



Vol. 47, Term 4, November, 2010.

COMPACT Maths Factory Challenge



Mentor **Graeme Harron (r)** was on hand to give some valuable advice to participants from Junee High School **Aly Dyer (l)** and **Hannah Pickersgill (m)**

Who said you can't put chocolate and maths together and make it fun? For the Yr 9 students from Junee High School, Cootamundra High School, Temora High School, St Anne's Central School, Sacred Heart Central School, Aria Park Central School, Barellan Central School & Ardlethan Central School who came to the COMPACT Maths Factory Challenge on the 2nd June and 9th June got a chance to do just that!

The Chocolate Challenge was very popular: students make a chocolate freckle, then calculate the raw product cost, through to selling, packaging and marketing the chocolate.

Together with a local builder, Junee Shire Engineer, Junee Railway Workshop and of course the Junee Licorice and Chocolate Factory, the students completed a series of challenges that required some serious thinking and applications that are not usually possible to achieve in the classroom.

For the Railway Workshop activity, students calculate costs of transporting grain, check pay slips and prepare a model of a metal fabrication task as part of the challenge.

For the building challenge, the chance to play with bricks and take on the vital job of calculating the amount of materials required in the building of a house and surrounding fences was achieved by these Yr 9 students. This gave students real insight into the daily workings in the building industry.

HEAD OFFICE

57 Morgan St
(PO Box 51)
WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2650
E: info@compact.org.au
Ph: 02 69319300
Fax: 02 69319301
W: www.compact.org.au



COMPACT Maths Factory Challenge



Winners of Day 1 was Junee High School. **Taran Hayward** & **Joseph Newman** receive the trophy from **Rhonda Heffernan** of COMPACT



Winners on Day 2 were **St Anne's Catholic School Temora**.



Andrew Clinton from the **Junee Railway Workshop** assists students from Sacred Heart Central School Cootamundra with one of the challenges.

Cont from page 1

For those students who sometimes question the value of what they learn in maths, the purpose of the day was to show how this knowledge is transferred into everyday working life. The engineering challenge certainly helps students realise this with its use of formulas, volume and area in the digging of a storm water trench.

Special thanks to our sponsors this year whose financial assistance ensured the day was a great success. The sponsors were: **Junee Medical Centre**, **Junee IGA**, **Building & Environmental Services Today**, **Commins Henriks Solicitors** and **Intersales Temora**.

We will once again be seeking financial support to run the program next year and we invite business and industry from the Junee, Temora and Cootamundra region to consider helping local youth be involved in what is being heralded as a very worthwhile learning experience.



The licorice bowling proved a hit at the recent **COMPACT Maths Factory Challenge**





WORKPLACEMENTS



REX hosted 3 TAFE NSW Riverina Institute Year 11 students recently. (l) **Dale Watt** for Electrotechnology, **Emmaline Bridger**, (m) for Automotive and (r) **Maddison Hunt** completed her Tourism Workplacement.



Cootamundra High School Year 11 IT student, **Simon Leinesch**, completed his Workplacement with the Sports Journalists at the **Cootamundra Herald**.



Year 12 Gundagai High School student, **Jamielee Webb**, completed her Hospitality Workplacement at the Urallba Hostel, Gundagai.



Year 11 Koorngal High School Metals & Engineering student, **Kyle Ingram**, had a great week on Workplacement with one of COMPACT'S new employers **Fisher Body Works**



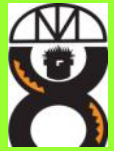
Yolanda Geddes @, from Wagga Wagga High School, was hard at work during her Year 11 Construction Workplacement with **Riverina Plaster Works**



Smart's Jewellers hosted Year 11 Tumut High School student **Teigan Halstead** on her Retail Workplacement



Build A Bridge... & get over it!



Build A Bridge—Day one. Students participated in a range of team building exercises in preparation for the required team approach to the major engineering task ahead.

Despite horrendous weather and a swollen creek, the Build a Bridge... & get over it! Engineering Camp was held from 24 August – 26 August 2010 at Borambola Sport and Recreation Centre. This was the fifth camp hosted by COMPACT and partners REROC (Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils). We have been successful in gaining new partners to this event, RTA NSW and IPWEA NSW, who will sponsor the camp for the next 3 years.

