

# BREATH OF FRESH AIR

Robyn & Gareth Otley took a gamble when they made their move to Temora. Six years later, they say it's the best decision they've ever made.

Robyn had just started to learn to fly on the South Coast when her trainer and friend, Jill Bailey, moved to Temora. Jill encouraged Robyn and Gareth to make a trip to Temora for a weekend and they quickly fell in love with the town. "As soon as we walked out here, it was like a breath of fresh air," Gareth describes.

Back in Nowra, Robyn and Gareth were both working stressful jobs to pay off their large mortgage. "We both had good paying jobs, but we were never home," Gareth says. In 2009 they bought a block of land at the Airpark in Temora and at the end of 2010, they made the move. Robyn says the move was made easier due to the cooperative local Council.

"The Council is so proactive and our plans were approved in less than a week. In Shoalhaven, we would have waited five or six months for approval," she adds.

The couple says that the best part about the move has been the lifestyle change.

**"We do what we wanted to do, slow down and enjoy life," Gareth says.**

Both Robyn and Gareth had no trouble finding employment when they first made the move. They now both run their own excavating and gardening businesses, working just three to four days a week. Despite earning less than they were in Nowra, they are now debt free and stress free.

They also have a lot more freedom to pursue their passions of aviation and antique motor cars and are both heavily involved in Temora Flyers Inc. (TFI) and the Temora Antique Motor Club.

"We've organised overnight trips for the Motor Club and host a Christmas party every year in our hangar.

"Our hangar is known as the 'Party Palace'. We have a pool table, pizza oven, large TV and even a disco ball. We love entertaining at home," Gareth says.

They both agree that the facilities in Temora are fantastic, but say it did take them a while to get used to shops closing up early on weekends. They support the town by shopping locally and have seen a lot of new businesses spring up in the last six years.

"To see constant growth in a little town gives you a good feeling and you know you've made the right decision," Gareth says.

They're involvement with TFI has allowed them to give back to the community, by raising money for local charities. They are both helping to organise future TFI events and hope to get more people involved in aviation.

"The Airpark has been so well thought out and planned. For us it just works so well," says Gareth.

They encourage people to come to Temora and see the Airpark for themselves.

"You tell friends on the Coast, but they just don't believe you," Robyn adds.

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