



Annual Report
2008-2009



world **skills**
Australia



Jessie- Lee Gladwell wins Gold in the category of Beauty Therapy at the 40th WorldSkills International Competition, Calgary, Canada.

2008 - 2009

WorldSkills Australia - Annual Report

Contents

Chair's Overview **2**

CEO's Report **3**

Board of Directors **4**

What is WorldSkills Australia? **6**

WorldSkills Australia *Try'aTrade* Program **8**

Skillaroos Teach MP's New Skills, Canberra *Try'aTrade* **9**

International Pathways **10**

Mock International Competition, Newcastle **12**

The Big Skills Conference **12**

CareerOne Training Camp, AIS **13**

WorldSkills International Competiton **14**

2009 Team Australia Results **16**

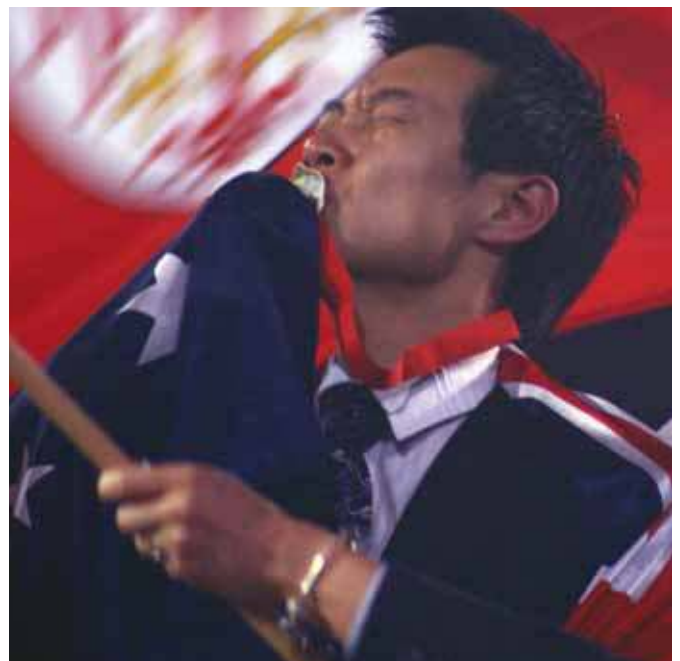
Welcome Home Reception, Canberra **17**

Partners and Supporters **18**

National Competition Brisbane 2010 **19**

Where are they now? **20**

2008 - 2009 Financial Report **23**



Heh- Nian (James) Sun wins Gold in the category of Restaurant Service at the 40th WorldSkills International Competition, Calgary, Canada.

Chair's Overview

A Year to Remember

WorldSkills Australia is going from strength to strength with increased recognition and support from all our sponsors, supporters and of course our funding body - the Australian Government. It is timely in this time of global financial crisis to applaud the continuing commitment and dedication of the many organisations, employers, employees and training providers who have given their time, their money and their expertise to ensure that Australia and its vocational education and training system is ranked amongst the best in the world.

During this past year the WSA board of directors has completed a governance review. As a result of this review the board has agreed to proceed with moving WSA from an Association to a Company Limited by Guarantee. This will mean several changes in terms of our Constitution and roles and membership of the Board. All of our Board members are committed to the continuing growth, development and success of WSA. These values will be at the centre of any change and will always be core to any decisions for the future.

The 2009 calendar year commenced with WorldSkills Australia Regional Competitions in 30 Regions across Australia. Over 4,000 young Australians have competed for the opportunity to represent their Region and their state at the WorldSkills Australia National Competition to be held in Brisbane in May 2010.

As our young Regional competitors were preparing and competing across the country, our Team Australia Skillaroos were committing themselves to months of intense training for the 40th International Competition in Calgary, held in September 2009. The preparation for the 2009 International Competition could be likened to that of our international sporting and athletic competitors, with mock competitions, physical and psychological training assisting them in developing the inner strength needed to compete at International level.

The 2009 Skillaroos made their country proud, not only retaining Australia's world ranking and doubling our medal tally from the 2007 Japan Competition, but by representing their country with pride and dignity. I was immensely proud of them.

I can't acknowledge the success of our young skills ambassadors without recognising the magnificent effort of our skills experts and trainers. They have motivated, encouraged and driven these young people to their success and I offer my sincere thanks and gratitude to them.

No matter how many International Competitions I attend, I still get goose bumps as I recall each competitor's name being read out and the look on their faces of sheer joy, excitement, disbelief and finally, pride, as they are awarded their medals.

It's not just about the medals we bring home, it's about celebrating WorldSkills Australia's contribution to the skills development of our future workforce, it's about honoring our Australian Vocational Education and Training system as amongst the best in the world.



All of these great achievements are supported by a small, highly dedicated and skilled team in the WorldSkills Australia National office. This team guided by our CEO Mark Callaghan work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure everything to do with our competitions from Regional to National to International runs smoothly. They deserve our praise for a job well done.

WorldSkills Australia relies heavily on the many volunteers who give their time without reservation and to these people we are indebted.

I look forward to the coming year as WorldSkills Australia continues on its path towards being recognised as the showcase on the world stage for the quality of Australia's skills development systems.

I am proud to be part of the WorldSkills Australia family and I look forward to continuing to promote and extol the benefits and value of this organisation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeanette Allen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line above the first name.

Jeanette Allen
Chair of WorldSkills Australia

CEO's Report

Striving for Skills Excellence

2009 shaped as a very challenging year for everyone involved with WorldSkills Australia (WSA) due to the climate of economic uncertainty that prevailed - particularly in the first half of the year. Despite the fact that we were faced with a global economic showdown, everyone involved in the training sector continued to highlight the importance of a strong skills base. As a result, the need to continue to strive for skills excellence and to raise the awareness of the opportunities that are available in a trade or skills based career remains the best way of achieving this is by showcasing real role models. Throughout 2009 we have all been privileged to witness some tremendous role models - *Skill Ambassadors to whom all Australians can aspire.*

Everyone is aware of the fantastic achievements of our 2009 Team Australia Skillaroos. 12 Medals, 12 Medallions of Excellence and a ranking of 5th in the world is a magnificent and well deserved result. Each member of this team proudly represented their country in Calgary and without doubt, the results they were able to achieve will act as a catalyst for many young Australians to consider a future in a trade or skills based career. From my point of view, the most pleasing aspect of their success is that they are now starting to gain the recognition that they deserve. From a Welcome Home Reception at Old Parliament House, hosted by the Deputy Prime Minister Julia Gillard to a *Try'a Trade* event at Parliament House and acknowledgement of their efforts, again by the Deputy Prime Minister at the Australian Training Awards - all are a just reward for their years of hard work and commitment. In a time when we continually hear complaints regarding the lack of funding for some of our Australian sports stars it is pleasing to see the recognition begin

to flow for our Skillaroos - all who give up so much for the opportunity of representing their trade and their country.

