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



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Welcome to 2017

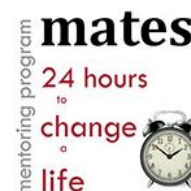
With the new school year now under way, staff at WSMLLEN are working on a range of programs that provide support for local schools. We will continue the coordination of the Structured Workplace Learning Program, School Friendly Business program, MATES Mentoring Program, Reading Buddies Program, Let's Read programs, Community Action Networks, Sports Mentoring program, the Wimmera VET Cluster, and the Grampians Virtual School. All of these programs come under the umbrella of 'Creating partnerships between industry, education and the community that develop positive futures for our young people.' We look forward to working with all of our partners again in 2017 as we work together to support young people in our community.

MATES Mentors needed for 2017

The MATES Mentoring Program is seeking mentors across the Wimmera Southern Mallee region. Mentors make a huge difference in the lives of young people. A total of 96 mentors supported young people across our region in the MATES Mentoring Program in 2016. We have young people across the Wimmera region on waiting lists to be matched with a mentor in 2017. Please contact us if you can give just one hour a fortnight of your time in 2017.

You can help change a life in 24 hours. Find out more or apply online at

<http://www.llen.com.au/mates-mentoring/>



MATES Coordinator

Joy Forbes is stepping down from her role as coordinator of the MATES Mentoring Program but is continuing in a 'caretaker' role until a new coordinator is appointed. Joy can be contacted via email: pb@llen.com.au

Reading Buddies



Reading Buddies Programs are starting up again for the year in schools around the region.

We are always needing more volunteers to join the Reading Buddies Program.

If you or someone you know has a love of reading and a free hour a week to spend listening to children read in a local school, please contact Lorraine Merton at Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN

(info@llen.com.au) P 03 5381 0122.

Sports Mentoring – winter sports

The Wimmera Sports Mentoring program offers sponsorships for primary-aged children to participate in junior sports programs. This great partnership between the Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly, sports clubs, schools and the LLEN has enabled more than 650 children to participate in junior sports. Primary schools will be contacted over coming weeks to nominate students for participation in winter sports through this great program.

Community Action Network (CAN) Meetings

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 and facilitated by Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN.

Dates have been set for CAN meetings for term one are as follows:

| | Date | Time | Venue |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---|
| Nhill CAN | Wednesday 1 March | 11.30 am – 1.00 pm | Nhill College, Whitehead St, Nhill |
| Koorie CAN | Thursday 2 March | 11.00 am - 12.30 pm | Room A5, Federation University 289 Baillie St Horsham |
| Warracknabeal CAN | Wednesday 8 March | 11.00 am – 12.30 pm | Warracknabeal Secondary College |
| Murtoa CAN | Friday 10 March | 11.00 am – 12.30 pm | Murtoa College, Webb St, Murtoa |
| Horsham CAN | Wednesday 22 March | 11.30 am – 1.00 pm | Room C83, Federation University 289 Baillie St Horsham |
| Edenhope CAN | Monday 27 March | 11.00 am – 12.30 pm | Edenhope College & via Video link at Department of Education Office, 26 Darlot St Horsham |
| Dimboola CAN | Thursday 30 March | 9.45am – 11.15 am | DMSC fitness Centre, School St Dimboola |

Workplace Learning

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.

The Work Placement team, Melissa and Mary, have been working hard to get many placement opportunities on the SWL portal for students to undertake in 2017. Teachers and students can access these immediately through the link below.

Click <http://workplacements.education.vic.gov.au/llens/wsmlen/> to go to the SWL portal.

For more information, businesses can contact Melissa Powell or Mary Bysouth at WSMLLEN. Phone 03 5381 0122



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Local Learning and Employment Network (LLEN)

Wimmera Southern Mallee Local Learning & Employment Network

Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN supports student work placements in the local government areas of Horsham, Hindmarsh, West Wimmera and Yarriambiack.



Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN helps school students undertaking VET as part of their VCE and VCAL studies, including School-based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SBATs), to access Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) placements in industry and business. We have contacts with employers in retail, agriculture, hospitality and other sectors.



