

Trainee Profiles

Kira Webb

HOST EMPLOYER: The University Of Notre Dame
Qualification: Certificate IV in Business



We would like to congratulate and welcome Kira Webb to KGT and The University of Notre Dame, Broome campus. Kira has relocated from Derby to embark and pursue her career by undertaking a Certificate IV in Business with The University of Notre Dame. It's a very exciting time for Kira, she is really looking forward to enjoying Broome, as she loves playing netball, which she is keen to play here in Broome, while enjoying the beautiful beaches too. We wish Kira the very best in achieving her dreams.

Sam Aldridge from the Apprenticeship Community was there to sign Kira's Certificate IV traineeship and to offer professional services the Apprenticeship Community provides to all the Apprentices and Trainees.

Thank you Sam Aldridge and The Apprenticeship community for making Kira's dreams become a reality.

By Spencer Lim Joon
Field Officer



Wilfred Cox (Willy Cox)

HOST EMPLOYER: Colin Wilkinson Development
Qualification: Certificate III in Carpentry and Joinery

In September during the pre-employment construction training conducted at the John Gummery Skills Training Centre, Willy had time to get back into the swing of things. The course had 20 participants-13 from Argyle Diamond Mine and 7 men registered with East Kimberley Job Pathways Kununurra.

Earlier this year Willy had an opportunity to do construction labouring with KGT but hosted to Pindan Contracing to build the renal unit at the Kununurra Hospital.

From Monday the 8th to Friday the 15th of September, Willy showed his worth to the CWD team during his mandatory week trial. Friday morning KGT had the go ahead to get Wilfred Cox signed up into the Carpentry and Joinery Apprenticeship with the assistance of Brad Callanan from CCIWA. Willy and the other 5 Apprentices at CWD Kununurra will now travel to Broome 4 times a year for study at the Broome NRTAFE Campus. Exciting times ahead for Willy and the Team.

By Rene Harbers - Field Officer



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Pathway Press

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Celebrating successes: 2016 KGT Excellence Awards!

The fourth annual KGT Excellence Awards for 2016 was held on the 26th of August at the Mangrove Hotel in Broome. The KGT Excellence Awards acknowledge the progress of our trainees and apprentices on their pathway to success. Nominees and winners are certainly role models in their communities, inspiring others to follow in their footsteps towards a better life.

We would like to say a big thank you to all who helped us make the 2016 KGT Excellence Awards a resounding success, especially our sponsors, with your help we are able to make this event a reality.



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From the CEO



Well another quarter has come and gone, another busy period at KGT. No doubt the highlight was the KGT excellence awards night held in Broome on Friday 26th August. A lot of work went into the awards behind the scenes and a big congratulations must go to the KGT staff for pulling this together. While it was a big effort for staff, the reward of seeing how excited the nominees were made it all worthwhile. It is great to see how important being acknowledged through the awards is to our participants and it is a credit to their host employers and families.

From all accounts, a number of celebrations went well into the evening (and possibly the weekend) but all accounts were positive. Well done to all participants and host employers involved in the evening and we look forward to seeing you all again in 2017. The results of the awards supports KGT’s belief that despite where and how we source our funding, our primary focus is the participant and assisting them in achieving their career goals.

Too many times in this region we have seen organisations with good intentions lose their relevance because they have adapted their approach to suit funding requirements. KGT on the other hand, has been strong on sourcing funds to suit its purpose, rather than changing its purpose to source funds. This is not a great strategy financially, but it keeps the organisation relevant in a rapidly changing environment and the purpose for which we were established is arguably more relevant today than when we commenced operations.

One area in which we continually struggle however is getting our message out beyond the region, where decisions about funding are made, in particular with the Federal Government. It would appear that people have heard of KGT, but struggle to understand what we do. Continually we are lumped in the same basket as Registered Training Organisations, or private training providers. This has negative connotations in the current political environment, with a number of private training providers having been caught rorting the system, especially under the VET Fee-Help scheme.