Just as important as the Skillaroos though are the young men and women from around Australia who have taken up the challenge of skills excellence by competing in a WSA Regional competition. Each and every one of these Regional competitors has benchmarked their skill level and will return to their workplaces and places of training with the knowledge of what it takes to become a more skilled and better tradesperson. This can only assist with increasing the productivity of Australia. For a select few of these competitors, they will be taking the next step in their skills journey and heading to Brisbane in May to compete in the 2010 National Competition and from there they could be off to London in 2011! We all look forward to watching their progress throughout 2010.

Of course, the success of our Skillaroos or the 2009 Regional competitions - and indeed all of the WSA programs are not possible without the efforts of many people - many of whom freely give their time to ensure we continue to raise the profile of trades and skills in this country. Without the support, hard work, enthusiasm and passion of Government partners, industry sponsors and the WorldSkills 'army' of volunteers we would not be in a position to provide a platform for Australia's best to showcase their skills. In particular I would like to thank all involved with WSA at the Regional level. We can only hope to improve at the International level if we have a strong base of Regional competitions and all indications are that there has been an increase in competitors across the country during the 2009 Regional competitions.



I would also like to pass on my thanks to the Board of WSA for their support and guidance - it certainly makes my job easier having an enthusiastic and committed Board. In particular, I would like to thank the WSA Chair Jeanette Allen, who has 'led from the front' as evidenced by her tireless support on the ground at the 40th WorldSkills Competition in Calgary, Canada.

Finally, I would like to thank the core staff of WSA. Like everyone involved with WSA, this small group of professionals has gone 'above and beyond' what they are required to do.

The professionalism of the National office, the support from Government and sponsors and the passion and commitment from WSA volunteers have all been key ingredients to a successful 2009. Thank you to everyone who has been involved with WSA throughout the year and I look forward to working with you all throughout 2010 as we continue to unearth Skill Ambassadors - the perfect role models for all young Australians who are contemplating their futures and perfect examples for all Australians of what can be achieved in a trade or skills based career.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Callaghan'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mark Callaghan
CEO of WorldSkills Australia

Board of Directors

Chair of WorldSkills Australia

Jeanette Allen

*Chief Executive Officer,
Service Industry Skills Council*

JEANETTE was appointed Chair of WorldSkills Australia 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 (2004), 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.

Jeanette commenced her working life as a hairdresser and remained in the industry for 22 years. Following the sale of her businesses, Jeanette commenced working as a teacher and continued in a number of roles in TAFE over the next 11 years. Jeanette moved to the private sector in 1998 following her appointment as Executive Director of the Wholesale Retail and Personal Services Industry Training Council in 2004. With the merging of 3 industry training councils, Jeanette was appointed the Chief Executive Officer of the Services Industries Skills Council.

Jeanette holds a Master of Education (Curriculum Development), a Bachelor of Education (Curriculum Leadership), a Diploma of Teaching (TAFE) and a Certificate in Hairdressing (Sydney Technical College).

Deputy Chair of WorldSkills Australia

Jim Barron

*Chief Executive Officer,
Group Training Australia*

JIM was appointed as Director of WorldSkills Australia in 2002 and elected Deputy Chair in November 2004. Jim is also Chief Executive Officer of Group Training Australia.

Prior to taking his role at GTA in November 2001, Jim 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.

Jim brings to WorldSkills a wealth of knowledge and experience in the political and social policy areas and a valuable perspective from both sides of the fence.

Directors

Rex Hewett

*Director, Business Services
Training Australia*

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.

Rex Hewett is currently working as NSW Teacher Federation Industrial Officer and Superannuation Consultant.

Martin Baird

*Managing Director of
Cap Coatings Pty Ltd*

MARTIN is the Managing Director of Cap Coatings Pty Ltd - a supplier of passive fire protection products. He is a Certified Practising 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.

Sharan Burrow

*President Australian Council
of Trade Unions*

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.

Steve Ghost

Managing Director, SkillsTech Australia

STEVE is Managing Director of SkillsTech Australia and is leading the establishment of a significant investment program to develop state-of-the-art training facilities in Brisbane and the regions. Steve has previously held 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.

Kevin Harris

*Board Member,
TAFE Directors Australia*

KEVIN was appointed 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.

Mary Hicks

*Director, Education and Training,
Australian Chamber of Commerce
and Industry*

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 World Skills Australia.

Heather Ridout

*Chief Executive,
Australian Industry Group*

HEATHER was appointed Director on the Board 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.

Brian Wexham

*Chief Executive Officer,
The Institute for Trade Skills Excellence*

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).

What is WorldSkills Australia?

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

Our Mission

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

WorldSkills Australia is a dynamic, not-for-profit organisation that has been actively celebrating and promoting the standards and status of vocational education and training and skills excellence since 1981. 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 the National Training Packages, WorldSkills Australia works to ensure that today's young people have the skills and abilities to compete within a rapidly changing global market place.

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.*

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

WorldSkills Australia 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 51 countries who participate in trade and skills competitions.

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.



WorldSkills International Members

Australia
Austria
Belgium
Brazil
Brunei Darussalam
Canada
Chinese Taipei
Colombia
Croatia
Denmark
Ecuador
Estonia
Finland
France
Germany
Hong Kong, China
Hungary

Iceland
Indonesia
Iran
Ireland
Jamaica
Japan
Korea
Luxembourg
Macao, China
Malaysia
Mexico
Morocco
Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Oman
Philippines

Portugal
Principality of Liechtenstein
Saudi Arabia
Singapore
South Africa
South Tyrol, Italy
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Thailand
Tunisia
Turkey
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
United States of America
Venezuela
Vietnam

*40th WorldSkills International Competition
Calgary, Canada Skillaroos 1- Kyle French
2- Daniel Karanges 3- Stacey Pitman
4- Mitchell Edwards 5- Nash Mason
6- Nick Davies, Silver Medal, ITI Software
Applications 7- Nigel Croke, Bronze Medal,
Bricklaying 8- Skillaroos congratulate
each other 9- Heh- Nian (James) Sun,
Gold Medal, Restaurant Service.*



WorldSkills Australia Try'aTrade Program



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 all 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'aTrade* events across Australia in the last 12 months.

Melbourne

Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre, 28-29 March

WorldSkills Australia together with GTA Victoria and Master Builders held a successful WorldSkills Australia *Try'aTrade* event in conjunction with the National Careers and Employment Expo at the Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre in Melbourne on 28-29 March.

