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

QLD

- Beaudesert
- Beenleigh
- Logan

CEO Comment— Martin Wren

So many things are happening right now it's hard to know where to start.

First of all we now have a couple of extra outlets to add to the 9 new programs we opened in March. These will be located in Springwood and Windsor (both in NSW). My congratulations to our new outlet Managers, Brenda Drady and Julie Goldie and to their respective teams.

We are doing some major renovations across the sites including complete fit-outs and refurbishments at 12 outlets. There have been more than 60 new computers and associated paraphernalia rolled out and we have upgraded our IT in the majority of offices.

There are some really exciting things happening with other NOVA projects as well: "Focus on ability," our short film competition is on and entries need to be in by 30th June – we are expecting some great entries and please don't forget that judging is by the people (that's you) and for the people – NOVA staff don't get a say (www.focusonability.com.au).

July sees 2 International guests – Mr Stephen Pocklington from the organisation "Well – Beyond Recovery" will be presenting a 5 day training program for facilitators in our mental health



support program and then Mr Dale DiLeo joins us for a similar program in support of Employment Consultants who work with persons having significant mental health barriers.

Both of these programs are exclusive NOVA productions and mark the beginning of a greatly increased focus on staff training and organisational development.

A very exciting time to be part of the team, speaking of which we are presently engaged in a major recruitment drive check out our "Positions Vacant" box at our homepage: www.novaemployment.com.au

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

A great 12 months for Gav

By Lyn Leonard

Steven Gavinlock, Gav to his friends, came into the office at NOVA when I first commenced working as a support worker. I recognised his voice and went over to meet him and he informed me that he had been with another employment agency for the past 3 years and they have not been able to find him employment. Before that he had previously worked at The Lakeside Tavern picking up glasses, cleaning and did general maintenance work. Employment is so important for Gav because it makes him feel worthwhile in the community.



His employer Paula had supervised him and told him what was required to do while his employment consultant Heather worked side by side with him. Gav does not have any physical disability so there was no modifications to the job or workplace required. He has an intellectual disability and has difficulty with reading and writing. After explaining to him what the required chemicals were and what and why they were used, Gav was ready to go. The employers are extremely happy with his productivity and his eagerness to do what they ask of him.

It was a combined effort between management, Employment Consultant and Support Worker (Lyn Leonard) as well as his supportive employers that Gav has now been employed for just over a year. His employers Darren and Paula believe he should be congratulated and be 'worker of the year' now he has worked for more than 12 months. They said, "We are all extremely happy with Gav and his co-workers are happy to give Gav support as well because he is so likable, friendly, cheerful and eager to work with."

Gav comes into the NOVA office in Tuncurry to photo copy his payslips and sometimes brings in a little treat for us for morning or afternoon tea because he is so grateful for the support NOVA gives him. He likes telling the ladies if they are looking good or old. (When questioned on this he means tired!)

Gav is truly a great person to support in his endeavours in life and employment.

Gav was provided an overview of NOVA Employment and wanted to register with us that day.

Thanks to Margo and Heather he had a job in his preferred role as a cleaner, in no time.

An employer Darren and Paula of Smuggler's Cove had come to NOVA's Epilepsy Action and Awareness night for Renee Maconachie, another NOVA client and had realised the potential our clients have. There was so much support and enthusiasm on the night they decided to ask if we had anyone suitable for a position with them and Gav was the lucky one.

Gav commenced employment at Smugglers Cove Holiday Resort, cleaning holiday rental cabins.

Liftco joins NOVA on the radio

Matt is doing exceptional work at Liftco Industrial Supplies. His employer Marilyn Glenn gave him a glowing report as part of a new NOVA Employment radio advertisement.



Merilyn happily pointed out that Matt has been a great independent worker who has really taken to every task with a positive attitude. Matt continually impresses with his abilities and initiative and handles a large part of the businesses operations.

Matt is hearing impaired but in no way does that hinder the workplace communication, with Matt even teaching Merilyn some basic sign language, which she is picking up very well.

Matt is always happy to go that extra yard with his work, with Merilyn stating that "he is very reliable, always turning up early and working back late when needed."

It is this "can do" attitude that has made Matt such a great employee for Liftco who Merilyn

hopes will be for 'many, many years to come.'

Liftco Industrial Supplies has been based in Ingleburn for the last 19 years. Liftco is a specialist importer and distributor of cost effective, simple and reliable safety and electrification equipment for overhead cranes throughout Australia. You can visit them at

www.liftcoindsupcom.au

or call them on

1800 LIFTCO (1800 543826)

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



Sniffing for Autism

By Jodie De Ruvo

A trendy American fast food chain called White Castle (made famous by popular teen movie – Harold & Kumar go to White Castle), has teamed up with the organisation Autism Speaks to help raise money for Autism research.

White Castle, which is predominately known for its famous burgers, has brought out a new 'burger' scented candle that lets off the smell of their popular 'slider burger' when lit, the candle is encased in a ceramic holder in the shape and design of the burger packaging.

All net proceeds from the \$US10 candles go to the research organisation Autism Speaks, which is a great cause. I think this will be an excellent way to get all different members of the community involved in Autism research, it may also assist in educating the public about Autism.

The burgers went on sale on the 3rd May and with a limited release of 10,000, they were sold out by that evening, they could only be purchased online or in store at White Castle

restaurants. They proved to be a hit, maybe more companies should join in with different scents, the possibilities would be endless and for such a great cause, it's genius!



Some more NOVA Employment links



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EMPLOYMENT

www.novaemployment.com.au



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novatraining.com.au
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Fax: 02 9833 2499



transition.com.au
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Fax: 02 9833 2499



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