

# OUT WITH THE OLD



Technological and lifestyle changes shape all aspects of our lives, including jobs. As new career options appear, other jobs once highly valued by society are fading into obscurity

## Personal trainer | Professional Tweeter | Personal stylist

**KRIS CRANE**  
JOBS have been the hot topic in Australia for months and the Gillard Government was proud as punch to announce a historically low unemployment rate earlier this week. With 46,300 jobs created in the past month, more Australians are in jobs than ever before. As technology advances and the demand on people's time becomes greater, and the way society functions changes, so does the demand for different industries.

There was a time when the average man couldn't pump his own petrol or operate a lift. Advances in technology have taken the jobs of many Australians. But never fear, old-fashioned services like your home-delivery milkman or a stone mason are still around. The demand for these jobs may not be as high, or the style of work they perform may have changed, but they are still out there. The modern-day milkman doesn't have to deal with the weight or breakages of glass bottles but John Sparks, of

Enoggera, said he was born for the job. Mr Sparks grew up on a dairy farm, and when he decided to go into business for himself, there was only one choice. An Australian Farmers Direct franchisee, 43-year-old Mr Sparks said he enjoyed providing true Australian products to his clients. "My family owned a farm when I was a boy, so I feel at home with this job," Mr Sparks said. "The company has grown from a new take on the old-day milkman, and we now supply

fruit, veges and a wide range of other products. A major part of the job is making sure that cold milk is sitting on the doorstep when people wake up in the morning." Barry Henningsen of Bracken Ridge, has been a cemetery stonemason for 46 years. "I wasn't too keen on school. When my manual training teacher said he had a job for me, I jumped at the opportunity," Mr Henningsen said. "A lot of people would have been weary of working alone all day in a cemetery. I've seen many apprentices who weren't

too excited about the prospect. I enjoy it myself. I like the quiet times working by myself. "The job is far easier than when I started out. With technology and modern equipment, some of the grunt work has been taken out of the job." Leadlight artist, 41-year-old Julian Podmore said there were very few leadlight specialists still around. "I learnt the trade when I lived in Wales, and have now been working with leadlights for 24 years," he said. "People are shocked to hear how busy we are. In Brisbane there are many beautiful old



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## Milk Man | Lead Light Artist | Stonemason

houses, so the demand for our work is high. "Unlike many trades, technology has not affected our work. We still use all traditional methods and all work is done by hand." But with time, now so precious, there are all sorts of experts to help you maximise what little time you have. Everyone has heard of personal trainers, but Alex Felagai is a certified CrossFit trainer who will put you through more rounds of weightlifting, sprinting, gymnastics, powerlifting and kettlebell training than you can handle.

Mr Felagai, who owns the Wisser! CrossFit gym at Ipswich, said it was second nature for him to go into the fitness world. "I have been a personal trainer for about five years and am always looking for the best ways to train my clients. When I came across CrossFit, my clients' results improved," Mr Felagai said. "CrossFit is an intense army style of training where a team works together doing the same routine. It involves everything from box jumping to Olympic rings. "It's my job to motivate

everyone to push themselves to their own personal limit. CrossFit is for people at all different fitness levels," Mr Felagai said. Heather Smith, of Camp Hill, or as she is known to many @heathersmithau, has turned her interest in Twitter into a job. A conference addict and twitter enthusiast, Heather said she was shocked when two of her passions came together to form a job. "I was attending many conferences, and tweeting the interesting facts, when I was approached by conference

organisers to be the official tweeter," Ms Smith said. "I found I had a knack to capturing what people were saying and conveying the messages they were promoting. "Now rather than a conference just being for those in the room the content goes global. "I also search the internet for things mentioned and tweet links for followers." Beate de Camp has every girl's dream job, a personal stylist to busy Brisbane residents. "I was attending many conferences, and tweeting the interesting facts, when I was approached by conference

women like her mother. "I always admired my mother's style, and in my work today I draw inspiration from her," Ms de Camp said. "Today, Brisbane is demanding more of people to look good as the city grows. "Many busy mothers or businesswomen just don't have to time to shop and source clothes that suit them, so that's where I come in to lend a hand. "The client range is huge, for 14 to 70 years old. People from every walk of life want to look good and they are now seeking advice on the topic."