

Apprentices/Trainees of the Month

East Kimberley

Carl Ochea Certificate II
Automotive Mechanical Vehicle Servicing
Host Employer: **Argyle Motors**

Carl Ochea has been chosen as the trainee of the month because of his consistent high performance and great improvement throughout the year. Field visit reports have shown that



Carl is reliable and willing to put in the effort. Carl's host employer, Argyle Motors, said that he is hard working, pleasant to work with and a great addition to the team. Carl is also excelling in all his other commitments as part of the school based traineeship. He is a high performer and on top of his class with his TAFE and school studies as well as achieving great results in the Agriculture studies. Carl is a very motivated young man and a great role model.

KGT and his Field Officer Lina Bleazby wish him well in the future.

West Kimberley

Brayden Tolentino Certificate II in Agriculture
Beef Cattle Production
Host Employer: **Indigenous Land Corporation**
Roebuck Export Depot

Brayden Tolentino started with KGT in March this year and is working towards completing a Certificate II in Agriculture. Having initially started with Indigenous Land Corporation at Myroodah Station, Brayden's first 6 weeks were somewhat rocky and at times he struggled adjusting to life working on a station away from family and friends. Knowing that Brayden was enthusiastic about his position and has great potential, Indigenous Land Corporation and KGT worked together to find Brayden an opportunity closer to home – which occurred when a position became available at the Roebuck Plains Export Depot. Since starting at the Export Depot, Brayden has developed into a very important and reliable member of the team. He enjoys the varied work and with his outgoing personality he adds a lot to the group. A very well-deserved nomination Brayden, keep up the good work.



Well Done to Carl and Brayden!



We are Pleased to Welcome our New Apprentices and Trainees:

Meagan Kopp - Brown - Certificate II in Business
Host Employer: **Indigenous Land Corporation**

Brendan Button - Certificate II in Agriculture
Host Employer: **Wunan Foundation**

Mitchell Foye - Certificate II in Aviation Ground Operations
Host Employer: **Northern Airport Services**

Commencement Period: 21/7/2012 - 21/8/2012

Congratulations on your Completion!!!

James McCarthy - Certificate III in Conservation & Land Management
Host Employer: **Kimberley Land Council - Broome**

Naraen Benedict - Certificate II Aviation Ground Operations
Host Employer: **Northern Airport Services**

Bradley Pasfield - Certificate II in Aviation Ground Operations
Host Employer: **Northern Airport Services**



Kununurra Office
Messmate Way & Konkerberry Drive
KUNUNURRA WA 6743
Ph: 08 9168 3808



www.kgt.org.au



[Facebook.com/Kimberley Group Training](https://www.facebook.com/Kimberley-Group-Training)

Broome Office
Unit 4/30 Clementson St.
BROOME WA 6725
Ph: 08 9192 8877



Pathway Press

September 2012
Issue 41

Home Valley Station Hosts Two Clontarf Academy Students for Work Experience

by: Kate Millen - Training Coordinator

Home Valley Station (HV8) opened their gates for a week in August for two Clontarf Academy senior students Joshua Carlton and Brendan Eura. For three days the boys experienced some of the traineeship opportunities the iconic tourist resort offers indigenous participants.

For Brendan, a day in the stables involved supporting current trainee Kadeem Hunter with his daily duties. From the early morning feeding routine, to cleaning the yards and preparing some horses for a tour ride, by morning-tea time Brendan had a much greater understanding of just how much care and maintenance is involved in owning horses! The rest of the day included oiling saddlery, participating in the pony rides around the grounds and finishing up with the evening feeding routine. Brendan really enjoyed his day with Kadeem and eagerly asked questions about how living and working at Home Valley had changed him.

"Everything is here, what more could the guys want!"

On the other hand, Joshua took a shine to the mechanics workshop and quickly fitted into the team with current trainee Lance Buckle. The pair stripped engines, serviced generators, did some much needed re-arranging and even repaired a tyre or two! Joshua did not hold back, finishing both days covered from head to toe in grease!!!

Both Brendan and Joshua were grateful for the chance to experience life as trainees. They were most impressed by the rooms that each trainee gets to sleep in, the quality of the food they are fed and the support provided by the Trainee Supervisor

Jane Whelan. "Everything is here, what more could the guys want!" Brendan exclaimed while playing pool at the end of a long day!

Work experience opportunities, which Home Valley Station has offered, are a sure way to educate young school leavers about the different career pathways this region has to offer! Ben Pratt, newly appointed General Manager, welcomes the chance to host work experience placements as a key strategy to invest in the future workforce.



Joshua Carlton stripping an engine!



Brendan Eura standing along side the saddlery he oiled.

Monthly Matters:

- KGT Bulletin
- Apprentices/Trainees of the Month
- Welcome on Board
- Celebrating Milestones/Completions

Featured Articles:

- Home Valley Station Opening its Gates for Work Experience Students
- Host Employer Profile - Kimberley Electrical Services
- Group Training at its Best

What's On My Mind



John Gummery
Chief Executive Officer

Whilst on annual leave travelling through Germany, Canada and North America, I spent some time visiting an Alaskan Indigenous organisation and speaking to their people. I was saddened by their plight and in particular the number of Canadian natives living in poverty and clearly affected by substance abuse. It made me reflect on the challenges that we face in the Kimberley region. There was one major difference though, and that is that there are so many opportunities for Indigenous Australians in this region and there are no real excuses for any Australian person, Indigenous or non- Indigenous, not to be in active employment. With the unemployment rate so high in America it is difficult to gain employment and there was a sense of despair amongst those that I spoke to. We have a lot to be thankful for in Australia,

but do we really appreciate it?

