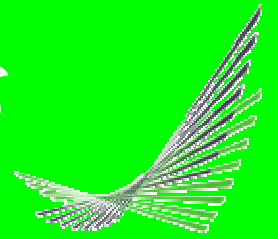


ieLLEN News

April 2005 – Issue 13



INNER EASTERN LOCAL LEARNING & EMPLOYMENT NETWORK



“Armed and Dangerous”

The new and exciting annual forum, presented as part of St Kilda Film Festival, will feature work by local VCAL students and other young people. Supported by the IELLEN and St Kilda Youth Service, produced by Blue SKYS Media, and hosted by Theatreworks, “Armed and Dangerous” will showcase the work of emerging musicians, artists, writers, media and film makers. A must see for any young person thinking about a career in the Arts and Media industries.

Thursday 26th May 1.00 - 3.00pm Free
Enquiries/Bookings 8598 9033

Theatreworks 14 Acland Street
(corner of St Leonards Avenue)

AGM with Jim Stynes

This year the IELLEN incorporated a special guest speaker into the Annual General Meeting and presentation of the 2004 Annual Report [available on the 'Document Archive' page of our website]. The evening was a great success, as it highlighted the work of our organisation through similarities with Jim Stynes' work with the Reach Foundation, and it raised the IELLEN's profile in our local community. The event was well attended and served to publicise our work, ensuring that our support services and programs are known to all young people who may be assisted by them.

In addition to addressing the attendees, Jimmy presented a short movie about an impressive and confronting project that involved professionals from the corporate world ('corporates' as he referred to them) spending time with a particularly marginalised group of young people. He was also generous with his time after the formalities, taking time to speak to IELLEN members and many of the young people in attendance who knew of him from his football days, or through their involvement in Reach camps or programs.



IELLEN Careers Expo 2005

COMING SOON...

The 2005 IELLEN Careers Expo is coming!! **August 9 at Prahran Neighbourhood House.** Mark it in your diary and keep an eye on our website and newsletters for further info.

Follow the success of last year's Expo, this year's event will see an entertaining host facilitate the discussion about a variety of career pathways with a panel of young people who have achieved alternative or non-traditional pathways.

Our Careers Expo is a must see for young people both in and out of school!

➔ *From VCAL to VCE and everything in between*

➔ *Find out how to get back on track*

VCAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

As announced in the previous edition of our newsletter, The Coles Myer - IELLEN VCAL program received one of the "State 2004 VCAL Achievement Awards". This award recognised the outstanding achievements in the delivery of structured workplace learning within the program. The Minister for Education and Training, Lynne Kosky MP presented the IELLEN's VCAL Achievement Awards at Queen's Hall, Parliament House on March 16, 2005.

Anne Clifford (Coles Myer) & Lyn Kosky MP [pictured at right]

Below L-R: Penny Vakakis (IMVC EO), Cate Thompson (IELLEN EO), Anne Clifford (Coles Myer), Jack Melbourne (IELLEN Chairperson)



New staff member

Evan Kenny has joined our team, and brings his background in 'at risk' youth work to the IELLEN with experience from Dublin, and Australian youth music and recreation programs. In addition to working with the young people in the Intermediate and Senior VCAL programs at Swinburne TAFE, Evan works on the OTIS (On Track In School) project and also assists in the management of our VET enrolments.



The IELLEN Committee of Management and staff farewelled their Executive Officer Cate Thompson at a dinner at Swinburne TAFE's Mekanix training restaurant on April 20th.

Gill Meek is currently acting EO and Cate still spends one day a week with the IELLEN working on the Heat Up! project and supporting Gill.



HEINZ supports Young Mums

Heinz is on board to support the IELLEN's Young Mums VCAL Program. The Young Mums VCAL is an innovative program that allows pregnant young women and new mothers the opportunity to build their parenting and literacy skills through unique support channels. Whilst subject outcomes are important the main aim of the program is to provide a learning environment that caters to the needs of young mothers and thus allows them to remain engaged in education.



The program will soon feature on Heinz's Help@Hand web page. Help@Hand is a Heinz philanthropic program, which gives Heinz's people opportunities to work together for the benefit of their community.

See: <http://heinz.com.au/html/about_us/help_hand/home.asp>

→ On Track has begun



Lists of Year 12 school completers not in full time employment or education have begun to arrive in the IELLEN On Track

worker's inbox, and contact, advice and referrals have begun. On Track is a State Government initiative that helps young people make the transition from school to further education, training and work. The project contacts young people who left school in years 10-12 in the previous year to find out if they are studying or in full time work. Those not studying or in full time work are put in contact with local services to help them get their career plans back on track.

Effectively then, the project has 2 main objectives:

1. Tracking high school completers and leavers to see whether they are progressing along their desired pathway
2. Providing advice and assistance to those who are not satisfied with their situation to get them back 'on track'

The IELLEN expects to contact well over 200 young people through On Track this year, and will assist many of them through referrals or directly, with intensive one-on-one support.



!! Congratulations !!

The newest member of the Inner Melbourne VET Cluster has arrived! Victoria Chloe was born on April 4, 2005. In addition to sleeping, gurgling, eating, crying, smiling and burping, she has already secured her Carlton Football Club membership, and is currently negotiating IMVC time commitment arrangements with the cluster's EO Penny Vakakis.