

gippsland youth commitment

Everyone's Responsibility

Gippsland Youth Commitment Newsletter

Off and Running for 2011-15

Minister launches new Gippsland Youth Commitment Strategy

Peter Hall, Minister for Higher Education and Skills recently launched the Future Directions Strategy 2011-15 for the Gippsland Youth Commitment (GYC)

The minister congratulated the Gippsland Regional Management Forum, the three Gippsland Local Learning and Employment Networks and GYC partners for agreeing to take this step forward and for reminding the Gippsland community that the future of our young people is 'everyone's responsibility'

The need for business and community to get behind the strategy was highlighted by the minister. This would support young people to meet their potential but at the same time support Gippsland's future prosperity and regional development. "By joining up to this commitment industry can more easily influence what the future work force will look like"

Acting Regional Director of Education and Early Childhood Development, Karen Cain noted that over 2,500 young people have already been supported by partners involved with the Gippsland Youth Commitment. "The Gippsland Youth Commitment is now well established and provides a collaborative framework to provide better coordinated planning and delivery of programs". Karen Cain added that there are signs in recent data that outcomes are improving but that there is a great more to do.

The launch was attended by over 100 participants video linked between Bairnsdale, Leongatha and Moe, and attracted participants from business, government, education, training, welfare and community. This included Professor Kwong Lee Dow

former Vice Chancellor of the University of Melbourne and current Chairperson of the

Gippsland Tertiary Education Expert Panel, and Gippsland parliamentary members Russell Northe and Tim Bull.

The Gippsland Youth Commitment has already signed up over 40 partners and is aiming for 200 partners by the end of the year

The GYC is endorsed by the Regional Management Forum, a peak regional body and is also linked with the Regional Development Strategy. The GYC is a cross agency 'call to action' which aims to improve education and training outcomes for young people by encouraging organisations from different sectors to plan and work together in a co-ordinated framework.



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Highlights from young people

Three very game young people presented to the Gippsland Youth Commitment strategy launch.

Giles Morgan while studying at **Bairnsdale Secondary College** completed the **Victorian Energy Education Training program (VEET)** in 2010. This program is an initiative of **SP AusNet** which helps students to learn more about the Energy Industry and opportunities available by taking them through a supported series of Industry orientation activities.

After completing the VEET program and his VCE Giles gained a fulltime Linesperson apprenticeship, with Sp AusNet in January 2011.

Courtney Smith is a year 12 student from South Gippsland Secondary College. Courtney was involved in the Environmental Maths program the SGBCLLEN developed with **Phillip Island Nature Park** in 2009. The Maths program went on to win the 2010 Victorian Science and Mathematics Education Excellence Award (see below)

Manny Tombra is a Sudanese boy from Lavalla Catholic College. Manny participated in the **"Journey to Work"** program which provided Manny with an orientation to work in his relatively new environment. This led to immediate part time work at Woolworths and helped focus his career goals towards a University pathway.

Highlights from GYC Partners

Maths at Work

Maths Matters to Little Penguins

The **"Maths Matters To Little Penguins"** program started as a partnership between the South Gippsland Secondary College, **Phillip Island Nature Park** and **Monash University**, and was facilitated by **South Gippsland Bass Coast LLEN**. In 2010 it was

successful in winning the Victorian Science and Mathematics Excellence Award. Since then the program has evolved in many different directions involving more partners. These all have a central theme of 'Maths at Work' and target a range of different mathematics outcomes. As the theme implies each also has a focus on mathematical applications in workplace settings.



'Maths Miners'

Discussions between **South Gippsland Bass Coast LLEN** and **Coal Creek Historical Village** (South Gippsland Shire) have led to a program that draws on the **Phillip Island Nature Park** model. Teachers from **Leongatha Secondary College** have worked collaboratively with the education officer at Coal Creek to develop a program being trialled with students from **South Gippsland** and **Leongatha Secondary College** in terms 3 and 4. South Gippsland Secondary College teachers will engage in a critical review of the program and materials with a view to expansion in 2012.

