Together with Norman Elliott (Tax Principal) Sam Morris and Nathan Smeaton (Managers), Jaclyn Tounce and Haley McPherson (Advisors), we are very excited to be able to offer our clients a very experienced tax team to help you with the most complex taxation issues.

To contact one of our tax specialists just phone (03) 9258 6700.



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