

June 2010



focus on ABILITY

NOVA OFFICES

NSW

- Bankstown
- Blacktown
- Bourke
- Broken Hill
- Camden
- Campbelltown
- Canterbury
- Caringbah
- Cobar
- Forster
- Hurstville
- Ingleburn
- Katoomba
- Penrith
- Port Macquarie
- Richmond
- Rockdale
- Rouse Hill
- Springwood
- St Marys
- Taree
- Windsor

QLD

- Beaudesert
- Beenleigh
- Logan

CEO Comment— Martin Wren

June 30th marks the end of the financial year and, while that doesn't mean so much for a not for profit like NOVA it does mark a good point to reflect over the past 12 months achievements.

What a year it's been! We have new outlets in Bourke, Springwood, Windsor, Camden, Ingleburn, Rouse Hill Canterbury, Bankstown, Rockdale (NSW) and Beenleigh and Beaudesert (Qld) a total of 11 extra sites making a grand total of 26 NOVA outlets! As well as new outlets of course we've had to find new staff, new Managers, new Employment Consultants, new Support Workers and provide every person with the tools they need to do their jobs.

At the same time an extra 500 or so job seekers have come along in only 3 months and the combined effort required to cope has placed some significant strains on us – that said, this is a very successful year for new job starts and this month (June) it's clear that we are getting back on our feet.

So, I will be asking every member of the team to put forth extra effort in July to make sure the new job seekers and our existing 'keen and eager's'



have the maximum possible chance of finding work at the start of the new financial and very exciting new placement year ahead.

Apart from that July also sees us getting involved in some very exciting new projects and I look forward to sharing these with you in the coming months.

- RICHMOND
1st September
- PENRITH
2nd September
- BLACKTOWN
3rd September
- KATOOMBA
8th September
- ST MARYS
9th September
- CARINGBAH
10th September

Matt is a Star Recruit

Matthew has fast become one of Anglicare's star workers. Matt is a NOVA Transition to Work graduate who has been working at Anglicare's Parramatta office since September 2009.



Matt initially joined their Business Process Support (BPS) team performing general duties for 2-3 hours a day. NOVA provided Matthew and Anglicare with initial onsite support.

Richard Reeve, Assistant Director, Finance & Business Support said, "It became apparent that Matthew was extremely bright, quick to learn and able to do much more than originally anticipated, particularly in the area of data entry. Consequently his hours were extended to five hours a day in November."

Since February of this year Matthew has become a full-time staff member with Anglicare, trained in Accounts Payable data entry,

"Matthew has become a popular member of staff, his sharp wit and dry sense of humour often has us all in stitches," said Richard Reeve.

Anglicare will now join NOVA's 2010 radio campaign with Richard Reeve once again heaping praise on Matthew's work.

Some more NOVA Employment links



Dan is the man at the Penrith R.S.L

Daniel is putting in a first class performance at Penrith R.S.L. His Employment Consultant Belinda Hamburger said, "The relationship with Daniel, his co workers, superiors and Nova is absolutely fantastic, in fact if you walked anywhere in the club and mentioned Daniel all staff will tell you how much they enjoy working with him and appreciate him."



Karen Harrison, Human Resource Manager of Penrith R.S.L had nothing but praise for the good work Daniel has been consistently performing.

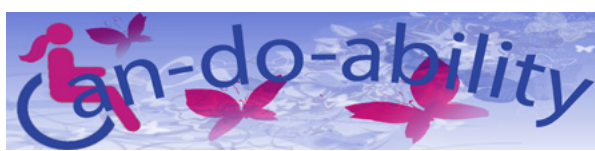
"10 months ago we decided to revamp our cafe, which is now Cafe 53. In doing that we needed someone as an integral part of our customer service team and we were lucky enough to hire Daniel from NOVA.

"So good in fact he recently received our merit award for Outstanding Performance. Daniels positive attitude really rubs off on our other staff members, making their daily work a lot happier and our patrons who all just love him.

"NOVA has been terrific, they found an employee who really suited our needs and their follow up support has been exceptional."

Daniel performs a range of duties in the cafe from cleaning to taking orders and operating the registers. His hours have increased and thanks to a great job match Daniel will be a big part of keeping the customers happy at Penrith R.S.L for many years to come.

- CAMPBELLTOWN
16th September
- HURSTVILLE
17th September
- FORSTER
21st September
- TAREE
22nd September
- PORT MACQUARIE
23rd September



Hope Street

By Jodie De Ruvo

More people than you may think are one pay cheque away from becoming potentially homeless. A "homeless person" is someone who is without a conventional home and lacks the economic and social supports that a home normally requires. Many homeless people weren't always that way, it has occurred through disability, mental illness, market changes, job loss and addictions.

I attended an Urban Walk tour in Woolloomooloo in Sydney, run through an uplifting organisation called Hope Street. They have been operating since 1983 and their aim is to empower the less fortunate and arm them with tools and knowledge that will hopefully steer them in the right direction and gradually integrate them back into the community. We took a walk through the streets of Woolloomooloo that are home to those who have no permanent place to live.

Firstly, looking around, seeing homeless people laying on the ground in sleeping bags at 6pm made me feel uneasy, like I was out of place or shouldn't have been in that neighbourhood. Tim told us that the park that was being used, was one of only a couple in Sydney where the homeless can sleep without being moved on by police.

On we went, first stop was a heritage terrace house. Entering the house, looking around, there were artworks on the walls, lounges, a television, DVD player, with movies sitting out. Tim explained that it's a Women's Safe House that's been adapted and made available to street based sex workers. It's a cosy place where they can go through the day and relax, watch movies, wash their clothes, shower, make something to eat or just have a chat with the social workers, it's about offering friendships in a safe place. Most of the women have done the artwork that gets put up around the place. There is also a no men policy so the women feel safer and free from harassment. The ladies also get encouragement, Tim



told us a story of one woman who wanted to attend a course, with the support and encouragement from the Safe House, she will now have the resources to leave the sex industry.

We then continued back out on the cold, dark streets of Woolloomooloo, passing a community garden, which is a public space that the neighbourhood is free to access as they please. Tim said that once a month, the community all gather together and have a BBQ which involves over 400 people, from the homeless to the unemployed to police officers.

Tim also talked of an employment service run by Hope Street, which reaches out to members of the community who have been removed from the employment world for a long time. They feel that there is a missing link for those who lack the resources to renew skills, gain new skills or even know where to start in looking for employment. In the inner city, about 25% of adults and 38% of youths are unemployed, one of the biggest contributing factors is due to them being on the Disability Support Pension or being mentally ill, or both.

It is estimated that there are between 70 and 200 people sleeping on the streets of central Sydney every night. Hope Street helps to restore the loss of a sense of personal significance in the lives of many less fortunate people.

If you would like to learn more about Hope Street, take part in an Urban Walk or sleep out on the street for a night, volunteer or make a donation, visit www.hopestreet.org.au



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