



# Cutcher & Neale

## Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2 February 2007

### Tradition Continues at Cutcher & Neale

Accounting firm Cutcher & Neale has offered eleven (11) high school graduates traineeships with the firm while completing their Bachelor of Commerce degrees part-time with the University of Newcastle.

Starting employment this month were Amy Cassar, Andrew Beveridge, Ashlie Day, Igor Karafilovski, Jemima Cox, Kathryn Peddie, Liam Summerhayes, Matthew Norman, Nicholas Howell, Rebecca Di-Rienzo and Tristan Cossins.

Cutcher & Neale Partner David Carpenter said employing school leavers had been a tradition of the practice for more than 40 years.

As testimony to the success of the development program three existing partners with the firm, Sandy MacNeill, David Carpenter and Mark O'Connor all started as trainees with Cutcher & Neale and have progressed through the ranks to the level of Partner.

"The fact that three of our Partners commenced at the trainee level shows the trainees that they have the opportunity to continue to learn, grow and succeed over their entire professional career and development" says David Carpenter.

"Under our development program, the trainees work four days for the firm while dedicating one day to their studies." Mr Carpenter said.

"As a firm we benefit from the employment of trainees by having a bank of well-educated staff members who have not only adopted our work ethic as their own but who have been trained to perform tasks to our high standards."

"Feedback we receive from previous trainees provides us with valuable information for the next year on how to improve and maintain a consistently high standard of support and mentoring for the trainees." said Mr Carpenter.

With the recent additions of the eleven (11) new trainees, the firm will continue with their traditional 'Get To Know You Day, Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2007' where the event aims for employees to learn more about other departments and build friendships in other divisions.

Cutcher & Neale Human Resources Manager Grant MacNeill, said "The event will reward good team work, and will draw on many of the skills necessary to succeed in business, and in life, such as creative thinking, good listening skills, setting roles and ground rules, and providing a greater familiarisation with each other in a relaxed, informal environment.

Established in 1953, Cutcher & Neale is one of the largest regional accounting and consulting firms in Australia. Located in the CBD, Cutcher & Neale's 90 staff members occupy four floors of The Bolton Building. Consisting of eight divisions, accounting and taxation services, assurance and risk management; consulting and finance; business software & system solutions; investment services, forensic accounting & superannuation technical support. Cutcher & Neale is one of the few firms outside the Sydney area that provides a complete professional services package to clients.



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Attachment: Trainees2007.jpg

Back Row L - R Tristan Cossins, Nicholas Howell, Igor Karafilovski, Andrew Beveridge, Liam Summerhayes, Matthew Norman

Front Row L - R Jemima Cox, Amy Cassar, Ashlie Day, Kathryn Peddie, Rebecca Di-Rienzo.

## Notes to editor:

Get To Know You Day is an informal event where all staff from Cutcher & Neale has lunch at the Newcastle Foreshore (Locomotive Shed) and then head off on a 'Survivor Hunt' (headed by the seven Partners of the Firm) trekking within the vicinity of the Newcastle CBD with clues to certain checkpoints.

## Ends

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