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October 2015



CEO Comment

Martin Wren

October saw another 'first' for NOVA – for the first time in our history we advertised positions vacant for potential workers who have a disability to fill!

Our adverts drew a heap of skilled and motivated applicants and we have been able to fill many of the vacancies on offer.

Here's the really good news: our waiting employers have told us they would rather wait for us to find the right candidate than open the position to others.

Why this viewpoint?

Simply stated, employers are finding that candidates sourced through NOVA are making terrific members of their teams – skilled and keen with a 'can-do' that is making them invaluable.

I am very grateful to my media team for highlighting so many good news stories through our various social media pages



and also to our thousands of friends and followers for passing on these job opportunities to their friends.

At the risk of jinxing things I am also aware that November is shaping up to be another bumper month for my employment specialists with several dozen jobs already promised so, if you are looking for work but aren't already registered with us do keep an eye on our social media - you never know, we might find just the right role for you.

<https://www.facebook.com/novaemployment>

<https://www.facebook.com/novatransition>

NOVA OFFICES

- Camden
- Campbelltown
- Caringbah
- Engadine
- Hurstville
- Ingleburn
- Katoomba
- Penrith
- Richmond
- Rockdale
- Rouse Hill
- Springwood
- St Marys
- Windsor

Brendan's a cutting edge employee

Matthew Bailey – Course Superintendent, Lynwood Country Club

NOVA Employment contacted us when we advertised for a groundsman. I'd had experience with kids with disabilities because my mum teaches severely disabled kids. I thought it would be great to give Brendan a go.



As soon as we identified the jobs that Brendan could do well, his confidence increased and he became a valuable team member. I cannot fault his attendance. He arrives before his start time of 10am, says g'day to the boys and gets on with his work.

Employing Brendan has been a really positive experience for the work shed. The boys are proud of giving a young kid a go who might otherwise not have been given a chance to work. He's been great for team morale. The other staff love him and keep an eye on him like he's their little brother.

Brendan works 20 hours a week over five days. His tasks include collecting the driving-range balls, brush cutting bunker edges and setting up the course, such as moving markers. I always know that the jobs will be completed properly.

From my experience I'd recommend employers in my field employ Nova-placed workers. You just have to be flexible and make sure you identify the roles the person can do.

Brendan feels like a changed man since being employed, "It's made me more confident and responsible. My life is much better now because I am doing something every day. The weekends are more fun as well. I love my job because it is outside, I couldn't be cramped up in an office all day."

2nd years Employed and ready to celebrate at Graduation - By Campbelltown TTW

Here at Campbelltown, our extremely large group has now halved, with all of our 15 second year trainees exited into open employment.

We have had a wide range of industries and job choices this year.

Six jobs came from Work Placements that the trainees were doing in TTW, and the other nine jobs came from the amazing DES team that work with our second years here at Campbelltown.

We have enjoyed keeping our TTW Work Placement team on their toes this year by giving them interesting industries to support our trainees on, such as stable work and horticulture, and they got to enjoy the beautiful views of Sydney Harbour aboard the Manly Fast Ferries.

We are all extremely excited about the upcoming Graduation Day and have our party shoes ready for some celebration and dancing.

Our first year trainees are ready to take on the job of being mature role models for our newcomer 1st years next year.

During 2015 we have had lots of fabulous lots of industry visits, some to name include an amazing visit to Panorotti's Restaurant in Campbelltown, and also a very interesting and informative day at the Pullman Hotel in Sydney CBD, where we were lucky enough to see one of our 2nd Year trainees working in her new job.



We are feeling very happy with the leaps and bounds that we have achieved this year, including a massive amount of work experience hours, and stepping out of our comfort zones to take on some of the challenging barriers that were in front of us at the beginning of 2015.

We can't wait for 2016 to begin!

Some NOVA links

Watch our latest video on NOVA's Youtube channel



Become a fan of NOVA on Facebook. Recommend us to your friends.



What's news at Can-Do-Ability?



Want some great employment tips?



In the two years since Mitchell Duncan left high school, it was difficult to find paid employment.

While he was working part-time with the support unit at his former high school in Baulkham Hills, that work was only on a volunteer basis.

“It wasn’t very challenging,” Mr Duncan said.

“I wasn’t getting paid for it and it wasn’t taking me very far.”

With a regular income hard to come by, the 20-year-old, who has an intellectual disability, started looking for work with Nova Employment.

The Stanhope Gardens resident has now been working as a retail assistant at Dural Music Centre for the past six weeks, and said he’d enjoyed every bit of it.



“It’s been busy, but work has been fun and challenging in a lot of ways,” he said.

“It’s all about understanding how all the different systems work and the different tasks of working in a music shop.”

Currently, Nova Employment is looking to get more people like Mr Duncan into work, with its 100 jobs in 100 days campaign now well under way.
See your ad here

Mr Duncan is the first employee at Dural Music Centre who’s been hired through Nova Employment, and manager Alex Miesch said Mr Duncan had gone above and beyond in his role.

“He’s an extremely reliable and honest worker, and they’re traits any business is desperate for,” Mr Miesch said.

Mr Duncan said his favourite part of the job was meeting and dealing with new people on a daily basis.

“The best part is helping customers find the right instrument to use.”

<http://www.blacktownsun.com.au/story/3432558/novas-100-jobs-in-a-100-days-job-agency-in-tune-with-the-market/>



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