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'Maths Constructions'

A partnership is under development between **South Gippsland Secondary College, South Gippsland Shire and Parks Victoria.**

This project focuses on 'at risk' Year 9 boys and seeks to provide meaningful contexts for mathematical studies as well as focus on personal development skills to prepare these students to participate effectively in further study and in the workforce.

Maths In The Pipeline

The partnership between **South Gippsland Water, Westernport Water, Monash University, South Gippsland Secondary College, Leongatha Secondary College** and **Newhaven College** is now well established and being trialled by teachers from South Gippsland and Leongatha Secondary Colleges and engineers and staff from South Gippsland

Science at Work

Burra Foods & Korumburra Secondary College Partnership

Burra Foods, through the Gippsland Youth Commitment have partnered with **Korumburra Secondary College (KSC)** to develop a range of strategies to engage students from years seven to year twelve and beyond.

Rather than talking about what scientists 'do', students are able to see scientists at work. Rather than wondering what happens in the big factory in the town or thinking about all the employees as factory workers, students can experience science at work, through visits and work experiences at various stages of their education.

The company's goal was to inspire students to study and to work in the field of science. Management at Burra Foods realised that while offering work experience was valuable the company had the potential to go further and make a stronger connection with young people. Burra Foods also recognised the importance of positive relationships in their community, as well as the impact to

students of introducing them to opportunities for employment and further study

The partnership has

- Opened the door for students to see what they are learning applies to real life.
- Broadened student horizons by exposing them to new and exciting career pathways in the Burra Foods processing plant and administration.
- Provided links to the local community

In 2011 the partnership was successful in winning the DEECD Science and Mathematics Education Excellence Regional Award and the prize of \$10,000 will be used to further strengthen the partnership with much needed equipment and professional development.

GYC Focus Groups Updates

Each of the GYC Focus Groups has this year developed implementation plans which set out strategies and actions being undertaken.

- Koorie Focus Group
- Maths Science Focus Group
- Transition and Re-engagement Focus Group
- Tertiary Education Focus Group
- Skills Training Focus Group

In future editions of this newsletter the groups will provide updates on their work

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Welcome to new Partners

“Thank you to the following organisations who have signed up to the GYC and made important commitments to improving outcomes for the young people of Gippsland”

Apprenticeships Group Australia
Amco Ltd
Bairnsdale Secondary College
Beacon Foundation
Bendigo Bank
Berry Street
Blue Stockings
Brown Coal Innovation
Burra Foods
CMV Truck and Bus
Chisholm TAFE
Colin Watson Motors
Committee for Gippsland
Community College Gippsland
Consumer Affairs Victoria
Cranes Ashphalting
Dahlsens
East Gippsland Food Cluster Inc.
East Gippsland Shire Council
East Gippsland Water
Employment Innovations Victoria
Engineers Australia (Gipps)
GDF Suez Loy Yang B (International Power)
Gippsland East LLEN
GHD
Bricklaying Department GippsTAFE
GippsTAFE
Hospitality, Tourism and Music GippsTAFE
Cabinet Making Joinery GippsTAFE
Gippswater
Gippsland Trades and Labour Council
Latrobe City Council
Latrobe Valley Village
Link Employment
MECU
MEGT
Mitsui
Monash University Gippsland

Murray Goulburn
Peter Hall
Phillip Island Nature Park
Powerworks
Russell Northe Member for Morwell
Slap Architects
Smith Family
South Gippsland Shire
SPAusnet
Sure Constructions
Telstra Country
Tim Bull
Traralgon Accident and Repair Centre
TruEnergy/Silcar
Workways Inc.
Yallourn Alliance

Becoming a GYC partner

If you are interested in adding your voice to the growing commitment then you can find further information on

www.gippslandyouthcommitment.org.au and contact one of the GYC consultants below

Mick Murphy
Baw Baw Latrobe Local Learning and Employment Network
03 5633 2868

Wendy Major
South Gippsland Bass Coast Local Learning and Employment Network
03 5662 5500

Jacqui Bramwell
Gippsland East Local Learning and Employment Network
03 5153 1745

Onno Van den Eynde (Vanda) or Dick Phillips
Department of Education and Early Childhood Development,
Gippsland
03 5127 0400