

MEET OUR NEW WORKING WHEELS TEAM



Calum Gemmell,
21yrs, Sydney

At the end of last year I was diagnosed with limb-girdle muscular dystrophy. Through Working Wheels (WW) I'm learning valuable skills about the workplace and the challenges, rights and issues that people with neuromuscular conditions face when considering work and how to best resolve and overcome them. Through the program I'm hoping to get a part-time job that will support me through my BSc degree at university.



Shanais Nielsen,
21yrs, Mid North Coast

After finishing studying (Event Management, Tourism and Community Services) I was a bit unsure and nervous about how I could go about getting a good job that can cater to my needs. I was quite scared that I may need some assistance in the workplace, but since starting WW I feel much more confident and have noticed that I have become more open about my needs and more willing to ask for help. WW is also helping me reach my goal of moving out with some of my friends and becoming more independent. I have also met a lot of wonderful and inspiring friends through WW and I would recommend it because it's amazing!



Melanie Tran,
19yrs, Sydney

Finding a job is not an easy task, especially for people who have a physical disability. We need to consider accessibility in the workplace, accessing the appropriate assistive technology, handling health issues, working around a care team and the list just keeps going on. My first thought on employment is if I can't even help myself with the most basic tasks in life, then how can I help anyone else? Working Wheels has taught me so many things. I used to see my wheelchair as a burden - it restricted me from getting to places and I felt it defined who I was as a person; because the capability of a person in a wheelchair is constantly questioned. WW made me realize that my wheelchair is not a burden - it's freedom. It not only gives me the freedom and independence to get around in the community, it is also the key to opening doors.



Kate Thomas,
20yrs, Far West Orana

This year is a very big year for me as I am also living at university part-time and undertaking a Bachelor of Communications (Journalism). Information from WW has given me insight into how independent living is an achievable outcome while living at university. The program has also helped me develop skills and confidence that I can take with me into future employment. WW is an exciting initiative that I am very grateful to be a part of.



Bronte Harrison,
21yrs, Mid North Coast

I joined the WW program in the hope of gaining more independence and a job. The first session was a great experience for me when we travelled around Sydney, learning how to use various forms of public transport to enhance our independence and confidence when accessing the community.



Marc Whyte,
34yrs, Sydney

As an unemployed 34 year old, have found it extremely difficult to find an employer. WW truly is a revolutionary program that educates employers and prepares employees to enter the workforce. The greatest aspect I have found thus far is definitely the transport training day at the beginning of the program. It helped not only with confidence building but also a get-to-know-you day with the other participants who will be joining us on the road to employment. I'm really excited to be a part of it all!