## Yvonne Walker

## HR with Ease

Yvonne is the Director and Principal of HR with ease, a bespoke HR consultancy supporting SMEs across the Illawarra and beyond with simple, straightforward solutions to people problems.

Yvonne grew up in the Illawarra and has worked in HR for more than 30 years, with a career that kicked off right here at the Port Kembla Steelworks with a cadetship, studying psychology and management at UOW.



She spent some time living and working in Newcastle and Port Hedland, in the northwest of Western Australia, and returned to the Illawarra in 2001 where she continued her work in heavy industry. In 2010, Yvonne had the opportunity to go out on her own and seized it, building HR with ease from scratch.

Yvonne has always been passionate about fairness and equity, and while she didn't quite finish that second degree in law, working in HR provides an opportunity for her to apply the law practically within a framework of fairness for employers and employees. HR with ease specialises in helping employers with sensitive and difficult situations such as managing poor performance and misconduct, and employment separation.

The business also provides staples such as contract and policy development to suit individual business needs, and recruitment.

Client organisations range from startups and micro businesses to large organisations and Yvonne is proud to work with a number of amazing local success stories and quiet achievers here in the Illawarra, in industry sectors including logistics, allied health, financial and professional services, community services, construction, and manufacturing and engineering.

Over the course of 13 years, Yvonne has provided opportunities for development in HR to more than a dozen undergraduates or graduates, providing them with invaluable hands-on experience as well as coaching and mentoring them at the start of their careers.

In line with her passion for equity, Yvonne is part of the management committee for the local branch of Dress for Success. She is also the Vice President of The Illawarra Connection, the region's most prestigious networking association. Yvonne recognises the incredible value in having a quality business support network and was incredibly grateful when HR with ease was named the Home Based Business of the Year in 2023 as part of the IWIB business network