

# Lorena's Lowdown



## **New Year, New Horizon!**

Welcome to 2012 – a new year that brings fresh opportunities for us all.

As we look forward to the fortunes that 2012 will bring us, this is a good time to reflect on our successes from the last quarter of 2011.

## **A not-so-Silly Season**

Despite it being called the “Silly Season”, our team at HorizonOne had an extremely productive three months leading up to the Christmas break. Although the media reported doom and gloom for the jobs market following the Government’s increase in the Public Service Efficiency Dividend to four percent, HorizonOne found that there was still a high demand for quality candidates. We saw an increase in candidate activity and the trend showed that quality candidates were keen to move from short term contracts to longer-term roles, in order to ride out this wave of uncertainty.

Our Finance and Accounting Team were particularly busy. Thanks to all our consultants who worked feverishly till the last few minutes before closing the office for the year, to ensure that our clients and candidates were well supported, before heading off for a well-deserved break. From the buzz within our sector and the word from our clients, indications are that the ‘Contract Market’ will be just as busy this quarter...just as well our consultants had a good break in the shutdown period!

## **Events**

It was great to see so many of our clients at our Christmas Drinks Function on 8 December at Sage Restaurant’s new ‘Mint Garden Bar’ at Gorman House. This was by far one of our most successful client functions. The weather was particularly kind to us, providing a perfect evening to sit and chat and enjoy the informal function in the open-air garden bar. See photos of the night [here](#).

## **New faces**

This month, we welcome Laila Braithwaite to the HorizonOne team. Laila has worked in the recruitment industry for over nine years, both in her homeland of Sweden and in Australia. Her experience includes working for five years in the Canberra market, as a senior account manager for several Government agencies. Her expertise spans across a range of sectors including the ICT and professional markets. Laila is passionate about building strong relationships with her clients and we know she’ll be a great asset to our business as well as yours.

## **Family time!**

Before the rest and relaxation of the Christmas break came the truly hectic pace of December. It was a month jam-packed with social, work and family events, including my son’s 21st birthday celebrations (not to mention a Foo Fighters concert!) The whole month is a bit of a blur...

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January brought a change of pace in the form of a relaxing week in the sleepy South Coast township of Long Beach, which gave us all a much-needed opportunity to replenish our energy stores and take stock of life's joys and successes.

We are now entering the Year of the Dragon, and I anticipate it will be one filled with challenges but also great success. I'm thrilled to belong to the 'HorizonOne family' and to be part of an exciting year of growth for the business. I hope that 2012 brings you all success and good health!