



Hi, my name is Anna and 2 ½ years ago I was an administration and marketing manager recruiting international students for a major university, then I had my second child. The more I thought about it the more I realised that I didn't want to go back to work there. The drive to and from work, the logistics of child care and the time spent away from my kids was something I dreaded. Unfortunately, living on a single wage was not something we could afford to do.

When Myriam's business package arrived in the mail, my husband was Mr negative but I was curious...and hopeful of finding a way to work for myself. I had spent countless hours on the internet looking for the right opportunity, but I felt that most of what I found was rubbish.

After researching Myriam, her business and the industry in general, I decided I wanted to give it a try. My husband was still sceptical, but said as long as I can make back the start up money he didn't mind me giving it a shot.

When I started out I was enthusiastic, eager to learn, and very nervous.

My aim when I started was simply to recover my start up costs, then decide from there if it was something I would like to continue, or give up and return to my old job.

I secretly hoped it would be a huge success, that we could quickly pay off our mortgage, save for the holidays we'd never had since children arrived, save for our kid's education.

When my package arrived I was excited and hungry to learn. The more I read the keener I became. I followed the instructions to the letter, how to set up as a company or sole trader, how to conduct searches, how to contact potential clients, what to say and what to write. All the letter templates I needed were there, I just had to stick my new letterhead on the top. It was easier than I thought. A computer, telephone and internet access really was all I needed to get started.

It didn't take long at all to recover my outlay so I officially resigned my former job. Now I feel more in control of my life. I work the hours that suit me. I don't miss a minute of my kids growing up, and each year I earn a very good secondary income. As Myriam says, this is not a "get rich quick scheme", there is a lot of hard work involved, however, the more you put in the more you get out of it.

As a stay home mum I enjoy having an adult conversation with my clients, and they're always happy to hear from me.

My hopes for this business have now become a reality. We've nearly paid off our mortgage, we've had several great family holidays, I feel energised and empowered, and for the first time I feel like I'm in charge of our financial destiny. And most importantly I work for myself, in my own home. As for my husband, well, I keep telling him it won't be long before he'll be staying home too and working for me.

Actually, my husband is rapt, we're now starting to live the life we wanted, and in hindsight it was easier than we imagined. You just need to be bold and take that first step. I'm certainly glad I did.

Thanks Myriam for this great opportunity.

Anna, Wantirna, Vic