

**worldskills
australia**

2007-08

**annual
report**

**SEE THE BEST
VS THE BEST**



**worldskills
Australia**

www.worldskills.org.au

2007-08

CONTENTS

Highlights of the Year	3
Chair's Report	4
CEO's Report	5
Members of the Board	6
What is WorldSkills Australia?	8
Try'aTrade Program	10
International Pathways	11
Environmental Initiatives	12
Partners & Supporters	13
National Competition, Sydney	14
Team Australia - Calgary, Canada	16
Where Are They Now?	20
2007 / 2008 Financial Report	24
A Year of Pictures	34

*Skillaroo medalists;
Stuart Aisbett, Joel Drew,
John Rudge, Dale McMullen,
Suwanna Rattananikom,
WSI Competition, Japan, 2007*



what a year...

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

2007

JULY

- The launch of SkillsOne TV on Foxtel. We believe it is the first time Australian television developed programming that focuses on trades and skills.

AUGUST

- BBM Scholarships awarded to WorldSkills Australia competitors.

OCTOBER

- National Plastering Competition, Melbourne.

NOVEMBER

- 39th WorldSkills International Competition Shizuoka, Japan. Australia achieves 5th place in the world.

2008

FEBRUARY

- Green Skills - In an effort to address challenges around environmental sustainability WorldSkills Australia and Dusseldorf Skills Forum (DSF) collaborate to make the 2008 National Competition as environmentally friendly as possible.
- 2008 sees the WorldSkills Australia Try'a Trade program receive a makeover with a new look logo and events rolling out at a range of regional and national locations across the country.

MARCH

- WorldSkills Australia joins virtual networks including Facebook to further expose the organisation to a range of on line age groups from 16 to 25 year olds.

APRIL

- 2007 Skillaroo John Rudge, received the Ern MacDonald Fellowship for recognition of his dedication to the construction industry.

MAY

- Young Achiever of the Year - Congratulations to Lachlan Thomas, 2007 Refrigeration Skillaroo, for winning CoolWorld Industry Young Achiever of the Year award.
- Melbourne Try'a Trade - WorldSkills Australian together with GTA Victoria held a successful Try'a Trade event at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre on Friday 16 and Saturday 17 May, up to 25,000 people attended this event.

JUNE

- The inaugural 2008 Australian Apprenticeships Roundtable meeting was held in Canberra from 2 - 4 June 2008. 2007 Skillaroos Stuart Aisbett and Shareena Sloan attend.

JULY

- WorldSkills Australia National Competition, Sydney 2008
- WorldSkills Australia National Competition sees the introduction of CIS (Competition Information System), an assessment software program that was designed specifically for WorldSkills competitions.

NOVEMBER

- 2009 Team Australia Skillaroos officially announced.

The Year's Summaries

CHAIR'S OVERVIEW

WorldSkills Australia is perhaps our country's most inspirational success story and after my first year as the Chair of the WorldSkills Board and my many years as a supporter and then Board member, I continue to be inspired and awed by the achievements of our young people. WSA is the strongest demonstration of Australia's skills excellence available in an international environment. Where else could we put our young skilled tradespersons and technicians and clearly show that we are among the best in the world.

I am often asked what WorldSkills is about and while it can be relatively easy to explain, it is always difficult to accurately capture the essence of what WorldSkills means in words. While our primary focus is to run skill based competitions, we are so much more. WorldSkills Australia inspires young people to be the best they can be in their chosen field. WorldSkills Australia raises the status of a skill based career and ensures that our young skilled tradespersons and technicians are recognised. The contribution made by each and every skilled competitor ensures our nation continues to be acknowledged as a highly skilled, knowledgeable and internationally competitive country.

We develop and nurture some of Australia's most talented and skilled apprentices and trainees, some win medals nationally and internationally, some start successful businesses of their own and go on to employ a new generation of young Australians.

I have met hundreds of the WorldSkills Australia competitors over the years and each and every one of them makes me proud to be Australian. I often stop and think about the value of skills in a developed country; it's something that as Australians we take for granted.

Imagine an operating theatre for a moment. You have a brilliant surgeon performing an operation; beside him is a nurse who hands him various surgical instruments made by a highly skilled technician. The room itself has required the services of an electrician, floor and wall tilers, carpenters, plasterers, painters, air conditioning technicians; the list of skilled people to make it all possible is endless.

In the 20 plus years of involvement with vocational education and training I have learned to appreciate the value of the industry defined skills standards and quality training and assessment that produces such wonderfully skilled tradespersons and technicians. There is an enormous amount of pride within the WorldSkills Australia family in knowing we have contributed to making a difference to the lives of many young Australians.

WorldSkills Australia today is in the strongest position it has been in its 27 year history. There are many factors that contribute to this but I would like to specifically mention our CEO Mark Callaghan. In a relatively short space of time Mark has created a dedicated and committed team in the WSA national office, he has worked with the regions, category convenors and experts, government and industry to place WSA at the forefront of their thinking. Our Board are enthusiastic and committed to goals and future success of WSA and I thank them for their continuing efforts and involvement.

In the past 12 months WorldSkills Australia has taken 27 talented and highly skilled competitors to the International stage in Japan. They brought home gold, silver and bronze and a 5th place world ranking for Australia.

Thousands of skilled competitors have done battle on a regional level to win a place at the National Competition in Sydney. 500 young Australians made it to Sydney and battled it out over an intense 3 days of competition at the magnificent Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre in July.

After weeks of careful assessment a panel of experts chose 29 of the best to represent their country as members of Team Australia The Skillaroos in Calgary in 2009 and the next generation of skilled ambassadors will continue their WorldSkills journey.

I look forward to the next 12 months, to the next round of regional competitions and of course the International Competition in Calgary in September 2009.

Congratulations to all involved in WorldSkills Australia!



"WorldSkills Australia raises the status of a skill based career and ensures that our young skilled tradespersons and technicians are recognised".

A handwritten signature of Jeanette Allen in black ink.

Jeanette Allen

Chair, WorldSkills Australia

The WorldSkills Australia logo, featuring a stylized graphic of colorful ribbons (blue, green, yellow, red) forming a circular shape above the text "worldskills Australia" in a lowercase, sans-serif font.

worldskills
Australia

CEO's REPORT

At WorldSkills Australia (WSA) our challenge is to make all Australians aware that to learn a skill, to choose a trade or skill based career is one of the most important decisions a young person and their family will ever make.

Our core program, the WSA National competition is the perfect vehicle in which to do this. It provides a forum for industry, government and vocational education and training authorities to highlight the benefits of skill development and the value of a skill based career.

In July 2008, the WSA National competition was held in Darling Harbour, Sydney. 513 young Australians challenged themselves to be the 'best of the best' and what we witnessed was an incredible display of the high quality skills that exist in this country. Despite being urged to stay home due to the pending World Youth Day celebrations, approximately 45,000 people visited the competition with close to 25,000 more watching the action via the WSA website. In what was a fitting end to the 2008 WSA National Competition, eventual Australian Idol winner Wes Carr together with MC Adam Spencer brought the competition to a close as the medalists were announced at a glittering ceremony at the beautiful State Theatre in Sydney.

WSA is proud to be a part of the global movement of skills excellence and the Presentation Ceremony for the 2008 National competition provided us with the opportunity to applaud all the competitors for being outstanding amongst their peers in this country. They have all since returned to their workplaces or places of training where their skills will encourage others and their success will demonstrate to all just what is achievable. They are the future upon which the productivity of Australia is based.

The WSA National Competition is now truly a major event and without the support, hard work, enthusiasm and passion of Government partners, industry sponsors and the WorldSkills 'army' of volunteers, particularly at the regional level, we would not be able to provide a platform for Australia's best to perform. It is only through the combined efforts and continuing support of these groups that we are able to inspire young Australians to achieve their goals and realise their dreams.

To all involved with WSA at the regional level I would especially like to pass on my thanks for your continued hard work. Since the establishment of WSA 27 years ago, the major operational force of the organisation has been through our regions. As we head into the 2009 round of regional competitions I look forward to an increase in the number of young Australians who take up the challenge to test their skills.

I would like to thank the Board of WSA for their continued support and guidance throughout the year. I would particularly like to acknowledge the passion that the Chair, Jeanette Allen has for WSA which is evidenced by the amount of time she is willing to commit in her very busy schedule. I look forward to working with Jeanette and the Board as we continue to strengthen the organisation.

I would also like to thank the core staff of the WSA National office. In 2008, together with the extended WSA family we continued to raise the bar. The level of professionalism that the National office

**Just as our
sporting
champions 'dare
to dream' so to
do our trade and
skill champions.**



staff display together with the continuing passion and commitment of the WSA 'volunteers' is a successful formula for ensuring that WSA continues to contribute to this country's economic growth through the recognition and promotion of world class skills.

Finally, like most Australians, for 15 days in August I was glued to the television watching Australia's best athletes battle it out for gold, silver and bronze against the world's best. What struck me throughout the Olympics were the stories of sacrifice, commitment and dedication of the athletes as they realised their dreams of representing their country.