KGT on the other hand, is not a training provider. We are an employer of apprentices and trainees. We do use training providers to provide the off-the-job component of traineeships and apprenticeships and we work hard to identify and support legitimate providers to ensure our participants gain the necessary skills to go forward with their careers. In an effort to help get our message across, we are planning some changes to the KGT brand. We hope to be able to announce these changes in the next newsletter so stay tuned!

In the meantime, enjoy all the good news articles in this newsletter and if you have any good news you think should be broadcast, please contact our administration staff in our Broome office on 08 9192 8877, or our Kununurra office on 08 9168 3808.

By Ian Warrener
Chief Executive Officer

Just a reminder...

The Finance team were excited to participate in KGT’s staff development day in Broome at the end of August, and even more excited to attend the annual awards presentation night. It was great to put faces to the names of the employees and their host employers and chat with some of the committee members. One of the highlights of the awards evening was the wonderful Welcome to Country we all received.

Just a reminder that when we get closer to the end of the year we will be sending out information regarding payroll over the Christmas/New Year period. Please ensure that any information you receive you read carefully so your pay will be deposited correctly and on time.



From the field...

Des Mongoo from DM Management had an inspirational plan to help Santanol Sandalwood reach its goal of employing a local indigenous workforce.

Just one of the many success stories I wish to share this time is about Desmond Darby pictured below. Just call him Des! Des had a very interesting working life over the past 10 years.



Santanol CEO Remi Clearo

He started in 2006 as an Apprentice at Argyle Diamond Mine, he then moved on and worked in Ipswich QLD for two years, still undertaking his trade qualification, then moved onto Argyle Engineering in Kununurra to complete his hard earned qualification.

In 2010, Des Darby then decided to travel with his newly acquired Trade Qualification. He spent time in Perth with Westrac doing Heavy Engineering, then in Newman with Rio-Tinto (Iron Ore). In 2015 he felt the need to return home, like most people do.



Desmond (Des) Darby

Last year in October, Des returned to Kununurra and soon discovered that work was really hard to come by in town. He was fortunate enough to get a little casual work with Save the Children Australia-Kununurra office but this was only casual.

Luckily Des found out about DM Management and Santanol’s recruiting drive. this was held at the Waringarri Centre and brought in 50 odd job applications from men keen on work.

They were only after six labourers and two machine operators initially. Des personally was looking at the Santanol labouring positions.

Des was quickly picked up by DM Management- Santanol. Since being employed, Des with his previous Boiler Making/Engineering trade experience was transitioned across and has been working super hard at the “Melon” Santanol operations area on Research Station Road.

Des did share that he would love to follow his other passion one day which is to one day study UEE30811- Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician at TAFE. It would be a great goal to see take place!

By Rene’ Harbers
Field Officer

Community connections: KGT engages with local youth on TAFE careers day...

KGT was delighted to participate in the annual careers day organised by North Regional TAFE (Kununurra Campus) on Thursday 8 September 2016. Our stall was mainly looked after by our Business trainee Tehanna Fraser. Being a trainee herself, Tehanna was able to create rapport with the visitors to the stall as well as share her experience as a trainee first hand.

KGT also organised a few interactive activities for all visiting the stall. Our ‘dream job’ activity proved very popular amongst visitors, and as always our mascot Teddy stole the show!

It was rewarding to see youth asking questions and wanting to know more about traineeships and apprenticeships, and where a qualification could lead them. It was an amazing day!

KGT would like to thank North Regional TAFE and all youth of the region who visited the careers day.



By Caroline Constant
Administration Manager

What's new at the Boab Lounge?

A lot of changes have taken place at the Boab Lounge since the last newsletter. And a lot more to come! Change is good, it keeps us on our toes, it drives us to improve and to never settle or take anything for granted. Our vision and objectives of the airport café are still the same though: a fast paced training facility with standards high enough so that the trainees are able to acquire the base skills, work ethics and experience needed to be up to the task when they finish their traineeship, and move on to any other hospitality related workplace.

