

Staff News!

Staff and partners enjoyed a fun, team-building time in the vineyards on a recent weekend, but appeared to become somewhat frivolous towards the end of the day. Special thanks to both Chris Rafferty for driving and Ant for organising the outing.



STOP PRESS—Congratulations to Ashley Cox, his wife and family on the arrival of Caitlyn Sophia Cox, born 16/8/08, 7 lbs 12 oz.

Youth Pathways News

Millie Brown and Tori Boyles (pictured right), Year 9 students at Kurri Kurri High, have both enjoyed participating in the Youth Pathways program. The support program has been offered by Hunter Valley Youth Express for the last 4 years and has helped over 1600 students in the Hunter-Port Stephens area since its inception.

Millie said "I really like Youth Pathways for lots of reasons. It is fun and it has helped me get a job!" Millie has been learning lots of new work and organisational skills as she has to manage school, work and her dancing and singing commitments.

Millie said that it is so good earning her own money and she is much more conscious of how to spend it wisely, as she can appreciate how hard it is to earn.

Tori has also benefited from the Youth Pathways program and has been in the lucky position of having been offered two jobs since learning how to look for work and present for interviews.

The Youth Pathways programs helps young people to develop personally and address any issues they may be facing, as well as explore career and further education possibilities. Tori is living by her new motto, "Don't count every minute, make every minute count" and with her

Welcome to new staff member in the Upper Hunter, Dale Fitz-Gerald.

Dale holds a Bachelor of English/Computers and has had an extensive secondary teaching career during the past 20 years, having been located predominantly in the Upper Hunter. An avid endurance horse rider and trainer, during the last 8 years, she downgraded her teaching to a casual capacity, to allow time to retrain in a new career in Equine Therapy.

Unfortunately, co-conspirators,

Equine Influenza and the fuel crisis finally made her Equine Therapy business non profitable, so she has now found a new niche with the HVYE team.

She is looking forward to working with many that she already knows and to making new contacts in Career Transition Support with Hunter Valley Youth Express



Welcome to new staff member in the Lower Hunter, Kylie Ayerst.

Kylie comes to us holding a Cert IV in Business Admin, and has worked in administration for the past 15 years, doing many different things, including conveyancing, real estate (property management and sales), supervised access / youth work (Life Without Barriers),



innate exuberance is certainly doing this at school, at work and on the soccer field. Congratulations Millie and Tori! *ToniFalk—Youth Pathways*



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Upcoming Events

- Career Quests— 24 & 25 Sept SHS, 5 Nov CHS.
- Mobile Careers Caravan— 25 Aug Linuwel. 1—12 Sept—SHS, 13 Sept Maitland Rodeo, 20—24 Oct RTHS, 27—31 Oct CHS, 10 Nov FGHS. 17 Nov St Catherines.
- VET Network, Sydney 1—3 Oct
- Teacher Network Days—10, 11 Nov
- Uni Taster Day Year 9, 25 Nov
- P&C Meeting Presentations— 16 Sept RTHS, 23 Sept KKHS, 29 Sept DHS
- Oral Presentations at RTHS 17—19 Nov

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Hunter Valley Youth Express Your Local Community Partnership

Welcome to the second HVYE Newsletter for 2008.

Exciting things are happening for HVYE during term 3 of this year. A resource centre is being established in the shop next door to the 8 Bulwer St premises.

This will be equipped with appropriate technology (from funds provided by Community Development Support Expenditure (CDSE) Scheme) and hard copy information access.

HVYE staff will also be available to provide Career and Transition

support in person. HVYE supports young people 13—19 years of age, and their parents through the challenging career and transition phase from school into further education and/or employment.

HVYE is overseen by a Board that is made up of Industry, Community and School representatives and is managed by Julie Eldridge.

HVYE covers a geographical area from Scone out to Merriwa, down through Cessnock across Raymond Terrace to the Tomaree Peninsula up to the Great Lakes area and across to

Dungog with Maitland sitting at its centre. There are 2 main offices hosting 16 staff, 1 at Maitland and 1 at Muswellbrook with services provided out of Taree and Raymond Terrace.

A number of HVYE programs are federally funded by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, supported by the Career Advice Australia Initiative. The School Based Traineeship Program is supported by DET.