Organisations working in remote Australia, delivering employment and participation services would all be very aware that the Australian Government will be rolling out its Remote Jobs and Communities Program, commencing from July 2013. This will be a major change to the delivery of services in remote areas and undoubtedly will create a talking point and anxiety to present providers and those considering tendering for the contract under the proposed changes. Personally, I believe it had to happen. The system in place has been broken for some time and it is time for change. I do have some concerns at the level of funding that will be available to provide the services that the Australian Government is looking for, however change is imminent. Organisations working in this field, like KGT, will need to be actively working with the relevant Government personnel to ensure that the changes do not have a negative impact on the services they provide across the Kimberley region.

Tips for Success



Mark Sweeney
Kununurra Psychologist

Respect who you are and be honest with yourself and with others. Have the courage to accept who you are, not who other people think you should be. Sometimes this can be difficult especially when we get pressured from friends or family to behave or do things that they want of us like staying up late partying when we have work or study the next day. When we do something that we know inside of ourselves is not right, we can end up in trouble and feel anxious and like something is not quite right. If we want to be happy and wholly at peace with ourselves,

we need to be honest and respect who we are by doing what is right for us and not what is right for other people. This can be difficult at times and can take a lot of courage to listen to ourselves and not do something because it will make us liked or popular.

If your life is not what you want it to be; only you can change your situation. By working out where you want your life to be and by making decisions with this big picture in mind you will be respecting yourself and doing what is right for you. In the words of Hardy D. Jackson;

"Above all, be true to yourself, and if you cannot put your heart in it, take yourself out of it."

From the Field



Natasha Cross
Kununurra Field Officer

Dayna Vick is currently undertaking a Certificate II Business Administration traineeship at the Kununurra Community Resource Centre. She loves water sports, running and netball. Dayna enjoys her work and thrives on challenges, especially when she receives big orders for binding and printing invites to name a few. She is a great team player and enjoys working with other people. Dayna believes that her traineeship can take her places and open the gates for more learning.



Dayna Vick - Certificate II Business Administration trainee
Host Employer: Kununurra Community Resource Centre

Employer's Profile

By Peter Barton - Broome Field Officer

Kimberley Electrical Services (KES) was taken over by Jason and Michelle McMahon in 2008 and consisted of three staff members; Jason (electrical tradesman), Michel (administration) and Zarack Teh (apprentice). Kimberley Electrical Services has developed into a dynamic company which now employs 5 tradesmen, 1 project manager, 3 office staff, 6 apprentices and 1 labourer and are currently looking for more apprentices.

Kimberley Electrical Services have worked on a wide range of electrical projects for various businesses and companies in the Kimberley and Pilbara regions such as subcontractor servicing and maintenance of Department of Housing/Homes West residences in Broome, Derby and Fitzroy Crossing. Customer service is a priority and KES provide a 24 hour call out service for residential electrical faults, working side-by-side with other contractors in all aspects of the building trade.



In addition to residential work, KES delivers commercial and industrial services such as wiring and fitting of industrial sheds and hangars in Broome, Port Hedland and Karratha. Kimberley Group Training has been working in partnership with Kimberley Electrical Services to meet the exciting demands of Australia's Northwest economy and hopes to continue to assist in the expansion of successful ongoing training programs.

Group Training At Its Best

By: David Yates - Broome Counsellor

Kimberley Group Training's West Kimberley Broome office, is responding to a range of new challenges that are both exciting and rewarding for the team and will be of real benefit to apprentices, trainees and host employers. Renewed links are being developed with the Kimberley Training Institute [KTI, Broome Campus] to ensure that apprentices and trainees who require support in increasing their literacy and numeracy skills will be able to access services and training smoothly and quickly once they have completed their registration with KGT.

Our team in Broome has recently welcomed an additional staff member, Jason Dann, who joins the team as the Indigenous Liaison Officer to play an integral role in ensuring that the development of connections with stakeholders will run well. The counselling services provided by Kimberley Group Training have expanded our outreach program with the Counsellor travelling regularly with Field Officers on their remote, out-of-town visits. This will guarantee that these services become increasingly known throughout the region for host employers, local communities and apprentices and trainees. As a result of these key strategies, dividends have already been noticed with responses from local remote communities and the



From L-R: Shelley Ratcliff, Luke Edwards, Yazmin Langley, Peter Barton, David Yates and Jason Dann

KGT logoed car seen as a welcome, approachable visitor. Kimberley Group Training team work efforts have also generated significant marketing opportunities in the search for more host employers and fostering of relationships with our current hosts. KGT's working relationship with Woodside continues to expand with additional Indigenous apprentices and trainees being engaged locally in Broome and Derby. In addition, Traditional Owners are being employed as monitors to provide cultural and heritage advice to contractors on-site at James Price Point. Recent communications have also seen the relationship between KGT and the Department of Corrective Services further explore ways to assist prisoners and community-based offenders to develop skills that will assist them back into the workforce in a meaningful and successful way.



To better improve communication between KGT and our apprentices and trainees, we are encouraging all of our apprentices and trainees to update KGT with their current contact information. Please contact your nearest KGT office and advise either an admin staff member or your field officer of any changes in your personal contact details such as phone number or email address.