



Northern Mallee Local Learning and Employment Network

Our Mission:

Brokering strategic partnerships with stakeholder groups, to improve outcomes in education, training, and employment for young people.

Our Vision:

Constructive pathways for our young people leading to employment.

Newsletter - Term 1, 2022

April Edition

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MRCC Youth Expo

The 2022 Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) Youth Expo was held at Mildura Central on 10th and 11th of Feb 2022. The Expo showcased career opportunities, registered training providers, upcoming training courses, sports and recreation activities and volunteering opportunities in the Mallee region. Students and their families were provided information on career pathways, education, employment, traineeships, and apprenticeship opportunities by various local organisations. Northern Mallee LLEN played a pivotal role in organisation of the multi agency event hosted by MRCC.

NMLLEN Project Officer Natika Mitselburg and Structured Workplace Learning Coordinator Dale Harvey were interviewed (by Mildura Weekly ([read the complete article](#))) at the MRCC Youth Expo where they shared how NMLLEN helps students find pathways into careers that interest them and connects them with the local employers as there are extensive and growing opportunities in our region and a platform such as Youth Expo showcases various local career opportunities available for young people.

Job Readiness Presentation for FLO Connect students and teachers

Dale Harvey, Northern Mallee LLEN SWL Coordinator conducted a Job Readiness Presentation at FLO Connect Campus to students and teachers on Wednesday 16th February 2022. The presentation covered several job readiness topics such as resume and cover letter writing, job application, and interview process along with a completed career quiz. Brooke Harmer, Apprenticeship Manager from Workforce Partners Australia was the guest speaker for this event. Brooke discussed interview techniques and what an interview for an Australian Apprenticeship would be like with Workforce Partners Australia.

Youth Expo aims to steer career paths

THIS year's Youth Expo was held at the Mildura Central Shopping Centre last week, bringing together a large number of local organisations and educational institutions who participated in the careers advice event.

The Youth Expo showcases career opportunities, registered training providers, upcoming training courses, sports and recreation activities as well as volunteering opportunities. Facilitated by the Mildura Rural City Council, the Youth Expo is a multi-agency event that aims to improve young people's wellbeing by increasing their awareness and use of agencies and services that are available in our region.

Northern Mallee Local Learning and Employment Network (NMLLEN) also played a pivotal role in the organisation of the event.

NMLLEN is a not-for-profit organisation that works closely with schools, students, and the industry to identify gaps in education and training, provide advice on local and state-wide policy issues at both the strategic and operational level and build cross-sector partnerships to better support young people.

Facilitated by the State Government, Northern Mallee LLEN is one of the 18 LLEN across Victoria that were established in 2003 with the objective of improving career pathways for young people.

Natika Mitselburg said that Northern Mallee leaders had arranged for presentations from a variety of organisations to be held during the Expo. "We go into schools and help the schools and their students connect with employers," Ms Mitselburg said.

"We assist the students to understand their career options and help them find a pathway into a career that interests them and we try to meet their needs in that regard."

"NMLLEN also provides students with job readiness advice such as what is expected of them in an interview, how they should present themselves and general guidance on a number of fronts."

"We also let them know that where they might start isn't where they have to end and that they will have a number of options going forward."

"The beginning is only the beginning and they may well choose another career pathway later on, given there are so many opportunities out there."

"For example we had Louise Wallace from La Trobe who gave a presentation about what the opportunities are in administration, engineering, electrical and mechanical jobs - a wide variety of areas in which you can forge a career."

"And so that is what this Expo is to give students that opportunity to experience what that industry is like and if we can get more students into their industry it is a bonus for that business in the long run. And it is also about being able to keep kids local and have them fill the jobs of today and into the future."

"I think it is also really important for parents of the students to learn what opportunities are out there for their children. A student may not be academically minded at school but that doesn't mean they can't thrive in a VET subject and lead to them being the head of a big organisation one day they are in the line."

"And so teaching students and parents that there are stepping stone routes to an amazing career pathway and knowing what they are is important to understand."

NMLLEN Structured Workplace Learning Coordinator Dale Harvey said that the State Government contracts them to undertake their career pathway guidance work in Mallee.

"We are contracted by the Department of Education to work with schools in the Northern Mallee region," Mr Harvey said.