Just as our sporting champions 'dare to dream' so to do our trade and skill champions. On 6 November this year, WSA announced the 2009 Team Australia Skillaroos who will compete in the 40th WorldSkills Competition in Calgary, Canada in September 2009. These young men and women will show just as much dedication and commitment and will sacrifice a lot more than our sporting champions as they strive to improve on our 5th place ranking by emulating the champions that have gone before them. And who knows, maybe someone who visited the 2008 National competition at Darling Harbour or who visits the International competition in Calgary and witnesses the tremendous skills on display will be inspired by their efforts to follow their own dreams and to become 'the best of the best'.

Mark Callaghan
CEO, WorldSkills Australia

Members of the Board

Jeanette Allen

Chair of WorldSkills Australia

JEANETTE was appointed Chair of the WorldSkills Australia Board in May 2007 and has been a Director of WorldSkills since 2005. Jeanette is also a Director of DataMaster Australia Pty Ltd.

She is currently the Chief Executive Officer of the Service Industry Skills Council, responsible for managing and developing training packages and support materials for service and client industries. Jeanette is taking a leadership role in the development of international recognition of a range of vocational qualifications with a number of countries and has achieved international benchmarking of National Qualifications with South Africa, United Kingdom, New Zealand, South Korea, Canada and the USA.

Jim Barron

Deputy Chair of WorldSkills Australia

JIM was appointed as a Director of WorldSkills Australia in 2002 and elected Deputy Chair in November 2004. Jim is also Chief Executive Officer of Group Training Australia (GTA). Prior to taking his role at GTA in November 2001, Jim Barron spent 14 years in federal politics. Jim held a number of senior positions within the Howard Government, notably Chief of Staff to Dr David Kemp for nearly 4 years; and Chief of Staff to Ministers Ellison and Moylan and State Director of the Queensland Liberal Party from 1994-96.

Rex Hewett

Chair of Finance and Audit Committee

REX is a qualified electrician, former TAFE teacher and national union official. He has an Economics Degree and Diploma in Education from Sydney University and an Electrical Trades certificate. Rex Hewett has held various positions in the education and training sector at state, national and international levels.

Brian Wexham

BRIAN was appointed Director of WorldSkills Australia in October 2002. He is currently a director of Life Media Group and the Executive Publishing Network. Brian Wexham was appointed CEO for the Institute of Trade Skills Excellence (ITSE) in 2006.

Brian Wexham holds several non-executive board positions which include Creative Communications, The Rock Eisteddfod Foundation, the New Zealand Stage Challenge (Chairman) and the Be Your Best Foundation, South Africa. Brian Wexham has an extensive background in media and advertising spanning over 30 years. He spent 10 years in London with The Times and Sunday Times in various executive roles. In 1986 he joined The Observer as a director and was also on the main board of The Today newspaper. He is the author of several books including Shipwrecks and author of an international cartoon strip. Brian has had international success involving major publishing companies including National Press, South Africa and the International Thompson Organisation. He is the former Chief Executive of Lonrho Media Group PLC East Africa and more recently he was the Chief Executive of APN Educational Media (Australia and New Zealand)

Heather Ridout

HEATHER was appointed as a Director of WorldSkills Australia in June 2004. She is also Chief Executive of the Australian Industry Group. Heather Ridout has previously held the positions of Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director, Public Policy and Communications with Australian Industry Group.

Heather Ridout has responsibility for the overall development and implementation of the Australian Industry Group's policies, strategies and services. Her policy interests embrace the whole range of industry and she has been particularly active in developing AIG's public policy in relation to economic, industry, innovation, education and training.

Heather has been acknowledged as one of Australia's top 25 leaders in the Australia Financial Review's Boss Magazine. She holds a Bachelor of Economics (Hons) degree from the University of Sydney.

Four light green silhouettes of people's heads and shoulders are arranged in a row across the top of the page. The first silhouette is on the left, followed by the second, third, and fourth on the right.

Sharan Burrow

SHARAN is the President of the Australian Council of Trade Unions and was appointed as a Director of WorldSkills Australia in 2008. In May 2000, Sharan Burrow became the second woman to be elected President of the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU). In November 2006, Sharan was elected President of the newly-formed global union body, the International Trade Union Confederation. The ITUC represents 168 million workers in 154 countries and territories and has 307 national affiliates.

Sharan studied at the University of NSW in 1976 and began her teaching career in high schools around country NSW. She became an organiser for the NSW Teachers' Federation, based in Bathurst, and was President of the Bathurst Trades and Labour Council during the 1980s. Sharan was elected Senior Vice-President of the NSW Teachers' Federation and became President of the Australian Education Union (AEU) in 1992. She represented the AEU on the ACTU Executive through the 1990s. Sharan was previously Vice-President of Education International from 1995 to 2000. Education International is the international organisation of education unions representing 24 million members worldwide.

Mary Hicks

MARY is the Director of Employment, Education and Training for the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI). In this position Ms Hicks plays a catalytic role in consulting with ACCI business and industry member organisations to develop employment, education and training policy and in representing ACCI views with stakeholders. She provides leadership and support to ACCI member organisations in this process. Previously Ms Hicks was a senior secondary school teacher and has also worked in Government and business. Ms Hicks has extensive community experience including work with the Alliance Française. She was awarded the National Order of Merit by the President of France for her services to the study of French in 2005.

Ms Hicks has a well-rounded background and an extensive knowledge of the needs of business and industry. She is committed to and passionate about achieving quality outcomes in employment, education and training for the benefit of the Australian community. She is a member of the National Quality Council of the Ministerial Council on Vocational and Technical Education and the Board of WorldSkills Australia.

Steve Ghost

STEVE is Managing Director of SkillsTech Australia and is leading the establishment through a significant investment program to develop state-of-the-art training facilities in Brisbane and regional Queensland.

Steve Ghost has previously had senior leadership roles within the education and training industry including Director, Yeronga Institute of TAFE and General Manager, Education and Training for the Australian Industry Group. He is a member of numerous national and state boards and committees including TAFE Directors Australia, Training Queensland Strategic Management Team and the Queensland Skills Plan Steering Committee.

Martin Baird

MARTIN is the Managing Director of Cap Coatings Pty Ltd - a supplier of passive fire protection products. He is a Certified Practicing Accountant, Chartered Company Secretary and graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Martin is also a State Councilor of Chartered Secretaries Australia.

Prior to joining Cap Coatings and becoming a WorldSkills board member; he served as an independent member of the WSA Finance and Audit Committee and held senior roles in large private sector and publicly listed companies.

Kevin Harris

KEVIN was appointed as a Director of WorldSkills Australia in August 2007. He is currently a board member of TAFE Directors Australia and the Institute Director of TAFE NSW Northern Sydney Institute. He is a member of numerous industry association advisory and management committees including the Australian Information Industries Association of NSW and the Australia Electrical and Electronics Manufacturers' Association.

Kevin's diverse career has included roles as a Supervising Project Engineer with Honeywell Australia and various leadership roles in vocational education and training. Following a degree in Mathematics and Physics from Macquarie University, Kevin completed an Electronics Trade Certificate.

What is WorldSkills Australia?

OUR MISSION

"To benchmark skills achievement in VET nationally and globally through skills competitions, thereby developing awareness of and promoting respect for skills excellence".



WorldSkills Australia contributes to Australia's economic growth through the recognition and promotion of world class skills.

WorldSkills Australia Inc. is a dynamic, not-for-profit organisation that has been actively celebrating and promoting the standards and status of vocational training and skills excellence for 27 years. We have achieved this primarily through our programs of trade and skill competitions - in particular, our National Competition.

WorldSkills Australia is the nation's premier showcase of youth skill and trade excellence. Through a program of competitions, aligned to National Training Packages, WorldSkills Australia works to ensure that today's young people have the skills and abilities to compete within the rapidly changing global marketplace.

WorldSkills Australia competitions operate on a two year cycle.

Regional competitions flow into National competitions and National competition winners, if eligible, become members of the international team - the Skillaroos, who will then represent Australia at the WorldSkills International Competition - the Skill Olympics.

"The value we place on vocational skills and our willingness to recognise vocational training as a valid pathway to life long learning is critical to Australia's ability to compete globally into the future."

Mark Callaghan, CEO of WorldSkills Australia.

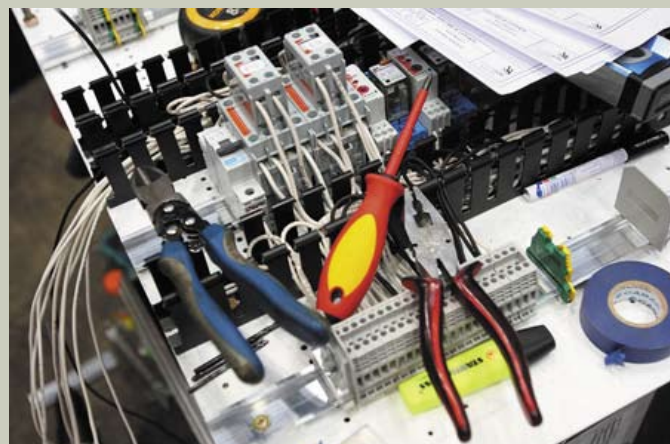
WorldSkills continues to work to increase the profile and status of trades and a skills based career.

