

Corporate client care

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WHEN business women and long time friends Nicole Mills and Sheila Ghosh were faced with the dilemma of finding child care for their combined troupe of six, they used their professional backgrounds in project management to make a difference.

The duo found a solution that would go beyond their personal child care needs and help parents and employers in many workplaces.

In 2001 they established WeeWunz, an independent consultancy which has client companies from a wide range of industries, councils, government departments and independent child care operators.

They decided on a comprehensive business approach to child care that considered not only employees with child care needs, but those also without children and employers all while keeping in mind compliance regulations.

Mrs Ghosh said WeeWunz was an "interface between childcare providers, councils and companies".

Both women pride themselves on WeeWunz being independent, unlike some other child care consultancy organisations which have ties to particular child care facilities.

Mills said that the 30 to 40 per cent growth in the number of enquires to Wee Wunz in the last three months showed the increasing need for employers to consider child care options.

This was not always the case however as both women said when they first established WeeWunz it was a very slow beginning.

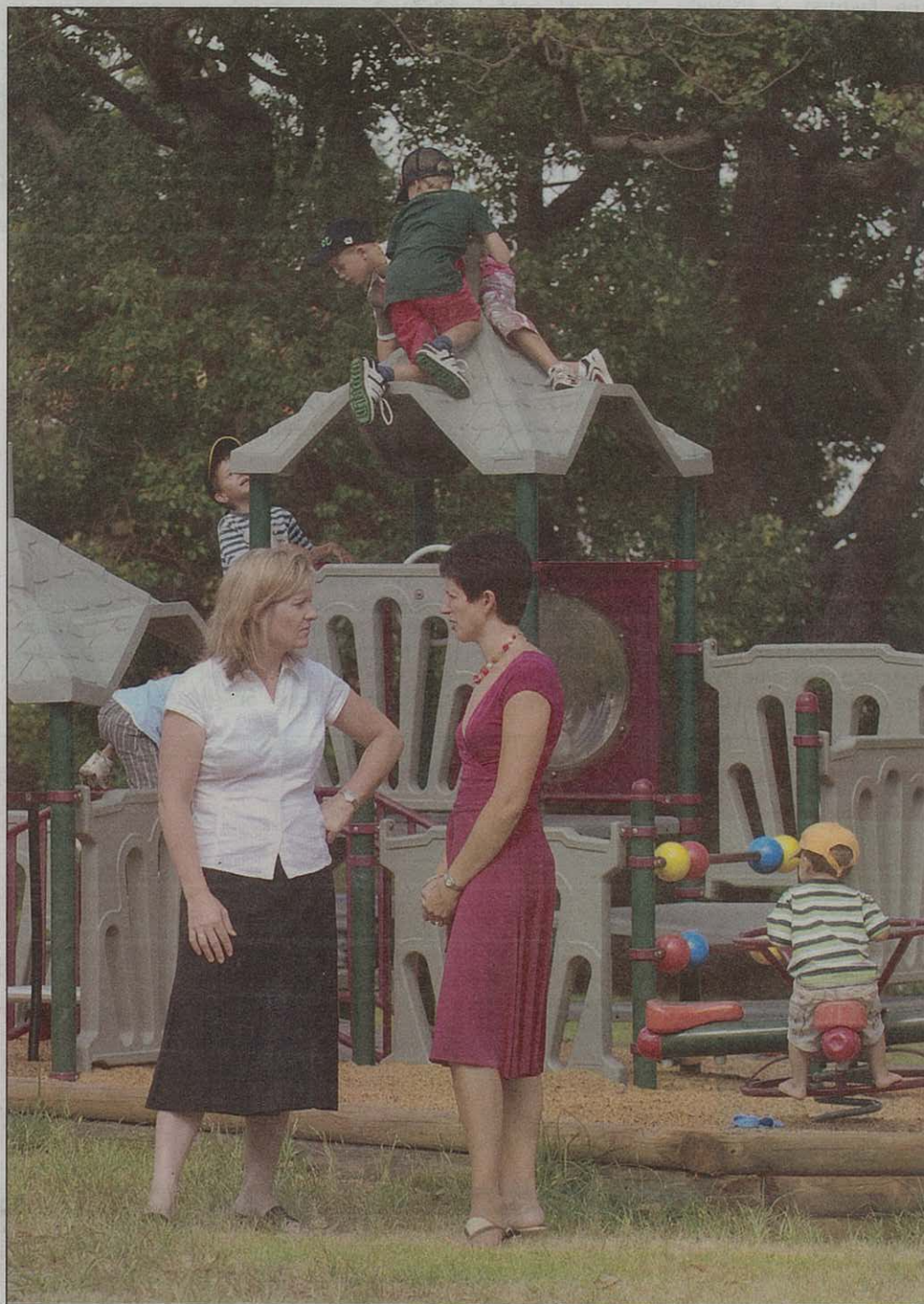
"In 2001 child care was not a hot topic in the press like it has become," Ms Ghosh said.

"The issue has surfaced with the upcoming elections so general knowledge has increased."

Ms Mills said that workplaces with integrated child care options have increased productivity which is a result of employees feeling secure in their occupation.

"Everyone likes to feel loved," she said.

» Details: www.weewunz.com.au



Sheila Ghosh and Nicole Mills advise corporate clients on child care. Picture: PAUL MELVILLE