Back to the changes:

- We have our liquor license up and running
- A new Point of Sale system is in place
- Branding is coming to Boab Lounge!
- Catering is becoming an increasingly often hard word at the café nowadays!

Last, but not least, TRAINEES! Since the last newsletter we've had great outcomes with trainees at the airport; Marrella Wilson was hired on full-time employment by Santanol Sandalwood and Caroline Birch was hired on full-time employment at Rumours Patisserie. The trainees that are currently at Boab Lounge are Shaunagh Bateman, Kaleisha Wilkes and Wesley Norman. They are responsible and hard workers, we know that their outcome will be on the same path as the trainees mentioned before. One special mention is due to Jacinta Martin, former Boab Lounge Trainee, who recently obtained KGT's Excellence Encouragement Award during the ceremony held in Broome. We are all very proud of her.

That's pretty much all of it folks, if you have any questions or feedback, please don't hesitate to let us know. We are really proud of the work we do, but we also know there's always room for improvement.

Thanks for reading and stop by for a coffee anytime!



By Tomas Farruggia
Airport Cafe Manager

News from the SEE program...

Kimberley Group Training welcomes Annie Peacock as our newest trainer, working with the Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) program. Annie joins Jack and Mary in the Broome office to assist in the expansion of the current SEE program, both in the local Broome region and beyond.

Annie comes to KGT with a wealth of experience in the area of adult education. Staff at Kimberley Group Training are looking forward to working alongside Annie and are confident that she will enjoy what the Kimberley has to offer.



Last week in Broome, Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) program participants Holly Gargenung, Marlene Goonack and Katrina Wheelock took part in art and craft workshops run by the women of the Yiriman Project.

In an intergenerational, cross-cultural exchange the elder women travelled from the Fitzroy Valley to share their skills with young women in Broome. Holly, Marlene and Katrina enjoyed the opportunity to sit around the fire and learn bead making and painting, and joined the women the following day for a silk painting workshop run through Nagula Jarndu, women's art resource centre.

By the SEE Trainers



The inside scoop...



It's been a busy dry season for KGT operations with a number of new initiatives getting underway whilst at the same time work with existing participants and employers continues.

In the East Kimberley a new intake of apprentices and trainees have just commenced with Argyle Diamond Mine with some of these participants undertaking pre-employment training through the Skills Centre. Access to pre-employment training and services is an important step in preparing new participants for entry to the workforce through the development of a range of 'work ready' skills. Other graduates of recent pre-employment programs are now undertaking work experience placements prior to selection for upcoming apprenticeship/traineeship positions in the construction and hospitality industries.

The Boab Lounge, the KGT operated café at Kununurra airport, has recently been granted a liquor licence which should increase the trade of the café and more importantly provide a complete refreshment service for travellers transiting through the airport. The café is an important training and work experience environment for new entrants to the hospitality industry and the workforce in general. Participants working at the café can gain work experience in a supportive environment whilst they develop workplace skills and confidence. There have already been participants who have gone on to other positions which while being a management challenge for the café's operation is an excellent and gratifying employment progression for the participants involved.

The Broome office has been working with two Aboriginal Corporations that are developing pastoral operations involving agriculture traineeships. One of these operations at Mowanum Station is a significant pilot project in the development of irrigated pasture production and the two trainees involved are not only developing station hand skills but wider supply chain knowledge and skills. The Mowanum project has been short listed for the WA Premiers Awards for excellence in Aboriginal outcomes with the trainees playing a key role in presentations to the judging panel.

The Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) team have recently commenced delivery of a Building and Construction pre-employment program in preparation for upcoming apprenticeships that are linked to Department of Housing projects. This pre-employment program is being delivered in conjunction with North Regional TAFE and provides participants with building industry specific job ready skills supported by literacy and numeracy development through the SEE program.

Integration of SEE training into pre-employment programs is becoming an increasingly valuable pathway in the preparation of participants for the workforce. A lack of work experience can be a significant barrier to entry into the workforce. Supportive pre-employment programs that are a mix of vocational skills, literacy and numeracy and general life skills help build individual confidence and increase the likelihood of successful outcomes.

