

Evocities – city teachers love the move to regional centres

Dale Zawertailo is happy in his role as head teacher of English at the Scots School Albury, but not long ago he was a stressed Sydneysider, struggling with the cost of living in the city.

Five years ago while living at Chatswood on the north shore, Dale saw the head teacher's position in the English Department at the Scots School advertised, decided to apply, and secured the position.

It represented a promotion and so the family decided to call Albury home – a change they have no regrets in making, he says except for not having made the decision sooner.

Dale Zawertailo and his wife Megan have found more hours in their week and built their dream home since relocating.

"Everything is at your fingertips. You don't have to drive more than five minutes for anything as everything you need is here, and you never get stuck in traffic. It's compact, convenient and accessible," he says.

Living in Albury has also improved the Zawertailos' financial situation because they've dramatically reduced their mortgage.

"The pace of life is slower and much more relaxed, and for a young family like ours it's been fabulous. The best thing about moving is that we have been able to build our own home, exactly the way we wanted, which we couldn't afford to do in Sydney."

Dubbo-based Charles Campbell is another example of someone who has got the life work balance right.

His job – he is a franchisee for the Kip McGrath tutoring service – begins at three, so the day starts at a leisurely pace. He works six hours through to nine o'clock tutoring maths and English and the rest of the evening is his. He



The Zawertailo family is now in Albury

has plenty of time for his hobbies and says that as a result the garden is looking great.

Campbell decided to settle in Dubbo New South Wales after returning from 15 years in the Middle East. He was principal at schools in Oman – which he describes as the "jewel of the Middle East" and Saudi Arabia, close to the Iraq border.

He says that upon returning to Sydney the city's pace and the traffic were a bit much and so he looked for a way to get out to regional NSW.

"I would have settled anywhere in rural NSW, but Dubbo seemed to have the best of what was on offer."

Seven of NSW's leading regional cities have united to form the Evocities campaign and encourage people to live, work and invest in an Evocity. The seven Evocities are Albury,

Armidale, Bathurst, Dubbo, Orange, Tamworth and Wagga Wagga.

Each of the seven cities has dedicated resources and funding to the campaign, and has in turn secured Australian Government funding, as well as support from the NSW state government and corporate sponsors.

The campaign highlights the abundance of opportunities in these regional cities due to their lower cost of living, strong career and business opportunities and enhanced lifestyle.

The first step is to make a shortlist of the Evocities you might like to live in. The links to each city will help you compare facilities, careers, schools, housing and lifestyle options.

www.evocities.com.au

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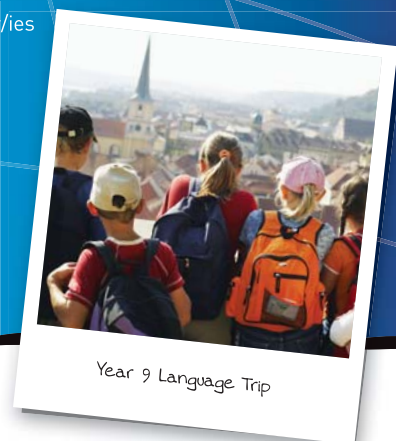
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