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

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## **Try VET Day – our future workforce gets ‘hands on’**

Vocational Education and Training in Schools (VETiS) is a great way for young people to get nationally recognised qualifications. Over 300 students attended the 2016 Try VET Day in late July allowing them to sample two of their course preferences for 2017.

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.

The day provided hands-on activities and a snapshot of courses and career pathways. Eighteen courses were on offer at Horsham College, Federation University, Longerenong College, Skillinvest and Wimmera HUB, ranging from Engineering to Salon Assistant. Two new courses will be on offer in 2017. Civil Construction is being offered by Skillinvest and Business by Wimmera HUB.

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 VETiS Course for next year.”



*Try VET Day 2016*

## **More than gum boots and tractors – snapshot of careers in agriculture**

Following on from the successful Careers Advisors careers day held at Grains Innovation Park, a careers day for students from across the region was held on the 16th August to coincide with 2016 Science week. Students participated in hands-on activities at Grains Innovation Park as well as tours to a number of the private research and development facilities in Horsham. The two days were a collaboration between WDA, WSMLEN, AgVic and the Victorian Wheat Research Foundation. Students attending were given snap shots into Agricultural Science related careers and exposed to a number of leading research and development facilities based in Horsham. Future sessions will be planned to highlight general agricultural pathways that are available.

## Structured Workplace Learning – a great opportunity for local business and young people

Are you looking for a new worker and don't know where to start? Do you want flexibility without having to make a long term commitment? Or, maybe you just like the idea of giving a kid a go. The economy is tight so you don't have a lot of dollars to spend. Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) is a great way to trial a student in your business. The SWL program ticks all the boxes and provides you with a flexible and economical way to see if a student is a good fit for your business.



SWL placements can be done for one day per week, or in a block over the school holidays. Employers pay a minimum of \$5 per day (most pay a bit more), and you don't have to worry about insurance or taking tax out. Many employers find a willing worker well suited to their business and many SWL students find a job they love and take up an apprenticeship or traineeship with their employer.

You can also promote your business or organisation for free on the new SWL website portal. By offering to host a student on a SWL placement we will list your business on a state wide website that will be accessed by many schools and thousands of students.

If you would like some further information contact Melissa Powell at [projects@llen.com.au](mailto:projects@llen.com.au) or 5381 0122.

## Community Action Networks – supporting our schools and young people

Dates have been set for the Community Action Network meetings for Term 3. See the [WSM LLEN website](#) for meeting dates. Dates are subject to change so please check the website for up-to-date information.

Community Action Networks (CANs) bring together representatives from key organisations in a local region to work together in meeting the complex needs of young people who are at risk of disengaging from education. CAN meetings are convened in seven communities and facilitated by Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN. The CANs are a great way to connect with and support our schools. Contact Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN if you would like to be involved in a Community Action Network: [info@llen.com.au](mailto:info@llen.com.au)



## Let's Read – kids who read succeed

The Let's Read partnerships continue to go from strength to strength. More than 3000 Let's Read resource bags have been distributed to families across our four shires. We are getting very positive feedback from Maternal and Child Health Nurses related to parents being very receptive and appreciative of the support provided by the Let's Read programs.



Let's Read is an early year's 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 local organisations to implement Let's Read across our region.

The program delivers support, books and resources to families at 4 different child age points. Families receive the 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.

We would like to acknowledge and thank schools and key stakeholders for their ongoing support of this program. The program is financially supported by our local shire councils, Wimmera Uniting Care, Horsham Sports and Community Club, Rupanyup and Minyip Community Bank, Horsham Apex Club 15, Edenhope and District Memorial Hospital and Federation University. These contributions towards literacy development are tremendously valuable and demonstrate our community's commitment to supporting our children and our schools.

## Pop-up libraries



Mini libraries have been 'popping up' all around the Wimmera and Southern Mallee region. The first pop-up libraries were established by the Warracknabeal [WORDS Program](#) as part of an initiative to improve literacy across the region. Since then, Let's Read programs in Hindmarsh Shire, West Wimmera Shire and Horsham Rural City have taken up the challenge to make books available in places where children and families gather.

