

---

*Creating partnerships between industry, education and the community that develop positive futures for young people*

---



## In this Issue:

Try VET Day  
World Skills at Federation University  
Horsham College Alternative Programs  
SWL Work Placement Opportunities  
Wimmera Information Portal – Now Live  
NDIS School Leaver Employment Supports

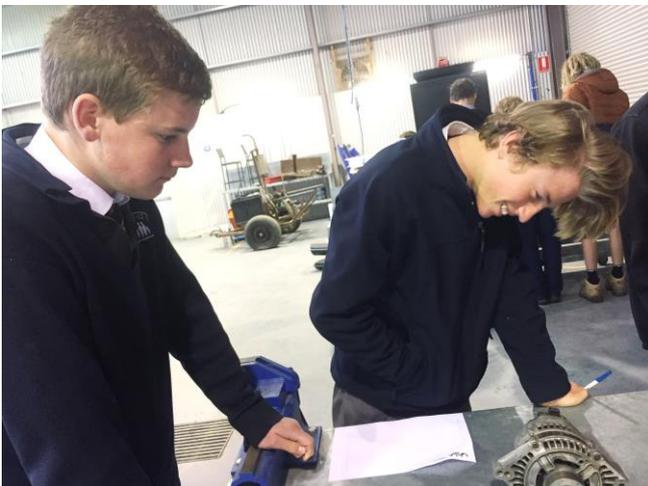
## Grants:

- Flora & Frank Leith Charitable Trust
  - Homework Club Partnership Fund
- New WSMLLEN Staff Member  
Corporate Support for the MATES Mentoring Program

## Try VET day

Vocational Education and Training for Senior Secondary Students is a great way for young people to get nationally recognised qualifications. Over 340 students attended the 2017 Try VET Day in early August allowing them to sample two of their course preferences for 2018.

Students from 14 Wimmera and Southern Mallee schools, stretching from Edenhope to Birchip were treated to a free BBQ lunch provided by the Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN. A big shout out to SVCAL student Jake Hamerston who helped cook and serve 640 sausages for the hungry hordes in his rather fitting Bunnings jumper.



The day provided hands-on activities and a snapshot of courses and career pathways. Nineteen courses were on offer at Horsham College, Federation University, Longerenong College, Skillinvest and Centre for Participation, ranging from Engineering to Health Services. VET Cluster Coordinator Melissa Powell commented, "The students had a fantastic day. It was all very hands-on which really appealed to them. There were some very excited faces at the end of the day, who were keen to sign up for their VET Course for next year."

Photographs of Try VET Day 2017 by Melissa Powell

## World Skills at Federation University



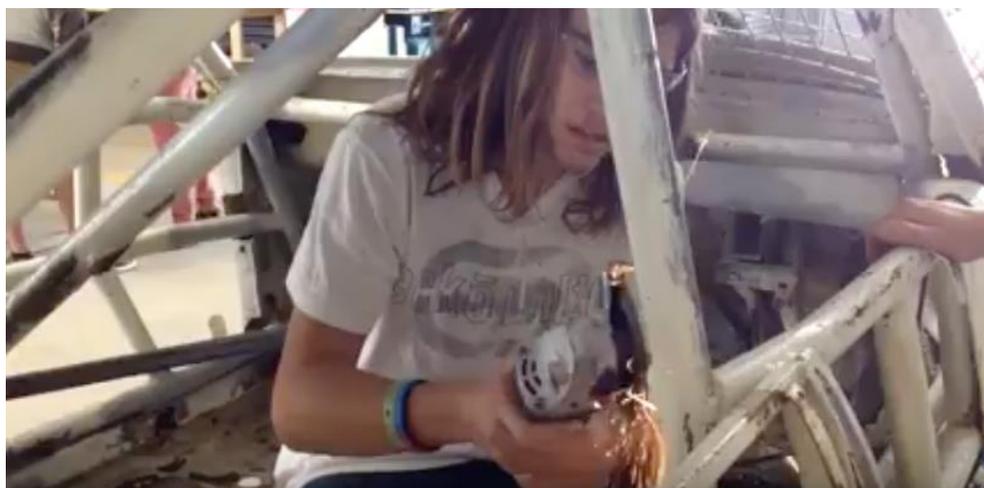
Ten Wimmera electrical apprentices have put their knowledge and abilities to the test in a World Skills Australia regional competition. Federation University's Wimmera campus in Horsham hosted the electro technology category for the first time. Read the full article in the Weekly Advertiser:

<http://www.theweeklyadvertiser.com.au/2017/08/09/photos-video-world-skills-test-brings-out-best-in-wimmera-apprentice-electricians/>

The winner of the Wimmera competition will be announced at a World Skills presentation night in Ballarat on 20 September. Winners of regional events have an opportunity to go to the national competition, in Sydney next year. The best of the best will compete in a worldwide competition in the Netherlands.