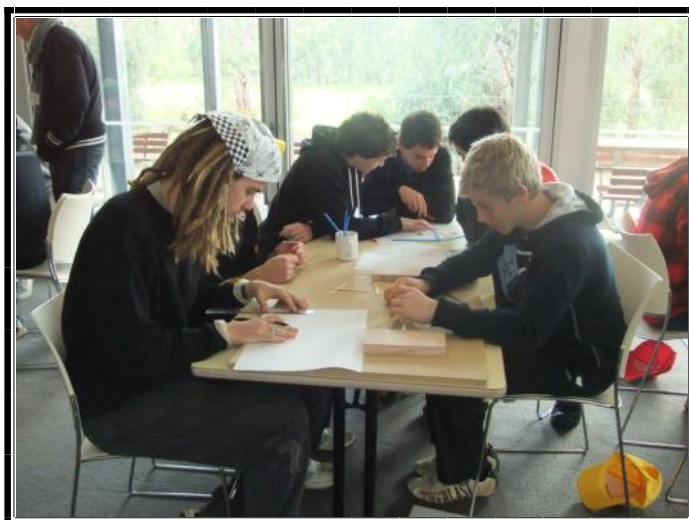
Twenty four students from schools in Wagga Wagga and the Central Murrumbidgee were accepted into the camp after being successful in the competitive application process.



Build A Bridge—Day two. Students are shown the basics of the Theodolite from **RTA Engineering mentors**

Nigel Worne, a Civil Engineer from Melbourne, was the TAFE facilitator of the camp. Nigel has a strong passion for his industry and enjoys encouraging young people into a career in engineering. Nigel delivered two modules from the Engineering Certificate which was contracted through TAFE NSW - Riverina Institute, Leeton Campus.

The three day camp began with the students dividing into four teams, named after four famous bridge builders: Morrow, Bradfield, Jones and Contino. Teamwork is an essential element for the success of the camp, so the first activity consisted of the students participating in some team building workshops.



Build A Bridge—Day two. Students begin the task of constructing their scale model bridges ready for tender

Engineering mentors from REROC and RTA NSW then joined the students and each team participated in an introduction to engineering skills: 1. Dumpy and Laser Levels and 2. Surveying (Theodolite). After lunch, the students along with Nigel and the Mentors, headed off on a site visit of the Tarcutta bypass. This excursion was organised with **Chloe Williams**, a Graduate Highway Engineer with Leighton Constructions/ Tarcutta Hume Alliance. This was a great opportunity for everyone to see bridges under construction on a multi-million dollar site. After a very long day of learning, Nigel Worne then provided students with the major project brief.



Build A Bridge... & get over it!



On Day two, the mentors spent the day with Nigel and the students discussing and investigating bridge design options, conducting site appraisals and mentoring on how to overcome challenges. Each team had to research, plan, budget, design and build a scale model bridge, accompanied by drawings and design notes. The teams presented their bridge designs at the evening session and were assessed by their peers according to engineering design principals and requirements. The **Contino** team provided the winning bridge design which was then to be built over the Borambola Billabong.

The weather held out, so on Day three all students participated in building the bridge under the instruction of the Contino team, who were the project managers. Students were assisted by mentors. After this huge task was successfully completed, ahead of schedule, the camp culminated with each of the students walking over the bridge to receive certificates from **Dennis Bishop**, COMPACT Chairperson and **Cr Paul Braybrooks**, REROC Chairperson.

Parents, students and invited guests were invited to afternoon tea and a presentation from REROC Executive Officer, Julie Briggs, COMPACT Chairperson, Dennis Bishop and camp facilitator, Nigel Worne. The students and guests also received information on Engineering from RTA, UTS, TAFE NSW Riverina Institute, Leeton Campus and La Trobe University.

We would like to thank the following REROC Engineers for volunteering their time to assist the students at this years camp. **Tony Kelly – Coolamon Shire Council, Geoff Lewis – Corowa Shire Council, Adam Richards – Cootamundra Shire Council (past Build A Bridge student) and Col Macauley – Junee Shire Council.** We would also like to thank RTA Engineers, **Pat Shaw, Andrew Leah, Ragavan Vythilinkam, Syed Nowmani, Anthony Perera and Alan Pottie** for volunteering their time. Former Build A Bridge student, **Robert Evans**, travelled from Sydney to assist the students again this year. Robert gained an RTA Scholarship and will complete his studies at UTS this year.