[BROWSE BY INDUSTRY](#)

[HOT OPPORTUNITIES](#)

Careers Expo - Tuesday 27 June 2017



Looking for a career change, or just want to find out about different jobs? Check out the Western Victorian Careers Expo – the largest Careers Expo in Rural Victoria

FREE ADMISSION AND ALL WELCOME

Save this date:

Tuesday 27 June 2017

<http://www.wimmeracareerexpo.com/>

Ph 0437 588 306

E: info@wimmeracareerexpo.com

Conveyancing Allowance for VET Students

Off campus study for students in Years 11 and 12

An allowance is available to Year 11 and 12 students enrolled at a Victorian Government or Non-Government school, who are required to travel 4.8km or more to a TAFE institute, Registered Training Organisation (RTO) or alternate school to access part of their course of study. Rates are calculated according to the number of days attended away from their main campus. The daily rate is \$2.10

Student travel to work placement, work experience or distance education cannot be claimed. Find out more at

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/finance/Pages/conveyance.aspx>

1,000 Books before school



Reading just ten minutes a day can instill a lifelong love of books and learning in young children. Research shows that children who are read to every day from an early age have extended vocabularies, increased reading readiness and improved cognitive skills when they enter school. The *1000 books before school* program aims to encourage parents to read 1000 books with their children from birth until they begin school. Call in to your local Wimmera Regional Library branch: Dimboola, Edenhope, Horsham, Kaniva, Nhill, St. Arnaud or Stawell to register for the program and get your registration pack, including a tote bag, stickers and your first reading record sheet.

Teacher Resources



New resource for teachers and educators for children of parents with a mental illness

The Hunter Institute of Mental Health through the Response Ability initiative has released a new factsheet for educators and teachers on supporting children of parents with a mental illness. The factsheet supports teachers and educators to understand the potential impact of parental mental illness on children and families, including guidance on how to support children and family members. The resource is available for free download from the COMPI website. <http://www.copmi.net.au/find-resources/order-free-materials>

Epilepsy Foundation – new website for schools

The Epilepsy Foundation just launched a new schools website www.epilepsysmartschools.org.au to help teachers, families and students understand and support students living with epilepsy. It has some great resources in it for teachers.

Some epilepsy facts:

- 1 in 200 children live with epilepsy.
- 1% of people in Australia are currently living with epilepsy.
- 1 in 4 people with a disability are likely to live with epilepsy, this is significantly higher than the general population.
- 10% of Australians will have a seizure during their lifetime, while 3–4% will be diagnosed with epilepsy.
- Epilepsy occurs in both males and females.
- Epilepsy can occur at any age, but is more common in children and those over 60 years of age.
- Epilepsy responds to medication in approximately 70% of people.
People with epilepsy have a mortality rate 2–3 times that of the general population.
Epilepsy is ranked in the top five causes of avoidable death in the 5–29 age group.

Most teachers will therefore come into contact with a student living with epilepsy at some time in their career.

Don't miss the opportunity to attend this extremely popular workshop. Tickets are selling fast, so book early so you don't miss out. Cost: \$165 per person which includes two-day admission, printed resource materials, morning tea and a light lunch.

Bookings now open...

23 & 24 March, 2017



BRIDGES *out of* POVERTY

Two-day workshop

at Warracknabeal Secondary College

...presented by Nairn Walker

Book online via [trybooking.com](https://www.trybooking.com)

<https://www.trybooking.com/255812>

Warracknabeal organisations – do not book online.

The WORDS group is sponsoring your participation.

Please contact Lorraine Merton at Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN (info@llen.com.au or 5381 0122) to make your booking directly.

Bookings close
5.00 pm
Friday 10 March

Bridges out of Poverty is a two-day workshop based on Dr Ruby Payne's 'A framework for Understanding Poverty'. The workshop teaches the hidden rules of economic class and spreads the message that, despite the obstacles poverty can create in all types of interaction, there are specific strategies for overcoming them.

The highly acclaimed Bridges out of Poverty two-day workshop, delivered by Nairn Walker, raises awareness of Dr Ruby Payne's insights into the issues presented by economic

disadvantage and how they affect every level of our communities, schools and businesses.

Nairn's two-day workshop provides participants with practical tools for changing the way they go about their work. Nairn's workshop is relevant to practitioners across the employment, health, education, housing, justice, business and social services sectors.

Contact:
Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN
Ph 03 5381 0122
info@llen.com.au



Facilitated by Warracknabeal
Oral Reading Development
Strategy

Supported and sponsored by:

WIMMERA
SOUTHERN
MALLEE
LLEN





What is ReConnect?

ReConnect: *Engagement learning and support* is a Victorian Government Initiative supporting young people who have left school early or who are long-term unemployed prepare for training and work.

Young people who leave school early often face multiple barriers to re-engaging in education and training and transitioning to the workforce or further training. ReConnect provides an individualised wrap-around service to each eligible participant to help them get back on track, build the resilience and capacity necessary to successfully transition into formal learning and employment and support to sustain this engagement with learning and work.

Am I eligible?