"We have 18 participating secondary schools and our territory extends as far as Melbourne."

"The organisations present at the Expo are all doing an excellent job in providing an understanding of the career options available for young people in our area."

"There are so many great businesses and organisations in this region and the career pathways within them are quite extensive and forever growing."

Student Louise Wallace 12 is currently undertaking the VET course, specialising in community services and she went to the Expo to seek advice on furthering her career opportunities.

"I kind of know what I want to do but I don't really know what I want to go in the future and so I'm here at the Expo to see what options might be available to me," she said.

La Trobe University Student Annamachari Michael Cary won on hand to speak with Louise and many other young students who attend the Youth Expo.

"We have had a lot of younger students coming in as an attempt to see what options may be available to them at La Trobe and what pathways to take to enable them to go to uni once they have finished the studies they are undertaking now," Mr Cary said.

"We at La Trobe it's all about different pathways not just after Year 12 and going into a degree, there are many other different things that students can do and those days they don't have to leave Mildura to pursue those tertiary courses."

-JOHN DOOLEY

GOOD ADVICE: La Trobe University Student Annamachari Michael Cary speaks with NMLLEN student Louise Wallace at the Expo and NMLLEN Structured Workplace Learning Coordinator Dale Harvey with NMLLEN Project manager Natika Mitselburg at last week's Youth Expo at Carrieton.

all about. We want to open student's minds to the huge range of opportunities that are available to them in our region."

Trade based jobs are in high demand and students can undertake VET (The Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning) studies in a wide range of fields at secondary school and then go onto do an apprenticeship to further expand their learning and qualifications at baseTIME.

The VET curriculum aims to provide the skills, knowledge and attributes to enable students to make informed choices about employment and educational pathways.

"Many schools offer opportunities to do VET (Vocational Education and Training) subjects - it's a fantastic way to open the doors and whether they want to go to university or to do a trade the VET subjects can open so many doors for those students," Ms Mitselburg said.

"And during their schooling they can undertake on-the-job work experience which gives them an insight into what that industry is like and if they are suited to it and that can help them choose a pathway or to try something else."

"We really encourage employers to really encourage employers to take the VET subjects can open so many doors for those students," Ms Mitselburg said.

"On the job training for senior students"

MRCC Youth Expo NMLLEN Media Interview



Brooke Harmer and Dale Harvey at the Flo Connect Campus

SWL Presentations at Red Cliffs Secondary College

Northern Mallee LLEN Project Officer Natika Mitselburg has been busy guiding Red Cliffs Secondary College Year 11 VCAL students on resume writing, addressing selection criteria, and cover letter writing every Tuesday from the 15th February 2022 to Tuesday the 22nd of March to prepare the students for work placement opportunities. The students have attended the Pathway presentation, SWL Portal Presentation, Job Readiness presentation, as well as Apprenticeship/Traineeship presentation which included apprenticeship/traineeships research activities.



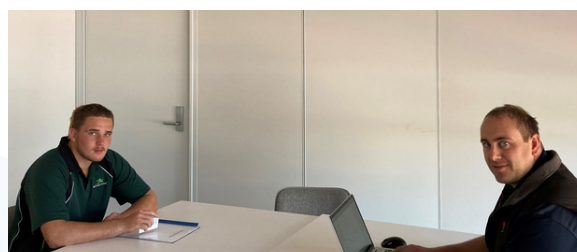
Natika Mitselburg with RCSC Year 11 VCAL Students

Robinvale College Mock Interviews

Dale Harvey, SWL Coordinator (Northern Mallee LLEN) along with Danica Taliloa, Operational Support Officer and Reece Crabtree, Apprenticeship/Traineeship Consultant (from SMGT) held Mock Interviews with 18 VCAL Robinvale College students studying in Senior, Intermediate, and Foundation on Wednesday, March 16, 2022. Mock Interviews help students to gain experience and learn about interview techniques. Students were interviewed by Danica or Reece for selected employment or SWL Portal Opportunity. The interviews followed the Job Readiness Presentations at the College. Students who presented a resume and cover letter, at the conclusion of the interview, were provided with feedback. Mock interviews are part of the Robinvale College School Employer Engagement Program run in partnership with NMMLLEN to assist students to apply for Work Experience, Employment or SWL opportunities.



