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Western Victoria Careers Expo

The Western Victorian Careers Expo has come and gone again as it has since 1986 when a small display of career options was set up in the Horsham College Assembly Hall. From humble beginnings, the expo has grown to become country Victoria's largest careers expo.

It is a significant logistical exercise to coordinate the Expo with its 100 exhibitors and over 40 seminars. It is attended by more than 25 schools from across western Victoria, with over 2,000 attendees taking advantage of the opportunity to explore an extensive range of career options.

Guest speaker at this year's Expo was Damien Thomlinson. As an Australian veteran of the war in Afghanistan, a former member of the elite 2nd Commando Regiment, an acclaimed actor and Paralympian, Damien had an inspiring story to tell.

Events like this don't just happen without a huge amount of work behind the scenes. A sub-committee of the WSM Careers Association oversees the staging of the Expo, and the lion's share of the organising is done by the Careers Expo Project Officer, Annie Minter. Annie works out of the Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN Office.

A special thanks to the Horsham College VCAL students who assisted with catering for the lunch, providing over 200 meals for exhibitors on the day and to the team of Horsham College students who assisted with the clean-up after the event.



Pictured: Expo guest speaker, Damien Thomlinson, with WSMMLLEN Structured Workplace Learning student, Millie Kemp

I have attended the careers Expo the past few years to explore career options and pathways. But this year I was part of the LLEN team and assisted the team at the Expo. For me, the highlight at this year's Expo was hearing guest speaker Damien Thomlinson tell his story...and what a story it was—full of inspiration, determination and above all, one that was very heartfelt. To me, Damien is a true blue Aussie hero and fighter, although he will beg to differ because Damien doesn't consider himself as famous or special; he doesn't consider himself any different to anyone else. It's what happened in Afghanistan that makes him special or famous and the person he is today.

Millie Kemp



Planet Ark National Tree Day

What an amazing Planet Ark National Tree Day down at Horsham Primary School's Rasmussen Campus. Partnering with Bunnings and, along with Toyota Horsham, the children experienced a special day with their guest (parent/grandparent). Thanks to Bunnings we had 50 sensory plants to bring back some life to the area. Children also celebrated the space by painting stepping stones and bird boxes which will add colour and a unique student signature. Toyota generously gave all the children a National Tree Planting Day top and gardening gloves to look the part. It was fantastic to see the students, teachers, partners and special guests come together and celebrate caring for nature in a fun and meaningful way.



Helping to create a better environment

National Tree Day is a day for Australians to do what we do best. We roll up our sleeves and help each other, our local communities and most importantly, our environment. Planting trees and shrubs is a simple but effective way to help enrich the soil, improve water quality and protect our native wildlife. So far, we've helped plant 24 million trees, and we need your help to plant a million more!



Hosting a Structured Workplace Learning student is a great opportunity for your business.

Good workers can be hard to find. That's why offering a student a work placement is a cost effective way to trial your future workforce. Providing a work placement is great for your business and great for our young people. You can have a young person work in your business for a day or 20 days. It's flexible and it's up to you. The Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) program gives kids a chance to work in a sector closely related to their Vocational Education and Training (VET) course.

The program is great for employers and a fantastic way to see if a young person is a good fit for your business or organisation. You only have to pay the student a minimum of \$5 a day, you don't have to worry about any tax or insurance and there is no ongoing commitment to employ the young person. By giving a kid a go, you are helping support their education and also giving them a chance to experience the world of work. Many of our young people are offered an apprenticeship or traineeship by their host employer, as they have demonstrated the skills, willingness to learn and work ethic required.

The Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN works with our schools and employers to create work placements for our students. It's a free service (funded by the Department of Education). For more information, give us a call at Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN. We can explain the program and help find the right young person for your business. Contact Melissa at Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN: Ph 03 53810122, (projects@llen.com.au).

Kids who read succeed

Let's Read is an early years evidence based literacy program aimed at promoting the importance of reading with young children from birth to 5 years. Let's Read was developed by the Centre for Community Child Health at the Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne. The Murdoch Children's Research Institute and The Smith Family have partnered with Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN and partners to implement Let's Read in all communities across the Wimmera Southern Mallee region.



