

# CASE STUDY

## Closing the gap on Indigenous affairs

Guided by the Wesfarmers Reconciliation Action Plan, in 2009/10 we developed our Aboriginal Employment and Engagement Strategy with implementation of the strategy now well underway.

In May this year we kicked off our Indigenous Employment Initiative with an eight week Indigenous work experience student in our Brisbane office. This is the first step in what we hope will see us gain accreditation with the National Indigenous Cadet Program in the future, and ultimately

see us employ a Graduate for a three-year period in our Brisbane office. As part of this program we have established a partnership with the Queensland University of Technology's (QUT) Oodgeroo Unit, improving our access to Indigenous students, industry contacts, and cultural awareness knowledge.

Using our partnership with the Oodgeroo Unit we engaged Leith Dewis to conduct a highly successful Cultural Awareness Program for the Brisbane office. Premier Coal and Curragh mines will be engaging local



providers to undertake similar cultural awareness programs on their sites. In addition, Mr Dewis displayed his artwork in the Brisbane office during National Reconciliation Week with 17 pieces of his art being purchased by our staff. During the year we conducted a comprehensive diversity survey of our workforce to determine the number of employees that are of Indigenous background to help with future planning and recruiting, and provide a baseline to monitor progress against our employment goals.