A highlight was having reality TV show, Big Brother runner up Rory assisting with the Bricklaying WorldSkills Australia *Try'aTrade*. Rory helped those keen to learn to lay a brick and certainly drew a crowd given his appearance on Big Brother.



Up to 25,000 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.

Brisbane

Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, 8-9 May

The Brisbane Careers and Employment Expo saw thousands of people attend and try their hand at different trades or skills in the WorldSkills Australia *Try'aTrade* program. Visitors had the ability to try over 42 trades or skills in categories ranging from Cookery, Printing and Graphic Arts, Web Design or Painting and Decorating.

Spectators had the chance to watch Celebrity Chef Alastair McLeod (Ready, Steady, Cook) give cooking demonstrations at the Cookery *Try'aTrade*. Also assisting with the *Try'aTrade* were 2007 Skillaroos, Michael Kirkwood-Smith (IT/ Software Applications) and Kim Harrison (Printing and Graphic Arts). Minister For Education and Training the Hon. Geoff Wilson took time from his busy schedule to try his hand at the skills on offer, taking a particular interest in trying his hand at Autobody Repair.



Adelaide

Adelaide Convention and Exhibition Centre, 1-2 May

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

Mock Competition

Newcastle Exhibition Centre 20-23 May

Sandwiched between the Brisbane and Sydney *Try'aTrade* events, a significant milestone in the training for the Skillaroos occurred in Newcastle from the 20 to 23 May which also featured an interactive *Try'aTrade* for hundreds of school kids from around Newcastle keen to try their hand at over 15 different trades and skills. Students were able to watch the Skillaroos in action and then try the trade for themselves in everything from Jewellery, Painting and Decorating and Welding.

Sydney

Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, 29-30 May

Spectators to the Expo were able to get their hands on 15 different *Try'aTrade* activities in everything from Web Design, Plumbing, Sheetmetal to Beauty Care. 2009 Skillaroos Daniel Jones (Web Design) Nick Davies (IT/ Software Applications) and Peter Steinweiss (Wall and Floor Tiling) gave their time to assist in running their respective *Try'aTrade* categories.

Minister For Education and Training The Hon. Verity Firth enjoyed the WorldSkills Australia *Try'aTrade*, and after engaging with the students, Skillaroos, volunteers and teachers left realising what an important initiative the WorldSkills Australia *Try'aTrade* Program continues to be.

Definition: 1. A hands-on, interactive experience, engaging people of all ages to try various trades and skills.
2. An integral element of WorldSkills Australia's commitment to excellence in vocational education and training.

Many thanks to all involved in these successful events.

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

New South Wales - Central Coast, Cessnock, East Lakes, Illawarra, Mid Coast, Maitland, Muswellbrook, Macarthur, Macquarie, Newcastle, New England, Port Stephens, Western Sydney Westlakes, Brisbane - Acacia Ridge, Bundaberg, Bremer, Gladstone, Gympie, Kingaroy SHS, Maryborough,

Rockhampton, Sunshine Coast, Toowoomba, Townsville, Victoria - Ballarat, Melbourne, Northern Territory - Darwin, ACT - Canberra, Tasmania - Hobart, Launceston and Devonport, Western Australia - Perth and Broome.

Skillaros Teach MP's New Skills, Canberra Try'aTrade

Team Australia Skillaros took WorldSkills Australia Try'aTrade to Parliament House on Thursday 19 November and impressed our parliamentarians with their Medal winning skills while passing on some of their world class techniques on the lawns of Federation Mall, Canberra.

Participating in what was a first for WorldSkills Australia and our members of parliament was The Deputy Prime Minister The Hon Julia Gillard, Senator Mark Arbib, Minister for Employment Participation, Minister Assisting the Prime Minister on Government Service Delivery, Minister Penny Wong, Minister for Climate Change and Water, Minister Greg Combet, Minister for Defence Personnel, Material and

Science and the Minister Assisting the Minister for Climate Change and Jason Clare, Parliamentary Secretary for Employment.

MP's enthusiastically took on the challenge of Try'aTrade and did exceptionally well with the various tools on hand. While holding oxy torches and maneuvering mortar on a trowel, our MP's also gained some insights into new sustainability practices used in each of the trades and how that has impacted the industry and the consumer. Our Skillaros also imparted some useful sustainability tips that can be easily applied in every Australian home.

The 2009 Skillaros Gavin Press (Medallion of Excellence) Electrical Installations, Megan Kuhn (Medallion of Excellence) Hairdressing, Kyle Butler and Andrew Arthur (Silver Medal) Manufacturing Team Challenge, Tyson Knight (Silver Medal) Plumbing and Heating, Daniel Karanges (Bronze Medal) Sheet Metal Technology, Josh Harris (Bronze Medal) Welding and Daniel Dovern (2009 Regional Gold Medalist and 2010 National Competitor), polished their tools and impressed parliamentarians with their finely tuned skills, while helping to promote the Australian Governments Kickstart Apprentices program.

1- Deputy Prime Minister The Hon Julia Gillard is taught to lay a brick by 2010 National Bricklaying competitor, Daniel Dovern 2- MP's ready to try their hand at the WorldSkills Australia Try'aTrade 3- Senator Mark Arbib.



International Pathways



BBM Awards

BBM Limited 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.

Now, BBM Awards have enabled hundreds of talented young Australians to visit Britain to gain further experience in their chosen pursuits.

BBM aims to provide career and skills support to the youth of Australia. Its awards have become a highly respected and beneficial International pathway from WorldSkills Australia's National Competitions.



The first WorldSkills competitor to receive a BBM Scholarship was in 1985. The scholarship was recognised as a valuable pathway for a National Medalist because, like WorldSkills Australia, it focused on the aim of achieving global skills excellence.

In 2000 BBM Ltd became a prominent partner with WSA. Now the two organisations jointly select and grant scholarships to many young and skilled competitors upon the completion of each National Competition.

BBM recipients from the WSA National Competitions have each proved their dedication to skill excellence in their chosen vocational field.

The young Australians travel to the UK to participate in a two week Corporate Leadership Development Program, 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 efficient leaders and communicators. Recipients test the limits of their mental and physical boundaries in tasks such as an expedition to the hills of North Wales and a sinking ship simulator.

Those who received the BBM Scholarship through WSA are able to enhance their career prospects, positively contribute to Australia's cultural and technical development and help maintain strong links with Britain. They are also able to travel, make life-long friends and have the experience of a lifetime.