The early years are so important for children's social, emotional, physical & cognitive development. 90% of the brain's development occurs by age 5. Reading to your children, daily, increases their IQ and gets them ready for school. Research shows that children that are not read to regularly start school behind their peers and many never catch up. Families receive the Let's Read resources and support for their babies at 4 months, 12 months, 18 months and 3½ years from Maternal and Child Health Nurses during the child's health check. The resource bags contain a new book, a 'read aloud' DVD, reading tip sheets, an age appropriate recommended book list and a library flyer.

Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN has worked with our Maternal and Child Health Nurses, schools, kindergartens, playgroups and community organisations to implement the program across the Hindmarsh, Horsham, West Wimmera and Yarriambiack shires. The four Let's Read partnerships continue to support parents to share books, rhymes and songs to their children across the Wimmera Southern Mallee. The development of language and pre-emergent literacy skills is critical for children to be ready to learn when they start primary school. To date, more than 6100 Let's Read resource bags have been distributed to families right across the region.

Jump Start Gardening Project

Students at Horsham Primary School are continuing to enjoy their garden project. The project keeps growing and expanded at the end of term two to include a worm farm. Term 3 has seen the harvesting of some winter veggies and the of marketing their "Worm Tea" fertiliser.



Mia Gilbert with worms for farms at Horsham Primary School
Photo by Paul Carracher



Riley Reed, Sammie Crellin and Annabelle-Rose McKenzie-Packham start their worm farms at Horsham Primary School. Photo by Paul Carracher

Try VET Day

Try VET Day is fast approaching. Students undertaking a Vocational Education and Training (VET) subject in 2019 have the opportunity to attend Try VET day on 2 August, 2018. Seventeen VET courses are being offered by the Wimmera Southern Mallee VET Cluster in 2019. Courses will only run in 2019 if sufficient enrolments are received for the course.

Wimmera and Southern Mallee

Try VET Day 2018

Thursday 2 August

A free lunch will be provided by the LLEN

See your VET Coordinator for a registration form or for more information

Try any 2 VET subjects to help decide which one to enrol in for 2019.

Students must complete a registration form to be able to attend.

- Automotive
- Agriculture
- Building & Construction
- Community Services
- Dance
- Furniture Making
- Health
- Hospitality
- Sport & Recreation
- Electro-technology
- Salon Assistant
- Music
- Engineering
- Screen and Media
- Plumbing
- Visual Arts
- Retail Cosmetics

Youth Mentor Training Schedule

Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN (WSMLLEN) are pleased to be working to provide our community with free quality training in Youth Mentoring to support the MATES Mentoring Program, Connecting the Service Puzzle crime diversion initiative, and informal mentoring roles within our communities.

Youth mentors provide our young people with positive role models who mentor, assist, target, engage and enhance the skills and life experiences of young people.

Further information or to arrange alternative training please contact:

Mary Bysouth
MATES Mentoring Coordinator
Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN
Mallee Building
Federation University
289 Baillie Street, HORSHAM
Tel: (03) 5381 0122
mary.bysouth@llen.com.au
<https://www.facebook.com/MATESMentoring>

mates
mentor assist target engage skills

WIMMERA
SOUTHERN
MALLEE
LLEN



Connecting
the service
PUZZLE

BOOKING INFORMATION:

To register, please call WSMLLEN on

(03) 5381 0122 or email mary.bysouth@llen.com.au

INFORMATION SESSIONS – 2018

Information sessions guide potential mentors through the commitment, expectations, mentee profiles, training, benefits and policies.

Information sessions run 'live' on Facebook and are pre-announced. Potential mentors can obtain the necessary information by engaging with the live sessions, visiting www.llen.com.au/mates, or by contacting Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN.

TRAINING – Full Day

Mentors can attend 1 full day training event to complete all 3 key session topics. The full day sessions run from 9:30am – 4:00pm

Dates Tuesday 7th August
 Tuesday 11th September
 Tuesday 9th October

*Alternative full day session times are also offered to group (corporate or community) with more than 4 representatives. Days and dates are negotiable.

TRAINING – Evening Series

Mentors have an afterhours option and can attend 3 consecutive Monday evenings from 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Series 13th Aug / 20th Aug / 27th Aug
 17th Sept / 24th Sept / 1st Oct
 22nd Oct / 29th Oct / 5th Nov

Dimboola Memorial Secondary College & Rainbow P-12 College present

Nairn Walker's professional learning on:

Bridges out of Poverty

Day One:

Monday September 10

Venue:

**Dimboola Memorial Secondary
College HALL** (Carpark in School Street)

Time:

8.30am - 4.30pm (Hall open from 7.45am)

Cost:

DET Teaching Staff - FREE

Others - \$100 per head (For two days training)

Catering:

Morning Tea & Lunch provided

(All dietary requirements must be notified at time of registration.)

