O'Brien steps up

Moodie moves to Moore Park

Goes freelance

New Flight Centre CFO

Shannon O'Brien has been promoted to CFO of Flight Centre after four years as a senior executive.

O'Brien started at Flight Centre as CFO of the company's Australian retail and product divisions in 2001, before spending 18 months as GM of the Australian corporate division.

He will report to executive chairman Graham Turner.

Previous to joining Plight Centre he held financial controller positions with MSX International and Shell Coal.

"We are delighted to welcome Shannon to the role and look forward to his contributions as CFO as our company enters a new phase of growth," Turner said.

"Shannon has a strong background in senior financial roles and also in an operational capacity, proven leadership ability and great business acumen.

"He also has a great understanding of our business, having been heavily involved in day to day operations in both our retail and corporate operations."

He succeeds Jim Sturgess, who was last month promoted to global procurement leader.

Gandel promotion

Wayne Moodie, Chatswood Chase centre manager since Gandel Retail Management took over in 2003, has been promoted to commercial manager of GRM's operations at Moore Park in Sydney.

Moodie's first major task has seen him involved in managing the recent name change of Fox Studios to The Entertainment Quarter.

At Chatswood Chase, which is located on Sydney's lower north shore, Karen Noad has been appointed as the new centre manager.

instaurator sells stake

Instaurator, MD of Michel's Espresso, has sold his stake in the company.

Instaurator set up the coffee arm of Michel's Patisserie six years ago.

He is now a freelance coffee and business consultant and has secured a consulting project with a new coffee company in Ganada, Caffe Artigiano.

He has also been employed by the Queensland department of Primary Industries to conduct the first official Australian Coffee Harvest Tasting.

Michel's approached Instaurator in 1999 to set up and manage an espresso factory and head office for blending and roasting coffee.

After five years Michel's Espresso increased average stores sales by 300%.

"After six years I managed to reach all my business goals within the company so I thought it was time to move onto the next project," he said.

"I have always been focused on lifting the Australian coffee industry to a world class level, and look forward to my next challenge."

Yakka appointments

Andrew Edgar will retire as MD of Yakka at the end of this month to take up a new appointment as executive director of Yakka (Aust), the holding company for the group.

He will continue as a director of the Yakka subsidiaries in the corporate apparel area.

John Bergin will succeed Edgar as MD effective August 1.

Bergin Is currently associate director, operations, and has been with Yakka for seven years.

He has experience in the apparel industry, holding senior positions at Country Road and Laura Ashley.

Iain McKinnon will become GM, operations, with responsibility for planning, procurement, manufacturing and quality control.

He was previously manager of the planning department at Yakka.

More achievers for group

Business advisors Achievers Group has galned six new staff members.

Founded by Gowings MD Tony Gattari in 2002, Achievers Group offers executive coaching, sales training, team building workshops, business owners coaching, financial planning, life performance coaching, physical training assessment and corporate retreats or weekend retreats.

Financial planner John Foley will assist Achievers Group with all aspects of financial planning, including strategies for superannuation, retirement planning, shares, life insurance, income protection and estate planning.

Leadership trainer Amanda Antcliff will train people in the areas of vision, goal setting and planning, time management, skills of successful people and communication skills.

Business coach Tony Moylan is a business development manager for Action NSW. He has previously owned and managed a number of small businesses across industries including electrical contracting, furniture retail, real estate and office equipment sales.

Physical trainers Rob Rowland-Smith, Petrina Nicklin and Brad Hayes have also signed up with the group, joining Gattari and Scott Barnard, a personal motivator.

Kenny's franchisees sought

Kenny's Cardiology, the 42-store card and gift chain, is seeking franchisees in various states.

It has advertised for franchisees for Tuggerah in NSW, Watergardens in Victoria, Mt Gravatt and Loganholme in Queensland, and Carousel in WA.

A company spokesman was reluctant to elaborate on future plans. "I don't know that we're really wanting anything like that at this stage," Anthony Underwood said.

The company had not grown substantially this year, but was "just starting to go out now".