WSA challenges young people, their teachers, trainers and employers to achieve world-class standards. The organisation aims to encourage young Australians to celebrate vocational education and training and make Australians aware that to learn a skill - to choose a skill based career - is one of the most important decisions a young person and their family will make.

WorldSkills Australia is a member of WorldSkills International, which is the global network of 50 countries who participate in trade and skills competitions.

WorldSkills Member Countries

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Australia | 26. Korea |
| 2. Austria | 27. Principality of Liechtenstein |
| 3. Belgium | 28. Luxembourg |
| 4. Brazil | 29. Macau |
| 5. Brunei Darussalam | 30. Malaysia |
| 6. Canada | 31. Mexico |
| 7. Chinese Taipei | 32. Morocco |
| 8. Columbia | 33. Netherlands |
| 9. Croatia | 34. New Zealand |
| 10. Denmark | 35. Norway |
| 11. Ecuador | 36. Philippines |
| 12. Estonia | 37. Portugal |
| 13. Finland | 38. Saudi Arabia |
| 14. France | 39. Singapore |
| 15. Germany | 40. South Africa |
| 16. Hong Kong | 41. Spain |
| 17. Hungary | 42. Sweden |
| 18. India | 43. Switzerland |
| 19. Iceland | 44. Thailand |
| 20. Indonesia | 45. Tunisia |
| 21. Iran | 46. United Arab Emirates |
| 22. Ireland | 47. United Kingdom |
| 23. South Tyrol, Italy | 48. United States of America |
| 24. Jamaica | 49. Venezuela |
| 25. Japan | 50. Vietnam |



WorldSkills Australia's Purpose

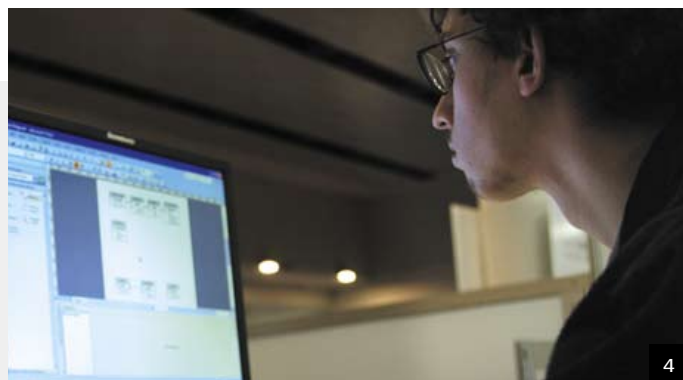
At WorldSkills Australia we have seen many young people transformed through the challenge of competition. Their dedication in undertaking months of intensive training to prepare for competitions, their satisfaction in achievement and the development of personal confidence has ensured that WorldSkills Australia continues to nurture young people to be the best they can be.

WorldSkills Australia programs and competitions are only the beginning of a tremendous life journey.



OUR VISION

WorldSkills Australia contributes to this nation's economic growth through the recognition and promotion of world class skills.



- | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Automotive Mechanics | 2. Electrical Installations | 3. Beauty Care |
| 4. IT Programming | 5. VETIS Cookery | |

WSA Try'aTrade Program

An integral element of WorldSkills Australia's commitment to excellence in vocational education and training has been the development of Try'aTrade, an interactive program that enables participants to have a go at different skill and trade categories.



Since its inception in 2003 WSA Try'aTrade events have become a major part of WSA regional competitions as well as being run in conjunction with major careers expos in many capital cities.

The popularity of WSA Try'aTrade events as a vehicle for promoting skills and skill-based careers is evident by the large number of visitors participating in Try 'a Trade events across Australia in the last 12 months.

WorldSkills Australia Try'aTrade, Melbourne

16 - 17 May, Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre

WorldSkills Australia together with GTA Victoria held a successful WorldSkills Australia Try'aTrade event in conjunction with the National Careers and Employment Expo at the Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre on Friday in May 2008.

Up to 25,000 thousand visitors attended the National Careers Expo and WorldSkills Australia Try'aTrade, while more than 8,000 hammered, plastered and drilled their way through 15 skill categories including: Automotive Mechanics, Bricklaying, Cabinetmaking, Carpentry, Electrical, Engineering, Hairdressing, Horticulture, Hospitality, Mechanical Engineering, Nursing, Painting and Decorating, Plastering, Plumbing and Tiling. Visitors tried their hand at these various trades under the supervision of industry experts and current apprentices.

The WorldSkills Australia Brisbane Region runs many Try 'a Trade events across the region including the successful 2008 WorldSkills Australia Queensland Try'aTrade and National Training Workshops held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre on 23 - 24 May 2008. The event was run in conjunction with the National Careers and Employment Expo. The combined events welcomed more than 30,000 visitors over the two days.

And South Australia witnessed thousands of senior students from over 60 schools across South Australia converge on the **Adelaide National Careers and Employment Expo** in early May to try their hand at 15 interactive trade displays as part of WorldSkills Australia Try'aTrade.

Try 'a Trade was also an integral part of the **WorldSkills Australia National Competition** Sydney 2008 in July, with skill categories throughout the competition from hairdressing, retail baking, jewellery, IT software, cookery. Visitors were happy to wait in line for an opportunity to make a pair of earrings or to lay a brick as they were able to watch competitors battle it out in their category and not miss any of the action as they turned their hands at trying up to 30 skill categories.

Other successful WorldSkills Australia Try 'a Trade events were held all over Australia, including:

Hunter NSW – Gloucester, Westlakes, Central Coast, Cessnock, Port Stephens, Maitland, Muswellbrook / **Brisbane** – Sunshine Coast, Gladstone, Mackay, Toowoomba, Kingaroy, Rockhampton, Robina / **Victoria** – Ballarat, Melbourne / **Northern Territory** – Darwin / **ACT** – Canberra / **Tasmania** – Hobart, Burnie and Launceston.



International Pathways

WorldSkills Australia National Competitions provide selected competitors with a pathway to pursue further skills development overseas through study or work experience.



BBM Awards

BBM Limited (formerly Big Brother Movement) was established in 1925 to provide a means for and to assist with the settlement of large numbers of young British men applying to migrate to Australia at that time. BBM continues to provide prestigious awards to assist young Australians travel to the UK to develop their skills and to help preserve Australia's historic links with Britain.

The BBM (Big Brother Movement) Awards became a prominent pathway from WorldSkills Australia in 2000 when the two organisations jointly selected and granted scholarships to young and skilled competitors. The scholarship is recognised as a valuable and prestigious award because it is focused on achieving global skills excellence.

The awards contribute to the costs associated with participating in a unique leadership development program in the UK that has been developed by Mission Performance, specifically for WorldSkills Australia. The aim of the Mission Performance Leadership Challenge is to develop leadership, management and personal skills to become more effective and efficient leaders and communicators. It is conducted throughout prestigious military locations in the UK over a 2 week period.

The 2008 WorldSkills National Competition will provide International pathways to selected competitors other than the Skillaroos, who have shown their dedication to and excellence in skills.

Each competitor will be encouraged to seek work placement and take advantage of their overseas experience. The next selection of BBM Award recipients will be announced in 2009.



AOF Scholarships

The AOF was established to assist young Australians who have completed an apprenticeship or traineeship with financial support to provide the opportunity to travel overseas and extend their goals and develop qualities of self-reliance, initiative and leadership.

Upon their return home they bring with them their new skills and experiences for the benefit of their own career development and the Australian industry.

WorldSkills Australia has been affiliated with the AOF since 2003 and assists with the application process for WorldSkills National competitors. Following a rigorous selection process, winners of the Australian Overseas Foundation (AOF) scholarships for 2008 were announced by the Governor of Victoria, Professor David De Krester on 9 October.



They are:

- Rolf Barfoed • Matthew Ely • Matthew Milburn
- Thomas Spottswood • Hollie Tomlin • Christopher Whyte

Rolf Barfoed won a gold medal at the recent WorldSkills Australia National Competition in cabinetmaking.

Environmental Initiatives

WSA IS LEADING WITH SKILLS

In an effort to address challenges around environmental sustainability WorldSkills Australia and Dusseldorp Skills Forum worked together to make the WorldSkills Australia National Competition 2008 as environmentally friendly as possible.

In order to encourage Australia's young skill and trade technicians to adopt environmentally sustainable working practices, WorldSkills Australia and Dusseldorp Skills Forum introduced the inaugural skills and sustainability award. The award for 'Outstanding Leadership in Showcasing Skills and Sustainability' was presented to a project designer and, category convenor at the WorldSkills National Competition.

The team from Vehicle Painting, led by Brain Johnson and Steve Crompton, were the 'Green Award' winners of the inaugural 'Outstanding Leadership in Showcasing Skills for Sustainability' Project Design and Category Convenor - a world first in the WorldSkills movement.

Together the Green Team assessed Vehicle Painting across 10 criteria including Energy, Water, Waste - reduce, reuse, recycle, innovation & best practice, and evaluated that Vehicle Painting led the way; from introducing and embracing new technology - water based products, using environmentally friendly products to minimising energy.

There were six other highly commended categories: Bricklaying, CAM (Computer Aided Manufacturing) Cookery, Detailed Joinery and Shopfitting, Landscape Construction and Painting & Decorating.