ReConnect is a youth focused program aimed at 15 to 24 year olds living in the areas of Ballarat, Hepburn, Moorabool, Horsham, Central Goldfields, Ararat, Northern Grampians and Pyrenees who are:

| 15 to 24 year old | 20 to 24 year old |
|--|---|
| → Did not complete Year 12 or equivalent | → Year 12 Graduates |
| → Not currently studying | → Unemployed for more than 12 months |
| → Not in full-time employment | → Under-employed (part-time/casual) for more than 12 months |

How will ReConnect help me?

We will work with you to identify your individual needs and help you achieve your goals. This could be working on the barriers preventing you from enrolling or succeeding in formal training or employment. It may be to support you to complete an accredited course and use work placements to increase your employability, whatever your situation we're focused on helping young people transition to further training or employment.

We have broken it down into three simple steps:

- Get help – to know where to start
- Get support – someone to help you and guide you all the way so you aren't doing it alone
- Get training – having recognised skills will help you to get a job and get paid

For more information speak with Reconnect Project Coordinator - Philippa Cane Ph.: 03 5327 8386.

p.cane@federation.edu.au or www.reconnectballarat.com.au .

Or

Kelly Fletcher

Reconnect Officer

Federation University

Building C | Baillie Street

PO Box 300 Horsham VIC 3401

Telephone (03) 53622604

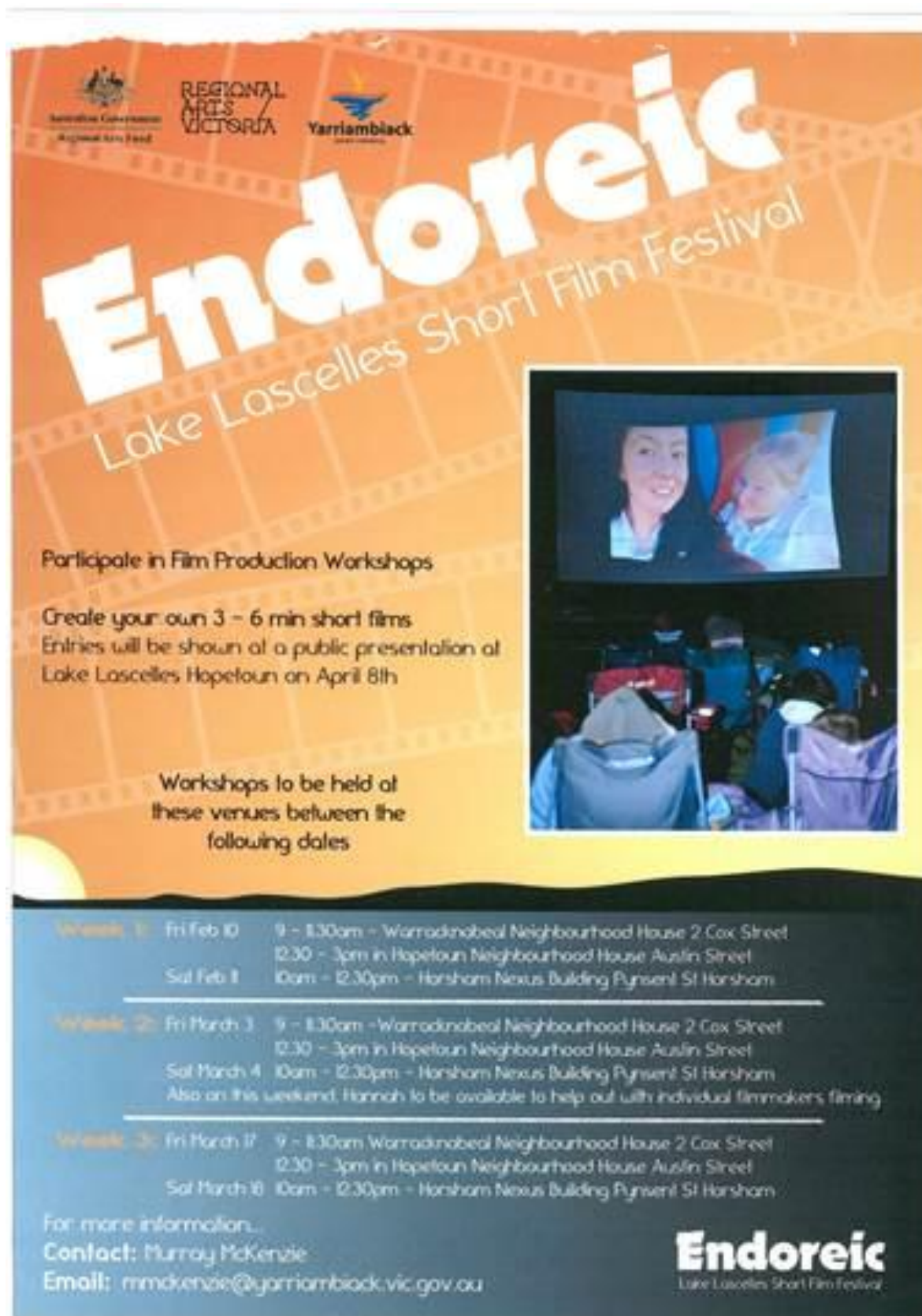
k.fletcher@federation.edu.au

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9-3.30pm

Lake Lascelles Short Film festival

FILM Workshops (Across the Region – See poster)

- Nexus Sat Feb 11 10am-12:30pm
- Nexus Sat March 4th 10am-12:30pm
- Nexus Sat March 18th 10am-12:30pm



The poster for the Endoreic Lake Lascelles Short Film Festival features a bright orange background with a film strip pattern. At the top, logos for the Australian Government, Regional Arts Victoria, and Yarriambiack are displayed. The title 'Endoreic' is written in large, bold, white letters, with 'Lake Lascelles Short Film Festival' in a smaller font below it. A photograph on the right shows a woman and a child smiling in front of a screen. Text on the left encourages participation in film production workshops, stating that entries will be shown at a public presentation on April 8th. A section at the bottom lists workshop dates and venues for three weekends. Contact information for Murray McKenzie is provided at the bottom left, and the festival logo is at the bottom right.

Participate in Film Production Workshops

Create your own 3 – 6 min short films
Entries will be shown at a public presentation at