Communities and schools have worked together to collect second-hand children's books and recycle them into pop-up libraries. There are now 88 pop-up library tubs with more than 3,400 books across the region. Families can borrow a book, keep it as long as they like and return it to any pop-up library tub in the region. We thank Wimmera Regional Library Corporation for the donation of over 300 pre-loved books for the pop-up libraries.

## MATES – Celebrating Mentoring Week

We would like to acknowledge and thank our wonderful MATES mentors for volunteering their time to mentor young people across the region. The annual MATES Mentoring Recognition Awards Presentation will be held on 25 October at Horsham Lanes and Games.

Mentors, mentees and program coordinators from across the region are invited to join in the fun with a game of ten-pin bowling and a light lunch, followed by presentations. The presentations acknowledge the great work done by individual mentors and schools. This year, there are two new awards. The inaugural Community Champion Award will be presented to one of the businesses that support the MATES program by allowing flexible working hours for staff to mentor students during school hours. The School Mentoring Team of the Year Award will recognise schools who have a strong team of volunteers supporting their program.

Awards will be presented for:

- Mentor of the Year
- Mentor School team of the Year
- Mentor Community Champion Business of the Year.

More than 400 mentors have participated in the program since 2010. These community volunteers spend an hour a fortnight to guide and support a young person. The MATES program has been a life changing experience for many young people and their mentors. Interested in being a mentor? Contact Joy Forbes at [pb@llen.com.au](mailto:pb@llen.com.au) or 5381 0122 for more information.



## Early Years Literacy – Rhymetime and Storytime

It's never too early to introduce your child to the joys of reading and books. Language development begins from birth, and the more exposure young children have to books and reading before they start school the better they will do at school.



**WIMMERA  
REGIONAL LIBRARY  
CORPORATION**

The Library runs Rhymetime/Storytime sessions across our branches, either weekly or monthly. Sessions run from around 30-45 minutes, and feature rhymes, songs, book readings and activities suitable for the age group present. Everyone is welcome - so contact [your local branch](#) for details.

## Careers Expo



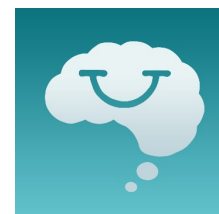
Another successful Western Victorian Careers Expo was held in June with over 2,000 people attending from across the Wimmera Southern Mallee and beyond. WSMLEN is a proud sponsor of this key event. From small beginnings in 1986, the Western Victorian Careers Expo has grown to be largest event of its kind held in country Victoria.

Expo Coordinator, Pauline Barnes is retiring from her position and a new Coordinator, Annie Mintern will take over the coordination of the Expo for 2017. Mr Chris Wallis who was a founding member of the Careers Expo Committee, is also retiring from his role after 30 years of involvement with the Expo.

The 2017 Careers Expo will be held on Tuesday 27th June, 9.30am – 2.00pm. This event is for everyone, not just students, so come along and check it out. Entry to the Expo is FREE! See the Careers Expo website for more information: <http://www.wimmeracareerexpo.com/>

## Smiling Minds

Horsham College is introducing the Smiling Mind Education Program to assist students and staff in dealing with the pressure, stress and challenges of daily life. The Smiling Mind Education Program will be used to complement the college's existing student wellbeing initiatives to promote positive mental health and resilience within the school. Smiling Mind is a unique Australian not-for-profit, providing web and App-based guided Mindfulness Meditation programs to encourage a sense of calm, clarity and contentment. For more information about Smiling Mind, please visit their website ([www.smilingmind.com.au](http://www.smilingmind.com.au)) or download the FREE App (<http://bit.ly/1doAdVF>).