These awards have been introduced to recognise actions taken by project designers and category convenors on issues such as sustainable practices, efficient use of materials, water and power management, and wastage within the competition. This is the first time, both nationally and internationally, that sustainability initiatives have been recognised within the WorldSkills movement.

WorldSkills Australia CEO Mark Callaghan said the sustainability challenge was taken up in varying ways. "In some instances this has been addressed as part of the actual design, via the judging criteria, through tools and materials, or in terms of the management of waste, water and power overall".

"By encouraging young tradespeople to become aware of the impact of their work on the environment and supporting them to develop practices that are sustainable, we believe that we can collaboratively work towards a more environmentally sustainable future for the trades and skills industries. At the end of the day, this is the generation that is going to be able to execute and harness these practices for future generations and benefits all round".

"WorldSkills Australia and the Dusseldorp Skills Forum are taking on the challenge of leading by example through ongoing education and being inventive with sustainable initiatives," Mr Callaghan said.

WorldSkills Australia and the Dusseldorp Skills Forum are also leading the way within the global WorldSkills movement by measuring the ecological footprint of the competition to provide a benchmark for continuous improvement at future WorldSkills Australia Competitions.

WorldSkills Australia and the Dusseldorp Skills Forum have a lifetime association through Dusseldorp Skills Forum's Chairman, Tjerk Dusseldorp, the President of WorldSkills International and the founder of WorldSkills Australia were pleased to be partnering again in 2008 around this important global issue.

Jack Dusseldorp says: "The number of young, enthusiastic event management students from Sydney Institute of TAFE who have volunteered to learn new skills by benchmarking the water, waste and energy of the WorldSkills events flags one example of the emergence of skills linked to sustainability across a number of industries. By gaining course recognition from TAFE for their practical efforts at the WorldSkills Nationals these event management students will have an edge with environmentally aware employers and future clients."

WorldSkills Australia now has an extensive Environmental Management Plan (EMP) in which to implement for future competitions.



The Green Team comprising of young Sydney Institute of TAFE Event Management Students and University of NSW Environment Students were trained and skilled to conduct an Initial Environmental Review.

An Environmental Management Plan (EMP) will guide the Review, allowing the Green Team's work to conform to internationally recognised ISO14004 standards.

Partners & Supporters



Australian Government
**Department of Education, Employment
 and Workplace Relations**



Our Supporters



Our Media Partner



National Competition

Sydney 2008, July 11-13

The WorldSkills Australia National competition is now truly a major event and without the support, hard work, enthusiasm and passion of Government partners, industry sponsors and the WorldSkills army of volunteers we would not be able to provide a platform for Australia's best to perform. It is through this continued hard work and support that we are able to inspire young Australians to achieve their goals and realise their dreams.

The National competition at a glance

- 3 days of competition
- 17,500 square metres of floor space
- 3 satellite competitions:
 - VETiS Primary Industries,
 - Computer Assisted Machining (CAM)
 - Vehicle Painting
- 513 competitors across Open and VETiS competitions
- 300 judges
- 100 volunteers
- 50 competition categories
- 30 Try 'a Trade Categories
- 45,000 visitors
- 25,000 virtual visitors
- Guest competitors from New Zealand, Japan and Singapore



Joshua Fimognari, Jewellery Gold Medalist, WSA National Competition, Sydney 2008

The 2008 WorldSkills Australia National Competition was officially opened by the Hon. John Hatzistergos – NSW Acting Minister for Education and Training on the morning of 11 July.

The WorldSkills Australia Try'aTrade activities were a huge success with 30 categories throughout the competition with Floristry, Jewellery and Meat Retailing proving to be the most popular.

One of the many highlights this year, apart from the ever popular bricklaying 'speed test', were the 14 Skillaroos and 8 BBM scholarship winners from 2007 involved in various capacities throughout the competition – from Judges/Chief Judges to Try'aTrade coordinators.

Students from Australian Institute of Music entertain an audience of 2,000 at the National Competition Presentation Ceremony

WorldSkills Australia adopted the CIS (Competition Information System), for the first time during the competition and it proved to be a resounding success – data was able to be calculated much more quickly than in the past which allowed WorldSkills Australia to have all results completed within 8 hours of the end of competition. The new system allows more flexibility in terms of the types of reports that can be generated which also provides a more transparent scoring system.



Nigel Croke, Gold Medalist, WSA National Competition 2008 during the 'Bricklaying Speed Test'

A night of glamour

Every Competition culminates in an awards ceremony. "A Night At The Oscars" was the theme of the National Competition 2008 Presentation Ceremony held on the evening of Monday 14 July at the magnificent Sydney State Theatre. The event was coordinated by the WSA National office and managed by Event Management staff and students from Northern Sydney Institute of TAFE, Ryde College.

The MC for the evening was Adam Spencer and entertainment was provided by Wes Carr, the eventual 2008 Australian Idol Winner and the Australian Institute of Music (AIM) students. Over 150 medals were presented including the Evatt Shield which is awarded to the region with the best overall score for all competitors involved in the WorldSkills Australia National Competition. For the 2008 National Competition, the winner of the Evatt Shield is Tasmania. The Tasmania region retained the Shield it had won at the 2006 National Competition in Melbourne.



SEE THE BEST



worldskills Australia National Competition Sydney 2008

Best in Nation

WorldSkills Australia together with CareerOne, announced the inaugural award for Best Performing Competitor at a National Competition. In line with the WorldSkills International Competition, awarded for 'Best in Nation', which was awarded to Dale McMullen in Japan last year, WorldSkills Australia is proud to have developed the 'Best Performing Competitor' award with CareerOne.

The WorldSkills Australia / Career One inaugural award for Best Performing competitor at a National Competition was awarded to Luke Davies, gold medalist Turning category. Luke had the highest score across the 2008 WorldSkills Australia National Competition. Luke is from the Sydney West Region. His employer is Eddie Dobbin and Sons Engineering. Luke trained at the TAFE NSW Northern Sydney Institute, MeadowBank Campus.

Celebrating 20 years

The 2008 National Competition was the perfect backdrop to acknowledge and celebrate the 29th WorldSkills International Competition held at the same venue 20 years ago. Through the generous support of the Dusseldorp Skills Forum, a cocktail party was held on Saturday 12 July at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre providing an opportunity for past Competitors, Judges, Chief Judges, Team Leaders and anyone else involved in the competition to meet again to reminisce and view footage from the 1988 Competition.

Marketing and Public Relations

WorldSkills Australia embarked on an extensive marketing and PR campaign in the lead up to the 2008 WorldSkills Australia National Competition which included: Newspaper coverage, Radio, Television, and Online coverage. Media items generated in the 14 week period

leading up to and immediately following the competition reached a combined audience of 27,147,604.

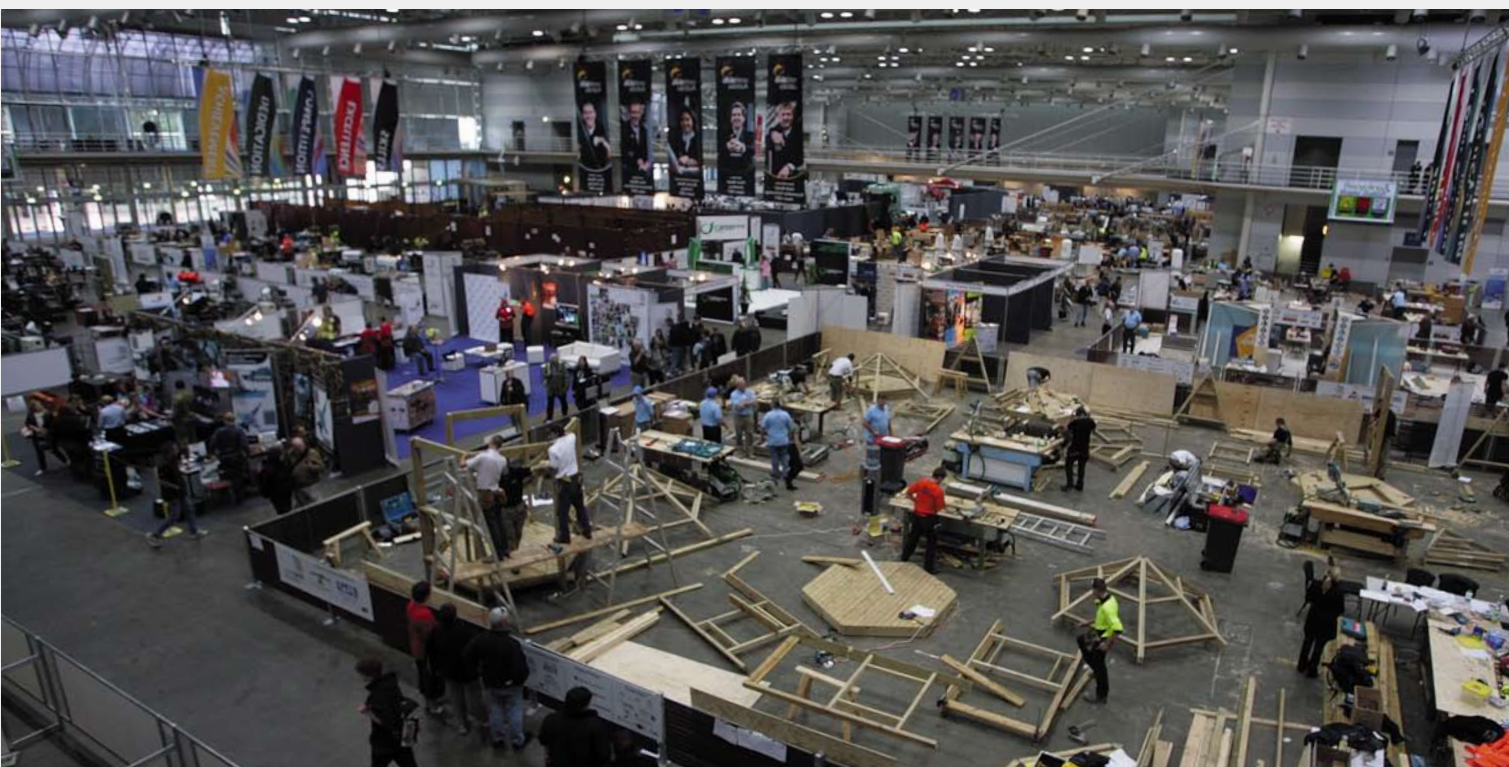
Editorial value of the coverage is estimated at approximately \$4.5 million. WSA's official media partner, News Limited CareerOne contributed significantly to the number of press stories generated including the 12-page lift-out in the Daily Telegraph on Wednesday 9 July which has an audience of approximately 1.3 million. In addition, the WSA National Competition was featured on the 'home' page of the CareerOne website for the lead up to and the duration of the competition. The CareerOne website attracts 1 million unique users per month.

