

ST LEONARDS

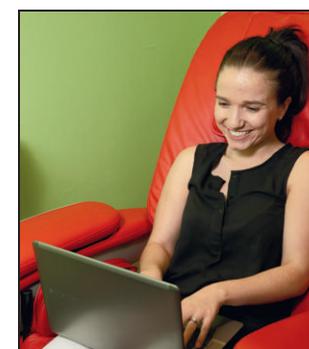
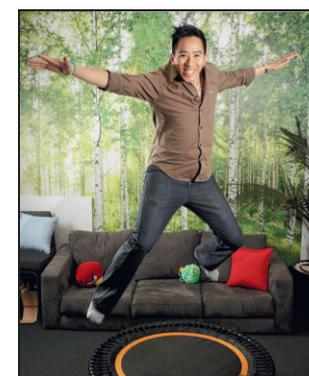
Happiness before profit

JOBS 2014

Campaign has plenty of jobs on offer



Gary Ng and Rob Coorey enjoy a game of futsal in the office; right, Katarina Meoli works out the kinks in a massage chair.



➔ FROM PAGE 1

A matching commitment of 300 positions from Group Training Victoria brings the number of jobs to 2394.

Their roles are in a variety of trades and industries – automotive, building and construction, hospitality, electronics, horticulture and parks and gardens.

There are also traineeships in business administration, IT and aged care, which can be accessed via jobs2014.com.au.

“We have over 300 apprenticeships and traineeships on offer for an immediate start in virtually all regions,” said Naomi Dinnen, Group Training NSW and ACT executive officer.

WPC Group chief executive Nicholas Wyman has also hailed Jobs 2014 as a huge success.

“Buried in this big number of jobs are 2394 individuals who have been given the chance to crack into the workforce,” he said.

The campaign was backed by Prime Minister Abbott and Premier Mike Baird.

Campaign supporter Woolworths has now filled the 200 additional jobs it pledged last month. Chief executive and managing director Grant O’Brien said it was excited to be creating jobs across the country.

Go to pages 29-32 for tips on getting the right job, the hot TAFE courses and more

Rosie King

SECOND-BEST PLACE TO WORK IN AUSTRALIA

THERE is nothing Gary Ng loves more than putting smiles on dials.

And he must be good at it – his St Leonards business is ranked the second-best place to work in the country, behind only Google.

The father of two started digital marketing agency E Web Marketing in 1998, running the business from his bedroom for the first five years. His goal was to make money but it was also to bring happiness, success and fun to everyone around him.

“In order for you to have a happy life in Hong Kong, where I grew up, you have to succeed from primary school,” Mr Ng said.

“Everyone compares you to everyone else and no matter what I did, it never felt like it was good enough. There was so much pressure and my parents thought getting into a bad high school would be the end of my life.

“When I was 12, I moved to Australia and I reprogrammed myself.

“I taught myself how to be happy and having fun became a priority.”

Mr Ng has injected this outlook into his business, building a vibrant and energetic office equipped with beanbags, a ping-pong table and trampolines.

“Too many people see profit as the number one priority and happiness as number two,” he said. “But if you make sure the people around you are happy, the profit will come naturally.

“I can tell you, every single person feels a breath of fresh air when they walk into our office – the colour, the people, the energy – and it’s all contagious.”

Job applicants should beware though; their could-be boss doesn’t want to hear about ambitions to rule the world or earn the big bucks.

“When people apply for jobs here, we don’t ask if they want a career. We ask them if they want to make the world a better place.”

LOVE YOUR JOB

“When I was in Year 6 and McDonald’s was running its Monopoly game, I would buy a whole bunch of burgers and collect all the stickers. Then I would take them to school and sell them for \$2 or \$3. The kids used to love it. But making money has never seemed like a chore for me, it has always been more of a game that I wanted to win,” Mr Ng said.

What do you love about your job? Tell us on Facebook

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