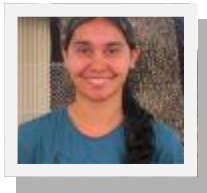


## Apprentices/Trainees of the Month

### East Kimberley

Nadine Davies  
Certificate III Education Support



Host Employer  
St Joseph's School

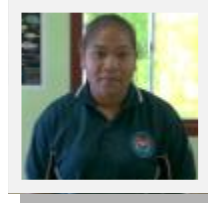
Nadine shows great dedication to her traineeship. She enjoys working with the students as a teacher's aide in the Pre Primary class at St Josephs School. The class teacher, Sarah Kelly, is very impressed with Nadine who demonstrates great interest in her work and takes great pride in helping the students achieve their learning outcomes.

Nadine enjoys assisting with classroom activities, relates well to others and is a pleasure to have at work. Her attitude towards her traineeship is always positive.

Well done Nadine and Keep up the good work.

### West Kimberley

Beaudene Cox  
Certificate II Business



Host Employer  
Kimberley Land Council-Broome

Beaudene started working with the Nyul Nyul (Beagle Bay) KLC Rangers on the 01/11/2011 as an Administration Assistant. She is a very worthy nomination as KGT's trainee of the month. From very early on, Beaudene became an integral member of the ranger group and just getting to work each day is a great effort as she has to travel some distance to get there. Beaudene's supervisors have stated that "she has shown strong commitment in her role as administrative support for the rangers. Her dedication has been crucial in a period where they have lacked a permanent coordinator and she has shown herself to be a great organiser with strong office skills".

Well done Beaudene, a truly deserving KGT trainee of the month.

## Welcome on Board



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New Apprentices and Trainees:

**Saraiha Bin-Maurus** - Certificate II Conservation & Land Management  
Host Employer: **Kimberley Land Council Broome**

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Host Employer: **Department of Environment & Conservation**

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Commencement period: 15/4 - 15/5

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# Pathway Press

June 2012  
Issue 38

## WA Apprentice of the Year - Chris Leetham

By: Kate Millen  
Training Coordinator

Chris Leetham recently completed his Carpentry and Joinery Apprenticeship. The former Kimberley Group Training Apprentice completed his time with Top End Building Company and has now secured full time employment as a qualified tradesman on the East Coast.

Last month Chris, was the winner of the Master Builders Bankwest Building Excellence Awards Apprentice of the Year for the Pilbara/Kimberley region; an amazing achievement. The awards recognised the building and construction apprentices who demonstrated commitment to their training and on-the-job performance.

When Chris walked into KGT three years ago, he had nothing but a back pack. He was traveling (lightly) around Australia with no real direction, purpose or motivation. He felt he needed to have something to show for himself so he embarked on a Carpentry and Joinery Apprenticeship.

From Chris' first day on site, his dedication and commitment to his host employer Top End Building Company, his skill development and his future has been observed and praised. His first paycheck going towards a pushbike to get him to and from work, and his latest going into his first home loan. Chris has proven how an apprenticeship can take you anywhere you want to go if you have the passion and perseverance to get there.

The ongoing support and guidance from Host Employer, Top End



Chris Leetham  
WA Apprentice of the Year

Building Company, fellow tradespeople and his Field Officer Craig Hicks, have all contributed to Chris' success.

Chris' supervisors have always praised Chris for his reliability and ability to make sound judgments in any work environment. Chris has risen to any challenges presented to him and has been called upon at times for input into architectural points of view and is always assisting with day to day organization of work plans and arranging other services on a building site as required. Chris' solid work ethic as a perfectionist is a testament to the quality of structures he completes. His supervisors and co-workers have no hesitation in his Successful career in the construction industry.

We wish Chris every success in the future.

## Choosing the Right Super

**AustralianSuper** Employers are obliged to make 9% superannuation contributions to a default fund if the apprentice/trainee fails to choose their own super provider.

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By: Ian Warriner  
Operations Manager

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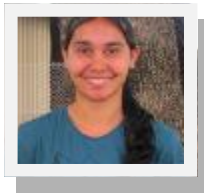
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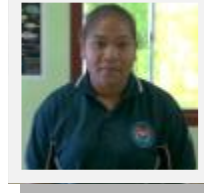
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# Pathway Press

June 2012  
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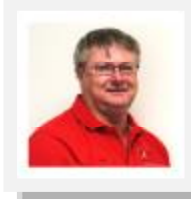
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## What's On My Mind

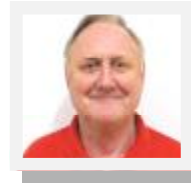


John Gummery  
CEO

The announcement by the Federal Government to delay the apprentice commencement incentive payment by three months is a disgrace given the adverse impact it will have on many small Group Training Organisations (GTOs). Small not-for-profit GTO's working with disadvantaged participants and in remote locations will be affected by this decision.

Once again the decision makers have given no consideration to those trying to make a difference in remote regions. On a more positive note, congratulations to Chris Leatham on being awarded the Master Builders Bank West Building Excellence Awards "Apprentice of The Year" for the Pilbara/Kimberley region, a great achievement. Well done also to his Host Employer, Top End Building Company, tradespeople and his Field Officer Craig Hicks who contributed to his success.

## Counsellor's Corner



David Yates  
Broome Counsellor

Can you 'leap back' from hard times? Sometimes in the language of today we call it 'being able to bounce back'. But where does it come from, have you got plenty of it and if not can you get some extra?

We all experience 'hard times' occasionally and some of us can 'beat the demons' and some not. Some parents instil in their children a bounce back factor or it may even be genetic! But if we do seem to struggle against the odds a lot, how can we increase our 'bounce back' factor?

