

#### Youth Connect's Vision

*"A community where school to work pathways and career choices for all young people are equally valued and respected"*

#### Youth Connect's Mission

*Youth Connect works with the community to provide all young people with the skills and knowledge to support them to manage a successful pathway through secondary education, further learning and employment.*

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## Secondary School Pathways Forum

### Heard of VCAL, VET and SBAT, but not sure what they are?

The Inner Eastern Local Learning Employment Network, together with Youth Connect invite you to the free Secondary School Pathways information night to find out about the range of education pathways now available to young people in their senior years of education and at schools in the Inner Eastern Melbourne region.

The FORUM will include: Information about the Senior School Certificates: Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE), Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL); also Vocational Education and Training (VET) and School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SBAT) in the form of panel discussion from education experts, students and teachers.

Howard Kelly, an educational expert, will make a keynote speech, providing insight into education and young people making choices for their future.

Mr. Kelly has considerable experience as a school leader, state-wide curriculum reformer and leader of key strategic projects at State level relating to multi media policy, devolution of autonomy to schools and reform at the post compulsory level.

The MC for the night is Lawrence Mooney, a stand-up comedian and regular guest on *The Einstein Factor* as well as Jon Faine's Conversation Hour on 774ABC Melbourne, he has also appeared on Channel 7's *Winners and Losers*.

#### When:

Wednesday August 3, 2011

**Time:** 7.00pm—8.30pm

**Where:** Hawthorn Town Hall (Chandelier Room)

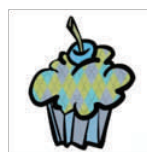
360 Burwood Road, Hawthorn  
**Registration:**  
events@youthconnect.com.au  
or 9557 6233

**RSVP:** Thursday July 28 2011

*Supper provided and the opportunity to meet the panel and industry experts at the expo.*



Outside Hawthorn Town Hall.



#### Food for Thought:

*Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans —John Lennon*

### Important dates to remember...

#### Meetings for 2011

##### Applied Learning Network – Training Providers & Industry RTOs, TAFEs, AACs, GTOs, Industry & Employer representatives

Term 3 – 16 August 7.30am to 8.45am

Term 4 – 8 November 7.30am to 8.45am

##### Applied Learning Network – Schools (All Sectors)

###### VET, VCAL, Careers Coordinators

Term 3 – 23 August 4.00pm to 5.30pm

Term 4 – 15 November 4.00pm to 5.30pm

##### BGK Applied Learning Network Forum & Expo—

###### Working Together for Effective Student Pathways

Friday, 5 August 2011

8.45am to 1.00pm – Morning Tea and Lunch will be provided.

Register Via PD-Online <http://www.pd-online.com.au/>.

All Meetings and BGK Applied Learning Network Forum & Expo will be held at Hemisphere Hotel and Conference Centre, 488 South Rd, Moorabbin. Details will be sent out accordingly. For more information contact Christine on 9557 6233 or email [events@youthconnect.com.au](mailto:events@youthconnect.com.au).

#### Secondary School Pathways Forum

Wednesday, 3 August 2011 at 7.00pm to 8.30pm

Hawthorn Town Hall in the Chandelier Room,

360 Burwood Rd, Hawthorn 3122

#### Community PACTS

Glen Eira Town Hall, located on the corner of Glen Eira and Hawthorn Road, Caulfield, 3162

*Councillor's Room* – Friday 22 July: 10.00am—12.00pm

*Labassa Room* – Tuesday 23 August: 10.00am—12.00pm

Thursday 18 August: 6.00pm– 8.30pm located at Sandybeach Centre,

Cnr Beach Rd and Sim St, Sandringham, 3191

#### When I Grow Up Forum & Expo

##### —Exploring My Careers & Pathway Options

Open to year 9 students

Friday, November 25 2011

9.00am to 12.30pm

at Kingston Arts Centre & City Hall,

Level One Grand Hall and Banquet Hall

979 Nepean Hwy, Moorabbin 3189

Career Connect is run every week in various locations.  
To book your place please phone 9557 6233.