## Sex Ed by Porn? – Workshops with Maree Crabbe



Explicit sexual imagery is now easily accessed, created and shared. For young people, it is almost impossible to avoid. This workshop explores issues not currently covered in sex education in schools, exploring how young people are influenced by explicit sexual imagery and the implications for their capacity to negotiate consent, mutual respect and gender equality.

Women's Health Grampians in partnership with Relationships Australia Victoria presents **Sex Ed by Porn?** The Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN is proud to co-sponsor this important event. This training is suitable for teachers, youth workers, nurses, psychologists and others involved in education, health promotion, violence prevention, support or counselling with young

people, or in policy development in related areas.

This workshop will be led by **Maree Crabbe** who has worked with young people and on issues affecting young people for 20 years. She coordinates the community education project 'Reality & Risk: Pornography, young people and sexuality'. She is also the author of 'In The Picture' – a whole school resource to assist secondary schools to address the influence of explicit sexual imagery

Wimmera – **Tuesday 23 Aug, 9.30- 4.30 pm @ Dimboola Memorial Secondary College Assembly Hall. School St, Dimboola.**

**Cost: \$30** morning tea & lunch provided. Please state dietary requirements when registering or contact [adminb@whg.org.au](mailto:adminb@whg.org.au) A number of local agencies will be financially supporting this event, including Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN, Barwon CASA, Wimmera PCP, and Dimboola Memorial Secondary College.

Ararat - **Wednesday 24 Aug, 9.30- 4.30 pm @ TBC. Cost: \$30** morning tea & lunch provided. Please state dietary requirements when registering or contact [adminb@whg.org.au](mailto:adminb@whg.org.au) A number of local agencies will be financially supporting this event, including Grampians Pyrenees PCP and Central Grampians LLEN.

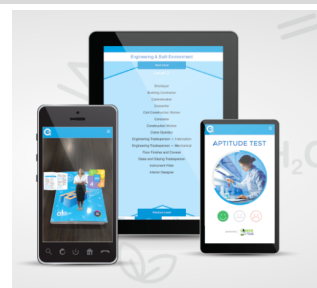
Ballarat - **Tuesday 11th October 8:45-4:30 pm @ Ballarat Community Health**

## Good Careers Guide – Now Online

The Good Careers Guide features everything you know and love from Job Guide, including more than 400 job descriptions and detailed education and training information, while providing new and improved content, tailored to meet the needs of students entering the modern-day education and careers climate.

Complementing the print publication is the Good Education AR (Augmented Reality) app, which provides additional interactive content such as an aptitude test, videos and a range of Career Ladders (a substitute for the Bullseye Charts). Users can also explore the free to access Good Careers Guide e-book and website.

For more information, visit [www.goodcareersguide.com.au](http://www.goodcareersguide.com.au)



## Harvest Work

Viterra have opened applications for Harvest Work for the upcoming season. A range of positions are available for people seeking short term work between October and January at various sites around Western Victoria. No experience is necessary. Great opportunity for students to make some money prior to going off to University. Go to [www.viterra.com.au](http://www.viterra.com.au) to apply or for more information on the range of roles available.

Also see the Graincorp website for information on casual harvest employment. Graincorp urgently requires workers (casual staff) for the upcoming Harvest season (commencing October/November). Visit Harvest Recruitment:

<http://graincorp.e prospect.com.au/careers/harvest-recruitment>

Did you know about GrainCorp's Graduate Program <http://graincorp.e prospect.com.au/careers/graduate/index.htm>

## Reading Buddies – going from strength to strength

The Reading Buddies Program has seen an influx of volunteers in Horsham with staff from Wimmera Healthcare Group, Goolum Goolum and Wimmera Uniting Care volunteering their time to support children with their reading. For employers that encourage or require their staff to become pro-active in community education and engagement, the Reading Buddies Program provides the ideal platform to meet these requirements. Volunteers in the Reading Buddies Program give an hour of their time each week to listen to children read, one-on-one in a local primary school.