Cows Create Careers—Adopt a School

Cessnock High School took out four of the major prizes at the recent Cows Create Careers day at Tocal College on 24 June.

St Joseph's Aberdeen also took out the Senior School Award. Cows Create Careers is supported by Dairy Australia and was sponsored locally by the Department of Primary Industries NSW through Tocal College.

Students from years 7 and 11 from 10 Hunter High Schools took part in the program by completing work that was both practical (feeding, weighing, measuring and caring for calves) and also required formalised project work.

The high standard of work was noticeable from the local schools who participated including Cessnock, Singleton, Rutherford, Dungog, Tomaree High Schools, St Catherine's and St Joseph's Aberdeen.





Tomaree High School teacher Jason Witt, HVYE SWL Coord Anthony Burke and Tomaree students Nathan Thompson and Alex Bruning at Salamander Library.

“Progress is like a wheelbarrow. If you don't keep pushing it, it stops”



Josh Bendeich and Bridget Curis visit the Careers Caravan at Cessnock PCYC during the July school holidays.

“For every feared thing, there is an opposing hope that encourages us”



John Flucker (Trelor), Ron Butler (Terex), Brian McCann (Tefol) attended the RIE ASP Bus Tour and Info Evening on 20 August.

Structured Workplace Learning—Lower Hunter

Another term of successful work placements has been achieved. To date, we have placed 685 students in region 28, and 189 students in region 29.

We would like to say a big thank you to all employers who take SWL students. SWL coordinators are very grateful to all of our employers; we appreciate the ongoing support.

We are always looking for new employers who are willing to provide a week, (35 hours), of opportunity to young people.

We have had some very positive feedback from students regarding their work placements via our new surveys at www.hvye.com.au

We appreciate all feedback and encourage all students to go to our website after they have completed their work placement, and take 5 minutes to fill in the 2 surveys. By gaining feedback we can ensure that students have the best options available for work placement.

This year has seen the introduction of Automotive as an

Industry Curriculum Framework course, requiring mandatory work placement. The first Kurri TAFE class was successfully placed during term 3, with the second class due for placement at end of this term.

Structured work placement coordinators have been attending information nights for students and parents that are heading into their HSC in 2010.

These information nights are a great time to gain valuable information regarding Vocational Education Training courses and

Career Transition Support—Lower Hunter

Lower Hunter Mobile Careers Van—Since May, the Van has been very busy visiting Maitland Christian School, ASC St Peters and St Joseph's, Maitland, Kurri, and Mount View High Schools.

It has also supported students and parents at Maitland Careers Expo, Try a Trade Port Stephens and Maitland. The van visited Cessnock PCYC for a week in the July School Holidays.

Congratulations on hosting fabulous Career Quests to St Catherine's Singleton, St Peters x 2, Tomaree x 2 and Kurri High Schools during terms 2 and 3.

MGHS was also supported with their Career Explorer and Year 10 information days. Evaluations by students and Industry presenters show that these events really help young people with information, inspiration and planning tools.

Career Quests are booked for Maitland Christian, Singleton x 2 and Cessnock High Schools during the upcoming months.

Be Informed Evenings—for Parents—Maitland, Cessnock and Nelson Bay hosted these new and innovative evenings during August.

Industry representatives who supported the events were TESA Group, MIGAS, Industry Recruitment Solutions, Maitland and Port Stephens Councils, One Steel and People Fusion.

A big thank you to Ashley Cox, RICA for supporting these events.

HVYE staff have supported subject selection nights at schools during the term.

Adopt a School—Lower Hunter

Retail Rookie Expo—Once again, Greg Cook and his team of Retail Teachers coordinated a great event on 4 June with 12 teams and lots of hot competition on the day.

Stockland Greenhills and businesses within the centre once again supported this fabulous event. 1st place went to Wide Bay TAFE, 2nd place to Maitland PRO Group 2 and 3rd went to ASC St Mary's. The Beggs Memorial Medal was also awarded to Fergus Walsh of Singleton HS.

Rutherford Industrial Estate - The bus tour of the estate and information evening ran smoothly on Wednesday 20 August.

It was attended by students and parents from MGHS, MHS, RTHS and ASC St Joseph's. Sites visited included Specialised Mining Vehicles, Tefol and Trelor, with additional support offered on the night from Terex.