By Richard Owen
Operations Manager

KGT Hospitality stars shine at dinner with former Prime Minister...



Awesome Kimberley Group Training hospitality trainees, Gail Carlton and Montana Ah-Won, got to practise their Hospitality skills serving dinner to former PM Tony Abbott and senior Wunan staff for a working dinner in the Wunan Boardroom on Monday 5 September 2016. Well done ladies!

KGT trainee represents Australia overseas



Kimberley Group Training would like to congratulate Karajarri Ranger Wynston Shovellor who was chosen to represent Australia in one of the world’s largest environmental and nature conservation events, the IUCN 2016 Congress in Hawaii. While in Hawaii Wynston did attend meetings with leaders, tours around the island and exchanging information and knowledge exchange, while getting to explore national historic parks while being guided by the local ranger team.

“I was excited to represent not only Australia but my people and to be involved in such a great experience,” Wynston said.

This is yet again another great example of Wynston showing excellent leadership skills, along with proving there are important jobs in remote communities for high-achieving young people. Over the last two years Wynston has been nominated twice for Trainee of the year with KGT, travelled to Hawaii for the IUCN 2016 Congress, Canada on a cultural exchange with the First Nation, completed Certificate II Conservation and Land Management, working though his Certificate III this list goes on.

On any day Wynston could be performing any number of tasks from fighting wild fire, monitoring turtles, entering important data to the cyber tracker, assisting young or less experienced rangers. It has been great watching you develop new skills and become an integral part of his ranger team and community. Keep up the good work and we look forward to working with him over the next year.

By Renae Massa
Field Officer

Yeehaa!

Kimberley Group Training Trainees spent a whole day showing former Prime Minister Tony Abbott the ropes of their working lives in a horse-riding business. It was Mr Abbott’s first volunteering day in Kununurra!

Yeehaa Trail Rides is a horse-riding business located at the base of Elephant Rock in Kununurra, next to the Kununurra Race Track. Run in Kununurra by Yeehaa Trail Rides, Kununurra District High School, Kimberley Group Training (KGT) and Costal and Rural Training, the program takes students out of the classroom and into horse-riding school, providing them with qualifications and a chance at further employment..

The Year 10, 11, and 12 participants work towards a Certificate II in Agriculture with KGT by working with the trail-riding business while undertaking a traineeship with Kimberley Group Training. Yeehaa co-ordinator Kris Thomas says “It is immensely important, they come out here and they are working in a family-style atmosphere and they learn to be strong, assertive and caring,” he said.

Well done to all the Yeehaa participants!



By Caroline Constant
Administration Manager

2016 KGT Excellence Awards!

And the winners are...



Levi Copley
Winner of Telstra Apprentice of the year.



Jacinta Martin
Winner of Airnorth Kimberley Encouragement Award.



Raymond Charles
Winner of Apprenticeship Community Trainee of the year.



Ryan Henderson from 18 Degrees
Winner of the Mangrove Hotel Host Employer of the year.
(Spencer received the award on behalf of Ryan)



Mikey Cox
Winner of the Kimberley Small Business Support School-Based Trainee of the year.



Imran Paddy
Winner of the Water for Food Safety Recognition Award.

From the field...



In August 2014 a young man named Blair Curtin commenced in a School-Based Traineeship in Agriculture with Yeehaa Trail Rides. Blair is familiar with this industry as his family works and lives on Glen Hill Station.

In March 2015 Blair completed his traineeship and moved to Perth to complete his year 12 schooling. Not long after moving back to Perth, Blair decided that he wanted to go and work on Rocklea Station which is situated near Tom Price in the Pilbara.

At the start of September, Blair competed in his first Rodeo in Pannawonica and came away with two major prizes. He took out 2nd division Bull Ride, winning his first buckle and also took out 2nd place in the open Bull Ride. With both wins under his belt, Blair is keen to participate in more Rodeos and gain more experience and hopefully one day take out a big prize!

By Natasha Cross
Field Officer