## Horsham College Alternative Programs

Fantastic video clip of Horsham College's alternative programs: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AKnjne1KCyU>



## SWL Work Placement Opportunities

Here is a great way for businesses to try out potential new employees at very low cost (from just \$5 per day). Insurance is covered and you don't have to take out tax. Your business or organisation can provide an enormous amount of support for students in our region by providing work placements in the form of Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) and School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SBATs). It is a great way to see if the young person is a good fit for your business.

Any students who are seeking Structured Work Placement opportunities can search online for local or statewide opportunities via the online portal. For local opportunities, go to:

<http://www.workplacements.education.vic.gov.au/lens/wsmllen/>

## Wimmera Information Portal – Now Live!

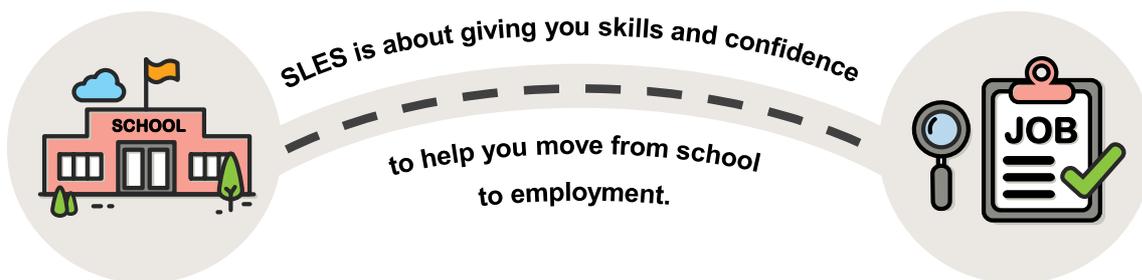
The Wimmera Information Portal is now live at <http://wip.cerdi.edu.au/>

Check it out for a range of data in health, education, economy and more. The Wimmera Information Portal (WIP) is a collaboration between the social, health and community services arenas within the Wimmera region to help address systemic disadvantage. WIP is an online portal which brings together existing social, health and wellbeing datasets and information created and managed by government agencies, organisations, community groups and individuals to inform planning, decision making and response strategy development.

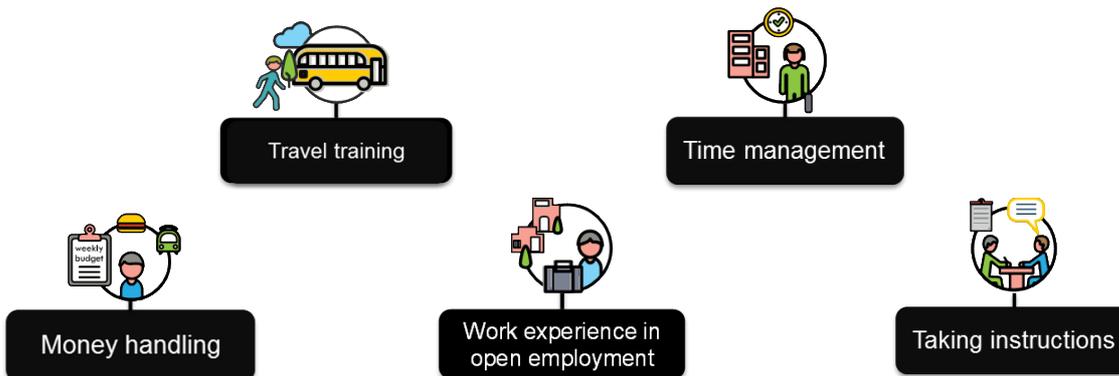


# Are you a Year 12 student? School Leaver Employment Support (SLES) is a new NDIS support.

The NDIS is introducing a new support to help NDIS participants transition from school to employment – the School Leaver Employment Support initiative (SLES).



SLES offers you individualised support for up to 2 years after finishing year 12 to help you get ready for work and plan your pathway to employment. Your SLES supports will be tailored to meet your individual employment goal. This may include:



SLES will help you achieve your employment aspirations.

“ I want to get a job I’m good at and where I can learn new things and make new friends. ”

“ I want to earn my own money so I can go to the movies and buy the clothes I like. ”

If you would like more information about the NDIS in your area, please see the NDIS website [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au)



### The Flora & Frank Leith Charitable Trust

The Leith Trust is an Anglican orientated trust that focuses on supporting projects and programs located in Victoria, aimed at helping the disadvantaged with a bias towards children, youth and families.