Thanks to Ashley Cox for the great Case Studies and RIE support document he developed for this project. SBAT and appren-

ticeship opportunities will be notified to schools shortly.

ChildCare - New projects are happening for Dungog (Tillies), Cessnock, MGHS and St Mary's (ABC Learning Centres. Watch this space for future details.

CISCO— Filling the IT gap locally is a challenge but with the support of CISCO (Sydney), a the project kicked off with wonderful support offered by Salamander Library in partnership with Tomaree High School, to provide technology opportunities to students.

School Based Traineeships and Apprenticeships

Lower Hunter News

Scholarship for Emily

Emily Waight, a year 11 student at Maitland Grossmann High School, who is currently a SBAT at Nationwide Hire in the Rutherford Industrial Estate, has been successful in obtaining a scholarship with Pegasus.

Reece Plumbing

We have 2 new sign-ups with Reece Plumbing. They are Jordan Balsarini from Tomaree High School and Jake Wilson from Cessnock High School.

Reece Plumbing are looking to put more trainees on in warehousing. These are excellent opportunities for students.

Traineeship in Caravan Operations

Brent Lethbridge of Tomaree

High School is one of the first students in the area to be signed in caravan park operations. He is employed by One Mile Beach Holiday Park and undertakes most of his traineeship on the job.

We have been very busy marketing traineeships at school subject selection nights and year 10 careers classes, and also talking with interested students at school.

There have also been 3 information nights held, one in Cessnock, one in Maitland and one in Singleton. These nights enabled students to find out more about traineeships and speak with different providers on the night. Thank you to Mission Australia for sponsoring these evenings.

Vacancies for 2009—

Some of the tentative vacancies for 2009 are in retail @ MIGAS for Reading Cinema's Maitland, Automotive—heavy @ Westrac Thornton & Mt Thorley, Automotive-light @ Turner Holden Dungog, Business Services @ Centrelink various locations, Warehousing @ Reece Plumbing, Hospitality @ Taste of Country Pokolbin, Salsa Restaurant Pokolbin, Riverwood Downs Dungog, Pepper's Anchorage Port Stephens.

There will also be a range of engineering /metal / auto-based SBATs within the Rutherford Industrial Estate.

To apply for a SBAT in 2009 students need to complete an expression of interest form available on our website at www.hvye.com.au or see your careers adviser.



Jacky Djomani from Maitland HS, completing her work placement at HVYE for Business Services

Upper Hunter News

Upper Hunter ASP

St Josephs High School, Muswellbrook High, Singleton High and St Catherine's of Singleton were the participating schools for the UH 2008 Cows Create Careers program.

After a four week, 24/7 intensive care program, St Josephs year 9 students were recognised as the overall winning school and team.

Follow up activities including an excursion to local dairies are planned. Ms Towers, St Joseph's Agricultural teacher said, "They have discovered a lot of agricultural careers that are available to them that they would have never known about, except for this program."

CTS

Merriwa Central students had the opportunity to answer and pose many questions regarding future career opportunities when the Hunter Valley Youth Express

Mobile Resource Unit visited for a week recently.

SWL— Work placements have been constant for the past 2 terms; we have had several new businesses come on board - especially in the automotive sector.

I would like to thank Max Morris of Joyce Mayne Muswellbrook who has supported the Structured Work Placement Program in the Upper Hunter for the last 4 years. Joyce Mayne will be closing their doors at the end of September.

This year Work Placements for Information Technology (IT) students in the Upper Hunter are getting harder to secure due to the increase in the number of students, and the out-sourcing of IT for a lot of our major businesses.

Scone Grammar School were very innovative this year, by

becoming the employer and taking the students for their simulated Work Placement.

The school is currently upgrading their server and installing new computers throughout the school. While the majority of the School were on holidays, the IT students and their teacher were busy pulling out the old computers, installing new computers and laying cables through out the school. Tim Edwards, their IT teacher, was very happy with the week and the outcome.

SBAT— have been out to all of the schools in the Upper Hunter to meet the Year 10 students, and in some cases with their parents, letting them know about SBAT's.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the schools for their support in making sure as many students



Scone Grammar IT students completing work placement.

“To teach is to learn twice”

“Always blessings, never losses”