# shoalhaven Women in Business Celebrate



**EXAMPLE:** Nowra High School principal Angela Byron is a role model to students.

## A positive role model

AS the first female principal of Nowra High School, Angela Byron is conscious of her duty as a role model to her students.

"It's important for all students to see women in leadership positions and particularly for girls to understand that there are no limits on what they can achieve in their chosen field of endeavour," she said.

"There are a large number of women in leadership roles at Nowra High, and I think this sends a clear and positive message to our girls that they too should be aiming high.

"I have been fortunate throughout my career to have some wonderful female role models, so I understand the influence that comes from encouraging young women to pursue their dreams.

This year Angela is celebrating 20 years of working in public education. Commencing her career as a history teacher in western Sydney, Angela has also held positions at the Board of Studies and Department of Education developing expertise in curriculum design, educational measurement, quality teaching and school improvement.

"I am grateful to have had a diverse career within public education, however being the principal of Nowra High School is undoubtedly the highlight," she said.

"I feel incredibly lucky that I look forward to coming to work every day and I love the challenge of working in such a dynamic and complex environment.

"Each day brings something new and there always seems to be a new reason to feel proud of my staff and my students.'



**PRODUCT VALUE:** Suzanne Edwards from EGR Trailers has been manufacturing quality trailers for the past decade.

#### Ten years of trailers

SUZANNE Edwards owns and operates EGR Trailers in South Nowra with husband Rob. The business has been operating in the Shoalhaven for 10 years.

Their main focus is manufacturing a high quality trailer at a reasonable cost.

'Working in a male dominated industry of engineering has many hurdles for a female,'

Suzanne said. "Most people expect you to know nothing about the industry and ask to speak to the boss. Most are surprised to learn that I am responsible for most of the sales and ordering of parts. Although I do all the book work I also do all the pre-delivery work on our trailers and assist with the running of our workshop

"We find running the business together challenging at times, but very rewarding when our products are received by happy customers," Suzanne said. "A family business allows us to personalise

our approach to customers.

The trailers Suzanne and Rob create are manufactured in their local workshop, not brought in from out of town.

Because they have complete control over their products they have been able to make improvements you'd be hard pressed to find "We eliminated the traditional welded

angle iron frame and replaced it with an RHS chassis and added drainage holes," Suzanne said.

That design change reduces the chance of water being trapped, extending the life of the trailer.

They stock plenty of spare parts for trailers



TAILORED HELP: Cathy Arcus from The Disability Trust Workskills program is committed to helping people.

#### An individual approach

CATHY Arcus has been working with The Disability Trust Workskills program since 2011 and is dedicated to supporting and presenting people with work, who would not otherwise have the opportunity.

With a mental health background and experience in aged care for most of her life, Mrs Arcus said that she helps to enable and support people with mental health issues, injuries or those who are at a disadvantage for whatever reason, to achieve their dreams and goals.

That is the main reason I do what I do. I love working with people and I love enabling them to see that what they want is possible," she said.

'I say to them, 'let me show you how'. "At Workskills we are client focused with a person-based team and I am very

proud of that. 'We work with each person individually. There can't be success in the individual if you provide a blanket support system for every person, because every case is different.

Along with Simon Longworth, this insightful and dedicated team helps people from Kiama to Ulladulla. "Our role is to support people back to

employment," she said. "A large part of what we do is to liaise

with people in the Shoalhaven to improve community partnerships for clients and encourage social change.

Workskills also provides employment services in Wollongong, Campbelltown, Miranda and the Southern Highlands.



International Women's Day 2014 March 8

**PROFESSIONAL:** Elders Culburra's Kerry Green has a passion for quality service.

### A passion for service

WITH over 20 years' experience in the real estate business, Kerry Green from Elders Culburra has grown her business to double its original size through her passion for quality service.

From its early beginnings in a small home office, to the Elders Culburra it is today, Kerry said it was her passion for the business and the satisfaction she gains from providing excellent services to their clients that keeps her striving for more.

'We provide holiday rental, permanent rental and sales and on the holiday side of things our point of difference from the rest is our excellent and hands on management of those properties," she said.

We have had an accumulative growth over the first seven years of being in business and Elders Culburra now has the largest holiday rental portfolio in the area, with the permanent rental side quickly catching up.

Our sales since 2011 have doubled from the amount sold in the first year and we have had a good start to this year."

Kerry said Elders Culburra has a dedicated and dynamic team who all work collaboratively, taking a special interest in every person.

'We are now a team of seven and we will continue to provide the best services," she said.

Elders Culburra is also dedicated to the local community and is a sponsor of the Culburra Surf Club and local touch football team.

