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## First win in big jobs campaign

Rebecca Lollback | 31st July 2010

ONE down, 999 to go.

Johannah Baker started an administration traineeship with Greenup in Ballina this week, and had the honour of taking the first job in NORTEC's 1000 jobs in 100 days campaign.

She had been out of the workforce for several years while raising her two young children.

So when the Cumbalum resident decided it was time to get a job, she signed up with NORTEC, an employment agency on the Northern Rivers.

It didn't take the organisation long to find her the perfect job.

"I want to be a working mum. I want to set that example for my kids," Ms Baker said.

"I think this job is going to be great."

The 1000 jobs in 100 days campaign is part of NORTEC's strategy to find jobs for locals and to help employers find the best person to fill their vacancies.

It officially kicks off tomorrow and winds up on November 8.

Ballina branch manager Kath Paton said the campaign was about improving employment figures in the region.

"Last year the campaign was for 100 jobs in 100 days and we achieved that target, so we wanted to do better than that this year," she said.

"It's an intense way for us to get out there.

"We have a staff member who goes out and talks to employers and we also get approached by people looking for employees.

"Then we match them up with a potential employee through our jobseeker database.

"It's really difficult to get good employees but it's also hard to find a good employer.

"This process aims to make the whole thing easier."

It has worked for Greenup.

Finance manager Melinda Thomas said she was pleased with the way NORTEC had helped them find Ms Baker.

"We approached NORTEC on a Friday and we interviewed Johannah the next Monday," she said.

"The service was excellent and the turnaround was very efficient.

"Johannah was exactly the type of person we were looking for."

Employers who lodge their vacancies between August 1 and October 8 go into the draw to win \$1000 for their chosen charity.

Meanwhile the rivalry between the NORTEC offices is heating up but the Ballina branch is confident it can fill the most vacancies.

"We're really looking forward to getting the 1000 jobs in 100 days campaign under way and there is plenty of inter-branch competition," Ms Paton said.

Visit [www.nortec.com.au](http://www.nortec.com.au) or call 1800 667 832.



Johannah Baker (left) was the first lucky beneficiary of NORTEC's 1000 Jobs in 100 Days campaign, landing a job at Greenup in Ballina. Pictured with Johannah are NORTEC Ballina branch Manager Kath Paton (centre) and Greenup finance manager Melinda Thomas.

Cathy Adams

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