



Andrew Arthur (from left), Julia Gillard, Kyle Butler, Mark Callaghan and Senator Mark Arbib at Federation Mall.

Silver medallist shows off skills

MATTHEW WARD

A WORLDSKILLS International silver medallist from Ellis Lane passed on some of his techniques at Canberra's Federation Mall earlier this month.

Tool maker Kyle Butler, formerly a worker at Ingleburn's Broen's Industries, and fellow Australian team members demonstrated their skills to Deputy Prime Minister Julia Gillard and federal frontbenchers.

The MPs took on the Worldskills Try a Trade challenge, manoeuvring mortar on a trowel and learning to generate power

via a special bike constructed by the team.

Mr Butler said his Worldskills experience in Canada in September was "fantastic".

"It's great to see how your skills measure up against others and a good opportunity to travel," he said.

WorldSkills Australia chief executive Mark Callaghan said the government's apprenticeship kickstart program would boost the numbers of young Australians in work.

WorldSkills Australia aims to raise the profile of skill-based vocations through a series of international competitions.