## Federation University – Bachelor of Social Science

Federation University is offering a Bachelor of Social Science at the Wimmera Campus (Horsham) for 2017. See the details below:

# Bachelor of Social Science in Horsham

Understand the past.  
Reimagine the future.



Duration	3 years FT
Locations	<b>Wimmera Campus (Horsham)</b> Mt Helen Campus (Ballarat) Gippsland Campus (Churchill) SMB Campus (Ballarat)
Application	VTAC/Direct
VTAC Code	Visit VTAC.com.au
Open Access Eligible	Yes
<b>Entry Requirements</b>	
Potential students may have completed Year 12; VCAL; VET; or Mature Age entry. Educational history is less important than a strong desire to participate in higher education.	
<b>Extra Requirements</b>	
<b>Non-Year 12:</b> VTAC Personal Statement	

Transform the way you see the world and your place within it.

You'll develop the skills and drive to change society through a range of careers locally, nationally and across the globe.

This program explores the Social Sciences and their impact in the real world. You will gain a deeper understanding of history, society and the global environment with an emphasis on the unique issues and context of Regional Victoria. Subjects are arranged thematically to ensure you develop a broad set of transferable skills.

This program is flexible and convenient – you can study in-community or on-campus and full time is condensed to 2 days of classes per week. The small class sizes ensure you have the chance to participate, debate and collaborate with your fellow students and the academics, business and community leaders who shape the course. You can choose to learn on the road through optional travel subjects to Gallipoli or the outback.

At every stage of the course you will tackle real-life problems, often on-site at partner organizations, businesses and community groups. You will explore solutions to the complex public policy and business issues facing the leaders of our community.

## Further study options

- Master of Social Work (Qualifying)
- Teaching
- Public Policy
- Community Development
- Research

## Career opportunities

You will develop professional skills in critical thinking, problem solving, research, writing, presenting, teamwork and leadership. The practical experience embedded in the degree will provide concrete experience in a range of industries. Opportunities are endless, but it may lead to careers in the following fields:

- Community development and engagement
- Government and public policy
- Academic research
- History and heritage management
- Communications, marketing and promotions
- Tourism and regional development
- Media, journalism and public relations
- Charity, not for profit and social enterprise
- Start up, business and entrepreneurship
- Librarianship
- Arts and cultural management
- Events and project management

FedUni in offer the Bachelor of Social Science at the Wimmera Campus in Horsham in 2017.



You can stay in your region and study a full university degree, face to face in three years.

Students can apply through VTAC using the FedUni Bachelor of Social Science Community Locations Code (**3701710411**) or you can apply directly via <https://apply.federation.edu.au/>

## Subject themes

### Skills

Student identity and agency; Social research methods; Social media for activism

### Place

The sociological imagination; Critical ethnography; Globalisation and regional Australia

### Planning

Young people in marginal spaces; Local social policy; Public policy and political systems; Social planning; Regional development

### Activism

Elites, power and politics; Community activism and social change, Community organising

### Past

Local history; History as a creative industry; Historic tourism

### Enterprise

Understanding social enterprise; Management and governance of community organisations; Business planning and development

#### For further information

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Call: **1800 333 864**  
Email: [info@federation.edu.au](mailto:info@federation.edu.au)  
Visit: [federation.edu.au](http://federation.edu.au)

Connect with FedUni on social media:



Disclaimer: Information contained in this brochure was correct at the time of printing (August 2016). Federation University Australia reserves the right to alter any program, procedure or fee, as deemed necessary. Prospective students should confirm program information by visiting [federation.edu.au](http://federation.edu.au) and [vtac.edu.au](http://vtac.edu.au) or by contacting the University directly. The information contained in this brochure may not apply to international students. To find out more regarding International Education, please call +61 3 5327 9018. Produced by Federation University Australia, Marketing & Communications. Federation University Australia programs are delivered with Victorian and Commonwealth Government funding. CRICOS Provider No. 00103D. National RTO Code: 4909. CC\_010816

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