

Trainee Profiles

Bradley McAdam- **HOST EMPLOYER:** Savannah Nickel Mine
Qualification: Certificate III in Mobile Plant Technology



Bradley commenced in a Mobile Plant Technology Apprenticeship on the 27th of February 2015. He is one of the locals from Halls Creek, who completed school last year at Scotch College in Perth. Bradley feels that being in this apprenticeship is like being back at school, but better.

His favourite part of completing an apprenticeship is learning about the different departments at Savannah Nickel Mine and working with the different equipment such as the machinery and trucks. Bradley hopes to gain the knowledge and experience to work on any minesite and have the preparation to do so.

He would recommend others to do an apprenticeship because he feels that you get the full support from the team at KGT and Savannah Nickel Mine as well as gaining a qualification.

*By Landi Bradshaw
Field Officer*

Robert Chulung - **HOST EMPLOYER:** Colin Wilkinson Development
Qualification: Certificate III in Carpentry and Joinery



Robert was awarded a Certificate by Kym Jarvis from Colin Wilkinson Development (CWD) on the 16th June for the successful completion of his first year in a Carpentry and Joinery apprenticeship.

Robert has been through the highs and lows of the game, one of Robert's mentors/work place teachers said that *"I even felt like giving up after the last wet season. It was so hot and humid, and even in late March the weather just wouldn't change into dry season conditions."* People who don't live in the Kimberley and haven't experienced the "build-up" and wet season, do not know how difficult it is to work in the elements. (with no aircon).

Robert is with a great team with a focus like I haven't seen in many workplaces before. CWD pride themselves on quality of work, punctuality, solid work ethics and focus on safety in the workplace. Robert completed his first year on the 4th of May 2015. Robert will be a qualified builder by May 2017. Robert Chulung is highly spoken of by everyone who knows him.

Great Effort!!

*By Rene Harbers
Field Officer*



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2015 KGT Excellence Awards!



Kimberley Group Training (KGT) is excited to announce that the third annual KGT Excellence Awards will be held on Friday 28th August 2015.

The Awards are held each year to recognise the growth and accomplishments of our clients in the East and West Kimberley, as well as the support of local businesses and the important roles they play as Host Employers.

The Awards are shaping up to be even more special, as they will be held at KGT's new Skills Centre. We look forward to showcasing this exciting new facility as well as celebrating the positive outcomes it has already produced.

This year, winners will be chosen for the following categories:

- Kimberley Training Institute - Apprentice of the Year Award
- italktravel - Trainee of the Year Award
- Wunan - School-Based Trainee of the Year Award
- Ocean and Earth Training Specialists - Kimberley Safety Award

- STEPS - Kimberley Encouragement Award
- Kimberley Marketing - Host Employer of the Year

For further information on the Awards, contact your local KGT Office or visit our website: www.kgt.org.au

*KGT would like to thank the following organisations and businesses for sponsoring this year Excellence Awards
(Sponsor taken as of 18th June 2015)*



Inside this issue...
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SEE Program



From the CEO...

The groundwork laid out in 2014 for the reform of the Vocational Education and Training (VET) sector will largely come to fruition in 2015 and beyond. However the reforms at Federal level have been overlaid by considerable changes in funding and regulations, particularly in the TAFE and Group Training Sector. These changes will have major impacts on apprentices and trainees, Group Training Organisations, employers and training providers. Already in the Group Training area we have been advised that the long standing Joint Group Training Program (JGTP) will come to an end.

The Federal Government's new approach is to bring the VET sector and related funding under the umbrella of the new Australian Apprenticeships Support Network model (which will roll out on 01 July 2015). What remains uncertain is their commitment to local providers particularly those operating in remote areas and the not-for-profit sector. An example of this is the recently announced provider list, to provide Australian Apprenticeship Support Services in the Kimberley. Four organisations have been successful in tendering for the services. I can assure you that four organisations competing in a limited market space will not survive. Employers will be confused and the level of service will diminish.

Once again the local providers have been left out in the cold as the Kimberley region has been put in the same basket as metropolitan Australia. Government decision makers and Politicians representing the Kimberley should be concerned about what direction Government policy with apprentice and trainee support is heading in and they need to be advocating strongly for a fair go for local providers in a region like the Kimberley, where the demographic challenges to getting more youth employed are considerable. Kimberley Group Training has been advocating for many years that Government funding needs to increase by \$3,000 per apprentice/trainee participant for young people entering a career pathway through the Group Training Model. It is worth noting that Kimberley Group Training employs 160 apprentices and trainees across the Kimberley, 82% of which are aboriginal, making it one of the largest employers of young aboriginal people in the region.