# Looking for a Job?

Living in Bayside,  
Glen Eira,  
Kingston or  
Stonnington?

Are you aged  
between 16–24  
years old?

## Chelsea

**Date:** Monday fortnightly  
**Time:** 10.00am to 1.00pm  
**Venue:** Long Beach Place  
15 Chelsea Rd, Chelsea  
**Mel Ref:** 97 B1

## Bentleigh

**Date:** Wednesday fortnightly  
**Time:** 10.00am to 1.00pm  
**Venue:** Youth Connect  
261 Centre Rd, Bentleigh  
**Mel Ref:** 68 C12

## Sandringham

**Date:** Thursday fortnightly  
**Time:** 09.30am to 12.00pm  
**Venue:** Sandy Beach Centre  
Cnr Beach Rd and Sim St, Sandringham  
**Mel Ref:** 76 G10

# New

## South Yarra

**Date:** Tuesday fortnightly  
**Time:** 1.00pm to 4.00pm  
**Venue:** Horace Petty Estate  
259 Malvern Rd, South Yarra

If you answer YES, we can help you find a job including apprenticeships and traineeships.

**Career Connect** helps young people who are seeking employment engage in a safe, informal, discussion-based group environment. Gain experience working in a team, voice your opinions, share stories and talk about your goals. Enjoy being part of something and develop a sense of empowerment—

**Find your own pathway— In your own time.**

## PACTS Workshop at St. James

Parents As Career Transition Support (PACTS) Workshop was run on the May 17 and 24 at St. James College in Bentleigh. There were forty parents in attendance over the two sessions. In total 241 parents have engaged in the PACTS program at St. James College in the last few years.



## IT GURU Volunteer/ Work Placement Opportunity with Youth Connect

The organisation is growing and we have recently updated social media networks, Facebook and Twitter. Looking to revamp the website and a major overhaul towards the end of the year!

We are seeking a volunteer IT work placement student who has strong experience in information technology with demonstrated work in graphic design and communications. Requiring 'forward' thinking and initiative, the IT Assistant is required to maintain general areas of website content, social media sites (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn), videos, podcasts and other electronic publications and general IT troubleshooting (Microsoft Exchange Server).

You will be working with modern content management system Word Press. All applicants should have good

knowledge of HTML and know how to set up and maintain a Wikis Live page.

- You need to be a well organised person with great attention to detail
- Ability to work independently and within a team
- Demonstrated high level communication skills, written and oral and proficient in grammar and spelling
- Use of initiative and ability to problem solve
- Available for start as soon as possible



Application process:  
Email resume and short paragraph of interest to [admin@youthconnect.com.au](mailto:admin@youthconnect.com.au) with subject line ITGURUPOSITION.

Feel free to include at least one live website that you have built as an example of your work.



Inner Melbourne Youth Photography Project

The CAPTURE program kicked off in term two and is flying along! The program focuses (pardon the pun) on supporting disengaged young people to create links and access services that help them to address their barriers to education training and employment.

It is a photography based program that encourages young people to move outside their comfort zones, develop skills and exhibit photographic artwork at an exhibition in early September – details coming soon. The participants have been around the Inner Melbourne area taking pictures, including St. Kilda beach, Federation Square, Flinders St. Station and even on the giant Sky Wheel on Birrarung Marr whilst building a body of work as well as linking in with Youth Connections and local service providers supporting them to re-engage with their community.

Youth Connect is working with First Stop youth services and the INVERT project to support and refer the young people ensuring the program is leading onto work, training or further education. If you are interested in this program please contact Craig Browne at Youth Connect.

## Bayside, Glen Eira, Kingston Applied Learning Network Forum & Expo— Working Together for Effective Student Pathways

The objective of the day is to connect schools and education providers to external training providers; engage the participants in discussions about how to promote and achieve better provision across our region through collaboration, sharing, coordination and trust. Begin challenging school provision and the lack of sharing and coordinated provision across the region.

