



# South West VETlink Inc Newsletter

April 2009

## From the Outgoing Executive Officer



### FAREWELL

This is my last week in the office and I write this reflecting on the wonderful friendships - both personal and professional that I have been blessed to form over the past three years as Executive Officer of South West VETlink.

I leave this position to join my family and to take up a CEO role in Perth with the largest LCP in WA. Since the first seed was planted to apply

for the Local Community Partnership tender in 2005, I have had the privilege to lead South West Vetlink over the past three years to become one of the leading Local Community Partnerships in Western Australia.

It is with particular pleasure I reflect on the successful relationships that have been established between government and non government schools, community agencies and career practitioners through the LCP during this time resulting in recognizing their common aims for young people.

I would like to thank the South West VETlink Inc Board of Directors and Executive Committee and operational staff, past and present for their commitment over the last three years. Through the faith, belief and support of these people, our joint vision to support young people in the South West region to achieve a successful transition through school and from school to further education, training and work could be achieved.

It is my great pleasure to welcome and introduce our incoming Executive Officer, Donna Wroth. Donna comes to us with a sound understanding of LCPs having been a Board member of the LCP in Esperance. I leave South West VETlink in very capable hands and know that Donna will enjoy

becoming acquainted with our stakeholders over the coming months.

Warm regards

Jocelyn

## Upcoming Activities

### Professional Development

#### AUSTRALIAN CAREER DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

This program offers an opportunity for participants with prior learning to achieve the minimal units required now for working in the Career Development Industry.

The two and a half day training program has been developed, trialed and modified for delivery to LCP's teachers and others in related occupations.

Training Dates: May 1st, May 8th & June 5th

Venue: Combined Team Services King St Bunbury

Time: 9.00am - 4.00pm

Facilitator: Combined Team Services



# South West VETlink Inc Newsletter

## **CERTIFICATE IV IN TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT**

This is a two day facilitated RPL workshop for teachers wishing to complete Certificate IV in Training and Assessment (TAA).

There are 12 places available.

Training Dates: 5th and 21st May 2009

Venue: Boddington Senior High School

Time: 9.00am - 4.30pm

Facilitator: National Corporate Training.

Cost: \$976.00 pp (less \$250 VETlink subsidy available to one current school staff member for each school).

## **Ongoing Activities**

### **CAREER FEASTS**

This project aims to assist the School P&F and Parent bodies to support an environment that builds on the relationships between parents, Industry and students.

We will fund up to \$300 per school to help coordinate a networking opportunity that encourages an informed transition from a school environment into the workplace or career choice of the student.

### **ON-LINE EMPLOYER DIRECTORY**

This directory enables schools from all regions to access updated information about employers who have completed the Structured Workplace Learning induction process.

Information collected includes a willingness to take students with disabilities, willingness to take year

10 students, the main area of work experience they can offer and the preference for weekly or blocked placements.

This resource is currently being trialed by schools within the LCP region, with access to the directory through our website via a secure log-in.

### **WORKPLACE LEARNING EMPLOYER GUIDES**

These guides which consolidates information from a number individual school-produced guides, provides employers within the region with a uniform and consistent guide to assist their facilitation of work placements.

These are available now and are currently being distributed throughout the LCP region.

### **NEW STRUCTURED WORKPLACE LEARNING LOG BOOKS**

Similar to the Employer Guides described above, this project consolidated information from a number individual school-produced log books, to produce a consistent log book to provide continuity for WPL employers.

The log books have been printed and distributed by Fiona Bumford - EVE Coordinator Bunbury to participating schools.

## **Completed Activities**

### **SOUTH WEST AUTOMOTIVE TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP HANDOVER TO SCHOOL APPRENTICESHIP LINK**

From 2002-2008 Automotive Training Australia (WA) Inc, Motor Trade Association (WA) and South West Automotive Industry Training Advisory Body supported the school-industry two-year scholarship programme initiative for secondary

school students in the South West region. The South West Automotive Training Scholarship model allowed students to continue Year 11 & 12 school studies, attend industry level training at South West Regional College (SWRC) of TAFE as well as experience the rich diversity of future career and employment opportunities that exist within the automotive industry.

This programme was facilitated in the South West by South West VETlink Inc, which liaised with schools, parents and employers to attract and retain the very best young people into the programme.

2009 will see this programme move into the School Apprenticeship Link (SAL) automotive program which is coordinated by the SWRC of TAFE. Funding for uniforms, texts and personal protective equipment will be provided by South Bunbury Rotary Club on behalf of The John Coote Memorial Motor Trades Award.

To mark the handover, a luncheon was held with a cross section of representatives from the Automotive Industry attending along with representatives from the SWRC of TAFE and SAL programs.



A highlight of the function was ex-scholarship winner, Elizabeth Williams' candid and informative presentation on her experiences getting into and through the original program, as well as working in a male-dominated vocation.

# South West VETlink Inc Newsletter

## SWISLINK INDUCTION DAY

South West VETlink were delighted to have been able to again sponsor and facilitate a Workplace Learning Induction Day for Year 11 and 12 students from a number of schools across the South West region. The Induction day not only marks the commencement of workplace learning placements and programs for the students, but is designed to equip the students with knowledge, skills and confidence to enable them to get the most out of their placements.