Following their success at the WorldSkills Australia National Competition in Sydney 2008, the recipients of the 2009 BBM Scholarships are as follows:

- Aaron Talbot
IT/ PC and Network Support
- Amanda Allen
IT/ Software Applications
- Andrew Ringsgwandl
Automotive Mechanics
- Anna Moran
Printing & Graphic Arts
- Blake Conyers
Signcraft
- Carlee Bamford
Retail Baking - Bread/Pastry
- Chris Walker
Fitting
- Christopher Crouch
Auto Electrical
- Craig McVernon
Retail Baking - Bread/Pastry
- Daniel Moelder
Carpentry
- Jeff Brown
Carpentry
- Joshua Tunbridge
Signcraft
- Kathleen Parker
Retail Baking - Bread/Pastry
- Nikita Block
Business Services
- Rolf Barfoed
Cabinetmaking
- Tara Davis
Cookery
- Troy Savage
CAD Mechanical

Congratulations to these 17 highly skilled individuals.

WorldSkills Australia National Competitions provide selected Competitors the pathway to pursue further skills and personal development overseas through study or practical 'hands-on' work experience.



Australian Overseas Foundation (AOF)

The AOF was established to assist young Australian apprentices and trainees with financial support to provide the opportunity to travel overseas, achieve their goals and develop qualities of self-reliance, initiative and leadership. They are given the opportunity to organise their own placement, often in places they have only dreamed about such as 2009 recipient Cody Gibb, who has lined up work with the number three restaurant in the world- Noma Restaurant in Copenhagen, Denmark.

AOF is committed to the education development and leadership potential of young Australians. AOF believes that industry skills gained through overseas work experience additionally develops independence, confidence and cultural awareness.

The Australian Overseas Foundation Awards Presentation held in Melbourne on October 15th saw six extremely talented young Australians receive scholarships to travel, study and work overseas.

Following a rigorous selection process, winners of the 2009 Australian Overseas Foundation (AOF) scholarship:

- Rachael Keiley (*2009 Australian Apprentice of the Year*)
- Joseph Atkinson
- Cody Gibb
- Patrick McMahon
- Tara Davis
- Gavin Press

Gavin Press, an Australian representative of the Team Australia Skillaroos recently returned home from the 40th WorldSkills International Competition in Calgary, Canada with a Medallion of Excellence in the category of Electrical Installations.

Tara Davis participated in the WorldSkills Australia National Competition Sydney 2008, receiving a Silver Medal in the category of Cookery.

WorldSkills Australia would like to congratulate all winners and wish them well as they take up their scholarships in countries such as Denmark, UK, USA, France and Germany.



Mock International Competition, Newcastle

The traditional competitive tension between the Aussies and the Kiwis reached boiling point in Newcastle when the WorldSkills Australia team went head-to-head against their rivals from across the Tasman.

From the 20-23 of May 2009, Newcastle played host to a practice Competition for both WorldSkills teams that emulated the conditions our young tradesmen and women faced when they competed in Calgary, Canada at the 40th WorldSkills International Competition.

Thousands of spectators attended the event to see the Skillaroos take on the New Zealand WorldSkills team. The Newcastle event marked '100 Days' until the International Competition in Canada. The Competition against the New Zealand team was the last time the public had the opportunity to see the competitors before they headed to Canada.

Spectators at the exhibition were also encouraged to try their hand at a number of the disciplines that were being performed by the Skillaroos as part of the *Try'a Trade* initiative run by WorldSkills Australia.



The Big Skills Conference

In its first year, The Big Skills Conference (BSC) brought together major National and International players with an interest in skills and training to debate issues and stimulate change in the Australian tertiary sector. The Big Skills Conference was hosted by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations on behalf of the Australian Government.

WorldSkills Australia actively participated in the Big Skills Conference by showcasing some of Australia's best skilled tradespeople. As part of their training, 8 of the 2009 Skillaroos worked on projects under the watchful eye of their experts. Delegates to the conference had the opportunity to watch the Skillaroos in action, working hard to complete their projects over three days whilst under the scrutiny of the 1,200+ attendees.

The WorldSkills Australia Skillaroos and their Experts who trained at The Big Skills Conference are as follows:

- **Beauty Therapy**
Skillaroo - Jessie- Lee Gladwell
Expert - Sue Collins
- **Hairdressing**
Skillaroo - Megan Kuhn
Expert - Donna DeMaria
- **Floristry**
Skillaroo - Stacey Pitman
Expert - Alan Randell-Smith
- **Printing and Graphic Arts**
Skillaroo - Melissa Guiney
Expert - Sarah Jones
- **Web Design**
Skillaroo - Daniel Jones
Expert - Jarrad Langdon
- **Bricklaying**
Skillaroo - Nigel Croke
Expert - Troy Everett

2007 Floristry Skillaroo and Medallion of Excellence recipient Courtney Barton and 2005 WorldSkills International Gold Medal winner Jarrad Langdon attended the conference assisting in various capacities. Jarrad delivered a brilliant speech on his journey through training in Web Design, his apprenticeship, competing, teaching and starting his own business. He spoke in the session entitled 'Access and Participation' - Young People's Views and was on the panel for the Big Skills Quiz - a take on ABC TV show, Spicks and Specks.



1- Peter Steinweiss (Wall and Floor Tiling)
2- Ladies/Mens Hairdressing Expert
Donna DeMaria and Megan Kuhn

CareerOne Training Camp, AIS

 News Limited



The 2009 Team Australia Skillaroos Training Camp at the Australian Institute of Sport proved to be an invaluable experience for the team. Thanks to the tremendous support of our Media Partner News Limited CareerOne, the weekend provided the Skillaroos with an unprecedented opportunity to draw the comparison between elite athletes and elite craftsmen.

The facilities and environment at the AIS provided the Skillaroos with the opportunity to finalise their preparations, both physically and mentally and reinforce the tremendous honour that they have been provided - representing their country.



It's a list that reads like the who's who of Australian sporting achievement: Lauren Jackson, Lucas Neill, Lleyton Hewitt, Jana Pittman, Petria Thomas and Cadel Evans amongst many more - all champions of their trade who mastered their craft at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra during their career.

Now add to this list the Australian WorldSkills team - 26 of our best and brightest young tradies and apprentices who earned their chance to compete at the 2009 International WorldSkills Competition, known as the 'Trade Olympics', held in Canada in September 2009.

During their time at the AIS training camp from June 20 - 22, the Australian WorldSkills team (the Skillaroos) were given the chance to mingle with some of Australia's most promising young athletes in the hope that some of their winning spirit rubbed off.

The camp ended on a high note as the team met with Senator, The Hon. Mark Arbib, Minister for Employment Participation, who, representing the Prime Minister of Australia, presented the squad with their official Competition uniforms, ensuring the team headed to Canada dressed for success.

"It was a time to listen to the voices of experience. It helped with our mental attitude at the Competition" Shane Ashton

Senator Arbib spent some time in the workshop as a metal trades assistant in the early 1990s.