1. Understand what's happening in your life – don't just let it swamp and drown you and sweep you away – analyse it and the people involved and take charge of you.
2. Accept the bad times and the good times – life is not about all good times – but bad times can be dealt with and make you stronger [more resilient].
3. Understand and accept that you are in control of your life and destiny not others – you can always say 'yes' or 'no', accept your own responsibility for your own life.

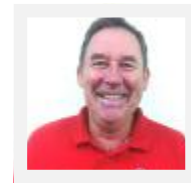
## Resilience - The 'Bounce Back Factor'

4. Learn how to deal with problems by using good problem – solving techniques – don't get swamped by it all – you may need to read about it or do some training!
5. Have some good buddies to rely on – it's always better to talk over problems with others and find solutions.
6. Always believe you are a survivor and can beat the problem rather than a victim who lets the problem beat you.
7. Don't be afraid to ask for some help – we cannot walk alone for ever.

Reading these suggestions of course will not make it happen – you have to decide how you can start learning this and put it into action – that's where the number seven comes in!



## From the Field



Peter Barton  
Broome Field Officer

My transition from TAFE Lecturer in Electronics at Polytechnic West (Midland campus) to Field Officer took place in January of this year. The journey has been far from smooth I am already aware of the difficulties facing some apprentices including downturn in work and sourcing new employment in their chosen field. These challenges may sometimes be difficult however apprentices determined to complete their training together with KGT have found alternative host employers.

Since joining KGT five months ago, the following apprentices have completed their training. Josh Parkyn, Electrical Apprenticeship hosted by Zapped Electrical, Dylan Watters and Taylor Wrigley both Carpentry and Joinery Apprentices hosted by Colin Wilkinson Development (CWD) and Jesse Davies, Plumbing and Gas fitting apprentice with Kimberley Plumbing and Gas and Department of

Treasury and Finance.

I am fortunate to work with Woodside and Pluton Resources who are committed to making a difference to many of our indigenous people in the Kimberley Region by providing opportunities for apprenticeships and traineeships. Woodside currently have 13 trainees and apprentices with various seconded hosts and provide training for others directly and are looking to increase these numbers as time progresses.

Pluton Resources have partnered with KGT and are hosting a Plant Mechanic apprentice at Broome Diesel and are looking to increase positions available in both Broome and Derby in a variety of career paths.

It will be a challenge to me to find seconded host employers for these positions but I am sure apprentices, hosts and seconded hosts will be happy with the choices KGT has to offer.

## Sobering Thoughts

By: David Yates  
Broome Counsellor

The Kimberley, alongside with the Pilbara region is noted for having the highest levels of alcohol consumption and alcohol-related illnesses and deaths in the whole of Western Australia. Some people feel proud of this fact 'we are the best because we drink the most'. In fact the opposite is true; we are injuring and killing ourselves at a faster pace than the rest of the state because of alcohol consumption. At the same time Western Australians per head of population drink more than any other state in Australia - something else to be proud of? – I'll let you decide on that one.

Below are some figures to show comparisons between our drinking and related harm in the Kimberley compared to the rest of the state, and differences between Indigenous people's drinking habits and related problems and non-Indigenous people.

- The main alcohol beverages consumed by Western Australians were high alcohol beer (35.1%), spirits (31.4%) and high alcohol wine (27.4%) and this trend is on the increase.
- Hospitalisation as a result of alcohol-related illness was double in the Pilbara compared to metropolitan Perth but even higher in the Kimberley ; four times the metropolitan areas.
- 56% of residents in the Kimberley region reported drinking four standard or more alcohol drinks regularly, which is considered risky and harmful drinking that will cause long term ill effects, compared to 39% in the rest of the state
- Residents in the Kimberley are hospitalised four times more for alcohol-related conditions than the rest of the state and being hospitalised for 'assault' reasons was eleven times greater than the state.
- Alcohol-related deaths is nearly three times higher than in the state.
- Alcohol-related hospitalisation in these specific towns were: Broome – three times greater than the state rate Derby – five times greater than the state rate Halls Creek – seven times greater than the state rate Wyndham/Kununurra – nearly five times greater than the state rate .

And some other interesting and surprising facts:

- All female alcohol-related hospitalisations in the Kimberley are five times greater than the state rate and higher than the Kimberley male rate which is nearly four times greater than the state rate.

- The rate of alcohol-related hospitalisations for Indigenous residents is 1.5 times greater than the state rate.
- The total death rate for alcohol-related conditions was nearly three times higher than the state rate.
- The rate of alcohol-related deaths for Indigenous residents was 1.24 times higher than the state rate.

So in a nutshell we as a group of Kimberley residents are drinking at dangerous levels for our health, needing to have hospital treatment more frequently than others in the state and dying at a greater rate. So next time you see a poster on the hospital wall warning about alcohol use, or criticizing the restrictive opening hours of the 'bottle shops' or even complain about waiting times at hospitals it may be related in some way to the excessive drinking habits. We ourselves have the solutions to change these things. If you would like to find out further information, please check out these websites:

<http://au.news.yahoo.com/thewest/a/-/breaking/13338022/wa-alcohol-use-among-highest-in-the-nation/>  
[http://www.health.wa.gov.au/publications/documents/Health\\_Dpt\\_15746\\_Alcohol\\_Report.pdf](http://www.health.wa.gov.au/publications/documents/Health_Dpt_15746_Alcohol_Report.pdf)  
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Standard drinks – recommendations – no more than 2 per day for men and women reduces life time risk from harm. No more than 4 per day for men and women reduces risk on that one occasion



## Announcement

### Federal Government Wage Increase 1 July 2012

Fair Work Australia was handed down the annual wage case decision on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2012 for a 2.9% increase to the minimum wage. There will be further information regarding this announcement in the July KGT newsletter.