

Wonthaggi Locksmiths

Family is a very good reason to come to Bass Coast as it is a great area to raise a family. But when you recognise a business opportunity that fits your trade, there is an even greater reason to live and work in Bass Coast.

“Everybody needs a locksmith at some point and security is our business” said Jim Methven from Wonthaggi Locksmiths.

How it started

Jim Methven was fortunate enough to be offered an adult apprenticeship with a locksmith in Echuca in northern Victoria. The four year apprenticeship involved weekly training in Melbourne. These were difficult and busy times for the family as Jim’s wife Kath, was doing a university degree in nursing as well as managing a young family. On completing his apprenticeship, Jim gained employment in Wonthaggi and about eleven months later he bought the business. Jim is well qualified and has received many awards. He was named Best Apprentice in year 2 and year 3 of his training and in 2005 he was awarded National Locksmith of the Year. This allowed him to attend the Australian Locksmith Conference. Also in July 2006, as a part of his national award, Jim will be attending the Amalgamated Locksmiths of American conference. When asked what advantage he thought he would get from attending this conference, Jim said “In general, Australia is about 12 months behind America and so I believe I will come away with the most up to date knowledge in the security business”.

How has business been?

The business is steadily growing and meeting expectations and still has a lot of potential for growth. “The tourist season has given us an extra boost to our business with the loss of keys and holiday home owners looking for extra security. We also have grown enough and become busy enough to support employing an apprentice” said Jim.

Setting up in Bass Coast

Jim says “Make sure you thoroughly research your market, check to see if there are other like businesses in the region and investigate your growth opportunity”.

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