"The WorldSkills International Competition is an excellent opportunity to showcase Australia's trade and skill talent," said Senator Arbib.

"It is a honour for these young Australians to represent their country and compete with their peers in their chosen trade. "There is no greater honour than representing Australia." Senator Arbib said.

"Something very different and out of the ordinary. I learnt a lot about fitness, sports science and food. The information was useful and I felt better as an Australian representative being at the AIS with athletes." Heh-Nian (James) Sun, Gold Medal, Restaurant Service.

3- AIS Athlete, Nigel Croke (Bricklaying)
4- AIS Athlete, Perrin Bouna (Automobile Technology), Senator Mark Arbib.



WorldSkills International Competiton Calgary, Canada 2009

26 of Australia's most talented and highly skilled trainees and apprentices competed against 800 of their peers from 51 countries in front of a crowd of 250,000 strong at Stampede Park in Calgary, at the 40th WorldSkills International Competition, Calgary Canada, 2009.

Exceeding all expectations the Skillaroos brought home 12 Medals and 12 Medallions of Excellence in 24 categories that Australia competed in - more than doubling the haul that the team collected at the last International Competition in Japan, 2007.

Two Skillaroos staked their claim to the title of 'World Champion', having blitzed the world class field to secure Gold Medals in the categories of Beauty Therapy and Restaurant Service.

Adding to the two Gold Medals, Australia won Silver Medals in Plumbing, IT/ Software Applications and the Manufacturing Team Challenge. Bronze Medals were also won by Skillaroos in the categories of Web Design, Sheetmetal Work, Wall and Floor Tiling, Welding and Bricklaying.

Jessie- Lee Gladwell from Cairns and Heh-Nian (James) Sun from Sydney put in an extraordinary effort to finish in first place in the categories of Beauty Therapy and Restaurant Service.

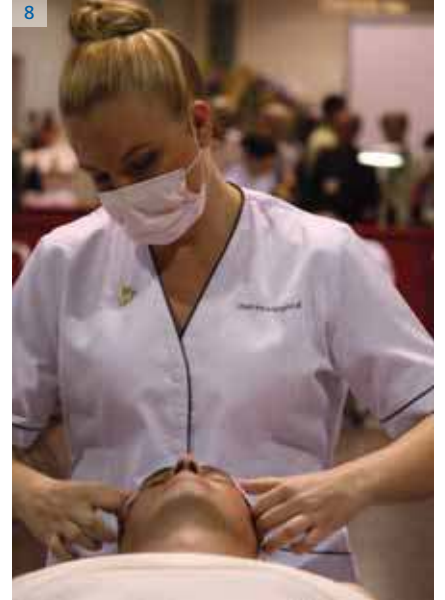
Twelve Medals is an outstanding achievement and one which is well deserved by the team. All of our Skillaroos did their country proud and once again we have demonstrated to the world that the Australian vocational education and training system is of a world class standard.

Australia will compete at the 41st International WorldSkills Competition in London 2011.

1- Skillaroos take yellow school bus for school visit as part of the One School, One Country program 2- Megan Kuhn, Medallion of Excellence, Ladies/Mens Hairdressing 3- Nick Davies, Silver Medal, IT/ Software Applications 4- Perrin Bouna, Medallion of Excellence, Automobile Technology 5- Heh-Nian (James) Sun, Gold Medal, Restaurant Service 6- Daniel Jones,

Bronze Medal, Web Design 7- Michael Welshman, Medallion of Excellence, Cabinetmaking 8- Jessie- Lee Gladwell, Gold Medal, Beauty Therapy 9- Andrew Arthur, Luke Davies, Kyle Butler, Silver Medal, Manufacturing Team Challenge 10- 2008 Australian Idol, Wes Carr and Nigel Croke, Bricklaying Skillaroo serving up pancakes at the Media Call, Sydney





2009 Team Australia Results

Gold Medal



Jessie-Lee Gladwell
Beauty Therapy



Heh-Nian (James) Sun
Restaurant Service



Silver Medal



Tyson Knight
Plumbing and Heating



Andrew Arthur
Manufacturing Team Challenge



Kyle Butler
Manufacturing Team Challenge



Luke Davies
Manufacturing Team Challenge



Nick Davies
IT/ Software Applications

Bronze Medal



Nigel Croke
Bricklaying



Daniel Karanges
Sheet Metal Technology



Peter Steinweiss
Wall and Floor Tiling



Daniel Jones
Web Design



Joshua Harris
Welding

Medallions of Excellence

Aaron Samphier	Autobody Repair
Perrin Bouna	Automobile Technology
Michael Welshman	Cabinetmaking
Nenad Djuric	Cooking
Gavin Press	Electrical Installations
Stacey Pitman	Floristry

Melissa Guiney	Graphic Design Technology
Ben Dean	Industrial Control
Mitchell Edwards	Joinery
Megan Kuhn	Ladies/Mens Hairdressing
Kyle French	Painting and Decorating
Nash Mason	Refrigeration

Certificate Of Participation

Shane Ashton Construction Steel Work

Justin Laidlaw

Car Painting

Welcome Home Reception, Canberra

On Wednesday 28 October, Deputy Prime Minister, Julia Gillard welcomed home Australia's best and brightest young trainees and apprentices following their Medal-winning performance at the 40th WorldSkills International Competition held in Canada in September. Ms Gillard hosted the Old Parliament House ceremony, congratulating the guests of honour - members of the Australian WorldSkills Team, the Skillaroos, who brought home a hoard of Medals from the International Competition which is known as the 'Olympics of Economic Skills'.

In total, the team secured 12 Medals and 12 Medallions of Excellence in 24 skill disciplines, including two Gold Medals in the fields of Beauty Therapy and Restaurant Service, and reaffirmed Australia's reputation as a global leader in trade skills education by securing a ranking of 5th in the world class field.

The Hon. Julia Gillard eagerly met with members of the successful squad, praising their remarkable achievements and sharing in the celebrations.

"The Australian Government is exceptionally proud to be associated with such a powerful demonstration of Australia's skills excellence," Ms Gillard said.

"Every team member represents the pinnacle of achievement for the vocational education and training sector in Australia and are wonderful role models to other young Australians."

1- Heh-Nian (James) Sun, Jessie- Lee Gladwell, Nenad Djuric and Deputy Prime Minister, Julia Gillard 2- International Competition Medalists 3- Deputy Prime Minister, Julia Gillard and Senator Mark Arbib with the Skillaroos.



Partners and Supporters

Government Partners



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment
and Workplace Relations



Government of South Australia
Department of Further Education,
Employment, Science and Technology



Northern Territory Government

Media Partner



Our Supporters



...Thank You

A full list of Sponsors can be viewed at www.worldskills.org.au

National Competition Brisbane 2010

7,8,9 May 2010
**Brisbane Convention
and Exhibition Centre**

Come and see 500 of Australia's best young skill and trades people who will be battling for Gold in 50 categories. Support the best apprentices, trainees and school students from your Region!

