

Audio transcript

Jenn: We're here with Kath, and everybody wants to know about you Kath.

Kath: Thanks Jenn.

Jenn: So let's just get straight into it. When did you start Brio?

Kath: Right. So we started Brio in 2015 and it's now 2024. So we're almost up to our ten year anniversary. That'll be the big one to celebrate next year. We started when we moved down here to Vic.

Jenn: That's very exciting. Now, why did you start Brio?

Kath: So having worked in the emergency services for such a long time, when we moved down to Victoria, it was a really good chance to take a breath, take a pause and think about how we wanted to keep participating in the sector and how training was going to be a big part of that... And so becoming a consultant - being able to work with lots of different organisations and being able to do that remotely and flexibly from our lovely rural location worked out really well.

Jenn: So why the word Brio?

Kath: So it's hard to find a name for a business. I'm a big believer in that, you know, words have a lot of meaning and power, and trying to find something that described what we believed in and our approach to training... So, brio in the dictionary means vigour, zest, enthusiasm, passion... and that was a really important part of training. So that's what we went with.

Jenn: And why the light bulb?

Kath: The light bulb is a couple of different things. I think when it comes to learning, it's all about, you know, "aha!" Switching on that that light inside your brain when you've got a new idea or something clicks into place. So it's definitely a part of that. Learning is a lot about shining light on dark bits that you didn't know about before.

Jenn: OK, So what does Brio offer?

Kath: So we've grown and developed since we started out. We we've got a bit of a really diverse group in the team now. So we do a lot in terms of nationally recognised training. Competency based training - we can develop that, we can do compliance work around anything to do with nationally credited training, we can deliver that. We do a lot of compliance and auditing type activities, particularly focusing on organisations in the public safety sector. We also do e-learning development, which is becoming a really big thing since COVID and trying to find ways to make E learning meet the needs of the different diverse people in the sector that are using it, and we also do trainer and assessor professional development and other PD sessions.

Jenn: OK, here's a question I'm just throwing out. Have you had a favourite project?

Kath: That's a tough one. I can think of two. One being an e learning one I really enjoyed. I'm a big believer in scenario based training and I got the scope to be able to build the entire unit around a more immersive - you turn up and you're doing a job at an incident - and we built the whole module. around that from start to finish on the plane into the site and doing the job and then going home at the end of that. We've also done a lot of work for the Pacific and being able to go over and run some

“training of trainer” workshops with the people over there from a number of different islands and different backgrounds has been a real highlight recently too.

Jenn: Sounds wonderful. So, someone's on the website and they're looking at you for the first time and considering what Brio has to offer - wondering if it can meet their needs. Where to from here for them?

Kath: Where to from here - is to get in touch. I think a really important part of the whole process is being on the same page and having a good discussion around who it is that you're building the learning for, why you're building that and what difference it is that you want to see at the end of that project. And having a chance to talk about all of that helps us share with you our ideas and how we think we could help.

Jenn: OK. And what are your hopes and dreams for Brio?

Kath: So, we are continuing to grow. We started out looking to help and support the sector and make a difference in this sector particularly. We're really passionate about that and about trying to promote training that builds confidence and confidence, so that people can go out and help their communities and do their job well. And so we really are looking forward to seeing more change occur from what it is that we're doing. We want to keep growing and I think the focus from that is we want to keep building relationships with different people and organisations and groups that we're working with. And to keep being flexible in how we think about that training and what we're doing for them and keep learning ourselves because we're all lifelong learners.