The WSA website during this time attracted approximately 25,000 unique visitors from over 70 countries around the world.

SkillsOne Coverage

Through additional funding made available by DEEWR, WSA engaged SkillsOne to produce a series of stories for a minimum of 40 skill categories to promote and showcase the WSA National competition and to raise the profile and awareness of trade and skills-based careers. On completion of the National Competition, 60 x 6 minute stories were shot and produced by SkillsOne which were made available for viewing via the WSA and SkillsOne websites and will be shown on Foxtel channel 183 at times to be determined.

Part of the huge expanse of 17,500 square metres of space at Darling Harbour, WorldSkills Australia National Competition 2008



Team Australia - Calgary

2009



worldskills™
Calgary2009 

The WorldSkills Australia, Team Australia was

officially announced on 6 November at Doltone House in Sydney. The 29 competitors named will embark on their quest for gold at the 40th WorldSkills International Competition in Canada next year.

In September 2009, 29 of Australia's best young trade and skill champions will board a flight bound for Calgary, Canada and their biggest career challenge to date. With determination to succeed, the next 9 months will see these exceptional young Australians face intense preparation and training, all in the pursuit of fulfilling their dreams of being the best in their chosen field.

Team Australia will not only be competing for gold but will demonstrate to the rest of the world the high level of vocational education and training currently available within our VET system.

The international competition in Canada will see over 900 young skilled trades professionals from 50 countries converge on Calgary to compete to be the best in the world.

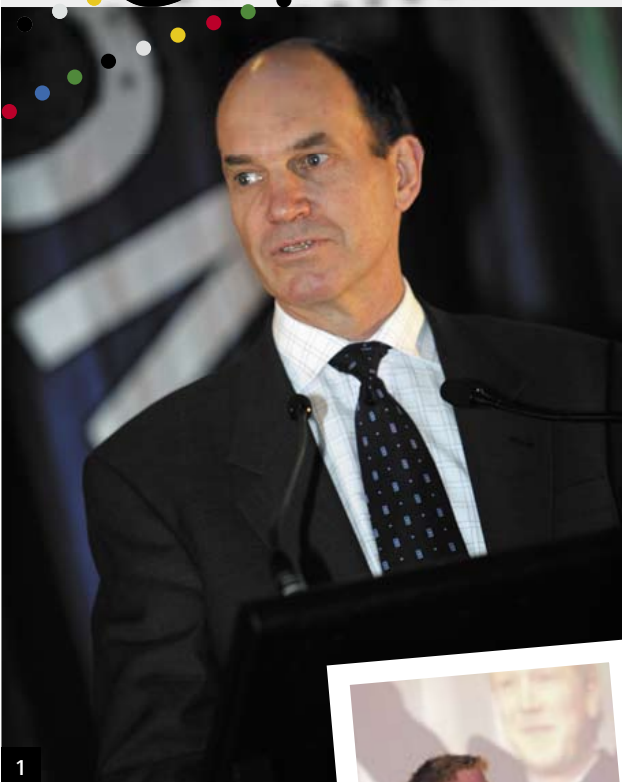
It is anticipated that over 250,000 visitors will attend the competition and watch the world's best young tradies battle for gold. Categories range from Cooking, Web Design, Joinery, Electrical Installations and Automobile Technology. Australia will compete against countries such as South Korea, USA, India, Germany and the United Kingdom.

The International Competition process provides the Australian Government, Training Authorities and Industry the opportunity to benchmark Australian skills and ascertain Australia's level of global competitiveness.

Australia is currently ranked 5th in the world with one gold medal, three silvers and one bronze awarded to the Skillaroos at the 39th International WorldSkills Competition in Shizuoka, Japan 2007.

Dale McMullen achieved gold in Automobile Technology and also received Best of Nation award as the highest scorer in the Australian team. Silver medalists include John Rudge for Electrical Installations, Joel Drew for Jewellery and Stuart Aisbett for Car Painting. Suwanna Rattananikom achieved bronze in Cooking.

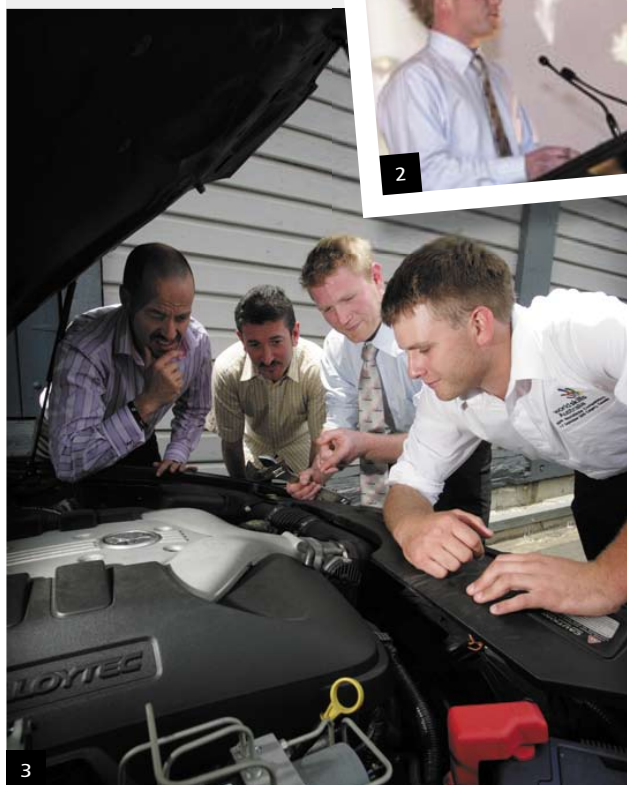
It is the best result for an Australian team since the International Competition in 1988 in Sydney. This superb achievement shows the incredible wealth of knowledge and skills we have in these industries in Australia and the importance of sustained and continued investment in our skills and trades.



1



2



3

1. Chair of Skills Australia, Mr Philip Bullock speaks at the launch of Team Australia, The Skillaroos 2009
2. Dale McMullen, gold medalist, Japan 2007 gives an inspiring speech at the launch
3. (L - R) Adam Spencer, Warren Browne Top Gear presenter, Dale McMullen and Perrin Bouna get some tips from Dale McMullen

