

# Perfect partnership - 'all about people'

According to Camden District Activity Centre (CDAC) Manager, Marita Schubert, employing Lauren McQuilty has been a godsend. 'Lauren's willing, a quick learner and shows initiative. We're very pleased with her. She's got a great sense of humour and interacts with staff and volunteers,' Marita said.

Lauren is pretty happy about it, too. The Administration Assistant position is a local job with just the right amount of challenge working three days a week. 'In this role, I keep up my typing skills,' she said. 'I've also learnt different programs such as PowerPoint, SMS and others for banking and data entry.' She's also proving to be a real asset for CDAC's accountant, who comes in one day per week.



Since being matched to this work by NOVA Camden in April 2017, Lauren has felt her confidence surge. 'NOVA has been so helpful, even being present at important appointments and checking in with how I'm going at work.'

The support from NOVA is also felt by her employer, Marita. 'It's an excellent partnership between NOVA and ourselves, because we know they're doing their best to match candidates to the roles we need to fill,' she said. This means that both employers and employees can be confident that NOVA is finding sustainable jobs.

'Inclusion is what we're all about,' explains Marita. 'We're not a very big place but we do a lot. We've evolved over the past 34 years. We've got a good reputation. It's all about people here.'



A WORD FROM MARTIN

### Grand final fever!

I love the month of September. But not for the reasons that all of the rugby and football fans do.

September is the month where we showcase and reward the many filmmakers who have *focused on ability* in the annual short-film competition. This year the FOA film competition received 210 films from 19 different countries, some shot on phones by first-time shooters in primary school, others from accomplished directors that really know how to tell a tale.

With beautiful, honest and poignant takes on the theme, these films indicate an appetite for story telling that matters.

On 6 September, we host the ninth annual red-carpet gala awards night at The Concourse, Chatswood. There's singing and dancing, food and wine, and, of course, some fabulous films.

Come along to my favourite day of the year – my grand final!

Martin Wren, CEO NOVA Employment martin.wren@novaemployment.com.au

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### **SORTED!**

## Choosing the right employer

This month we thought we'd show you, the employer, something of the process we undertake to match candidates to a role. Rachel Hampshire, Manager of NOVA Springwood, takes us through it.

"It doesn't matter if you're a small, medium or large business, we're willing to work with you if you're aware of the need for diversity in the workplace and have an unmet staffing requirement.

"Our Employment Consultants are trained to listen to and quickly understand the needs of your business. If we can help meet these needs, we will. If we can't at this time, we'll say so, because a poor job match is not good for you and it's definitely not good for job seekers, to say nothing of NOVA's reputation.

"Then we find a suitable candidate for the role and offer that candidate either at interview or on a trial. When the work starts, we highlight their 'natural supports' within the workplace. These are other employees who might work closely with them or are familiar with the person's disability or have a shared interest with the new worker. These natural supports are vital for integration into the workplace, which leads to long-term employment.



"Often, it's harder to discover natural supports in larger businesses. However, those that understand the concept of inclusion are world leaders in disability inclusion, because their decisions affect a large number of people through setting standards and processes to improve culture."

Who might you introduce us to? Your customers, suppliers and neighbours are all potential employers of people with disability.



## **ROLL UP, ROLL UP!**

We have two events in September of interest to employers in Nepean.

Our '100 Jobs' launch and lunch will introduce you to local employers, employees and NOVA staff, and showcase the benefits of partnering with NOVA for your recruitment needs. No hard sell, just good food, good company and good stories.

#### Richmond/Windsor:

Stonecutter's Ridge Golf Club 21 September, 12.30 to 2.30. RSVP: Kerry Spindler 0418 386 582 or kerry.spindler@novaemployment.com.au by 8 September.

Katoomba/Springwood:

Springwood Sports Club 28 September, 12.30 to 2.20. RSVP: Yasmin Brennan 0414 973 791 or yasmin.brennan@novaemployment.com.au

by 8 September.



If so, hire through NOVA in September! Businesses hiring in September will go into the draw to win a surprise prize.

Congratulations to our August winners!
Alkering Early Childhood & Education
Centre, who's partnering with NOVA
Penrith have won two tickets to the
Rugby League Grand Final on 1 October.
Congratulations! And thanks for
acknowledging the ability of people
with disability.