Danica Talilooa interviewing a student



Reece Crabtree interviewing a student

Job Readiness Presentation at Robinvale College

Dale Harvey, Northern Mallee LLEN SWL Coordinator conducted a Job Readiness Presentation at Robinvale College for VCAL students and teachers on Wednesday 2nd March 2022. The presentation covered several job readiness topics such as resume and cover letter writing, job application, and interview techniques along with a career quiz. The presentation also prepares students for Mock Interviews.

Danica Talilooa, Operational Support Officer from SMGT was the guest speaker for this event. Danica discussed interview techniques and what an interview for an Australian Apprenticeship would be like with SMGT.



Dale Harvey and Danica Talilooa with Robinvale College VCAL students

School Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship Presentation at Irymple SC.

Northern Mallee LLEN SWL Coordinator Dale Harvey delivered a School Based Apprenticeship Traineeship (SBAT) Presentation to Year 10 students from Irymple Secondary College on Tuesday, February 28. The guest speaker was a former Irymple SC student, Brayden McGregor. Brayden in his Year 10 at Irymple Secondary College commenced an SBAT in Tiling (Wall and Floor). The SBAT was integrated into his study program. Brayden at the completion of Year 10 transitioned to a full-time Tiling Apprenticeship (Year 1).



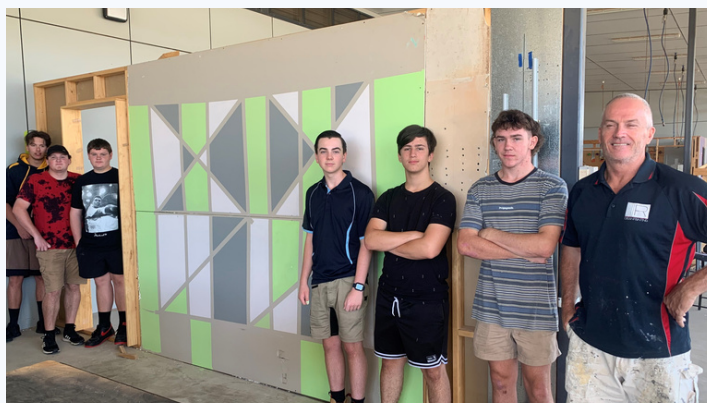
Brayden McGregor and Dale Harvey with Robinvale College Year 10 students

From his SBAT to a full-time Apprenticeship, Brayden has been employed with David Berry Tiling and Flooring. The SBAT presentation provided students with information about SBAT, industries that accept SBAT, how to gain an SBAT, what employers are looking for in an SBAT prospect and resources to educate students, school representatives, and parents on the SBAT concept.

WET Trades: 'Which One Are You' Workshops

Northern Mallee LLEN conducted a series of WET Trade Workshops in the Term 1 this year in partnership with Mildura Senior College. The workshops were conducted at the Deakin Trade Training Centre that were offered to Year 11 and 12 VCE, VCAL, and VET students at Mildura Senior College as part of the College, School Employer Engagement program. The events comprised of a workshop on specific WET Trade methods and applications by trade qualified local employers. The initiative is to help students in attendance to consider various WET trades as transitional pathways to a career through an Australian Apprenticeship. The events concluded with an interview with the employers where they shared their career experience as an apprentice, qualified tradespeople, and business owners.

WET Trades: 'Which One Are You' – Painter and Decorator Workshop was held at Deakin Trade Training Centre on Wednesday, March 2 with guest presenter Robert Dean of R Dean Painting Services.



WET Trades: 'Which One Are You' – Painter and Decorator Workshop

Wet Trades: 'Which One Are You' – Tiler Workshop was successfully organised at Deakin Trade Training Centre on Wednesday, March 9 with guest presenters David Berry, Qualified Tiler, and first-year Apprentice Tiler, Brayden McGregor of David Berry Tiling and Flooring.



WET Trades: 'Which One Are You' –Tiler Workshop

WET Trades 'Which One Are You' – Bricklayer/ Blocklayer Workshop was successfully held at Deakin Trade Training Centre on Wednesday, March 23 with guest presenter Peter Pollock, Qualified Bricklayer-Blocklayer of Peter Pollock Bricklaying.



