



OPEN TO OPPORTUNITIES

Network Personnel would like to recognise **Waipak** for their employment of one of our clients Gary Kersten. **Waipak** are manufacturers of plastic bottles and closures and run an exceptional manufacturing environment.

Gary has left side hemiplegia and has only the use of one arm due to an accident. He has been working for **Waipak** since October 2014 and loves his job.

Through conversations with **Waipak** and a tour through their factory we were able to identify jobs that Gary would be

able to complete and in the process free up their existing employees for other tasks.

Gary is a great example of the ability to overcome major physical barriers and show that where there is a will there is a way and **Waipak** are also an excellent example of genuine openness to explore opportunities to diversify their workforce.

Check out their website at <http://www.waipak.co.nz/> See their GREAT Ethos on the "How We Work" page.



CEO's Corner

Well 2015 is well and truly upon us.

Lately we've been developing our Communications Plan to make sure our key messages to the public are portrayed on all of our brochures and other marketing material.

We've defined our major 'WHY' as: "**We help people overcome the barriers they face so that they can lead happy and rewarding lives**".

This encompasses everything we do from our Supported Employment Service (i.e. **Network Personnel**) to our Vocational Service (**Turning Point**) and also includes our **Transition** from Schools Service as well as our King Street Day Activity Service (**SCOPZE**).

It also opens the door to other contracts/opportunities that may assist people to overcome barriers beyond those with disabilities.

We are very lucky to have forward-thinking, passionate staff working for us who are dedicated to our 'WHY'.



FROM THE MOUTH OF A SATISFIED EMPLOYER – Wendy Hoare

(Administration Manager at **GreenMount Foods Group**) puts pen to paper for us:

My role within the **GreenMount Foods Group** covers Human Resources, Admin and Health and Safety. In conjunction with the General Manager and Production Manager I am responsible for employing all production staff.

We were founded in 1994 as CSI Processors Ltd and later acquired Asado Food Solutions in Mt Maunganui. The business partnered with a Hong Kong based food business in 2013 and became **GreenMount Foods**. From our Hastings site we produce over 4,000 tonnes of natural, wholesome and fully traceable value-added vegetable ingredients each year. From our Mt Maunganui site we supply pasta-based meals, sauces, catering meal solutions and natural stocks to food manufacturers and food service clients around the world.

Joseph (pictured below) is employed in our production team and his job is to ensure the efficient supply of bins to production. This involves using a water blaster to clean bins and an eye for detail to check for any sub-standard items. This is a critical role as we are a food factory and it is imperative that our food safety and quality standards are maintained at all times.



We employed Joseph as the **Mainstream Programme** allowed us the opportunity to create a new role with minimum risk. When approached by Annette at **Network Personnel** about the possibility of employing Joseph having mainstream funding she presented a win – win opportunity to us so it was easy for me to justify and get the approval of the management team.

Annette's experience with the challenges that a person such as Joseph has was invaluable and having her as a liaison person when required has made employing Joseph a stress free experience. Joseph also has a positive and cheerful personality and we felt that he would fit in well, as well as providing a diversity within our current team which has been very beneficial.



As one of **GreenMount Foods** core values is to support people who strive to improve their current situation, Joseph is a good example of how this can work well for both him and us.



GreenMountFoods™



SERVICE EXCELLENCE

DRC commissioned an independent surveyor to interview a random selection of 30 of our Network Personnel clients to assess their level of satisfaction with our service.

The following are some of the results:

- When clients were asked if the consultant listens to them and takes their views into account, **100%** of clients replied either “Yes, definitely” or “Yes usually”.
- When asked “How often does your consultant follow up on things that they say they will do for you”, **86%** of clients replied “Always” or “Usually”.
- **100%** of clients who are supported in work by a Network Personnel Employment Consultants replied “Almost all of my needs have been met” or “Most of my needs have been met” when asked to what extent our service has met their employment needs.

If you as an employer would like to explore Supported Employment further, contact Network Personnel on 873 8208. Our service is free.

Network Personnel are committed not only to service excellence for our job seekers/people we support in employment, but also our employers.

We intend to carry out an independent Employer Satisfaction survey in the near future.

Meet the Team

This issue, we introduce Bronwyn Erickson



Bronwyn is one of our Employment Consultants who has 15 years experience working in the disabilities industry.

Bronwyn studied at Massey University and has a Bachelors degree in Psychology and Education and a Masters in Education with an endorsement in Special Education.

She’s passionate about her clients and firmly believes that there is something for everyone and you just have to find the right niche. To Bronwyn relationship is key for moving forward and she works hard to build great relationships with both her clients and employers.

Bronwyn’s always on the go and on the look out for possible leads for employment for her clients. She is tenacious, professional and very reliable.

Bronwyn is married to Guy and has two gorgeous sons, Max and Van. She says “ I love my job and am hugely rewarded by seeing the positive change in clients once they get into paid employment and have a purpose in their day.”



Maui's Available for work



If you live in Taradale or ever visited the Z Taradale service station, you will probably have met Maui. He's a terrific lad with great customer service.

Unfortunately his position at Z has been disestablished, so Maui is on the lookout for another job.

We think Maui would be an asset to the right employer and so we would welcome a phone call from anyone looking to employ a bubbly, polite young man. Contact our Napier Consultant Wendy Odom on 06 873 8205 or 027 449 6626.

What a gas!!!

Network Personnel support clients who have a wide range of abilities. Tony has recently started at Gasworkz as an administration assistant and works between 10-15 hours pw.

Tony suffered from a stroke in 2004. He's able to talk though, and we can attest to that, he's a cheeky one—a bit of a gas! So he's definitely in the right job.



Tony is Chairman of the Hastings Stroke Folk Club—which is a support and a social group for people who have suffered strokes—members meet monthly.



OF NEW ZEALAND

Contact Tony on 870 8994 or email:

tonyhurrel@clear.net.nz

Just another day at the office...? Not many of us could say this is our view every working day. Pictured right is our client Sean working at the Cape Kidnappers Golf Course... Nice.