RSVP:

Friday August 24

gawith.anne.i@edumail.vic.gov.au

Ph: 5389 1460



Day Two: Friday April 5 2019

This professional development opportunity has been generously supported by:

School Focussed Youth Services

The Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN

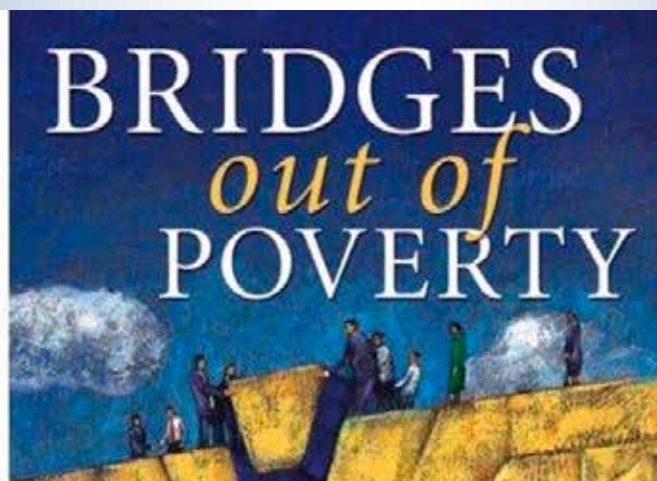
The Dimboola Community Pharmacy

*Arguably the best
and most informative
PD I have ever done.*

Secondary Teacher

*This training should
be compulsory for
every person who
works with people!*

Primary Principal



Based on the ground-breaking work of American educator, Dr Ruby Payne and presented by Nairn Walker, this PD unpacks much of Ruby's book,

***A Framework for
Understanding Poverty***



FREE

Professional Learning Suite

Understanding Disability & Inclusive Practice

Core Understandings

Monday 21 May
Horsham

Monday 28 May
Hamilton

4:30-6:30pm

Language & Communication

Monday 18 June
Horsham

Monday 25 June
Hamilton

4:30-6:30pm

You are invited to a suite of workshops designed to provide practical knowledge surrounding a range of complex concepts, including: Disability, IQ, Identity, Self-Regulation, Cognition and many more.

Register online through **Eventbrite**. Simply click the date/town box for more information and to register.

