

eQUALITY NEWS

Jobs West
newsletter
for employers

*Employees who enjoy their
job seldom move on*

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STATS

Over 90% of employers who had recently employed a person with a disability said they would be happy to continue employing people with a disability.

The average recruitment cost of an employee with a disability was 13 per cent of the average recruitment cost of an employee without a disability.

90% of employees with a disability record productivity rates equal to or greater than other workers.

98% have average or superior safety records.

For further statistics on workers with abilities, please go to - http://www.jobable.gov.au/fact_sheets/benefits_of_employing.asp

Nicholas's Major Project

Nicholas Brennan commenced his traineeship at Keilor Downs Secondary College late last year, as an Assistant Grounds Maintenance keeper.

Not only are Nicholas's studies going well, he has recently completed a major project - a Japanese theme garden. His supervisor at Keilor Downs Secondary College, Mark Paterson says that Nicholas's "main areas of progress has been in his own self confidence since his commencement of the traineeship".



Nicholas tending to the Japanese themed Garden at Keilor Downs Secondary College.

Mark says that "Nick felt that that particular garden area needed improvement, and together we decided to dedicate a special area which turned into a Japanese Garden, as a dedication to our sister school. This project ties into his traineeship very well. It allowed Nicholas to take a look at design, availability and costs. Nicholas learned a lot from the project.



Nicholas with his Supervisor Mark Paterson

For the Japanese garden project, Nicholas says he "went through library books for an idea of types of stones, pathways, and bridges to make it look Japanese orientated".

'Dis-labelled' not 'Disabled'

Here are a few examples of individuals with a disability attaining success in physical activities that many people assumed they could not achieve:

Warren Macdonald, a bilateral leg amputee from Australia, and Hamisi Lugonda, a bilateral arm amputee from Tanzania, climbed Mount Kilimanjaro (Africa's highest mountain) in February 2003.

A bilateral leg amputee has run 100 metres in just 11.34 seconds - two seconds outside the Olympic records. A swimmer who is blind has come within 1/100th of a second of qualifying for the Olympic Team.

FACTS

Andrew's Morning Tea Surprise!

Andrew Jones started working at Hunter Leisure on the 29th of April 2003, and has continued his employment to this present day.

Andrew's duties are interesting and varied. Working within a team, Andrew packs confectionary and toys into show bags, which are distributed throughout Australia to various events, including the Royal Melbourne Show.



Packing showbags for the season ahead.

Earlier this year, Andrew celebrated his 21st birthday and his work mates organised a surprise party during morning tea break.

Andrew's Supervisor Maurie stated "Hunter Leisure are very happy with his (Andrew's) work".



Andrew celebrating his 21st birthday at work

Do you have a vacancy you need filled? Could Jobs West support your business needs in any way? Contact us on 03 9379 0477

Western Vocational Association Inc.

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New Apprenticeships in Areas of Skill Shortages

In the next 5 years in Australia, it is estimated that up to 170,000 tradespeople will leave industry & only 40,000 will enter it.

The latest data indicates that there is growth in New Apprenticeships in skill shortage areas. Until March, apprenticeships rose by:

29% in construction 36% in electrotechnology 19% in metals and engineering

Currently, there are 417,000 New Apprentices in training. 51,800 of those New Apprentices are aged 45 and over.
Source: DEST

“Best foot forward at all times”

Mc Donald's Westfield employed Jennifer Kommarow on the 1st of November 2001. Jennifer is still employed by Mc Donald's and has proven to be a great worker.

Jennifer started at Mc Donald's with no prior fast food experience, but has been trained in and has now mastered all stations (work areas) of the kitchen. Jennifer runs the kitchen most days by herself.



Jennifer is presented with a McDonald's Award for her good work.



Karen Pierce the licensee (owner) of the Westfield store, stated that “Jennifer is a delightful person, always willing to help and assist. Jennifer tries to put her best foot forward at all times, and works well under pressure”.

Assistant Manager Tracey stated that “Jennifer is a good worker, her punctuality is fantastic and she is always willing to stay back, to help others”.

Store Manager Pauline says, “Jennifer does all the required work tasks and is very productive”. The store is proud to have Jennifer working there.

Unemployment Highest for People with a Psychiatric Disability

76% of people with a psychiatric disability are unemployed in Australia.

Over two-thirds of people with a psychiatric disability express a desire to return to work regardless of severity of symptoms.

Source: ABS, Young

*Jobs West would like to
thank the following
companies for their support:*

**AHS Hospitality Services -
Melbourne CBD**

**Eiffel Tower Pty Ltd -
Tullamarine**

**Tullamarine Collision -
Tullamarine**

**Auto Smart Car Salvage -
Laverton**

Hunter Leisure - Tullamarine

**McDonald's Family Restaurant
- Deer Park**

**Keilor Downs Secondary
College - Keilor Downs**

**Kmart Garden Super Centre -
Chadstone**

KFC - Footscray