It amazes me that we can spend \$43 million on a court house in Kununurra, when we cannot find a small amount of money to support preparing young people for work, place them in employment and potentially keep them away from the "big house".

To me, it is a no brainer!!



Were you employed by KGT between 1st July 2014 to 30th June 2015?

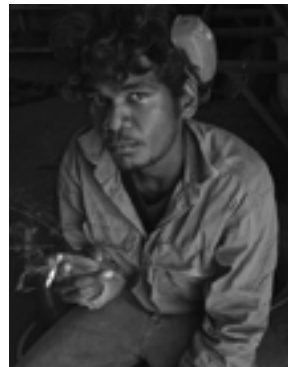
Payment summaries will be issued after 30th of June 2015 by email and post. If you were employed or are still employed with Kimberley Group Training between 1st July 2014 to 30th of June 2015 and have since changed address, relocated or are not too sure what address we have on our system for you.

Please contact the office on 08 9168 3808 or email reception@kgt.org.au to update your postal and email address to ensure you receive your payment summary before the 14th July 2015.

Annual wage review 2014 - 2015



The fair work commission expert panel reviewed the national minimum and maximum wages in each financial year. This year the minimum wage will increase by 2.5 percent and this decision will come into place on the 1st of July 2015.



West Kimberley Field Officer, Kevin Smith, entered the 2015 Kimberley Photographic Awards in Derby. Kevin won Kimberley Landscape category and the Black and White category and was the Overall Winner.

Kevin said "Many, many, many years ago I studied photography at a college in the UK and I also wanted to have it as a career."



It's all happening at the KGT Skills

The 2nd pre-employment Civil Construction Course is being run by Ocean & Earth Training Specialists at the KGT Skills Centre. The course started on the 4th of May and aims to up-skill participants to get them work-ready. Participants have been learning how to communicate in the workplace, carry out measurements and operate machinery such as dozers and excavators.

The KGT Skills Centre has become a well-known reference for training and employment in the local community. Figures could not be more encouraging. Since opening in November 2014, the Skills Centre has enrolled over 50 pre-employment participants, of which 21 have secured full-time employment. To ensure we maintain this upward trend, KGT has been busy working on the designing and planning of additional pre-employment programs. The ultimate goal is to give participants the best training opportunities as well as tailored one-on-one support to help them successfully tackle any obstacles along the way.

KGT's new Hospitality Program started in April this year and has seen a group of approximately 10 participants learning the ins and outs of the hospitality industry from experts. Skills learned by participants include food preparation, personal presentation, literacy, numeracy, money management and healthy lifestyles.

On a daily basis, participants have been exposed to a variety of practical tasks such as sandwich making while developing their literacy and numeracy skills. Sandwiches are donated to local community organisations, such as Save the Children. Participants also have the opportunity to visit local businesses such as The Kimberley Cafe, Kununurra Country Club, Subway and The Kimberley Grande. The visitors have certainly been helping the participants to get a feel for the hospitality industry. They are enthusiastic and always asking lots of questions! The icing on the cake occurred recently when some of the participants worked alongside Celebrity Chef, Matt Moran in the famous Kimberley Kitchen event for the Ord Valley Muster.

The Hospitality Pre-employment Program run by KGT has proven that great outcomes can be achieved through mutual support and partnerships. We would like to thank all stakeholders for their invaluable support of the program: East Kimberley Job Pathways, Kimberley Training Institute, Waringarri Money Management, OVAHS, KAMS, Skin Deep & Beyond Beauty, Workforce Development Centre, STEPS Group, Kimberley Cafe, Kununurra Country Club, Subway and The Kimberley Grande.



By Caroline Constant
Skills Centre Admin Support



From the Operations Manager...

, along with a number of staff from KGT recently attended an Indigenous Employment conference in Darwin. As the conference coincided with meetings between RJCP providers and contract managers, it wasn't as well attended as we hoped. However, those organisations and participants that did attend were very open about what has and hasn't been working in this space and were happy to share their thoughts and experiences and some very useful discussions occurred.