Goals, Curriculum & Assessment

Monday 23 July
Horsham

Monday 30 July
Hamilton

4:30-6:30pm

Emotional & Sensory Regulation

Monday 22 October
Horsham

Monday 29 October
Hamilton

4:30-6:30pm

Neuroplasticity & Self-Determination

Monday 26 November
Horsham

Monday 3 December
Hamilton

4:30-6:30pm

Understanding Disability & Inclusive Practice

9:00am – 4:00pm

Monday 20 August
Horsham

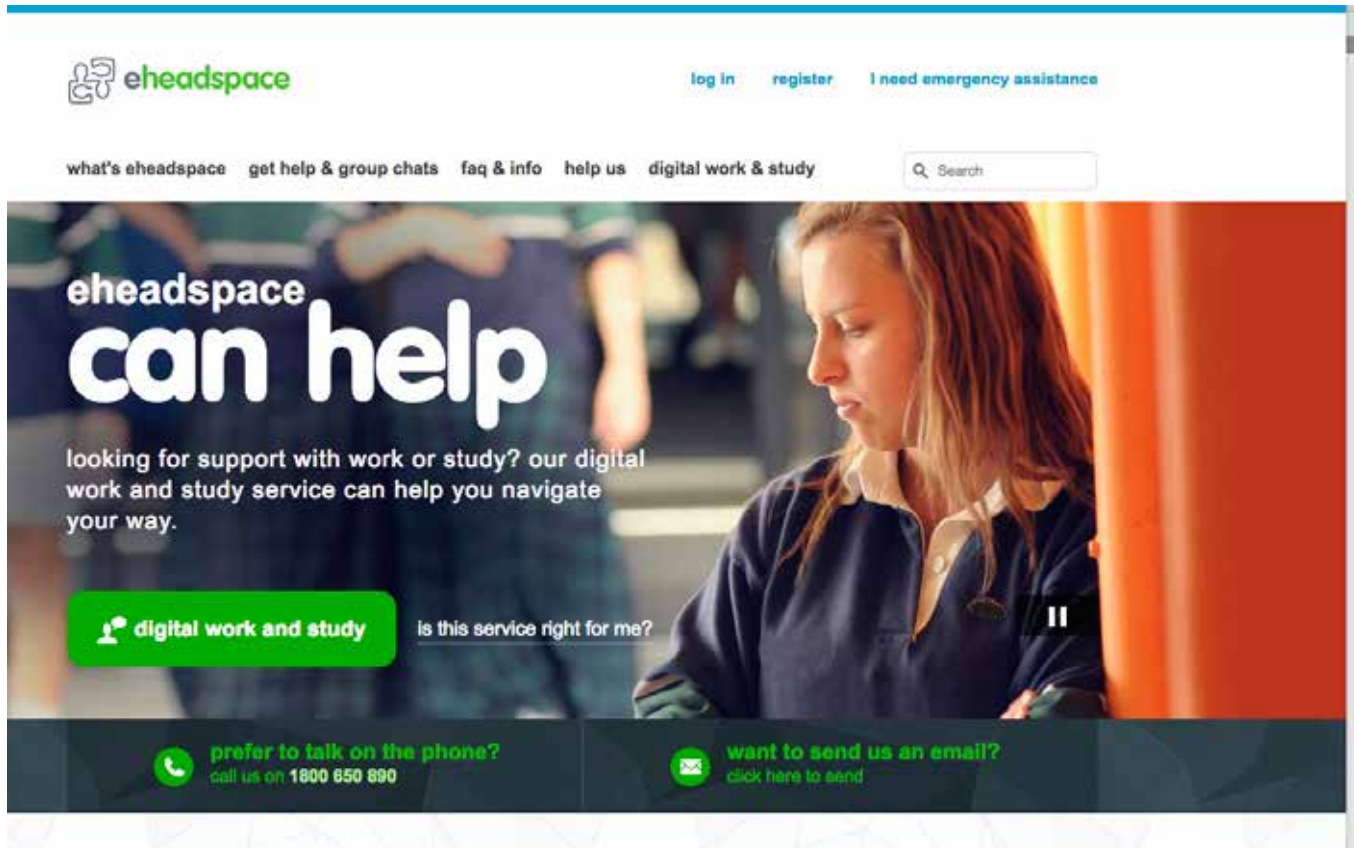
Monday 27 August
Hamilton



Proudly presented by the Horsham Special School Leadership Team

Principal, Matt Copping and Assistant Principal, Rebecca Talbot

For enquiries, please email: talbot.rebecca.l@edumail.vic.gov.au or call 53 811 475



help for work or study issues

Are you aged between 15 - 24 and worried about work or study? Get in touch with us - we can help!

There is a digital work and study support service available by phoning 1800 810 794 or visiting the website <https://www.eheadspace.org.au/get-help/help-for-work-or-study-issues/>. The digital work and study service can assist you with creating a winning resume, career planning, job searching, interview preparation, contact and collaboration with employers and social firms.

We can work with your employment consultant and assist you with navigating the Centrelink labyrinth.

We can support you in exploring suitable education options, assist you with getting into study, as well as sourcing financial support for your education.

Headspace has a Digital Industry Mentor Service can connect students with an industry (work) mentor to help them find, maintain and enjoy work in an area that interests them. "The service can help you by developing your job seeking and industry-specific skills, as well as connecting you with key people and professional networks."

There is also a series of recorded career related webinars, including Discovering Entrepreneurship, Women in Leadership, Digital Work and Study Service, Construction Industry and Hospitality on the headspace website.

Find out more about ehespace digital work and study support by watching the Youtube video clip.



Get them on the road

THERE is no doubt that a driver's licence is vital for accessing education and employment in rural areas.

Licensing the Wimmera matches disadvantaged learner drivers between the ages of 16–21 (L2P) or over 21 years (P21) with an experienced volunteer mentor driver.

In 2016-17, Centre for Participation had the pleasure of assisting 61 learners clock up an amazing 1,108 hours of supervised driving, via the L2P and P21 programs, to help get them on the road.

Pleasingly, of those learners 15 went on to gain their probationary licence.

But the Centre for Participation can't do it alone.

Volunteer mentor drivers attend VicRoads-approved training prior to being accepted into the program, with the only other requirements being a current, full Victorian driver's licence, Working with Children check and a good driving history.