2009 Team Australia - 40th WorldSkills International Competition, Calgary, Canada - September 1-7 2009



Autobody Repair

Aaron Samphier
Sydney West, NSW

Automobile Technology

Perrin Bouna
Brisbane, QLD

Beauty Therapy

Jessie Gladwell
North Queensland, QLD

Bricklaying

Nigel Croke
Macquarie, NSW

Cabinetmaking

Michael Welshman
Western Australia

Car Painting

Justin Laidlaw
Hunter, NSW

Construction Metal Works

Shane Ashton
Illawarra, NSW

Cooking

Nenad Djuric
Sydney, NSW

Electrical Installations

Gavin Press
Macquarie, NSW

Floristry

Stacey Pitman
Western Australia

Graphic Design Technology

Melissa Guiney
Victoria Country, VIC

Industrial Control

Benjamin Dean
Ballarat/Wimmera, VIC

IT/Software Applications

Nick Davies
Sydney, NSW

Jewellery

Joshua Fimognari
Sydney West, NSW

Joinery

Mitchell Edwards
Hunter, NSW

Ladies/Mens Hairdressing

Megan Kuhn
Mid Coast, NSW

Landscape Gardening

Michael Buist
Sydney, NSW
Christopher Dimitriou
Melbourne, VIC

Manufacturing Team Challenge

Andrew Arthur
Brisbane, QLD

Kyle Butler
Sydney West, NSW

Luke Davies
Sydney West, NSW

Kyle French
Macquarie, NSW

Painting & Decorating

Tyson Knight
Riverina Murray, NSW

Plumbing

Nash Mason
Hunter, NSW

Refrigeration

Restaurant Service

Heh-Nian (James) Sun
Sydney, NSW

Sheetmetal Technology

Daniel Karanges
Brisbane, QLD

Wall & Floor Tiling

Peter Steinweiss
Sydney, NSW

Web Design

Daniel Jones
Sydney, NSW

Welding

Joshua Harris
Northern Rivers, NSW



2009
skillaroos

WSA Team Australia-Calgary



Aaron Samphier
Autobody Repair



Perrin Bouna
Automobile Technology



Jessie Gladwell
Beauty Therapy



Nigel Croke
Bricklaying



Michael Welshman
Cabinetmaking



Justin Laidlaw
Car Painting



Shane Ashton
Construction Metal Works



Nenad Djuric
Cooking



Gavin Press
Electrical Installations



Stacey Pitman
Floristry



Melissa Guiney
Graphic Design Technology



Benjamin Dean
Industrial Control



Nick Davies
IT Software Applications



Joshua Fimognari
Jewellery



Mitchell Edwards
Joinery



Megan Kuhn
Ladies/Mens Hairdressing



Michael Buist
Landscape Gardening



Christopher Dimitriou
Landscape Gardening



Andrew Arthur
Manufacturing Team Challenge



Kyle Butler
Manufacturing Team Challenge



Luke Davies
Manufacturing Team Challenge



Kyle French
Painting & Decorating



Tyson Knight
Plumbing



Nash Mason
Refrigeration



Heh-Nian (James) Sun
Restaurant Service



Daniel Karanges
Sheetmetal Technology



Peter Steinweiss
Wall & Floor Tiling



Daniel Jones
Web Design



Joshua Harris
Welding

**We wish these
Skillaroos all
the best for
Calgary 2009.**

Where are they now?

WSA LADDER OF SUCCESS



"Putting in that little bit of extra effort goes a long way in getting where you want to be and being successful"

Nathan Gore Brown

From auto electrical mechanic in Mascot, Sydney to Product Marketing Executive for Aston Martin in the UK, Nathan Gore Brown's career has certainly progressed from his early days as an auto electrician. Although Nathan is enjoying a highly successful career, it has not been an easy ride to get where he is.

On his achievements, Nathan said: "My career progression has been a result of hard work and good judgement over time – I soon realised that things don't happen unless you try and you don't get things unless you ask".

"Putting in that little bit of extra effort goes a long way in getting where you want to be and being successful".

"I've developed through pushing on open and unlocked doors and taking on the opportunities as they arise, which in the end have turned out well," Nathan said.

Unable to go to university at the end of his high school days, Nathan's career began with his first job as an auto electrical mechanic in Mascot, travelling an hour and a half to work each way. Nathan focused on building up his skills, working hard and in turn, doing well.

Nathan's path to working in the UK began with the WorldSkills Australia Competitions. After winning gold in the auto electrical category at the Regional and National Competitions, Nathan took part in WorldSkills Australia's International Pathways program, which enables selected National winners to broaden their horizons through scholarships offered through a partnership with the Big Brother Movement.

WSA's International Pathways offers young Australians the opportunity to travel to the UK to participate in a two-week Corporate Leadership Development Program and undertake work experience in their field.

Nathan's trip proved to be fruitful. After three weeks of work experience at Jaguar and in particular, time spent in the product development department where cars are designed from scratch, Nathan was convinced that this was where he wanted to be. He told them just that. Following an interview with Jaguar, Nathan returned home to find a contract in the post.

It was his practical skills that were attractive, especially because many new employees of Jaguar were often relatively recent university graduates with little practical expertise.

After six years in the UK, Nathan is now the Product Marketing Executive for Aston Martin, which essentially acts as a link between the engineering department and the outside world, communicating technical ideas in easy-to-understand language and in turn feeding customer feedback back to the department.

"I really enjoy the variety of my job. I can go from working with paint colours to global pricing and from working on a future model to dealing with feedback from a current model," Nathan said.

"It also provides me with a link to the customer, which is something I always enjoyed back when I was working as an auto electric mechanic."

Nathan is giving something back to WorldSkills Australia and helping those who are undertaking the WorldSkills International Pathways. In 2004 and 2005 he was able to host two Nationals winners who came through the program - assisting them to be billeted out and hosting them at Jaguar.

Nathan certainly recommends the WorldSkills Competitions and the International Pathways program, which have provided opportunities and played a significant part in his career progression.

WSA LADDER OF SUCCESS



"Everything I have achieved over the last five years has been because of where WorldSkills has taken me"

Jarrad Langdon

Jarrad has ticked many boxes at just 22 years of age. After winning Gold at the WorldSkills International Competition in Helsinki just three years ago, Jarrad's ongoing success has been nothing of a plateau. In 2007, Jarrad launched his own web-graphic design company, Jala Design, boasting a continually growing and impressive list of clients from diverse sectors.

One such client is WorldSkills Australia. Jarrad applied his technical and creative talents in developing a new WorldSkills Australia website and continually assists with graphic design on WSA marketing and branding materials.

The Jala Designs Director was also Chief Judge of Web Design at the WorldSkills Australia National Competition in Sydney earlier this year. Langdon's elevation to Chief Judge comes just four years after he won gold at the National event in 2004 and the accolade of being the Best Web Designer in the world following his success at the International Competition in Helsinki. To acknowledge his outstanding score at the 2005 International Competition in Helsinki, Jarrad was awarded Best of Nation for Australia. Jarrad's path into the web and graphic design industry started when he was in high school. In Year 10, Jarrad was debating whether to become a school teacher or pursue a career in graphic design.

After completing work experience in both fields, he was offered a graphic design apprenticeship. "At no stage had I ever contemplated finishing school in Year 10 before. I kind of laughed about the offer to begin with, but once I stood back and looked at the offer it made sense for me to finish up."

In the final year of his apprenticeship, Jarrad commenced a Certificate IV in Web Design at Hornsby TAFE and one year ago he

set up his own web and graphic design business. Jarrad is now passing on his talents and passion to future designers and since becoming the best in the world for web design in 2005, Jarrad has also been asked by Hornsby TAFE to teach the Web Design Course. "So I have eventually combined my two interests that I had in Year 10, it's good to put back in and help other students."

Jarrad was also invited to take part in the WorldSkills International Youth Forum in Vienna 7-11 September 2008 as a Technical Coordinator Facilitator for the topic- "IT's The Future".

"Everything I have achieved over the last five years has been because of where WorldSkills has taken me. By winning a Gold medal internationally, it has given me the confidence in my own skills to teach web design at TAFE and to also run my own company."



Where are they now?

WSA LADDER OF SUCCESS



"For me WorldSkills is a passion, it is something that runs through my veins like adrenaline, the more involved I get, the more I want"

Jane Stokie

Jane Stokie has always had aspirations to succeed in her career, setting goals which seemingly were beyond the stars. At the completion of Year 12 Jane knew she wanted to follow in the footsteps of her brother, Robert, an award winning apprentice chef. Little did she know at the time that her hunger to succeed would soon see her rise to the top.

In 1984 Jane commenced an apprenticeship in Composition, now known as Graphic Pre-press, a career choice which she excelled at from the beginning. During her four-year apprenticeship she achieved every award within her reach for her outstanding ability, including Victorian Female Apprentice of the Year and the coveted Collie Trust Printing Industry Travel Scholarship.

Travelling to the United Kingdom in 1989 as part of her scholarship Jane continued her studies in Graphic Design and took the leap into the technological age learning several graphics software applications new to the industry and not widely used in Australia. On returning to Australia Jane joined an advertising consultancy, becoming studio manager and implementing a digital workflow.

Jane first became a member of WorldSkills Australia at the 1986 Melbourne regional competition in Printing and Graphic Arts. She has since made the transition to an international level both as a competitor in 1988, achieving fourth place, and as Chief Expert. Jane's influence as Chief Expert and passion for mentoring young people to strive for excellence has seen gold medals won for Australia in Graphic Design Technology in Montreal, Seoul and St Gallen. "Watching young trainees and apprentices enter the WorldSkills competition cycle, seeing them through their incredible

growth and complete the cycle as skilled professionals gives me great satisfaction knowing that I have had the opportunity to be a part of their lives."

Moving to Shepparton in regional Victoria 15 years ago to raise her children, Kieran and Rebecca, it was Jane's involvement in WorldSkills which opened the door for her to continue her career at the McPherson Media Group. Starting as a casual employee while the children were young Jane's ambition saw her soon returning full-time in the role of Production Manager and later as Quality Assurance Manager.

Along with her smooth transition into middle management she re-assessed her career with a vision of a senior management role. To complement her ultimate career goal Jane returned to study a Bachelor of Business, majoring in management. Recently Jane contacted WorldSkills Australia to say her ultimate had been achieved. Jane has been appointed in the role of Technical Director of WorldSkills International. "For me WorldSkills is a passion, it is something that runs through my veins like adrenaline, the more involved I get, the more I want. And now I have made it my career as well as my passion."

