

Trent's drive makes others green with envy

The Wage Assistance programme helped Indigenous teenager Trent Rudman get a job as a groundsman with the Chinderah Golf Course, near Tweed Heads on the north coast of NSW.

Not long after completing high school, Trent registered with Centrelink and was given a Wage Assistance card. Trent told Jeff Holloway, manager of Chinderah Golf Course, about the Wage Assistance programme as an incentive to employ him.

Trent is now responsible for a number of different tasks including manicuring grass and setting up the golf course for competitions.

“What I like most is that I have a lot of variety. I also enjoy being outdoors and working with a mixture of people,” Trent said.

The Wage Assistance programme helped Chinderah Golf course by covering costs, such as wages and training.

“Wage Assistance has helped me to employ a young man who I thought was suitable. Without Wage Assistance, Trent's position may not have proceeded. The subsidy just made it a little bit easier financially,” Jeff Holloway said.

“Trent has made a good transition into full-time employment and understands how I operate and like my staff to perform.”

Jeff said he would recommend the Wage Assistance programme to other employers.

“The Wage Assistance programme is excellent. It is well organised, with friendly helpful people to deal with. I would not hesitate to use the programme again. As government programmes go, Wage Assistance is the most user-friendly one that I have ever dealt with,” Jeff said. ■