

Community Case Study Sample

Isabelle:

Aged 42, Isabelle grew up in Leongatha. On completion of secondary school, Isabelle moved to Melbourne for study and work. She met her husband in Melbourne. Moved back to Leongatha aged in her mid 30s with young family following husband's work. Rented first home then purchased and built own home on small lifestyle property out of Leongatha. Following independence of children the couple would like to move to Foster later in life.

Isabelle lives in Leongatha with her husband and two children. The children, Bill aged 9 and Elsie aged 12 attend the local primary school and secondary school.

Connection with South Gippsland

Isabelle grew up in Leongatha where her father was a leading teacher at the local secondary school and her mother worked in the local bank. Both parents have now passed away.

Work and Qualifications

Isabelle moved away from South Gippsland for work and study in Melbourne when first leaving school at 18. She completed a Certificate IV in business administration and found work as an administrative assistant with a range of employers.

Isabelle's husband Rob found work in a neighbouring Shire where he moved from a project management position to management in a full time tenured position.

Isabelle gained casual employment with a local health provider as a receptionist.

After around five years Rob gained permanent ongoing employment in management in Foster. Isabelle gained part time permanent employment in a local large employer where internal secondment opportunities are available.

Family

It was in Melbourne where she met her husband, Rob who grew up in Western Victoria in a small rural town. Once the children were born Isabelle and Rob decided to move back to South Gippsland for the lifestyle.

The children attend the local public primary school and secondary school and participate in local sport and dance clubs. Rob and Isabelle also participate in coaching positions in local sporting clubs. When not at the local football, netball club or dance groups the family enjoy cycling and beach activities.

Housing

After first moving to Leongatha Isabelle and Rob rented a house in Leongatha within walking distance of schools and shops. Within five years the family purchased their first home in

Leongatha. They would not have been able to afford to purchase a house in Melbourne with one full time and casual work.

Benefits and Disadvantages

Work

Isabelle found it easy to find part time work through friends and acquaintances she knew through her childhood. Finding a more permanent position offering regular hours was difficult in the first five years of moving back to South Gippsland as many administrative roles are casual.

Rob found it easy to move within his workplace into a higher position once he gained the initial position. When applying for his current management position knowing people in the business community contributed to his success in gaining the position, His reputation was taken in high regard.

Housing

Isabelle and Rob were able to have their own home built on 1 acre out of town. This home provides lifestyle living on an affordable block but requires Rob and Isabelle to spend more time in the car driving themselves and children to school, work, sport commitments and the town centre.

Future plans

Rob would like to move to Foster. Foster is attractive for the health services and retail available coupled with access to the natural environment including bush, beach and Wilsons Promontory.

The family intends to stay in their current house for at least 10 years until both children have their own transport. Currently education and sport opportunities for parents and the children make Leongatha more suitable to the family needs.

Isabelle and Rob like South Gippsland for the lifestyle, a good place to raise a family, they feel part of the local community and know a lot of local people, close to Melbourne and local sport for the whole family. Both Isabelle and Rob volunteer in the local community in sporting clubs. Disadvantages include access to some services, the range of jobs (for Isabelle when they first moved) and local opportunities for their children when they leave school.