Lake Lascelles Hopetoun on April 8th

Workshops to be held at
these venues between the
following dates

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------|---|
| Weekend 1: | Fri Feb 10 | 9 – 1:30pm – Warradnabeal Neighbourhood House 2 Cox Street |
| | Sat Feb 11 | 12:30 – 3pm in Hopetoun Neighbourhood House Austin Street |
| | | 10am – 12:30pm – Horsham Nexus Building Pyrene St Horsham |
| Weekend 2: | Fri March 3 | 9 – 1:30pm – Warradnabeal Neighbourhood House 2 Cox Street |
| | Sat March 4 | 12:30 – 3pm in Hopetoun Neighbourhood House Austin Street |
| | | 10am – 12:30pm – Horsham Nexus Building Pyrene St Horsham |
| | | Also on this weekend, Hannah to be available to help out with individual filmmakers filming |
| Weekend 3: | Fri March 17 | 9 – 1:30pm Warradnabeal Neighbourhood House 2 Cox Street |
| | Sat March 18 | 12:30 – 3pm in Hopetoun Neighbourhood House Austin Street |
| | | 10am – 12:30pm – Horsham Nexus Building Pyrene St Horsham |

For more information...
Contact: Murray McKenzie
Email: mmckenzie@yarriambiack.vic.gov.au

Endoreic
Lake Lascelles Short Film Festival



Amped
FRIDAY 24TH FEB 2017
Hawaiian Night

LOCAL DJs **KARAOKE**

7-9 PM
FREE ENTRY

NEXUS YOUTH CENTRE PH 5362 1500
This is a Drug & Alcohol Free Youth Event

NEXUS **COMMUNITY HEALTH**

Positions Vacant – Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN

Project Officer – Fulltime position (negotiable)

We are seeking a confident, well organised project worker to support the delivery of LLEN programs. You will work with a wide range of stakeholders to improve the education outcomes of our region's young people.

Event Manager – 0.2 EFT position

You will be an experienced event manager with excellent project management and communication skills. This role will lead the successful delivery of the Western Victorian Careers Expo in 2017. You will enjoy challenges, working with a team and have a demonstrated track record in meeting deadlines.

Applications for the above positions close at 5 pm, 1st March. Please include a cover letter, response to key selection criteria, current resume and details of three professional referees.

For further information or a position description - <http://www.llen.com.au/employment/> or contact Tim Shaw on 0427 810 122 or eo@llen.com.au

WSMLLEN Staff



Tim Shaw
Executive Officer
Let's Read Program
eo@llen.com.au



Melissa Powell
Project Officer
Structured Workplace
Learning
WSM VET Cluster
Coordinator
projects@llen.com.au



Lorraine Merton
Administration Officer
Reading Buddies
Program
Community Action
Networks
info@llen.com.au



Mary Bysouth
Project Officer
Structured Workplace
Learning
School Friendly Business
Program
mary.bysouth@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.