- Principal sponsor is the Queensland Department of Education and Training.
- Over 500 competitors will compete in up to 50 trade and skill categories.
- Competitors from 30 Regions will vie for Gold, Silver or Bronze Medals and a National title.
- If eligible, Medalists may advance to the 41st International WorldSkills Competition in London 2011.
- 250 qualified judges from across Australia.
- Competitors are judged against National and International benchmarks, training packages and employability competencies.
- Over 70,000 visitors are expected to attend the free public event.
- 100 volunteers will assist in the management of the Competition. WorldSkills Australia has a network of over 5,000 volunteers on all levels and strongly relies on the dedication and passion of each and every one.
- 25,000m² of Competition space will include a vast collection of displays, from trucks, machinery and cars, to beauty therapy booths, commercial kitchens and computer labs.



Try'aTrade

The WorldSkills Australia *Try'aTrade* program will run over the three days in conjunction with the WorldSkills Australia National Competition. The WorldSkills Australia *Try'aTrade* program will:

- Hold 30 interactive skill and trade categories.
- Involve over 60 skilled tradespersons, industry experts and apprentices.
- Expect to have up to 25,000 participants 'having a go' at various skills through mini projects.



Green Team

WorldSkills Australia and Dusseldorp Skills Forum will again partner to deliver Green Team 2010 and liaise with Project Designers and Category Convenors to introduce real, relevant and financially viable sustainable initiatives to the WorldSkills Competition process, while also calculating the "ecological footprint" of the WorldSkills Australia National Competition.

National Careers and Employment Expo

The National Careers & Employment Expo will be held in conjunction with the WorldSkills Australia National Competition and will be the largest showcase of skills, careers and employment in Australia.



Where are they now?

Rachel Wallace

It was a typical brother/sister competitiveness to be better than the other that encouraged Rachel to consider a career in hairdressing. It just so happened that at this time Rachel's brother was in the hairdressing industry where Rachel would hear 'bits and pieces' of what being a hairdresser entailed. With determination to prove she was better than him at something, that 'something' lead to a fruitful and varied career in Hairdressing.

Looking back Rachel says this may not have been the best reason for taking up hairdressing, but the career has certainly paid off.

Rachel started her hairdressing apprenticeship in a tiny barber salon in suburban Hobart in 1986. It was into her apprenticeship she found that not only was she "better than him (her brother), she was really quite good at it (hairdressing)."

Rachel first heard mention of Work Skills (now WorldSkills Australia) Competitions through her employer, who encouraged her to compete in the competition as a way of increasing her skill level. Rachel competed in the Work Skills Competition during the second year of her apprenticeship. "It was a great learning experience, but the results were fairly average to say the least."

As a fourth year apprentice Rachel again competed in the Work Skills and this time was selected to represent Tasmania at the National Competition. She excelled at the National Competition, taking out the Gold Medal "thanks to my then TAFE Teacher who believed I could do it and managed to convince me that I could." Rachel is adamant that the self belief was a lesson well learned and one that she still uses today when faced with a challenge.

Her accolade of best in Australia saw her compete at the WorldSkills International Competition in Amsterdam in 1991 where she ranked an impressive fourth in the world.

"Sounds ok now to be ranked fourth but third would have sounded far more impressive and second or first would be unbelievable. On my way to my fourth ranking I made some mistakes or errors of judgment and now do my best to make sure that all future WorldSkills Competitors learn from my errors and don't make the same errors, I guess its pay back to WorldSkills Australia for all they have done for me."

Fast forward, Rachel now owns a very successful salon in Hobart and employs 5 staff. "I have run my own business for 18 years." Rachel also teaches hairdressing part time at the Tasmanian Skills Institute.

Committed to giving back to WorldSkills Australia, Rachel is currently Chair of WorldSkills Tasmania, where her role varies from coordinating all the Tasmanian Regional Competitions and preparing Team Tasmania for the WorldSkills Australia National Competitions. At the 2008 WorldSkills Australia National Competition in Sydney, Team Tasmania won the coveted Evatt Shield which is awarded to the Region with the best overall score for all competitors involved in the WSA National Competition.

To add to her already busy calendar, Rachel is Team Leader (along with David O'Donnell) for the Team Australia Skillaroos. Rachel took the position as International Competition Team Leader in 2003 and has since been part of four International teams, St Gallen (2003), Helsinki (2005), Shizuoka (2007) and Calgary (2009).



"Over the period I have been involved with WSA at an International level, I have watched and hopefully helped the Australian Team develop. WorldSkills Australia has become far more professional and the team preparation has been refined."

"As a result of all of the positive changes the Australian Team is now a force to be reckoned with, and is certainly well respected on the International stage. It is the best feeling that you have contributed in some small way to this evolution."

"At the International Competition I celebrate with the winners and commiserate with those that haven't done as well as they would have liked or dreamt about (ok so I cry a bit) but mainly I am just proud to have been a part of the development of these young adults and given them some of the same self belief in themselves that I have in both them and me. WorldSkills has taught me that there is nothing that I can't do, and if there is I haven't found it yet."

Since the fateful WorldSkills International Competition in Amsterdam Rachel has traveled far more than most, "there is a whole big world out there just waiting for me." Rachel is testament to the myriad opportunities WorldSkills Australia creates for young apprentices. "I give a lot of my time and energy to WSA, but always feel that I can never give them as much as they have given me."

John Rudge

Things have certainly not slowed down for John Rudge. At just 23 years of age, John has achieved what many people only dream about - *the honour of representing one's country.*

It all started when John completed Year 10 work placement with an electrician. He spent one week learning various skills and became interested in the different opportunities and challenges the electrical industry had to offer. Upon completion of his work experience, John approached various employers and was successful in gaining an electrical apprenticeship. He has completed Certificate IV in Electrotechnology and wants to go to university and complete an Electrical Engineering Certificate.

After winning a Gold Medal in the Electrical Installations category at the WorldSkills Australia Macquarie Regional Competition in 2005, John progressed to the WorldSkills Australia National Competition in Melbourne 2006, winning a Gold Medal and the accolade of being crowned Australia's Best.

John's thirst to succeed resulted in his selection into the 2007 Team Australia contingent and along with 26 other highly skilled young individuals was recognised as a Skillaroo. At the 2007 WorldSkills International Competition in Shizuoka, Japan John competed against the world's best electricians, returning home with a Silver Medal.