SKILLAROOS 2007



In recognition of their achievements last year here are a few of their stories post-Japan as they continue to be an inspiration to all Australians.

Holly Browne

Beauty Therapy

Medalion For Excellence

Holly Browne has been bitten by the travel bug since competing in Japan, she said that "when I returned from Japan I realised I was ready to see the world, I had a great urge to travel, see new places and meet new people. So a few months later I made a big step in my life and I moved to London. I found a job in a beauty salon just outside of London and worked there for 3 months."

John Rudge

Electrical Installations

Silver Medal

"Since Japan I have started a new job with OMYA Australia. OMYA is a company that mines calcium carbonate which is a mineral used in the process of many different applications including toothpaste, glass, paints and many more. My role within the company is to maintain and update their PLC software for our five plants throughout Australia and New Zealand."

Michael Kirkwood-Smith

IT Software Applications

Medalion For Excellence

Michael has certainly been busy since competing in Japan, he has been studying full-time (Diploma in Web Development), teaching part-time (Hornsby TAFE) and also working part-time. He has also helped write the IT Software Applications Regional Competition and the IT Software Applications National Competition with Caroline Hawkins and was able to be a judge in both of those competitions.

Chris Hopkins

Joinery

Chris has remained loyal to his employer Duce Joinery who supported him throughout the entire WorldSkills journey and throughout his apprenticeship. "In the last 12 months I have moved as high up as I can without being in the office and remain working with the timber."

Candice Faranda

Ladies and Mens Hairdressing

Candice Faranda is currently undertaking her AOF scholarship and is certainly turning heads since competing in Japan. She is impressing her employers with her hairdressing skills at Headmasters, UK's fastest growing Hairdressing Company.

Dale McMullen

Automobile Technology

Gold Medal

"Busy" is the first word that springs to mind when Dale is asked how life has changed for him since winning Gold at the International Competition. "Literally from the time I walked off stage in Japan I was doing media interviews and this continued on for some time after landing back in Oz.."

Luke Gallagher

Autobody Repair

Medalion For Excellence

Luke has been busy working full time in a panel shop since competing in Japan. In the next 12 months Luke is looking forward to buying his first home and getting married.

Daniel Hogarth

Plumbing

Medalion For Excellence

Looking back on the WorldSkills International Competition experience, Daniel feels life has changed since he competed. He feels more confident with his work and capabilities.

Mark Williams

Welding

Medalion For Excellence

Mark continues to work where he completed his apprenticeship and believes that "giving back some time to my boss is important because he was so good to me during the training for the competitions."

Stuart Aisbett

Car Painting

Silver Medal

Since competing in Japan and bringing home a silver medal, Stuart has finished his apprenticeship at Alan's Panels, and is now working as a technical consultant for Standox DuPont Performance Coatings (DPC). Standox (DPC) supported WorldSkills Australia Vehicle Painting competitors in 2007 and 2008. According to Stuart his success with his new role was partly due to WorldSkills.

Simon Buchanan

Landscape Gardening

Medalion For Excellence

Simon's says his "feet have barely touched the ground since competing in Japan". Today his life involves running a business and employing a full time army of three! "I have put all my time and effort into getting my business (Landart Landscapes) off the ground."

Sam Pop

Manufacturing Team Challenge

Medalion For Excellence

Since returning from Japan, husband and father of three Sam Pop has been enjoying his new job at Chisholm TAFE which according to Sam he was successful in getting due to his WorldSkills experience.

Lachlan Thomas

Refrigeration

Medalion For Excellence

Lachlan has been busy in the last 12 months. He has changed jobs and is now in pursuit of his electrical trade. Since competing in Japan he said "I have realised no one can tell you what you can and can't do; your future is what you make of it."

Courtney Barton

Floristry

Medalion For Excellence

"After experiencing two of the most amazing weeks of my life, I have to admit returning to Australia was quite difficult. I struggled to say goodbye to my fellow Skillaroos and accept that our 18 months of hard, yet enjoyable work had come to an end. However, I did have a great sense of pride and satisfaction in my results and achievements at the competition."

Matthew Ryan

Web Design

Medalion For Excellence

"Since Japan I have continued to grow the business I started with a friend from high school a couple of months before leaving to Japan. We started a web and graphics design company called Rival Web Design and earlier this year moved our business into a proper office (previously we were located in a home office) enabling us to have clients visit and giving us an external workplace away from home."

worldskills australia Financial Report 2007-08

WorldSkills Australia Incorporated

A.R.B.N. 002 839 429

Committee's Report

Your Committee members submit the financial report of the Worldskills Australia Inc. for the financial year ended 30 June 2008.

Committee Members

Ms. J Allen	(Chairperson)
Mr. M Baird	
Mr. J Barron	
Ms. S Burrow	(Appointed 29 May 2008)
Mr. S Ghost	
Mr. K Harris	(Appointed 16 August 2007)
Mr. R Hewett	
Ms. M Hicks	
Ms. H Ridout	
Mr. B Wexham	
Mr. W Stoddart	(Resigned 3 April 2008)

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Association in the course of the financial year were the organisation and promotion of Regional, National and International Rounds of trade skill competitions.

Significant Changes

No significant changes in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

Operating Result

The profit from ordinary activities amounted to \$38,229 (2007: profit of \$62,449).

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Members of the Committee.

Jeanette Allen

Chairperson

Jim Barron

Deputy Chairperson

Dated this 27th day of November 2008

WorldSkills Australia Incorporated

A.R.B.N. 002 839 429

Income Statement for the Financial year ended 30 June 2008

	2008 \$	2007 \$
Income		
Revenue from operations	2,134,200	1,712,375
Interest revenue	74,858	33,760
	2,209,058	1,746,135
Expenditure		
Loss on sale of non-current assets	-	(13,153)
Administration expense	(603,574)	(762,144)
National competition program	(206,926)	(99,058)
Regional competitions program	(266,625)	(212,078)
International competition program	(727,289)	(426,585)
VETiS program	(74,058)	(96,900)
Try'aTrade program	(292,358)	(73,768)
	(2,170,829)	(1,683,686)
Profit for the financial year	38,229	62,449
Retained profits at the beginning of the financial year	97,570	35,121
Retained profits at the end of the financial year	135,799	97,570

Notes to the financial statements are included on pages 27 to 29

worldskills australia

WorldSkills Australia Incorporated

A.R.B.N. 002 839 429

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2008

		2008 \$	2007 \$
Current assets	note		
Cash and cash equivalents		1,176,188	811,348
Trade and other receivables	2	326,110	103,840
Other current assets	3	707,785	54,486
Total current assets		2,210,083	969,673
Non current assets			
Plant and equipment	4	27,022	24,769
Total non current assets		27,022	24,769
Total assets		2,237,105	994,442
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	5	2,042,004	845,884
Provisions	6	49,130	43,921
Total current liabilities		2,091,134	889,805
Non Current liabilities			
Provisions	7	10,172	7,067
Total non current liabilities		10,172	7,067
Total liabilities		2,101,306	896,872
Net assets		135,799	97,570
Equity			
Retained earnings	8	135,799	97,570
Total equity		135,799	97,570

Notes to the financial statements are included on pages 27 to 29

WorldSkills Australia Incorporated

A.R.B.N. 002 839 429

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2008

1 Statement of accounting policies

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (A.C.T.)1991. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (A.C.T.) 1991 and the following Australian Accounting Standards:

AASB 1031	Materiality
AASB 110	Events after the Balance Sheet Date
AASB 117	Leases
AASB 1004	Contributions

No other applicable Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The financial report is prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following specific accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

a) Plant & equipment

Plant and Equipment are carried at cost. All assets are depreciated over their useful lives or at depreciation rates set by the committee.

b) Employee entitlements

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee entitlements arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee entitlements expected to be settled within one year together with entitlements arising from wages and salaries and annual leave which will be settled after one year, have been measured at their expected rate of settlement. Other employee entitlements payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those entitlements.

Contributions are made by the association to an employee superannuation fund and are charged as expenses when incurred.

c) Leases

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

d) Income tax expense

The association is exempted from income tax under subdivision 50-B of the Income Tax Assessment Act (1997).

e) Capital Risk Management

The company manages its capital to ensure it will be able to continue as a going concern. The company's overall strategy remains unchanged from 2007.

The capital structure of the company consists of cash and cash equivalents and equity attributable to equity holders of the parent, comprising retained earnings as disclosed in note 8.

The company is not subject to externally imposed capital requirements. Operating cash flows are used to maintain and expand the company's assets, as well as to make the routine outflows of tax and supplier payments.

f) Gearing

Management reviews the capital structure on a regular basis. As a part of this review, management considers the cost of capital and the risks associated with each class of capital.