WET Trades: 'Which One Are You' – Bricklaying/ Blocklaying Workshop

School Employer Engagement (Work Placement) Presentation at Chaffey Secondary College

Dale Harvey, Northern Mallee LLEN SWL Coordinator conducted a Presentation on Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) and Work Experience Opportunities at Chaffey Secondary College to 25 Year 10 students on Tuesday, February 26, 2022. A follow-up session was also held on Tuesday, March 1, 2022. The presentation was to prepare the students for Work Placement week from April 4 - April 8, 2022.

The Presentation provided advice on how to research and read work placement opportunities with a Northern Mallee LLEN Host Employer. Students can then consider available SWL or Work Experience for work placement. For a student studying a VET subject, they can search the School Employer Engagement Statewide Portal, managed by NMLEN. Both SWL and Work Experience enable students to then gain valuable on-the-job training in an industry and occupation of interest.



Dale Harvey with Year 10 Chaffey Secondary College Students

2022 Victorian School to Work Summit

The 2022 School to Work Summit brought together experts, innovators and leaders from education, industry, government and community to step up to the challenge facing Victoria over the next decade: How do we connect our education system with future workforce opportunities so that every student has a great pathway from school to work?

The summit tackled challenges such as economic disruption, equity and inclusion, in-demand skills and the role of technology. The event brought together 570 attendees and 47 speakers to create hundreds of connections where many ideas were shared!

Four members from Northern Mallee LLEN had the pleasure of attending the Victorian LLENs 2022 Victorian School to Work Summit!

[Access more pictures here:](#)

Pic credit: Organic Photo & VR



L to R: John Firth, Trent McCarthy, Helene Rooks and Howard Kelly in a panel discussion on Senior Secondary Reforms



Victorian LLENs' Executive Officers



L to R: Rod Martin, Natika Mitselburg, Monica Trehan and Dale Harvey representing NMLLEN at School to Work Summit

Join the School to Work Community, on LinkedIn at: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/14079241/>

Trades Fit expo

The Trades Fit Expo will be held on 16 and 17 May 2022 at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. Targeted at Young Women in Years 9-10, the Expo demonstrates the exciting world of trade and tech industries and the rewarding and well-paid career opportunities they can provide. Students will hear from trade and tech representatives from fields including building, electrical, automotive, aviation, plumbing, marine, robotics, gaming, cyber security, and many more. Students will be able to engage with these career pathways through hands-on experiences, tech displays, information sessions, panel discussions, and guest speakers.

Visit <https://www.vic.gov.au/trades-fit-young-women-trades-and-tech> to learn more.

All Victorian secondary schools have the opportunity to include up to 20 female students* across years 9 and 10 to attend.



Young Women in Trades and Tech expo

16 and 17 May 2022

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

Build your future now!

Years 9 and 10 students are invited to explore the exciting world for young women in the trades and tech industries.

Experience hands-on activities and technology displays.

Learn about well paid careers in traditionally male dominated industries.

Discover career pathways in industries including building, electrical, automotive, aviation, plumbing, marine, robotics, gaming, cyber security and many more.

Interested? Contact your careers adviser or teacher.

Bookings close Friday 25 March 2022.

Visit: www.vic.gov.au/trades-fit-young-women-trades-and-tech



2022 Western Victorian Careers Expo

The 2022 Western Victorian Careers Expo will be on Tuesday, June 21st. The 2022 Expo is once again being held at the Wimmera Events Centre in Longerenong (10-minute drive from Horsham). This one-day event begins at 9.30am and finishes at 2.30pm. Attendees have the opportunity to talk to a wide range of career, industry and course advisors on a one-to-one basis. Exhibitors and presenters consist of local, regional, metropolitan and interstate representatives, including more than 20 Victorian and South Australian universities that will be present. Over 2000 students, parents, jobseekers and careers from across the Wimmera Mallee attend annually. For further information on the 2022 Western Victorian Careers Expo please click on the link, <https://wimmeracareerexpo.com/>

For more updates, please follow Northern Mallee LLEN on:



Northern Mallee LLEN is supported by:



NMLLEN acknowledges the First People of the Millewa-Mallee, the Latji Latji, Ngintait and Nyeri Nyeri, as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the Country on which we are. We pay our respect to the Elders past and present of the First People of Millewa- Mallee and the ancient connection they hold with their Country.

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