Following his success in Japan, John has 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. His role as an automation technician within OMYA involves writing, developing and maintaining the electrical programs in the PLC's (Programmable Logic Controllers) for their five plants throughout Australia and New Zealand. John has been working at OMYA for 18 months.

In Australia, OMYA Australia is the principal manufacturer and supplier of calcium carbonate to a range of manufacturing industries, including: paper, paint and coatings, plastics, building, mining, glass, agriculture and food.

Not able to shake the WorldSkills 'bug', John remains heavily involved in promoting skills excellence and sharing the WorldSkills ethos with others. In 2008 John was named the Electrical Installations International Expert, mentoring and training the 2009 Electrical Installations Skillaroo, Gavin Press. Gavin received a Medallion of Excellence at the International Competition in Calgary, Canada.

John feels his life has changed significantly due to his WorldSkills success at the International Competition in Japan. He believes, if not for competing and benchmarking his skills he would not have been offered the job he is in today.



"It has been an amazing eye opener to compete at an International level. It has also given me the confidence to tackle any challenge. Through competing in Japan it has also allowed me to travel the world and experience different cultures whilst learning different ways to complete my job." John's success extends beyond WorldSkills Competitions, he was named NSW Group Training Apprentice of the Year, TAFE Western Institute Apprentice of the Year and CWGA Apprentice of the year.

"WorldSkills Australia has been an endless supporter for me and my ambitions as they provide opportunities which are internationally recognised and have opened many different job prospects nationally and internationally. WorldSkills Australia has made me a stronger person and my work is up to international standards, keeping the client, my boss and myself a lot happier."

Where are they now?

Chris Nance

When entering a Regional WorldSkills Australia Competition in the category of carpentry at his local TAFE in 2005, Chris Nance could never have imagined the direction his career would head. From Buxton, NSW to all corners of the world (and back) to start a business of his own specialising in an ancient craft. Chris was awarded a Gold Medal at the WorldSkills Australia National Competition Melbourne 2006 in the category of carpentry and following on from this was awarded a BBM Ltd Scholarship to travel to the UK. "I am extremely fortunate to have been given these opportunities, I knew it would be a great experience but I had no idea just how big an influence it would have on my life."

The BBM scholarship enabled Chris and 19 other young Australians to travel to the United Kingdom and participate in an intensive two week leadership course. "The Mission Performance Course was brilliant. We got to do all sorts of stuff, from cycling and hiking to rock climbing and a range of other team and leadership building exercises all over Wales and England, it was a great learning experience," says Chris.

After the Mission Performance Leadership Course Chris found work placement with his now great mate Alan Ritchie, who is somewhat of a master craftsman in the UK, specialising in a form of carpentry that dates back over a thousand years - Oak Framing. "I wanted to learn something new, to make the most of my work experience, and through a bit of research came across Traditional Timber Framing. This form of construction was developed before the days of nails and bolts, and has provided some of the most beautiful buildings and cathedrals that we still admire today. It was sheer luck that I came across Alan, who took me in

like part of the family and taught me many of the amazing skills of his trade."

Upon returning home, Chris was a Judge at the WorldSkills Australia National Competition Sydney 2008, which he says "was a great experience." Chris knew he wanted to learn more about the timber framing he experienced in 2007 and headed back to Wales in the latter half of 2008. "I knew this time I wanted to learn as much as I could because I really felt that this type of work was where I wanted my career to head." Over the next 12 months Alan Ritchie, with his new Aussie apprentice created a range of timber frames that would end up taking them all over the UK. "We were making all sorts of buildings big and small and also running a lot of training courses teaching people from across Britain and Europe. Alan and myself have become really good friends and he has not only taught me the tricks of timber framing but also turned me into a folk musician as well. We travelled through hundreds of pubs in the UK and Ireland playing in traditional music sessions, I even made my own guitar, and think I have probably now sung Waltzing Matilda in more places than Banjo Patterson himself."

It was at the end of August 2009 that Chris finally got deported from the UK and upon returning home has began a business of his own specialising in the traditional timber framing that he has learned to love. Traditional Timber Frames, Chris' new business creates mortice and tenon timber frames for all sorts of buildings. "We specialise in the making of traditional timber frames for custom designed homes throughout NSW. Unlike lightweight framing our frames are left totally exposed within the building and bring a real feeling of elegance and



strength to any structure. These frames can be for pergolas, right through to majestic houses and can be designed to suit perfectly with the clients wishes. Our frames use heavy, beautiful and sustainable timbers without a single nail or bolt and can be expected to be admired for generations to come."

"Starting a new business is not particularly easy, especially when the trade is almost unheard of in this country," Chris says, "I have been working really hard to get this business going and ensure it can be competitive in the market. I have been able to source timbers which are managed to be totally sustainable, established a workshop and have begun making frames. It is definitely a challenge for me, running a new business, there will be a lot of hard work to come I am sure but I believe as more and more people see just how beautiful these buildings are, my business will grow and I will hopefully be able to pass on some of my skills to a new generation of Australian timber frame carpenters."

The WorldSkills Australia pathway and BBM Ltd Scholarship has opened many doors for Chris and enabled him to learn so many things he would otherwise have been unable to do. "I really owe a lot to WorldSkills Australia and BBM Ltd. If someone 4 years ago had said that I would spend 2 years in Britain and start a business building houses without nails, I would have laughed."

2008 - 2009

WorldSkills Australia - *Financial Report*

Board of Directors' Report

Your Board of Directors submit the financial report of the WorldSkills Australia Inc. for the financial year ended 30 June 2009.

Board of Directors

The names of Board of Directors throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

- Ms. J Allen (Chairperson)
- Mr. M Baird
- Mr. J Barron (Deputy Chairperson)
- Ms. S Burrow
- Mr. S Ghost
- Mr. K Harris
- Mr. R Hewett
- Ms. M Hicks
- Ms. H Ridout
- Mr. B Wexham

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 \$739,018 (2008: profit of \$38,229).

