



Photos: Top, Senator Kate Lundy, Member for Canberra, launches the Try-a-Trade Roadshow at MacKillop Catholic College. Below, MacKillop Year 12 Students learning plumbing trade skills from Paul Jurak, at the Try-a-Trade Roadshow.

MacKillop Catholic College Hosts Try-a-Trade Roadshow

In cooperation with Capitol Skills Centre, MacKillop Catholic College at their Isabella Campus hosted the Try-a-Trade - 'Skills to School Roadshow' from 11 to 13 August.

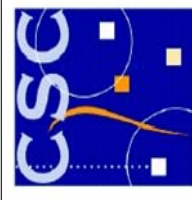
The Try-a-Trade Roadshow allowed students to have an interactive hands-on experience at various skill and trade areas. The event consisted of eight separate booths, each dedicated for a particular trade or occupation.

Students in groups of 2 or 3 spent about 15 minutes in each area with a total of 340 student participating in various trade and occupation areas.

"The Try-a-Trade Roadshow' is a unique initiative to raise the profile of traditional and non-traditional trades, address skills shortages in the region and connect young people to their future careers," said Sue Charnock, Manager, Capitol Skills Centre.

The event is part of a wider program by Capitol Skills Centre which will assist school students in gaining valuable knowledge and 'hand-on' experience in trade areas.

The principal sponsors for the event were Capitol Skills Centre and the Training Fund Authority.



Take a Step Towards an Apprenticeship

Take your first step towards starting an apprenticeship in 2009 by coming along to an information and assessment session at the Canberra Institute of Technology, Fyshwick Trades Skills Centre.

Capitol Skills Centre will facilitate the sessions as part of their annual information and recruitment program and will also be inviting applications from perspective apprentices in a wide range of trades to commence in 2009.

A number of trades in building and construction, electrotechnology and horticulture will be displayed including; carpentry, cabinet making, plumbing, tiling, painting, plastering and refrigeration & air-conditioning.

At the sessions you can:

- ◆ Complete an assessment to rate your suitability for starting an apprenticeship.
- ◆ Receive valuable information about the range of apprenticeships on offer and the training available at the CIT.

When: From Tuesday, 7 October to Thursday 9 October 2008. Students can book in for a two hour session either in the morning or afternoon.

Where: Building A, CIT Fyshwick Trades Skills Centre, Canberra Avenue.

RSVP: By Friday, 26 September 2008 by calling 1300 apprentice (mention Capitol Skills). For Further information, contact Brad Page or Sue Charnock ☎ 0418 210 678.





2008 ACT Apprentice of the Year

At the ACT's premier event in the Vocational Education and Training calendar, Rachael Keiley apprentice plumber, employed by Custom Plumbing Services won the **2008 ACT Australian Apprentice of the Year Award**.

Before 600 of the ACT's leading employers (industry and government), Registered Training Organisations, apprentices, trainees and students the Minister for Education and Training, Andrew Barr MLA announced the **2008 ACT Training Excellence Awards** on 14 August. Awards ranged from Employer of the Year to Australian Apprentice of the Year.

Rachael Keiley will represent the ACT at the 2008 Australian Training Awards which will be held in Darwin on 20 November.



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE & COMMUNITY SAFETY
OFFICE OF REGULATORY SERVICES

New Asbestos Laws Affecting Non-Residential Buildings

From September 7 2007, new laws have been introduced for non-residential buildings. The laws affect anyone who owns a building or who makes decisions about its management, for example as an occupier or property manager.

The date by which you must comply with the new laws varies depending on the type of building - **the first deadline being September 2008**.

The new laws requires you to obtain a report from a Licensed Asbestos Assessor, identifying the location and condition of any asbestos in your building.

You must then prepare and put into action a written Asbestos Management Plan. This must include an Asbestos Register that can be made available to tenants, workers, contractors or any relevant person. It also needs to include an action timetable for control measures and a procedure for review.

The review must take place at every five years.

More information on the new laws is available at www.asbestos.act.gov.au/new_laws.html

Source: ACT WorkCover

Ministers to launch 'Tradeswomen in Building and Construction' campaign

The Training Fund Authority is currently developing a promotional campaign titled '**Tradeswomen in Building and Construction**'.

The aim of the campaign is to advise and demonstrate to young girls attending years 9 to 12 (15 - 18 years of age) at schools and colleges in the ACT the opportunities and careers that exist in the building and construction industry.

The campaign will highlight the diversity and jobs available to young girls and to their parents that vocational careers available extend far beyond community stereotypes, such as personal care, beauty and hairdressing, child care and a range of administrative and support roles.

The campaign will also aim to:

- ◆ Create wider awareness of building and construction and electrical trades available to young women.
- ◆ Portray the industry as welcoming to young women.
- ◆ Demonstrate viable career paths as a result of entry to the industry through Australian School-based Apprenticeships, Australian Apprenticeships and Cadetships
- ◆ Tap into an alternative source of labour to contribute to the solution for industry skills shortages in the ACT.

Statistics indicate as at December 2007 only 17 (1.2%) of the 1381 ACT apprentices undertaking training in the building and construction and electrotechnology trades are females.

The '**Tradeswomen in Building and Construction**' campaign will be delivered through a DVD, posters and brochures, and will be delivered within ACT Schools, Industry Associations, Group Training Organisations, Australian Apprenticeship Centres and at Careers Expos.

The campaign will be jointly launched by Andrew Barr MLA, Minister for Education and Training and Katy Gallagher MLA, Minister for Women on Thursday, 11 September 2008.

Enquires: Damiana Vigone, Get It Productions ☎ 0411 091 388 or 6229 1736.



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