Mentors act as supervising drivers and supervise learners in their on-road driving practice, using a supplied vehicle, to assist the learners in gaining their mandatory 120 hours of driving practice.

"Not all learners have access to a supervising driver or vehicle, which is why our mentors are so vital," Acting Licensing the Wimmera coordinator Stephanie Thomson said.

"They give the learner that chance to get on the road to practice their driving skills before sitting their probationary licence test," she said.

"Our mentors are most definitely valuable assets."

For mentor Wayne Lentsment, who has been volunteering with the programs since its inception in 2012, the chance to assist a young learner get on the road, while wonderful, is just one of the many positives.

"Experience is wisdom. I really enjoy sharing my life experience and skills with the young person, as well as hearing their stories and sharing their lives," Mr Lentsment said.

"Seeing their confidence grow and building a rapport and friendship is wonderful, as is working around different learning styles. It's definitely a two-way thing," he said.



From hill driving, using the Wawunna Rd overpass, to driving on different road surfaces, long distance driving and parallel parking, Mr Lentsment, like the other mentors, tries his best to present learners with an overall driving skills package, and aims to get the learner to trust not only the vehicle but also their own skills.

"Licensing the Wimmera benefits the community by getting young people into the driver's seat not only earlier, but with the correct skills, confidence and a sense of responsibility."

"I get a lot out of these interactions and enjoy seeing the young person learn how to live as a civic person and develop their driving skills. I also appreciate how flexible the program is. I can fit it around my other commitments and the flexibility to change days is there, if needed".

The next training day for volunteer mentor drivers will take place on Saturday, August 18.

To register your interest in attending the training, or in becoming a mentor, please call the Centre for Participation on 03 5382 5607.

Licensing the Wimmera matches disadvantaged Learner drivers between the ages of 16 -21 (L2P) or over 21 years (P21) with experienced volunteer mentor drivers. Mentors act as supervising drivers to support and supervise a learner's on-road driving practice, using a centre for Participation vehicle, before they are eligible to sit for their Probationary licence.

All mentors are VicRoads trained, with the only requirement being a satisfactory driving history and your time.



If you would like to help a young driver get on the road, the next training will take place on:

**Saturday, 18 August
9 am - 4 pm**

**To book your spot phone
03 5382 5607**



Fostering RESILIENCE & MOTIVATION IN YOUNG PEOPLE

An Experiential Workshop



Did you know that 40% of students are disengaged in the classroom?

We are pleased to once again partner with The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award – Australia (Victoria) to bring the 2018 Capacity Building Workshops.

These **practical, hands-on, experiential workshops** will be run across metropolitan and regional locations in Victoria and will help teachers create change in the lives of the young people they work with.

The workshops explore student engagement, motivation blockages, 'Santa Claus thinking' and much more!

TIM HEINECKE

Award Winning Educator & Author



Tim Heinecke, award winning educator and author, will be facilitating the workshops, bringing with him over 20 years' experience working with young people.

Why Attend?

The workshop will include curriculum links to: Personal & Social Capacity, Ethical Understanding and Critical and Creative Thinking. It will also cover the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers: 1.1.2, 1.2.2, 4.1.2, and 4.2.2.

Valued at \$250, we are pleased to offer teachers an exclusive price of \$25 as a partner organisation that delivers the Advance program.

WHO? Teachers, Education Leaders, Youth Organisations, Local Councils and anyone who works with young people.

When?

23 May 2018

Colac
Colac Secondary College

13 June 2018

Warragul
Warragul Regional College

25 July 2018

Benalla
Benalla Community Hub

15 August 2018

Docklands
Community Hub at The Dock

5 September 2018

Horsham
Horsham College

Time

9:30 am - 3 pm

How much?

\$49

Special Subsidised Price

\$25

Exclusive price for Duke of Ed & Advance Schools

**Valued at
\$250/pp**

Includes morning tea, lunch and materials

BOOK today at

www.dukeofedvic.eventbrite.com.au



in partnership with:



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

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

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Annie Mintern
Careers Expo Project
Officer



Sam Flaherty
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MATES Mentoring
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sam.flaherty@llen.com.au

We welcome Sam Flaherty to the WSMLEEN staff. Sam will be working with us on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays and will be assisting with the MATES Mentoring program and Structured Workplace Learning.



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 YMHFA 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.