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Jeanette Allen

Chairperson

Jim Barron

Deputy Chairperson

Dated this 26th day of November 2009

2008 - 2009

WorldSkills Australia - *Financial Report*

Income Statement for the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2009

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Income		
Revenue from operations	3,639,421	2,134,200
Interest revenue	41,178	74,858
	3,680,599	2,209,058
Expenditure		
Administration expense	(619,232)	(603,574)
National Competition program	(1,294,281)	(206,926)
Regional Competitions program	(141,271)	(266,625)
International Competition program	(616,754)	(727,289)
VETiS program	(22,470)	(74,058)
Try'aTrade Program	(247,573)	(292,358)
	(2,941,581)	(2,170,829)
Profit for the financial year	739,018	38,229
Retained profits at the beginning of the financial year	135,799	97,570
Retained profits at the end of the financial year	874,817	135,799

"Important note as of 30 June 2009, the Directors of WorldSkills Australia wish to advise that \$477,275 of the current year gain was committed to expenditure to be incurred in the 2009/2010 financial year. Refer also to Notes to Financial Statements item 10"

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2009

	Note	2009 \$	2008 \$
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		1,320,226	1,176,188
Trade and other receivables	2	43,470	326,110
Other current assets	3	417,604	707,785
Total current assets		1,781,300	2,210,083
Non current assets			
Plant and equipment	4	36,341	27,022
Total non current assets		36,341	27,022
Total assets		1,817,641	2,237,104
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	5	858,789	2,042,004
Provisions	6	65,101	49,130
Total current liabilities		923,890	2,091,134
Non Current liabilities			
Provisions	7	18,934	10,172
Total non current liabilities		18,934	10,172
Total liabilities		942,824	2,101,306
Net assets		874,817	135,799
Equity			
Retained earnings	8	874,817	135,799
Total equity		874,817	135,799

2008 - 2009

WorldSkills Australia - *Financial Report*

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2009

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 Board of Directors 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 Board of Directors.

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

Leases are classified as finance leases when the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the leased asset to the lessee. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term, except where another systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the leased asset are consumed. Contingent rentals arising under operating leases are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred. In the event that lease incentives are received to enter into operating leases, such incentives are recognised as a liability. The aggregate benefits of incentives are recognised as a reduction of rental expense on a straight-line basis, except where another systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the leased asset are consumed.

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 2008. 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.

	2009 \$	2008 \$
2 Current trade and other receivables		
Trade receivables	15,705	290,095
GST receivable	27,765	36,015
	43,470	326,110
3 Other current assets		
Other debtors and prepayments	417,604	707,785
4 Plant and equipment		
Office furniture & equipment:		
- At cost	75,526	60,488
- Accumulated depreciation	(39,185)	(33,466)
	36,341	27,022
5 Current trade and other payables		
Trade payables and accruals	147,069	122,056
Unearned income	300,815	1,539,524
Payable to Regional Committees	364,228	380,424
GST payable	46,677	-
	858,789	2,042,004
6 Current provisions		
Employee entitlements	65,101	49,130
7 Non-Current provisions		
Employee entitlements	18,934	10,172
8 Retained earnings		
Balance at beginning of financial year	135,799	97,570
Current year profit	739,018	38,229
Balance at end of financial year	874,817	135,799

2008 - 2009

WorldSkills Australia - Financial Report

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

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Not greater than 1 year	67,059	63,082
Between 1 year and 5 years	81,440	135,268
Greater than 5 years	-	-
	148,499	198,350

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

10 Contingencies and Commitments

"As of 30 June 2009 the Board of Directors of WorldSkills Australia wishes to advise that \$477,275 of the current year gain was committed to expenditure to be incurred in the 2009/2010 financial year."

This committed expenditure relates to costs associated with the 2009 International Competition and Regional funding. These commitments are not reflected as liabilities on the balance sheet at 30 June 2009 as they do not meet the recognition criteria prescribed under the Australian Accounting Standards.

11 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	Summary	Application Date For Entity
AASB 101	Presentation of Financial Statements (<i>revised september 2007</i>)	1-Jul-09
AASB 123	Borrowing Costs (<i>revised</i>)	1-Jul-09
AASB 3	Business Combinations (<i>revised</i>)	1-Jul-09
AASB 2008-1	Amendments to Australian Accounting Standard - Share-based Payments: Vesting Conditions and Cancellations	1-Jul-09
AASB 2008-2	Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Puttable Financial Instruments and Obligations arising on Liquidation	1-Jul-09
AASB 2008-5	Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Annual Improvements Project	1-Jul-09
AASB 2008-6	Further Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Annual Improvements Project	1-Jul-09
AASB 2008-7	Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Cost of an Investment in a Subsidiary, Jointly Controlled Entity or Associate	1-Jul-09
AASB 2008-8	Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Eligible Hedged Items	1-Jul-09
AASB Interpretation 15	Agreements for the Construction of Real Estate	1-Jul-09
AASB Interpretation 16	Hedges of a net Investment in a Foreign Operation	1-Jul-09
AASB Interpretation 17	Distributions of Non-cash Assets to Owners	1-Jul-09
IFRIC 18	Transfers of Assets from Customers	1-Jul-09

12 Additional company information

WorldSkills Australia Incorporated is a registered Australian Association, registered in the Australian Capital Territory.
Principal Place of Business Level 3, 92-94 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000

Statement by the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors 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 Board of Directors the financial report as set out on pages 2 to 7:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of WorldSkills Australia Incorporated as at 30 June 2009 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 Directors and is signed for and on behalf of the Board of Directors by:

Jeanette Allen
Chairperson

Jim Barron
Deputy Chairperson

Dated this 26th day of November 2009

2008 - 2009

WorldSkills Australia - *Financial Report*



WorldSkills Australia Incorporated

Independent Audit Report to the Directors of WorldSkills Australia Incorporated

SCOPE

The special purpose financial report and board of directors's responsibility

The special purpose financial report comprises the balance sheet, income statement, accompanying notes to the financial statements, and the statement by the Board of Directors for WorldSkills Australia Incorporated (the association), for the year ended 30 June 2009.

The Board of Directors 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. 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 the purpose of fulfilling the Board of Directors'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 Directors 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 Directors.

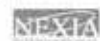
Accounting - Assurance & Risk - Corporate Advisory - Financial Planning - Forensic Accounting - IT & Training - Recruitment

Levels 4/5, Hunter Mall Chambers, 175 Scott Street (PO Box 705) DX 7919 Newcastle NSW 2300 Australia

Telephone 02 4926 2699 Facsimile (02) 4929 1435 Website www.forsythes.com.au Email forsythes@forsythes.com.au

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation, other than for the acts or omissions of financial services licencees

MEMBER OF NEXIA INTERNATIONAL - A WORLDWIDE NETWORK OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTING AND CONSULTING FIRMS



WorldSkills Australia Incorporated

Independent Audit Report to the Directors of WorldSkills Australia Incorporated (Continued)

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 Board of Directors.

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 2009 and the results of its operations for the year then ended.



FORSYTHES



.....
MJ Matthews
Partner
Chartered Accountants

Newcastle, 27 November 2009



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





WorldSkills Australia Skill Ambassadors - the perfect role models for all young Australians who are contemplating their futures and perfect examples for all Australians of what can be achieved in a trade or skills based career.





WorldSkills Australia National Office

Level 3, 92-94 Elizabeth Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

61 3 9249 1000
info@worldskills.org.au

A Member of WorldSkills International

www.worldskills.org.au



Australian Government

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