The trust prefers to fund programs that make a cost effective, demonstrable and sustainable difference for the better in the quality of life and access to opportunities for our targeted children, youth and families. Funding is only available for Victorian organisations.

The annual closing date for applications is 30 September. Successful applicants will be notified by mail by 31 December and unsuccessful applicants by 31 January.

Where an applicant received a grant in the previous annual distribution, but has not provided a final report within 12 months of its receipt of that grant, payment of a new grant will be postponed until the Final Report on the previous grant has been received.

The majority of grants are for between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

More information and application can be found at: <https://www.leithtrust.org.au/>

### Homework Club Partnership Fund

Applications for the next funding round are now open and will close on **Friday 15 September 2017**. Applications are being sought from organisations currently running or wanting to set up Homework Clubs in:

- One of the growth corridors of outer Melbourne (municipalities of Cardinia, Casey, Hume, Melton, Mitchell, Whittlesea, Wyndham)
- Rural and regional Victoria

If you would like to discuss any aspect of your application please contact the Centre for Multicultural Youth on [myeducation@cmv.net.au](mailto:myeducation@cmv.net.au) or (03) 9340 3700.

Please read the [Granting Guidelines](#) prior to completing an application.

Complete the [Homework Club Partnership Fund Application Form](#)

### Corporate support for the MATES Mentoring Program

Bendigo Bank has come on board to support the MATES Mentoring Program. Three staff from the Horsham branch will undergo a short training session before being matched up with a mentee from a Horsham school. Mentors catch up with their mentee for one hour a fortnight and provide an extra layer of support to their mentee. A number of local businesses provide flexible working arrangements which may include allowing staff to mentor during work hours or take an extended lunch break, one day a fortnight, and making up that time during the week. Businesses that have supported the MATES program in this way earn the status of MATES Community Champions. See a list of local Community Champions on our Website: <http://www.llen.com.au/mates/>

We have many young people in our community who need extra support, and this is a great opportunity to make a difference in a young person's life.

If individuals or businesses would like more information or would like to participate in this program, please visit our website or contact Mary Bysouth: Ph 03 53800122, Email [mary.bysouth@llen.com.au](mailto:mary.bysouth@llen.com.au)



### New Staff Member



Vanessa O'Loughlin has joined the WSMLEEN as a Project Officer, supporting and growing many of the current and future initiatives that support our region's education.

Originally from Horsham, Vanessa has returned home after being in Wodonga for over five years. Vanessa worked as a Community Development Officer with the North East LLEN working on SWL, Solar Car Project, Murray River Culinary Challenge, Adult Allies Community Connections, and specific LGA initiatives. Previous experience included flood recovery after the 2011 floods, social housing and consumer affairs advocacy, and job services. She has a passion for community, and is excited about helping to forge meaningful partnerships.

### Contributions to News You Can Use

Anyone wishing to contribute news or information about events, is welcome to submit articles for inclusion in the WSMLEEN Newsletter. Articles can be forwarded to [info@llen.com.au](mailto:info@llen.com.au)

WSMLEEN reserves the right not to include items deemed to be incompatible with the purpose of the LLEN.

## WSM LLEN Staff – contact



Tim Shaw  
Executive Officer  
Let's Read Program  
[eo@lLEN.com.au](mailto:eo@lLEN.com.au)



Melissa Powell  
Project Officer  
Structured Workplace  
Learning  
WSM VET Cluster  
Coordinator  
[projects@lLEN.com.au](mailto:projects@lLEN.com.au)



Lorraine Merton  
Administration Officer  
Reading Buddies Program  
Community Action  
Networks  
[info@lLEN.com.au](mailto:info@lLEN.com.au)



Mary Bysouth  
Project Officer  
Structured Workplace  
Learning  
MATES Mentoring  
[mary.bysouth@lLEN.com.au](mailto:mary.bysouth@lLEN.com.au)



Angela Watson  
Project Officer  
[angela.watson@lLEN.com.au](mailto:angela.watson@lLEN.com.au)



Vanessa O'Loughlin  
Project Officer  
[vanessa.oloughlin@lLEN.com.au](mailto:vanessa.oloughlin@lLEN.com.au)



Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN is a recognised Gold Skilled Workplace with 100% of our current staff having completed the Youth Mental Health first aid training. We highly recommend YMHA training for everyone who works with young people.

To find out more about being a skilled MHFA workplace, or to apply for recognition for your organisation, go the Mental Health First Aid website. <https://mhfa.com.au/cms/mental-health-first-aid-skilled-workplace-initiative>



The Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN Newsletter is sent electronically to over 300 people across the region.