It was great to hear from so many organisations that have been quietly achieving results without all the fanfare and attention that the larger corporate organisations attract. As a VTEC provider, it was particularly pleasing to see other VTEC providers succeeding in achieving long term employment outcomes for Aboriginal people.

As an organisation working in a remote region, it is sometimes difficult to gauge our own performance, as we have little to compare ourselves with directly. Attending this conference and meeting people with similar objectives, attitudes and achieving great outcomes was reassuring and confirms that KGT is on the right track with it's indigenous employment strategies and goals.

It does raise the issue of how smaller organisations and individuals obtain recognition for their efforts in bringing about positive change for Kimberley people. One opportunity we have is through the 2015 KGT Excellence Awards, hosted by KGT's Skills Centre in Kununurra in August. If you feel there are people or organisations in the Kimberley region achieving great things, now is the time to recognise them for their efforts.

Look for more details in this newsletter, on the KGT website at www.kgt.org.au, or follow us on Facebook.

19 Years of Kimberley Group Training !!

three of the staff members at KGT recently reached their anniversaries!!



Senior Finance Officer, Bronwyn Read has now been with KGT for 6 years!



Field Officer, Natasha Cross has now been with KGT for 12 years!!



Field Officer, Landi Bradshaw has now been with KGT for 1 year!!



New facilities boost training in the Kimberley

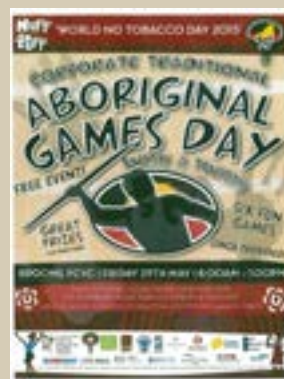
New state-of-the-art training facilities have been officially opened at Kimberley Training Institute's Broome campus, paving the way for a range of new qualifications to be delivered.

Training and Workforce Development Minister Liza Harvey said the facilities included an industry standard trades training centre and a world-class maritime simulation centre. These were built at a cost of \$15.58 million, made possible with an investment of \$10.375 million from the State Government's Royalties for Regions program.

"Kimberley Training Institute's Broome campus has some of the best training facilities in regional Western Australia, ensuring employers have access to a highly trained local workforce," Mrs Harvey said.



KGT Bulls compete at Traditional Aboriginal Games Day



KGT entered a team in the recent Aboriginal Games Day organised by Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services Council (KAMSC) in Broome. The day promised traditional games with a twist. The KGT Bulls team of six are involved in the Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) program, currently running a pre-employment program with the opportunity to undertake traineeships Roebuck Plains Station.

The event included spear throwing and bag throwing, along with sumo wrestling for the fellas and stick fighting for the women. Teamwork played a significant part in the tug of war event and was crucial for the final event of the day, a relay obstacle course, with a soggy surprise. The KGT Bulls team put in a great effort on the day, with Jarmon Xavier scoring two bulls eyes from over 25 metres back, to be the overall winner of the spear throwing event.

Congratulations to the whole team on an excellent display of participation and cooperation; skills which will serve them well in station life.

By Mary Zbierski-West
SEE Trainer



Arygle Diamond Mine Recruits



In September 2014 ADM commenced the recruitment of a new round of Apprentices and Trainees. Potential candidates visited the mine to undergo Literacy and Numeracy assessments, team building skills, safety awareness and hand & power tool operations – just to name a few. Over the 4 days of assessment workshop the participants listened to guest speakers from different areas of the mine – speakers included former and current apprentices. Each of the speakers spoke about the departments they worked in and what sorts of roles were available within each department.

They also got to tour the mine and get an idea of what it is like to work and live on a mine site that runs 24 hours per day 7 days per week 365 days per year. Once selected for potential roles at Argyle, the participants then under took Pre Employment Medicals and Police Clearances which determine what roles they would be offered at Argyle.

On Tuesday 2nd June 2015 the newly selected apprentices and trainees commenced at Kimberley Training Institute (KTI) and Ocean and Earth Training to undergo a 4 week Pre Employment Program. The Pre-Employment Program will focus on extra training including advanced welding, Occupational Health and Safety, using hand and power tools, communication in the workplace and Senior First Aid. The students will spend 2 days per week with KTI and Ocean and Earth and 2 days in their workplace at Argyle Diamond Mine.