The morning is an opportunity for all organisations working with young people in applied learning and pathways to come together to collaborate, learn, share expertise, build relationships and explore new opportunities for our young people's effective pathways.

We welcome and encourage all school leaders, training providers, industry representatives and employers to this event proudly presented by BGK LLEN and Youth Connect.

**Venue:** Hemisphere Conference Centre, 488 South Rd, Moorabbin

**Date:** Friday, 5 August 2011

**Time:** 8.45am–1.00pm

Register via PD-Online



Call 9557 6233 or

[events@youthconnect.com.au](mailto:events@youthconnect.com.au).

Morning Tea and lunch will be provided, please inform of any dietary requirements.

### Now accepting bookings for Career & Transition Workshops for 2012.

**Book any Youth Connect STEPs, iPREP, PACTS or TACTS Programs for your school.**

Youth Connect will be able to tailor workshops to suit you and your student and curriculum needs... **and your BUDGET!** Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions. Daniela Ascone: 9557 6233 or [d.ascone@youthconnect.com.au](mailto:d.ascone@youthconnect.com.au).



### Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday to the Workplace Learning Coordinators (WLC) Program.

Youth Connect's WLC program has experienced its challenges and successes. With the recent introduction of the YC4me Web Portal, a new way of searching and securing work placements in this region, we will continue to work with education providers to ensure that teachers, trainers and young people are familiar with the portal's capabilities and how this system of securing work placements will become part of what we do to support young people secure meaningful work placement opportunities.

Our project officers have also been 'pounding the pavement' and connecting with many local employers who are yet to explore or understand the importance of workplace learning for young people. The WLC program aims to increase the number of meaningful work place learning opportunities for young people but also ensure that they align with VETiS, VCAL and industry needs so it is important that we learn more about business and industry needs and how these opportunities will benefit both young people and host employers.

We encourage you all to join and attend our Applied Learning Networks. We have established a Business & Industry and Schools Network which aims to provide us all with an opportunity to share best practice, network and inform each other on initiatives which are in place which ultimately support and further develop the provision on Applied Learning in our region.

We appreciate your patience while we are still in the introductory stage of our web portal and we will endeavour to provide you all with support in preparation for term 3 and 4 work placements; in the mean time, please feel free to contact Merrie Ditchburn. on 9557 6233 or [wlc@youthconnect.com.au](mailto:wlc@youthconnect.com.au).



### 2011 Australian Youth Affairs Coalition (AYAC) Conference in Sydney

Youth Connect facilitated a workshop titled "A workers guide to incorporating a young person's education and career potential and aspirations to create an innovative and exciting case management model".

This was a great opportunity to showcase Youth Connect's client-centric approach when working with young people to address the multiple determinants of disengagement from education and employment.

The workshop provided attendees with simple ideas, resources and ways which they can support & inspire young people as they prepare for the future. We spoke about the importance of workers to build a supportive rapport with their client that will enable collaborative identification of participation barriers, needs, goals, education and life transition planning. This was a great opportunity to share our practices with other youth sector workers enabling them to feel confident to identify and address young peoples' barriers which will ultimately allow young people to reach their life, career and education goals. Youth Connect would like to thank Youth Affairs Council of Victoria for supporting our staff to attend this conference. For more info visit [www.yacvic.org.au](http://www.yacvic.org.au).



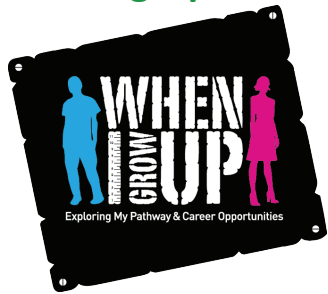
Like us on  
**Facebook**



Youth Connect have recently updated social media networks—**Twitter and Facebook**. Please follow us on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/#!/youthconnectmel> and like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/youthconnectmel](http://www.facebook.com/youthconnectmel)



## Coming Up...



## When I Grow Up

### Exploring My Pathway & Career Opportunities Forum & Expo on Friday 25/11/2011

In years past Youth Connect has run a free careers event for year 9 female students and called it Girls Day Out. This year we want to do something for the boys and have made the event bigger!

