

Shop Talk



Name: Suzanne Davis

Nickname: Suzie Q

Position at Ganbina: Project Officer

Job Loves: Meeting and getting to know the students.

Family Matters: I have 2 children. Warwick 18, Reace 16.

Playtime: Socializing with family and friends...and, house work!

Three people you would invite to a dinner party and why: My family so we can have a laugh together, we don't get together enough.

One thing you would change in the world: Racism.

What gets up your nose: People that are false.

Tell us a joke :
Q. What goes up and never goes down?
A. Your age.

Farewell

A sad farewell to Leonie Drummond and Lockeah Wapu who are both taking another step forward in their personal careers. Leonie is still a local, working with Notre Dame while Lockeah has moved to Geelong. The board and staff at Ganbina would like to wish them both all the best in their future endeavors.

Career Moves

Kirstie Reaper



With the school year coming to a close, careers opportunities are a focus for students across the State. Ganbina stepped up to the plate and recently presented its Year 9 Careers evening, where students from Shepparton High, Wanganui Park Secondary College and Notre Dame College enjoyed the opportunity to listen to a variety of guest speakers, keen to support our young students.

Representatives from major organisations across the region spoke about their personal experiences, shedding light on their first job. The key message - hard work and the will to succeed can overcome any obstacles at anytime in life. Belief in yourself and perseverance are paramount.

Their stories were as inspiring as they were practical with useful information about the many forms of employment and available resources. Traits employers look for in applicants, resume writing and interview techniques were all covered.

The message from those who have 'been there, done that' could not have been clearer. The importance of education and staying in school for both employment and personal development should not be underestimated.

Our thanks to Lindsay Jennings from The Apprenticeship Factory and Meagan O'Shannessy and Lynne Parker from HACC (Health and Community Caring) for their sincere words and welcome advice.

On the Radar

October 19 Youth Achievement Awards Open - pick up entry forms at Ganbina

October 19 Youth Leadership Community Dinner

November 26 Youth Achievement Awards Presentation Night

December 18 Ganbina offices close for holidays

Mid January 2010 Ganbina offices reopen

Readers Rave

We love hearing from you and this issue we are asking you to tell us what your dream job would be. We are giving away a free double movie pass to Village to the first reader to respond. Text 0428 217 330 or email info@ganbina.com.au or send us a letter.

Our Word

Since 2004, Ganbina has focused on creating a culture that will engage and inspire our youth to pursue their career goals. Fast forward to the present and we see thirty of our current participants involved in employment.

Of the eight who are primarily involved in employment, seven have been Ganbina participants, receiving assistance from our program for the transition from education to current, full time positions in the work force.

An amazing nineteen, undertake part time work while completing school while three others are in training courses and casually employed. Not only are they earning an income, they are developing valuable work skills and acting as positive role models for their friends and families.

The measure of success in our community, or lack there of it, has often been, "We don't see Aboriginal youth serving in the local shops..." Even this is now changing with twenty two from the Ganbina program alone, involved in the retail sector. This is not to say we have made it nor that this will be a final career destination, however, it is another strong indication that Ganbina's programs are succeeding across the board.

The team at Ganbina is passionate about careers and finding the right resources for our participants, so, whatever your goals, dare to dream, jump in and do it!

Adrian Appo

Generation Next

Carving career paths can often prove to be exciting and daunting at the same time. With this in mind, Ganbina hosted its 2009 Careers Night for an eager audience of Year 10, 11 and 12 students at the Koori Unit of Shepparton TAFE. The event attracted students, their parents and many local organisations, who all enjoyed a great networking opportunity.

With Ganbina's Lisa Marsden as MC, the night kicked off with EO, Adrian Appo, warmly welcoming everyone with some sage advice. No one is expected to have all the answers but Ganbina is there to support and assist with the resources to answer the questions.

Anne Trickey from Career Connections inspired her audience, speaking about the diverse subject choices on offer through VCAL, VCE and VET that can prepare students for their future careers. There was a sigh of relief from many who were uncertain about the options available when taking the next step in career planning.

Lindsay Jennings from the Apprenticeship Factory eased everyone's nerves about interviews. With great tips on presenting to employers and finding suitable paths to meet individual career aspirations, Lindsay described the variety of traineeships available as well noting the pre-requisites for different types of employment.

ASHE (Academy of Sport, Health and Education), local SPC Ardmona and Goulburn Ovens Institute of TAFE,



Pictured from left: Khiara Harrison, Kristy Atkinson and Daniel Andrews

the Apprenticeship Factory, La Trobe University, CVGT and Careers Connections all ran information stands and displays as well as conducting one on one talks with the students. James Atkinson was one of the many students appreciating the resources available on the night. "I thought it was great to see the different directions we can take to achieve our goals", said James.

The night was also a success for the organisations attending. Anne Trickey from Career Connections said, "I enjoyed the evening and the young people certainly engaged with the exhibitors. It was also great to see some parents there."

Ganbina extends a message of thanks to all who attended. Keep asking questions, keep finding answers and always persist in giving it your best shot. A career choice isn't the end it is just the beginning of a great adventure.

David Murray

Street Beat

High Fliers

Lisa Marsden



Students across the globe will agree that the question they hear most is ... "What do you want to do when you leave school?" !! Ganbina's Youth Leadership students were recently given the chance to find the answer...

Caitlyn Anselmi, Chanoa Cooper, Khiara Harrison and Hayden Newton-King embarked on a whirlwind tour across Melbourne and Sydney's big business landscape where they had the opportunity to meet many high profile business people while learning about the diverse career options available for our youth.