WorldSkills Australia Incorporated

A.R.B.N. 002 839 429

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2008

	2008 \$	2007 \$
2 Current trade and other receivables		
Trade receivables	290,095	97,300
GST receivable	36,015	6,540
	326,110	103,840
3 Other current assets		
Other debtors and prepayments	707,785	54,486
4 Plant and equipment		
Office furniture & equipment:		
- At cost	60,488	47,183
- Accumulated depreciation	(33,466)	(22,414)
	27,022	24,769
5 Current trade and other payables		
Trade payables and accruals	122,056	155,543
Unearned income	1,539,524	298,070
Payable to Regional Committees	380,424	392,271
	2,042,004	845,885
6 Current provisions		
Employee entitlements	49,130	43,921
7 Non-Current provisions		
Employee entitlements	10,172	7,067
8 Retained earnings		
Balance at beginning of financial year	97,570	35,121
Current year profit	38,229	62,449
Balance at end of financial year	135,799	97,570

WorldSkills Australia Incorporated

A.R.B.N. 002 839 429

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2008

9 Leasing commitments

Operating lease commitments

Being rent of premises and office equipment

Payable - minimum lease payments

Not greater than 1 year

Between 1 year and 5 years

Greater than 5 years

	2008 \$	2007 \$
Not greater than 1 year	63,082	17,115
Between 1 year and 5 years	135,268	8,244
Greater than 5 years	-	-
	198,350	25,359

The lease for 92-94 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne is a non-cancellable lease with a 3 years, 2 months of a 4 year term remaining, with rent payable monthly in advance.

The lease for the HP23 9065 printer is a non-cancellable lease with a 1 year and 3 days of a 4 year term remaining, with rent payable monthly in advance.

10 Adoption of New and Revised Accounting Standards

In the current year, the Association has adopted all of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (the AASB) that are relevant to its operations and effective for the current annual reporting period. The adoption of these new and revised Standards and Interpretations has not resulted in changes to the amounts reported for the current or prior years.

REFERENCE	TITLE	SUMMARY	APPLICATION DATE FOR ENTITY
AASB 2007-8	Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 101	<p>Amending standard issued as a consequence of revisions to AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements.</p> <p>The revision of AASB 101 necessitates consequential amendments to Australian Accounting Standards (including Interpretations).</p> <p>This Amending Standard also changes the term 'general purpose financial report' to 'general purpose financial statements' and the term 'financial report' to 'financial statements' in application paragraphs, where relevant, of Australian Accounting Standards (including Interpretations) to better align with IFRS terminology.</p>	1 July 2009

WorldSkills Australia Incorporated

A.R.B.N. 002 839 429

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2008

10 Adoption of New and Revised Accounting Standards - continued

REFERENCE	TITLE	SUMMARY	APPLICATION DATE FOR ENTITY
AASB 2008-5	Amendments to Australian Accounting [AASBs 5, 7, 101, 102, 107, 108, 110, 116, 118, 119, 120, 123, 127, 128, 129, 131, 132, 134, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 1023 and 1038]	<p>The amendment results from proposals that were included in ED 159 <i>Proposed Improvements to Australian Accounting Standards</i> issued in October 2007 and follow issuance of the IASB Standard <i>Improvements to IFRS</i> in May 2008.</p> <p>The amendments to some Standards result in accounting changes for presentation, recognition or measurement purposes, while some amendments that relate to terminology and editorial changes are expected to have no or minimal effect on accounting.</p>	1 July 2009
AASB 101 (revised)	Presentation of Financial Statements	<p>Introduces a statement of comprehensive income.</p> <p>Other revisions include impacts on the presentation of items in the statement of changes in equity, new presentation requirements for restatements or reclassifications of items in the financial statements, changes in the presentation requirements for dividends and changes to the titles of the financial statements.</p>	1 July 2009
AASB 2007-9	AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements	The amendments to AASB 101 are consequential amendments dealing with circumstances where compliance with Australian Accounting Standards by for-profit government departments will not lead to compliance with IFRSs.	1 July 2008
AASB 1004 (revised)	Contributions	This standard contains the original requirements on contributions from AASB 1004 as issued in July 2004, as well as the requirements on contributions from AASs 27, 29 & 31 substantively unamended (with some exceptions).	1 July 2008

11 Additional company information

Worldskills Australia Incorporated is a registered Australian Association, registered in the Australian Capital Territory.

Principal Place of Business

Level 3, 92 Elizabeth Street Melbourne, Victoria

WorldSkills Australia Incorporated

A.R.B.N. 002 839 429

Statement by Members of the Committee

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial report as set out on pages 24 to 29:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Worldskills Australia Incorporated as at 30 June 2008 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Worldskills Australia Incorporated will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

Jeanette Allen
Chairperson

Jim Barron
Deputy Chairperson

Dated this 27th day of November 2008

WorldSkills Australia Incorporated

A.R.B.N. 002 839 429

Independent Audit Report to the Members of Worldskills Australia Incorporated

SCOPE

The special purpose financial report and committee's responsibility

The special purpose financial report comprises the balance sheet, income statement, accompanying notes to the financial statements, and the statement by members of the committee for Worldskills Australia Incorporated (the association), for the year ended 30 June 2008.

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation and true and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies used and described in note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (A.C.T.) 1991, and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. This includes responsibility for the maintenance of adequate financial records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error, and for the accounting policies and accounting estimates inherent in the financial report.

The special purpose financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the committee's financial reporting requirements under the Associations Incorporation Act (A.C.T.) 1991. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

Audit approach

We conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on them to the members of the association. Our audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, in order to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. The nature of an audit is influenced by factors such as the use of professional judgement, selective testing, the inherent limitations of internal control, and the availability of persuasive rather than conclusive evidence. Therefore, an audit cannot guarantee that all material misstatements have been detected.

We performed procedures to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in note 1, so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of the association's financial position, and performance as represented by the results of its operations. These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used and described in note 1, are appropriate for the needs of the members.

WorldSkills Australia Incorporated

A.R.B.N. 002 839 429

Independent Audit Report to the Members of Worldskills Australia Incorporated

We formed our audit opinion on the basis of these procedures, which included:

- Examining, on a test basis, information to provide evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial report, and
- Assessing the appropriateness of the accounting policies and disclosures used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the committee.

While we considered the effectiveness of management's internal controls over financial reporting when determining the nature and extent of our procedures, our audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on this basis.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

AUDIT OPINION

In our opinion, the financial report of the association presents a true and fair view in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, of the financial position of the association as at 30 June 2008 and the results of its operations for the year then ended.

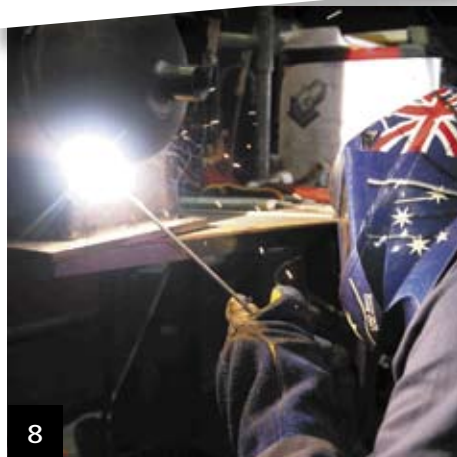
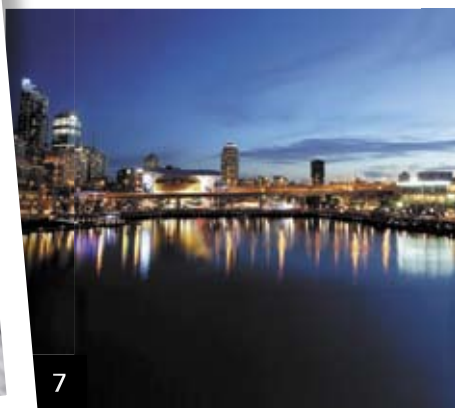
FORSYTHES

MJ Matthews

Partner
Chartered Accountants

Newcastle, 28th November 2008

WSA - a year in pictures





11



12



13



14



15



16



17



18



19



20

- 1-4 WorldSkills Australia National Competition 2008
- 5 A young boy is entertained by the WorldSkills Australia Try'aTrade event, Melbourne Careers and Employment Expo
- 6 Restaurant Service competitor, WorldSkills Australia National Competition 2008
- 7 Darling Harbour, Sydney
- 8-9 WorldSkills Australia National Competition 2008
- 10 2007 BBM award recipients
- 11-12 2008 WorldSkills Australia National Competition
- 13 General Assembly / 2007 Skillaroos participate in Youth Forum, Vienna (l-r) Courtney Barton, Candice Faranda, WSA CEO Mark Callaghan, Holly Browne and WSA Technical Delegate John Shiel
- 14-15 WorldSkills Australia National Competition 2008
- 16 2DayFM outside radio broadcast - WorldSkills Australia National Competition 2008
- 17 VETIS Shield recipient state is New South Wales, WorldSkills Australia National Competition 2008 Presentation Ceremony
- 18 SkillsOne team at the WorldSkills Australia National Competition 2008
- 19 WorldSkills Australia National Competition 2008, Presentation Ceremony. Luke Davies presented with CareerOne Award for Best Performing Competitor by CareerOne News Digital Careers CEO, Dr Stephen Hollings
- 20 Tasmania crowned Evatt Shield winner at the WorldSkills Australia National Competition 2008, Presentation Ceremony

worldskills australia

2007-08



worldskills
Australia

Level 3, 92-94, Elizabeth Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000
PO Box 12505
A'Beckett Street VIC 8006
tel 61 3 9249 1000
e info@worldskills.org.au
w www.worldskills.org.au

A Member of WorldSkills International