We have found these sessions to be a great way to open their eyes to a range of industries available to them now and in the

future. *When I Grow Up* is about demonstrating to young people the wide variety of career and education pathway options available to them in the traditional and non traditional gender specific careers. This event will also inform them about the different vocational pathways to get them there. We will also showcase some demonstrations from the various industry areas and be entertained by a performance from a hip hop dance group.

*When I Grow Up* aims to inspire young people and encourage them to achieve their full potential and to do this, we will have 'young ambassadors' speaking to the attendees about their pathway and transition experiences. The event also celebrates youth culture and the suite of support services which are available to young people in the local areas of Bayside, Glen Eira, Kingston, Stonnington, Port Phillip and Yarra. It is important for young people to know what activities and services are available to them so the expo aspect allows young people to meet and greet service providers.

We are inviting Youth Service providers and other community organisations to exhibit on the day. There are currently five spaces available. We are also looking for a group of students to assist and be part of the planning committee. Students will have the chance to be part of something memorable and be rewarded for their time. Eight places are available. Please fill out an expression of interest form if you wish to participate. Forms and details can be obtained directly from Youth Connect and can be found on the Youth Connect Facebook page. Sponsorship opportunities are also available for the event.

Please contact Jessica Moore for further details on 9557 6233. First in, best dressed!



### Sponsorship Opportunity

The 2011 Applied Learning Awards will be held on Tuesday October 18 at the International of Brighton.

The Awards present an excellent and integral link to supporting and working towards achieving our Vision – A community where

school to work pathways and career choices for all young people are equally valued and respected. The Awards achieve this by rewarding and celebrating the achievements and success of students, schools and employers engaged in and with Applied Learning.

Youth Connect is currently seeking sponsorship for the event. Sponsorship is a great way of promoting your organisation and supporting the development of applied learning for young people in the local community. Please call Christine on 9557 6233 to obtain a sponsorship information pack.

### Nominations open 18 July 2011 and close 25 August 2011

**Are you a teacher, student, employer, trainer or Principal and know of a young person, school or business achieving excellence in applied ('hands-on') learning?**

#### How are winners selected?

The award winners will be selected by a judging panel comprised of representatives from peak industry bodies, education departments and local government.

#### Be rewarded for this success:

If you would like to nominate a teacher, student, school or business for an Applied Learning Award, please contact Fiona at the BGKLEN on 9584 8845 or email [fiona.waugh@bgkllen.org.au](mailto:fiona.waugh@bgkllen.org.au) to obtain a Nomination Form. Complete your nomination form and return it as directed.

## STAFF PROFILE—CHRISTINE LUK



**What's your position at Youth Connect?** Marketing and Events Coordinator and the one that sends you stuff all the time!

**Have you ever eaten food you dropped?**

Yes of course, 5 second rule.

**Complete this sentence: I went to the shops and bought...** Shoes!

**What did you want to be when you were younger?** A ballerina, a ballerina teacher, just a teacher will do.

**Something you are looking forward to?**

Dinner.

**What annoys you?** Mosquitoes. I really don't like the buzzing...

**Favourite destination and where to next?**

I am a big jet setter, travelling the world far and wide. Scenery would have to be Mt. Titlis in the Swiss Alps, Switzerland; most fun—Barcelona, Spain. Next... Off to New Zealand then Mauritius!

**Something we don't know about you:**

Die hard football fan. Or soccer as most would say! Manchester United is my favourite team.

**Favourite thing about your role?**

The creative side of things; coming up with innovative ideas to promote YC services and meeting new people at our events.

**Worst habit?** Abbreviating words and using acronyms. LOL sif I do that...

### Youth Connect

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