Build A Bridge—Day two. Students were able to fit in some leisure activities by having a go on the high ropes



Build A Bridge—Day three. Despite the wet weather construction of the full scale bridge began on time



Build A Bridge—Day three. The winning **CONTINO** team on their bridge at the end of construction



OUT AND ABOUT WITH COMPACT



Students from the Central Murrumbidgee Region participated in a 2 week Shearing School run in partnership with TAFE NSW Primary Industries Centre where they gained a Cert II in Crutching.



Year 11 Temora High School Hospitality student **Tegan Campbell** (r) completed her Workplacement at **Temptations Coffee Shop**. Tegan is pictured here with **Leanne Whitacker** (l).



On the 23 September, Young High School Yr 11 Metals & Engineering students presented **Apollo Fabrication Manager, Brian Teffel**, a Certificate of Appreciation for their involvement in Structured Workplace Learning by hosting 9 students on Workplacement in 2010. Pictured is (l) **Andrew "Spud" Smithers**, **Brian Tieffel** (m) and Young High School Metals student **Ratomir Jelinek** (r). The students and accompanied teachers were given a tour of the workshop area and given time to ask industry questions whilst on site.



One of COMPACT's newest employers **Kurrajong Recyclers** recently hosted Year 11 Wagga Wagga High School Business Services student **Beth McCarthy**, Beth is pictured here with **Julie Bailey** (l).



Entertainment classes from **Wagga Wagga and Koorlingal High Schools** were lucky enough to complete their Workplacement during the recent **Jazz Festival**. COMPACT would like to thank Jazz Festival president **Mike McCall** and **Tim Ingram** for their support.





CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

**Thank
You
All**

On behalf of Megan, Erin, Fiona, Rhonda, Emily, Christine, Kerry, Pamela & Kim we would like to thank you all for your support during 2010 and we look forward to working with you again in 2011.

Wishing you all the compliments of the season and a safe and prosperous New Year.

As I reflect on the past twelve months, I am amazed by the resilience and capacity of our organisation. One year ago we were faced with the challenge of gaining a contract to broker partnerships between schools, industry, parents and community groups. If successful, we would research, plan, restructure, recruit, budget and evaluate as we entered into uncharted waters. This would happen in an environment of tight budgets, government deadlines, political uncertainty and limited resources. It put immense pressure on Megan Mulrooney, our CEO, the COMPACT Board and all the staff. But again, we have been successful. Our staff has a number of new faces and I thank Glenda Pym and Peter Dale for the work they did during the transition and I welcome Christine Bolton and Kerry Footman to the Partnership Brokerage arm of our business. Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) remains an important regional responsibility and Fiona Carroll, Rhonda Heffernan, Pamela Oppelt and Kim Edgerton have done a magnificent job placing 1050 students into businesses across the region. Our Office Manager, Erin Frauenfelder has expertly kept the ship on an even keel with the help of trainee Emily Stead. Jo Flanagan continued her excellent work with the Burrabinya Project.

In the last few weeks we have submitted a tender for the 2011 SWL contract. The process required a very broad view of the organisation and its history. It is a long document and outlined our involvement in the community beginning in 1991. Documentation of our work was reviewed during the tender meetings and I particularly enjoyed revisiting photographs of students at work. The locations included the film and television school at CSU, Tubbo Station, Build a Bridge at Borambola, the June Licorice & Chocolate Factory, the Cootamundra Herald, an expo at Young Sports Stadium, and early breakfasts at the Business Enterprise Centre. There were photographs of early COMPACT champions, Julie Briggs, Graeme Kelly, Debbie Castle and Helen Renshaw, and of course hundreds of images of students, most bright eyed and excited by the experience of "real work" away from the humdrum of school. Next year is our 20th Birthday, and we are already planning a birthday party so make sure you read your newsletters and watch the local paper. As the year concludes I give special thanks to Deputy Chair Crispin Lowe and Treasurer Tracey Cornell. Their commitment to the organisation has been exemplary. Sue Lester and Michelle Swan have assisted with tenders and our principal representatives, Glyn Leyshon and Patricia Burgess provide excellent advice. It is difficult to get busy industry people to serve on our board but Ben Arscott and Janine McBeath have found time to provide invaluable support to the organisation.