Best of luck and we look forward to hearing more success stories in the future!

Congratulations on completing your Apprenticeship or Traineeship:

Daniel O'Connor

Host: Norbuilt PTY LTD

Qualification: Certificate III in Carpentry & Joinery

Shannon Shaw

Host: Kimberley Land Council

Qualification: Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management

Frederick Shoveller

Host: Kimberley Land Council

Qualification: Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management

Trent Rivers

Host: Argyle Diamond Mine

Qualification: Certificate III in Automotive (Electrical)

Jack Castellarin

Host: Ord River Electrics

Qualification: Certificate III in Electrotechnology Systems Electrician

Azton Howard

Host: Kimberley Land Council

Qualification: Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management

Blair Curtin

Host: Yeehaa Trail Rides/Kununurra District High School

Qualification: Certificate II in Agirculture

Ashton Reid

Host: House Masters

Qualification: Certificate II in Construction

Alec Echo

Host: Kimberley Land Corporation

Qualification: Certificate II in Agriculture

William Simon

Host: Yeehaa Trail Rides

Qualification: Certificate II in Agriclutre

Almost there...



Phillip McKenzie is now entering the 3rd year of his Certificate III in Hospitality (Commercial Cookery) Apprenticeship with Woodside!!

Myroodah Station

Myroodah Station is the setting for the Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC) training programme for 2015. The group out on the station started in April and have been doing well. They have demonstrated a keen enthusiasm to get into station life and have picked up the skills needed for their career as stockmen.

Recently the crew travelled into Broome for the international Polo competition held annually on Cable Beach. A previous KGT Trainee Ian Long is now in his 3rd year on Myroodah Station. Ian was invited to be part of the Polo match and travelled to New Zealand to train for this year's event. The KGT crew also had a hand in this year's event helping out with the setting up of the marquees. The training they are doing this year will put them in a good position to get involved with the event as competitors next year, fingers crossed. Field Officer, Kevin Smith would like to say a big "Well Done" to all the guys at Myroodah.



By Kevin Smith,
Field Officer

From the field...

On Wednesday the 6th of May, Brad Callaghan CCI (Chamber of Commerce and Industry) Australian Apprenticeships representative accompanied KGT field officer, Rene Harbers, to Kalumburu to go through and sign some much needed paperwork with the new Trainee Ranger - Marlene Djanghara.

The great thing was that all the Unguu Rangers were in town doing some training with Charles Darwin University. On the Wednesday morning they were covering up map reading, map types and various uses for gathering information. The session was extremely interesting and the ladies and gents present were really engaged. I can't wait to see them all again when we pop up there again for our next review.

Colin Wilkinson Development (CWD) team members are as follows; Ivan Wilson, Robert Chulung, Dwight Bond-Trust, Hayden Johnstone, Ezekiel Percy.

They have an amazing crew and onsite mentors; Ben Cox, Michael Hapke, Toby Frankle, Chris Bartlett and plasterer Matt Cox. Kym Jarvis and other support staff assist with giving the Apprentices the best guidance and development possible.

The lads have been building homes all across Kununurra from Corkwood Court, Ghost Gum Street, Zamia Link and Nutwood Crescent to name a few.

On Friday the 5th June, the CWD Carpentry and Joinery apprentices finished a two week block release with Kimberley Training Institute (KTI) with Lecturer Brad Durack. The next training block will be in early August.



Marlene Djanghara all signed up and ready to go with the Unguu Rangers.



Charles Darwin University in Kalumburu to deliver amazing teaching with the Rangers.



Stratco Kununurra have had the CWD Apprentices developing their skills and knowledge while gaining a deeper understanding of the materials they work with on a daily basis



By Rene' Harbers
Field Officer

About me!



Hi I'm Robyn...

I started with Kimberley Group Training on 28th April 2015 as Administration Manager.

I was born and raised in Sydney and later moved to Batemans Bay on the far south coast of NSW. After selling our business, my husband and I decided it was time for a change of lifestyle, so we packed up and hit the road. We made the decision to make our home in Kununurra, and here we are working and enjoying the Kimberley which is a wonderful, amazing place.

I look forward to a long and rewarding time with KGT. To be able to further develop my knowledge and to learn new skills with the team at KGT is a valuable opportunity, and what a great team to be a part of!