

Stones turn to love

Business idea crystallised: Sharon Whitbread is a healthy lifestyle devotee who goes to work to be surrounded by the things she loves. Picture: Anna Warr

successful business which stocks incense, essential oils and holds meditation classes, psychic readings and workshops.

Ms Whitbread said meditation was useful for inducing relaxation, reducing stress, clearing the mind or assisting a spiritual path through learning while crystals had an energy and beauty all of their own and were useful for healing and in meditation.

Crystal Pathways stocks Australian corals and crystals including rose quartz, topaz and emerald.

Crystal Pathways is in the Windmill Shopping Centre, Yarrawarran. It is open Tuesday to Friday, 9.30am to 4.30pm and Saturday 9.30am to 4pm. Details: 9520 2003 or crystalpathways.com.au

It was during trips to the Blue Mountains to attend meditation retreats that Sharon Whitbread's love for crystals turned to passion, writes Deborah Field.

The former accounts manager was born with a bone disorder and had turned to meditation as a way to unwind.

Eventually she decided that her health was more important than her job and with the support of family established Crystal Pathways, a crystal and specialty gift shop at Yarrawarran.

Ms Whitbread uses crutches to walk and despite the challenges associated with her physical disability has grown a



Mapping his career: Engadine entrepreneur Shane Greenup is making the most of the web. Picture: Jane Dyson

Light shines on canyons

place for their chosen activity.

Next month Mr Greenup will travel to Chile where he has been accepted into a Chilean-government program to entice early stage, high-potential entrepreneurs to Chile, where they will participate in networking and knowledge sharing.

The program comes with US\$40,000 equity-free seed capital.

Shane Greenup of Engadine has turned his passion for canyoning into a web-based business that has attracted international attention.

Immortaloutdoors.com allows users to view maps and add content to an online map of outdoor pursuits. The site is used by canyoners, bushwalkers, 4WD enthusiasts and campers to find the best

Sweet success in franchises

Tracy Fitt, owner of Lollypotz Southern Sydney, was thrilled to see her business name up in the Top 5 in both lists of BRW Magazine's Fast Franchises.

Lollypotz is ranked fourth on the 2012 list by revenue growth, and second on the list by outlet growth. The list ranks Lollypotz provides chocolate gift bouquets which are a great alternative to flowers. Since its inception in 2009 it has grown to more than 35 franchises.

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