Feedback from the students was very positive, suggesting that almost all students came away from the day with a better appreciation of, and confidence towards, their upcoming work placements, which for some, will represent their first experience in an adult working environment.

## WORK MATTERS FACILITATORS WORKSHOP

Danielle West travelled from Victoria to deliver a 'Work Matters' facilitators Workshop.

The 'Work Matters' facilitator workshop was very well received by those that attended with all participants indicating they intended to further purchase the associated DVD resource in order to facilitate workshops at their respective schools.

## MARGARET RIVER AND MANJIMUP 'NEXGEN' WORKSHOPS

South West VETlink engaged Nexgen Impact's founder, Michael McQueen, who is a professional speaker and social researcher to provide workshops to students at Margaret River SHS and employers at the Manjimup Small Business Centre.

As the author of 'The `New' Rules of Engagement', Michael is a sought-after authority on the topic of understanding and engaging Generation Y at work, at home or in the classroom.

The 'How High is Your Ceiling' workshop was run on March 10th 2009 at the Margaret River Senior High School Auditorium with free entry for students attending.



Over 70 students attended the workshop with very positive feedback from all concerned.

On March 11th, over 30 employer participants attended a breakfast workshop with Michael McQueen. The main focus of the workshop was to help community members and business owners to understand the Y generation; why they do what they do.

Feedback again from the participants was very positive with many opting to purchase Michael's book.



We were able to secure some fantastic presenters and facilitators for the students including Alicia Curtis (Alicia Curtis Leadership), Danielle West (South East Local Learning & Employment Network), Warren Cluff (The Apprentice and Traineeship Company), Belinda Walker (Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School), Michael Downes (Bunbury Catholic College) and Nathalie Collins (ECU Bunbury Campus).

Topics such as workplace etiquette and safety were covered in a series of workshops, along with information on employer expectations, correct log book and journal administration and the 'Portfolio' entry pathway.

# South West VETlink Inc Newsletter

## CAREERS EXPO FOR INDIGENOUS YOUTH

On March 25<sup>th</sup>, South West VETlink attended a Careers Expo for Indigenous Youth, held at the Italian Club in Bunbury.

The expo provided an excellent opportunity for us to launch and showcase the 'Young Indigenous People and their Careers' DVD which was produced last year as a collaborative project with WIRL Media and the Narrogin and Albany LCPs.

Two of the young people who featured in the DVD, Alfred Stack and Josh Hills, were able to attend the expo and help us celebrate the DVD's release.



## Our Team



Both Alfred and Josh have gone on to long-term employment with their respective employers which is a great outcome for these young men.

## COACHING YOUNG PEOPLE FOR SUCCESS

Over 6<sup>th</sup> March and 2<sup>nd</sup> of April, we facilitated a Coaching Young People for Success workshop for school and youth agency practitioners.

The two day course, delivered by Halo Consultancy enables trainers to deliver this coaching system, which draws on strategies from positive psychology proven to assist young people to find direction and build the emotional skills they need to successfully achieve their goals.



**Donna Wroth**  
Executive Officer

Donna commenced her employment as Executive Officer in February 2009.

Donna and her family have recently moved to the South West from Esperance and brings with her a wealth of knowledge of the VET sector, having managed the TAFE equivalent and worked within the Apprenticeship & Traineeship sector for some years.

She has a strong history with the Local Community Partnership network, having been a founding Board member for the Esperance LCP.

Donna has a Diploma of Business Management as well as a Certificate IV in Training & Assessment and is

looking forward to continuing to build partnerships within the South West to support youth in their successful transition from school to work and beyond.



**Lynda Spencer**

**Project Officer**  
Vasse and Blackwood Regions

Lynda commenced her appointment on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2008 after successfully completing a contract as a Project Officer for the South West Area Consultative Committee, managing the Building Entrepreneurship in Small Business Succession Planning Project for Small Business Owners in the South West and Peel regions.

Lynda has come to South West VETlink with experience as the owner and manager of a highly successful thoroughbred horse stud, as a Secondary School Science Teacher and as a Primary School Teacher.

Lynda has a Bachelor of Science, Diploma in Education, Certificate IV in Workplace Training and Assessment and Certificate III in Financial Services. Lynda is currently completing the Australian Career Development Studies units.

# South West VETlink Inc Newsletter



**James Thomas**

**Project Officer  
Bunbury and Preston Regions**

James joined the team in December 2008 following an extensive career with the Royal Australian Air Force.

With a technical trade background, James, over recent years, has held a variety of roles including project and training management and was instrumental in the introduction of the Air Force's Technical Competency Assessment Scheme (TCAS).

Recent employment with Defence Force Recruiting has provided James with an insight into the issues facing young people today as they move through and beyond school.

James is currently completing studies in Small Business Management and Career Development.



**Carolyn Newman**

**Finance and Administration Officer**

Carolyn joined our team in July 2006.

Her background is finance based having worked in banking, accounts and administration roles in financial planning, hospitality and most recently, the wine industry.

She is currently completing her Diploma in Accounting- Financial Services.

## CONTACT US

Shop 5, 330 Marine Tce,  
Busselton WA 6280

P: 08 9751 4333

F: 08 9751 4555

W: [www.southwestvetlink.wa.edu.au](http://www.southwestvetlink.wa.edu.au)