I look forward to meeting up with employers and teachers at our "thank you" functions and hope you have a safe and joyful Christmas with your families.

Dennis Bishop
Chair, COMPACT



Season's Greetings





PARTNERSHIP BROKER NEWS

LinkAGES is an initiative that encourages career pathways for young people in the Aged Care sector and provides cross generational connection opportunities.

Our region has a recognised skills shortage within the Aged Care sector. In addition, the availability of volunteer contributions to our Aged Care facilities has experienced a decline in recent times. Anticipated outcomes of the program include an increase in the level of interest or take-up in careers in the Aged Care sector including Nursing, Diversional Therapy and other Allied Health professions and the encouragement of sustained volunteering through the engagement of students in inter-generational activities.

The LinkAGES pilot program commenced in Term 4, 2010, as a partnership between Wagga Wagga High School, Kildare Catholic College, Caloola Centre for Aged Care and The Haven. The pilot program has been supported by organisations including TAFE NSW, Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga City Council, Greater Murray Area Health Service and Calvary Health Care Riverina.

Foreseeable outcomes for participating students are; personal development, enhanced communication and empathy skills, a greater understanding of the needs of others and an appreciation of the benefits of shared experiences.



Kildare Catholic College student, **Jenna Coote**, has been participating in LinkAGES at The Haven.

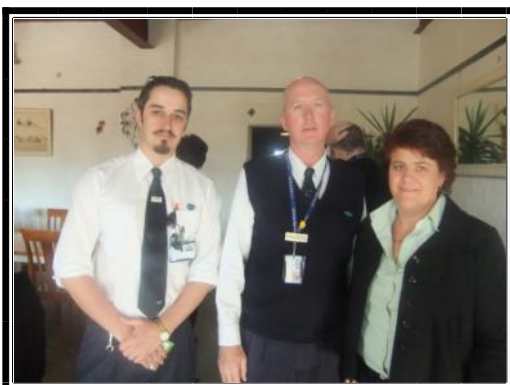


COMPACT Executive Officer **Megan Mulrooney** (l) is pictured with Junee Shire Council Mayor **Cr Lola Cummins** at the Junee Community Breakfast.

This year COMPACT has conducted a number of Community Forums. The aim of these forums has been to raise the awareness of the School Business Community Partnership Broker Initiative and garner support from community to build sustainable partnerships to enhance youth engagement, improve transition from school to work and increase Year 12 attainment outcomes.

A Partnership Luncheon was held in Wagga Wagga in September and brought together business, industry, government, non-government agencies and community organisations. The luncheon provided an opportunity to hear from one of Australia's leading Partnership Brokers, Ian Dixon. Ian has extensive experience building cross-sectoral partnerships and provided insight into the benefits of working in partnership to create mutually beneficial outcomes. Guest speakers Julie Briggs (REROC) and Neil Druce (Junee Licorice Factory) spoke about our existing partnership activities such as Build a Bridge...& get over it! Engineering camp and Junee Maths Factory Challenge and expressed the benefits for their organisations supporting the young people of our community.

The Junee Community Breakfast was held at the Junee Chocolate Factory in October. This breakfast provided an opportunity to inform the community about alternate learning pathways and how the community could take an active role in supporting Junee youth by providing a variety of career opportunities and further developing student's employability and life skills. These opportunities will assist students in the transition from school to work and promote the importance of education in a work related context. The major outcome of the breakfast was to engage organisations, businesses and Individuals who would be prepared to support Junee High School in a range of learning opportunities for its students.



COMPACT staff member **Rhonda Heffernan** (r) is pictured with Junee Correctional Centre Staff members **Damien Morgan** (l) & **Trevor Coles** at the Junee Community Breakfast.

NSW Department of Education and Training worked with COMPACT to develop a Youth Service Provider Forum which brought together a variety of organisations to introduce youth based programmes and services to secondary Principals, Deputy Principals, and School Directors from the Riverina Central West and East Regions. The forum provided an opportunity to discuss various programs, initiatives and possible future developments available within the community to support disengaged and disconnected students within the school system.

Should you have any further enquiries or would like to know more about the Partnership Broker initiative, please call Megan, Christine or Kerry on 02 69319300.