

21 May 2010

1250 retail jobs on offer at the new Charlestown Square
Pre-registration for new online employment hub now open

The GPT Group's Charlestown Square has partnered with local recruitment firm, RAS Recruitment, to provide job seekers with access to the 1250 retail jobs to come online with the completion of the Centre's development in October.

A specially constructed website, www.myjobatcharlestownsquare.com.au, has now launched, enabling candidates to pre-register their details for positions becoming available in the coming months.

GPT's Charlestown Square General Manager Peter Francis said the development of Charlestown Square would add an additional 110 stores to the Centre, bringing exciting new opportunities for the region's workforce.

"GPT's development of Charlestown Square has already delivered hundreds of jobs during construction and we are delighted that more than 1200 retail positions will become available over the coming months with the Centre's grand opening. This represents a significant employment boost to the region and forms part of GPT's ongoing commitment to the social and economic sustainability of our community."

"Our recruitment campaign, undertaken in partnership with locally based RAS Recruitment, will ensure all interested members of the community, including minority groups, have the opportunity to apply for retail positions at the new Charlestown Square."

"In addition to www.myjobatcharlestownsquare.com.au, RAS Recruitment will open an office at Charlestown Square in June, designed to assist job seekers and support retailers with the recruitment, interview and selection process," said Mr Francis.

Charlestown Square and RAS Recruitment will also be hosting workshops focused on developing job ready skills. The first workshops will be hosted on Monday 31 May and Monday 14 June. Bookings for the workshops can be made via the website or by calling 02 8007 5627.

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Charlestown Square and RAS Recruitment are working with a number of local organisations to ensure widespread access to the recruitment process across the community.

The team is working with Careerlinks to match students to retail traineeships; with Lake Macquarie City Council to assist those with a disability and mature, youth and indigenous candidates; and disability support service, Break Thru People Solutions.

Work is also being conducted with The University of Newcastle and Mayumarri, a support service for sufferers of emotional, physical and sexual abuse.

To register for retail employment at Charlestown Square visit the Charlestown Square website and click on the employment button or visit www.myjobatcharlestownsquare.com.au.

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Key facts about the Charlestown Square development:

- The GPT Group has invested \$470 million in the development of Charlestown Square.
- GPT completed a detailed study to understand the history of the Lake Macquarie region and as part of the Group's place making strategy, an interpretation of place through recurring stories has been initiated and will be interwoven through the new Centre's community spaces
- The expanded Charlestown Square will offer an additional 110 new retail stores, taking the Centre total to 280 stores, with new brands never before seen in the Hunter
- The addition of 41,000m² will bring the Centre's total area to 88,000m²
- The new Fresh Food Mall is set to open in August 2010 and will showcase the Hunter's best produce and feature full line Coles and Woolworths supermarkets
- The remainder of the Centre will open in October 2010 and will feature five new mini majors, an eight-screen Reading Cinemas complex with the Hunter's first Gold Lounge Cinemas, Strike Bowl and a 1,000-seat food court

- Over 1,000 new car spaces will be in place, bringing the total number of spaces to 3,500 with Park Assist
- Through best practice environmentally sensitive design, GPT aims to reduce the Centre's ecological impact by a target of 30%, as compared to a typical shopping centre