Day one and trains, trams and automobiles were all on hand to take the group to Trinity College for their two-night stay in Melbourne. With accommodation in the dorm rooms and a personalized tour by one of the second year, med students (thanks Rob James), the leaders gained their first experience of life at college. Later in the day, a trip to Melbourne University was another eye-opener with our leaders having plenty of questions for the staff from The Centre of Indigenous Education.

Day two saw an early start with Susan Francis from the Bennelong Foundation upping the pace as she hosted a day that took in the full scope of life after school. A visit to another one of Melbourne's iconic educational centres, Swinburne University was first on the busy agenda. A tour of the electrical department had the group fascinated to see working robots and saw Hayden buzzing, "I was really excited to spend time in the electrical department as my goal is to become an electrician".

Entering the world of media, events, television production and international

distribution was next at Sportsbrand Media Group. The leaders witnessed an end-to-end commercial production and were amazed to see all the raw material and detailed work that goes into a 5 minute commercial.

Kelly Chapman welcomed the leaders to the Melbourne Magistrates court with an overview of our judicial system. The group toured the court before settling in to witness two cases and then explore the historic State Library. Khiara, with aspirations to follow a legal career, was in her element and left with a head full of information to assist her on her chosen path.

Susan Francis was "very impressed at the enthusiasm and level of participation", from the leaders who actively engaged with their hosts. Even while finding themselves out of their comfort zone, the group asked many questions and "made the most out of every opportunity they were given".

Day three and back to business. With the stock market constantly making headlines, the leaders jumped at the chance to attend a luncheon with the staff from Goldman Sachs JB Were. An interesting speech about the industry was followed by an informal exchange of stories with the staff very interested in hearing what the leaders hoped to do in the future.

Another first for some in the group was the plane trip to Sydney in the

High Fliers pictured from left: Rob James (Trinity Medical Student), Hayden Newton-King, Khiara Harrison, Chanoa Cooper and Caitlyn Anselmi.

afternoon, however, nerves, jetlag and excitement translated into a good nights sleep to get them off to a great start on day four.

The AMP Foundation was another information highlight where leaders spent one on one time with the staff who were happy to answer more questions while throwing in a few of their own. Helen Liondos conducted a tour of the company concluding with AMP presenting the leaders with jumpers, Imax and Jet Boating tickets.

Lunch with one of Ganbina's long time supporters, Tony Berg was also a highlight. Tony, a widely respected and highly regarded member of the community has had a vital role in the leadership program. The leaders were honored to have the opportunity to meet with him.

The learning continued into the afternoon but on a very different level. Taking advantage of their Jet Boating tickets and free time for shopping, the leaders let their hair down and took in the sights of Sydney, ending with a dinner at Darling Harbour.

The seasoned travelers took the fast and furious pace in their stride with a smile on their faces, bringing back much information to share with family, friends and the Ganbina team.

Street Beat

My Space

Name:
Nathan Brown

Year: 7

School:
Wanganui Park
Secondary
College

Interest:
Playing sports
Career Goal: Engineering



Name:
Taylah Seymour

Year: 10

School:
Shepparton
High School

Interest:
Reading, socializing and netball

Part time job: Wendy's Ice-cream.

What they like about their job:
The people I work with.

Career goal: Beauty Therapy



Name:
Lena-Jean
Charles-Loffel

Year: 12

Part time job:
Jets Gymnastics

What they like about their job:
Working with the kids, teaching them fitness techniques.

Career goal: Melbourne University to study psychology.



Dream Team

Ganbina's many supporters are the backbone of our organization. They come from varied backgrounds and include individuals, volunteers, small players and large corporations. What they do have in common is their generosity and commitment to making the world a better place.

Three and half years ago, Bennelong GM Susan Francis was looking to support a youth incentive in the region. Susan followed up a casual referral to Ganbina, information was exchanged and happily, a dynamic and lasting association was formed, enabling Ganbina to significantly develop its youth careers program.

The Bennelong Group is an investment and funds management group with business interests reaching across Australia and internationally. The group's philanthropic organization, the Bennelong Foundation, contributes a positive and lasting change to the community by supporting various charities that encompass medical research, community health, crisis support and youth.

Their objective to assist youth has seen Cathy Freeman come on board as a patron with her charity, 'Cottages by The Sea', providing holidays for disadvantaged children. This and many other charities enjoy a supportive and mutually inspiring association with Bennelong.

GM, Susan Francis' role (amongst many), encompasses community support. With a strong belief in

hands-on involvement, Susan and her team regularly visit each of the charities, often volunteering to assist on programs (see page 2) as well as encouraging the organisations to attend presentations at the Bennelong offices. This not only keeps the relationships personal and real it also provides networking opportunities for the charities and keeps each cause, top of mind for the Bennelong staff.

A typical day in the life of a Bennelong executive will involve extensive travel as well as countless hours of desk work, keeping watch on international markets, liaising with investors, sales and marketing, managing staff and advancing the perception of Bennelong...all in a days work, (well nearly)!!

On the job training and formal courses keep them abreast of the latest industry moves but mostly, a keen interest and lots of hard work equates to success and job satisfaction.

To date, the support provided by Susan and the Bennelong team has been invaluable and their time and interest in Ganbina, priceless.

Check out www.bennngroup.com.au for more information and a great read about the Aboriginal ancestry that inspired their name.

Pictured above on location : Sportsbrand staff and Ganbina leaders.